

Tot, 4, Dies Hours After Hanging Self



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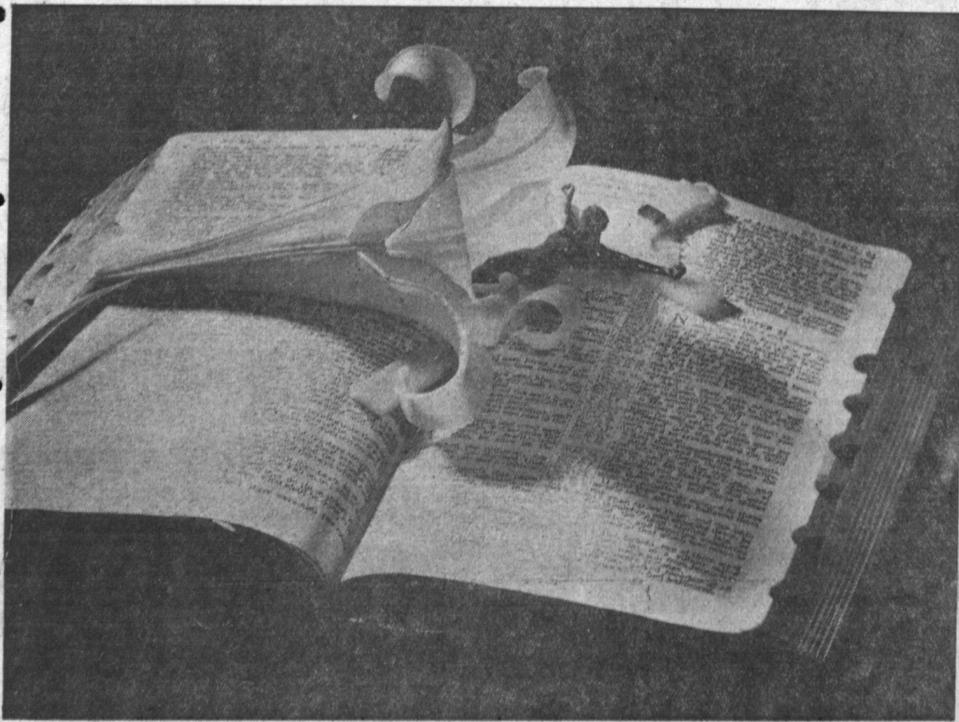
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SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 1959

NUMBER 98

Rob Sailor for 'Kicks'

A SYMBOL OF EASTER



Could Plant Downtown Trees in Two Months, Parrish Says

Trees to beautify the downtown business area can be planted in two months if necessary funds are raised.

This was the prediction of Darwin Parrish, chairman of the committee in charge of the project to be sponsored by the Downtown Merchants Division.

The City Council Tuesday granted approval for the businessmen to buy the trees, plant them and take care of them during the first three months. After that, the maintenance task will be turned over to the Park Department.

Hill Plan
The proposal by the merchants was greeted as a "very good idea" by Councilman Victor Benstead, long known as a champion of trees among the city fathers.

Parrish said the plan to be followed is that used by Long Beach, where trees were recently planted on Broadway.

Indian laurels will be used or recommendation of Park Superintendent Casper Clemmer.

Parrish said that if businessmen cooperate fully financially, 100 trees will be planted in the downtown area next to the curbs.

Cut Cement
Each tree will require the cutting of cement four square feet in area to accommodate the tree and to give it breathing space.

Cost of each tree and three months contracted maintenance will be \$100, the chairman said.

Average size of the trees on delivery will be eight feet. Maximum growth is approximately

Umpire Classes Start April 2

A training course for umpires, co-sponsored by the Torrance and Los Angeles City Recreation Depts., is planned for April 2, 9 and 16.

Prospective arbiters for various leagues may contact Elmer (Red) Moon at FA 8-4108 or John Barr at Terminal 5-5681.

Instruction and field tests will be given at 7:30 p.m. on each day at 435 Neptune Ave. In Wilmington. There will be a \$3 service fee.

Good physical condition (especially eyesight) is a requisite.

Discrimination in Torrance Phone Wages Asserted

Lower wages are paid to Pacific Telephone Co. employees in Torrance, it was charged today by William Gibson, president of Local 8506, Communications Workers of America.

He claims that the alleged discriminatory practice results in cut in purchasing power.

Gibson also said that negotiations between the union and the utility company are making little progress. The present contract expired Saturday.

Riviera Groups Press for Signal

A public hearing to explain need for a signal at Palos Verdes Blvd. and Calle Mayor will be requested next month by the Parkway PTA and the Hollywood Riviera Home Owners Association.

Mrs. Kenneth Watts, recording secretary, said that of 733 PTA members, 579 favor the signal to protect children. She said that Councilman Robert Jahn had informed the group recently that the Traffic Commission denied the request for a signal at that location.

She said that both the Riviera



TREES IN TORRANCE—This is an artist's conception of what a downtown Torrance street will look like under a beautification program to plant Indian Laurel trees. The tree planting project by the Downtown Merchants Division has received the blessings of the City Council. Shown here is the east side of El Prado looking south from Sartori Ave. —Press Photo

Youths Caught in Hour

Four teenagers were arrested an hour after they robbed a sailor of \$12 by threatening him with a huge butcher knife "for the kicks."

The quartet of Redondo Beach youths were spotted by alert policemen who saw them cruising in an auto which matched the description furnished by the victim.

Billy Chris Shockey, 19, a crewman of the destroyer USS McKean, said he was picked up by the teenagers when he was hitchhiking at Hawthorne Blvd. and Sepulveda Blvd. shortly after midnight Thursday.

Hold Knife
The robbers turned east on Lomita Blvd. and when they reached the dark industrial area west of Crenshaw Blvd. they suddenly grabbed him and held the 10-inch blade butcher knife against his body, he told police.

Another of the suspects pointed a gun at him, which was later determined to be a toy.

After the sailor forked over his wallet, the boys removed the money and returned him out of the car and instructed him not to look at the vehicle.

Shockey spotted a sheriff's patrol car a few moments later, and a description of the suspects' car was obtained.

Spot Car

Officers James Porter and Russell Peltz of Redondo Beach spotted the vehicle in the 2500 block of Harriman Lane, where they nabbed three of the teenagers, who were identified by the victim. The fourth youth, who had been let off earlier, was picked up at his home.

One of the suspects offered to make restitution from money he earned on a job.

"I done it just for the kicks," officers quoted him as saying.

When arrested, they admitted that they had spent most of the cash on gasoline, food and cigarettes. They will be held for Juvenile Court proceedings, police said.

Methodist Church and the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection favor, the signal.



LIFE-SAVING TRY—Firemen John Moffitt and William Clothier lean over Sherryl Ann Ruggles, 4, as they give her oxygen to revive her after she was found hanging from a rope. The firemen stayed on the job right through heart massage surgery performed at Harbor General Hospital. —Press Photo by Kurt Liepman

Babysitter Collapses After Vain Attempt to Revive Girl in Accidental Hanging Here

Palship with Politico No Help for Nominee

Despite his announced personal friendship with a nominee on the work done by the unnamed woman, but argued that West Torrance already has a representative on the commission and the vacancy should be filled by someone from Waverly.

Beasley explained that despite his friendship for the nominee, he thought the appointment should have gone to "a lady in Southwest Park."

Mayor Albert Isen replied that he agreed with the councilman on the work done by the unnamed woman, but argued that West Torrance already has a representative on the commission and the vacancy should be filled by someone from Waverly.

"I implore you to reconsider and break the tie," Isen told Beasley.

"It hurts me a great deal to vote against a friend," the councilman replied, but refused to change his mind.

Also voting against Dr. Labit were Councilmen Willys Blount, Nickolas O. Drale and Robert Jahn.

Isen Hits High Cost of Lawyer

Despite some sour comments about the high cost of lawyers, the City Council Tuesday decided grudgingly to pay out some more money to petition for a rehearing of a water rights dispute before the Public Utilities Commission.

Mayor Albert Isen, himself an attorney, snorted that "a first-year law student could have provided a better order" than that handed down last week by the PUC.

He charged that the city has already spent more than \$13,500 for legal fees for the law firm that represented the city in a contract dispute with the Dominguez Water Corp.

The company is seeking to have set aside a contract under which it will turn over its mains and service rights in Southwest Park to the city in 1963.

The order handed down by the PUC last week left the lawyers concerned totally confused. City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier admitted he was "bewildered" by the PUC order and suggested that a petition for rehearing be filed to clarify it.

"The commission is way out of line. The order is nonsense. We want it clarified," he told the council.

"It's been a comedy of errors since the case started," Isen said. "There's been a lot of goofing done."

He refused to vote for additional fees to the law firm to represent the city in petitioning for a rehearing.

"If the order is so confused, it ought to be on the house," he said.



HOLE IN ONE—Lloyd Lessor, 13, of 22218 Leyte Drive, examines the cup of the fourth hole at Sea Aire Golf Course when he became the youngest golfer to make a hole in one. He used a No. 9 iron for the 60-yard drive at the nine-hole short course. Only last week Lessor was reelected to his second term as president of the Sea Aire Teenage Golf club.

DRUNK DRIVING ARREST

A 17-year-old San Pedro boy was arrested by Torrance police Thursday night on drunk driving charges after they observed his car being driven in an erratic manner on Western Ave. near 240th St. He will be cited in Juvenile Court.

CHAMBER BREAKFAST

Magnavox, which will build a plant in Torrance soon, will be honored at a Chamber of Commerce Breakfast Tuesday in the American Legion Hall, starting at 7:30 a.m.

A North Torrance tot died in Harbor General Hospital five hours after she accidentally hanged herself Friday morning.

Firemen and surgeons spent desperate hours in a battle to save the life of Sherryl Ann Ruggles, 4, after she was found unconscious in the backyard of her babysitter's home.

In a final try to revive her after at least 30 minutes of steady resuscitation attempts, doctors opened her chest and massaged her heart. She started breathing again after the surgery but died five hours later.

The babysitter, Mrs. Shirley Viles, 27, of 18532 St. Andrews Place, lapsed into shock and was placed under sedatives after she valiantly attempted to revive Sherryl by breathing into her mouth, neighbors said.

"Help me, help me," she screamed as she ran across the street to a neighbor's home carrying the unconscious toddler in her arms.

Although it was not immediately clear what happened, the little girl had apparently been playing with a cord which was strung over the top bar of a garden swing in Mrs. Viles' backyard.

Mrs. Viles, a licensed babysitter, said she had been doing the washing and had left the yard to put another load into her washing machine. When she returned to the yard, she found Sherryl entangled in the cord.

The youngster's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Urban Raymond Luciano, of 18226 St. Andrews Place, were both working in an aircraft plant. They had been leaving Sherryl and her brother, Charles Henry, 3, in Mrs. Viles' care for some time, neighbors said. Mrs. Viles also took care of her own two children.

Firemen John Moffitt and William Clothier worked on the girl with oxygen for approximately 20 minutes at the scene. The firemen then accompanied her in the ambulance to Harbor General Hospital, where they continued right on while Sherryl was in surgery.

Range in Home Disposed Quickly with Press Ad

The first call was all she needed to sell her white Kenmore kitchen range, Mrs. J. R. Weber of 2773 Monterey Ave., reported.

The call came as result of a classified ad in the Torrance Press. After the sale, Mrs. Weber left her house in order to avoid numerous other calls that came as result of the ad.

"If you have something to sell, buy or rent, call a courteous ad-taker at the Torrance Press, FA 8-2345, and let her help you with your advertising problems."