

Local Man Escapes Death in Auto Plunge Over Pt. Fermin Cliff

FELLOW LONGSHOREMAN IS KILLED IN CRASH YESTERDAY

Yesterday morning's dense fog that blanketed the entire Harbor district in "pea soup" enshrouding mist was blamed for the 120-foot plunge of a light truck over Point Fermin cliff at 5:15 a. m., that resulted in the death of Budd Rippe, longshoreman living at Harbor City, critical injuries to a nother man, and superficial bruises to Chris Jones, 30, of 2112 Carson street, Torrance.

Rippe, 27, was killed in the death plunge of the car. He lived at 1746 West 261st street, Harbor City, with his wife and small daughter. Critically injured with possible fractures of the vertebrae, skull fracture and brain concussion is Clarence Comer, 36, of San Pedro. Jones suffered wrist and shoulder injuries when the machine struck a mound and threw him to the ground.

Jones sounded the alarm that brought San Pedro officers to the scene. The officers, assisted by a fire truck and rescue squad, raised Comer from near the bottom of the cliff, where he had lodged in a mass of bare and small rocks. The truck fell, a fireman's escape bag and hauling gear was used in the rescue and in bringing Rippe's body to the top of the cliff.



UNITED PRESS

Truck Out of Control
Comer was taken to L. A. General hospital. Rippe's body was sent to Cleveland funeral home. Driving through dense fog, the three longshoremen were on their way to pick up a fourth worker, Joe Balboa, a resident of Point Fermin. Proceeding eastward on Pacific, the little panel delivery truck struck the curb where Pacific curves into Paseo del Mar and traveled 110 feet to the end of the bluff, apparently out of control.

Jones said that when they came to the end of the street he believes Rippe's foot slipped from the brake onto the gas pedal and caused the car plunging over the cliff.

Was On His Feet
Det. Lieut. G. W. Massey said he found Rippe's body, face down a few feet from the machine. His coat was a short distance away, and further on were splashes of blood that indicated he had been on his feet, that his coat and then collapsed.

An autopsy surgeon's examination is scheduled for today with an inquest tentatively slated for Friday.

Aged Long Beach Man Hurt Here in Auto Accident

C. W. Bigwell, 74-year-old Long Beach resident, was badly injured yesterday afternoon when the car he was riding in, driven by his son, William Lloyd Bigwell, was struck by a truck driven by E. M. Cadwell of Los Angeles at Hawthorne boulevard and Spencer street. He was taken to Torrance Memorial hospital where his condition is described as only fair.

Truck driver Cadwell reported to police that he was following Bagwell and when the motorist made a signal to turn and pulled into the center of the road as if to make a left hand turn, he (Cadwell) went to pass on the right. Then Bigwell turned right and the collision occurred. Bigwell's car was turned over.

Smallest Texas county is Rockwall with 149 square miles.



KELLOGG VISITS ARABIAN COLTS... W. K. Kellogg, millionaire breakfast food maker, visited the Kellogg Institute of Animal Husbandry at Pomona and posed with these rare colts—the only pure bred Arabian twin colts in America. Twin colts occur only about once in 10,000 foals. They were born a month ago.

Engineer Gives Financial Data On Alondra Park

The history of the acquisition of the 315-acre Alondra park for the southeasterly section of Los Angeles county is a public debt tragedy eclipsing anything in Los Angeles county, the board of supervisors was told yesterday by J. A. Bennell, research engineer.

Owners of the Mattoon Act bonds have received in the 12 years since the district was created a total of \$1,076,194, which is \$61,000 more than the total bond principal. Property owners have paid in \$607,194, equal to 57 percent, while gasoline tax money totaling \$468,000 equals 43 percent of the charges. And still \$569,000 is owing.

The county should assume full responsibility for the remainder of this debt and immediately inform the bondholders of the status of the district and pay off the bonds, Bennell recommended. There has been a decrease of 52 percent in the assessed valuation of the 9,380 acres in the old Mattoon Act district since 1927.

Tax Strike Justified
"The property owners have contributed their full share for any benefits that might have accrued if the park had been developed as such," Bennell added. "But all we have now is 315 acres of adobe land, purchased for almost eight times its present assessed value, for which the owners of 4,000 parcels of property are paying a ransom for something that is as 'dead as a doornail.'"

"The bondholders have received their capital investment back already and any basis of settlement on the remaining \$569,000 still outstanding would be added profit to the bondholders.

"Not one dollar more of county funds should be contributed to the interest and sinking of this or any other Mattoon Act district. And the property owners are fully justified in deducting the Mattoon Act levies from their tax bills," Bennell declared.

"Bad Advice" Proves Costly for Dairyman

Because he admittedly relied on statements of a lobbyist for the Milk Producers' Association and a letter from the state agricultural code and put up a bond as required by law, Simon J. Schipper, well-known dairyman, 1808 Sepulveda, was haled into court here Tuesday morning.

He pleaded not guilty to infraction of the agricultural code, believing in statements contained in a letter from his association that the section pertaining to the license and bond was declared unconstitutional. However, the court received evidence from J. W. Wooten, assistant chief of the division of market enforcement for the Department of Agriculture, that the license was valid.

Schipper, who has operated the Lomita Home Dairy for many years, was found guilty and fined \$100 or 90 days in jail, half of the fine being suspended providing that he takes out a state license. Judge Lessing commented that the Milk Producers' Association should reimburse Member Schipper for the "bad advice" he followed in refusing to abide by the state law.

Wright vs. Wright Case Dismissed; Lack of Evidence

When his brother, the complainant, failed to appear and give testimony, the case against Clifford Orville Wright, 35, of 1504 Madrid, was dismissed yesterday by City Judge Robert Lessing for lack of evidence. Wright was jailed Saturday when arrested on a warrant charging him with battery. The warrant was issued at the request of James Wright of Hawthorne.

The local man told Judge Lessing that the fictitious had cost him his job at the Columbia Steel plant. He plead not guilty when arraigned Monday and was released on his own recognizance pending the trial yesterday.



Wear a Bit o' Green Tomorrow!

Believe it or not—St. Patrick—hivest rish his botest—wasn't a son of the Old Sod tho he is th' patron saint of Ireland—so call it by its grand old name of Eire nowadays.

Gather 'round yer friend Mike (the with th' non-Gaelic last name) whilst he tells you about that great man who lived th' thousand years ago but whose mimory is as fresh in th' minds of all true Irishmen as th' shamrocks that dot that tight little island far across th' seas.

St. Patrick is generally believed to have first seen th' light o' day in Brittain. Whin he was just a lad he was seized by an Irish pirate (oh, they had thim in th' old days just the same as they have today!) an' carried off as a prisoner.

For seven years he was a slave shepherd before he could escape and return home.

By th' time he had decided to convert th' wild Irish—a job th'at would break th' heart of

a less stronger man. King Logaire, van of th' last of th' great Irish kings, was so taken by his sincerity that he granted St. Patrick permission to preach with niver a fear of annoyance and Irishmen were told to lave their shillaghs and brick-bats to home whin they came to church!

Well, converts to Christianity multiplied so fast that in seven years St. Patrick had three assistants and in 45 he laid the cornerstone of th' Irish Metropolitan church at sunny Arhagh. His work with sunny Arhagh. His work with sunny Arhagh.

What about driving th' snakes out of th' Emerald Isle? Well, that is a lot of Blarney, accordin' to th' historians but maybe he did... Anyway, tomorrow's St. Patrick's Day and if yez got th' time, drop in on our wear a bit o' green for oold time's sake!

OIL MEN SEEK FRIENDLY SETTLEMENT OF DAMAGE CLAIM BROUGHT BY CITY

Four oil operators holding leases in the vicinity of Walnut and 237th answered a summons to appear before City Judge Robert Lessing this morning and participate in a friendly settlement of \$400 damages to the street at that intersection.

The damages were caused by oil and water breaking out of sump holes and being allowed to drain into the intersection, making that neighborhood "one of the worst eyesores in the district," according to Police Chief John Stroth.

Judge Lessing told operators, Harry Rilling, Lyle Garner of Garner and Johnson, Cecil Smith of the Vista Oil company and W. E. McCaslin of the McCaslin Oil company, that the city was determined to exact damages amounting to the cost of repairing the street. However, he advised the men to "get together amicably with the city and propose the cost without incurring further expense of a court trial.

Attorney John Shidler also attended the informal hearing on behalf of the city, Frank Smith, whose property at 237th and Walnut has been endangered by the flooding oil and water. Shidler said Smith did not seek damages but wanted assurance that no further flooding of his place would take place.

It was decided that the operators, who admitted partial responsibility, would attempt to obtain contributions to the damages from the other operators, Felix Mallon, Anderson and Cox, whom they contended were also responsible for the sump spillage, and report to the court here next Wednesday morning at 11 o'clock with the \$400 due the city.

If this payment is not made at that time, then the city will proceed with a legal action to obtain the settlement.

OIL ACTIVITIES SHOWS NO DECLINE IN AREA
Northeast of 240th and Estelmar Symbol Oil is rigging up to drill a well. About 100 feet north of Ray Walnut No. 3 well at 212nd and Walnut, Shadle Petroleum has erected rig for its No. 1 well. On 237th street between Walnut and Estelmar Vesta Petroleum is planning to start another well east of its recent completion.

Four Women Hurt In Auto Collision Here

Four women were slightly injured last night in an automobile collision at Cravens and Engracia streets when their car, driven by Mrs. Dewey Olson of 16948 South Denker, was overturned after it was assertedly struck by a car driven by J. G. R. Davis of Hermosa Beach. The injured were given emergency treatment at Torrance Memorial hospital and then allowed to be taken to their homes.

The wives: Dorothy Sundbury, 16628 Almsworth street; Doris Olson and Henrietta Olson, both of 16948 South Hobart street, all of Gardena, and Mrs. Fred Ripper of 12227 South Vermont, Los Angeles. Davis, according to a report filed with police by Mrs. Olson, admitted blame for the accident. Marks on the pavement showed he skidded about 33 feet while driving at a high rate of speed south on Cravens and struck Mrs. Olson's car as it was clearing the intersection, going west on Engracia.

CARS STRIPPED
Complaints were received by local police from Torrance Elementary school teachers yesterday afternoon that boys have been stripping the instructors' parked cars of plate frames, gas tank caps and mirrors. Police are conducting an investigation.

Sunset Oil's La Salle No. 1, a northwest of 340th and Walnut streets has penetrated the oil sand to 521 feet, which is the deepest it has been penetrated in this part of the field. East of Walnut avenue, the Golden Bell Petroleum has staked location for another well. Their No. 1 well, located northwest of 242nd and Walnut streets, has encountered oil in the oil zone and should be completed within a week.

SHOP TALK

by RAY BROOKS

PEOPLE & STUFF
San Rappaport... old time Torrance merchant... last week visiting the scene of his early activity... says that the women's shoe business (the which he is in) is excellent, thanks to the mode for shorter skirts; but that the dress business has been hurt by the preceding hem line.

Mary Lou Barnes... comely housewife and expert cartographer... argues with husband Hugh that Sartori Ave. lies parallel to Acadia and that Norman-Be runs horizontally to Beech St. Be not down-hearted Mary Lou. Countless millions before you have become twisted by the peculiarities of Torrance streets... "Torrance, The Planned City"... planned to confuse & confound.

Charles Earl Comer... jocular, jovial, joyous Torrance... the only man in Torrance who wears a hat (and looks well) in a Homberg hat.

William J. Lister... good natured steel worker and Biz Cafe operator in his spare time... announcing that beginning Friday, March 17, he will have good old Beck Beer on tap at the Ritz.

Felix Larose... newcomer to Torrance... will open next week a first class fish & seafood market in the ex-estate office on Cabrillo formed over by B. C. Buxton. Larose will manage the place for owner John De Massa. Both Larose and De Massa stem from a long line of fishermen. Their fathers were in the fish business for yars & yars. Shop Talk welcomes this newest mercantile establishment to town, wishes Larose & De Massa much success.

Ed Wakely... last of his of the auto electric firm of Gene & Ed... as a clerk at Santa Anita, found they added up to slightly less than Eight Hundred smackeroos. Ed says he has a system that clerks has the cash to prove. In one race last week Ed has \$8 on a nag that romped home in front, paid off \$120.40 for a two buck ticket in good luck.

Merle Bardwell... Buick salesman... back in Torrance selling Buicks & Pontiacs for Harry C. Clark. Merle can't seem to get away from Buick, has been connected with now-defunct Ed Lewis agency when Lewis operated an agency here; also when Prewett, M. & Sons, was there. When Prewett quit Merle went to another town, kept on selling Buicks. Now that another Buick agent has opened Merle is back again.

Earl Janda... Budget Man (he'll get all your budget if you'll give it to him) is a budget man. He is a photog in his spare time, even dabbles in motion picture producing, is sporting a brand new Studebaker coupe around this week, is liable to have another Budget Man down his throat if he doesn't watch out!

Richard Bruwick... a bull-garnt Bulova blacksmith at Howard's Jewelers... last week bought a \$75 clunker, his first; is this week learning how to repair it, he hopes. He is quoted that the car has a good "movement"; Richard has so far avoided running it off a dock into San Pedro harbor or wrapping it around a telephone pole.

Harvel Guttenfeller... prop. of Harvel's Service Station... mad as a hatter one 8 a. m. last night when he was in the Pantry Shop's "Big" Bill (not to be confused with "Little" Bill) routed him from bed to obtain keys to open the Chill Shop... (thru the back entrance) he, he, he, had misplaced his. All this when Harv had tumbled into bed but a few short hours before!

TO CHURCH DUTY
An obligatory duty of all De Molays—that of attending church in a body—will be performed by the Torrance chapter next Sun. Anywhere in the U. S. Outside of U. S. Canada and Other Foreign Countries... Single Copies... \$2.00 per year... \$3.00 per year... \$5.00 per year

Hospital Ball Nets \$609 Here

A final check-up of receipts and disbursements for the annual Torrance Memorial Hospital Ball, held at the Civic Center, Feb. 18, revealed this week that the total receipts amounted to \$745 and the net proceeds to the hospital was \$609.

This was the largest amount received by the hospital from the ball in recent years.

Big Steel Sees Business Improvement

(Continued from Page 1-A)
referred to. This represents a tonnage shrinkage for 1938 of nearly 52 percent.

"In many respects the year in the steel industry was one involving difficult and uncertain business problems," the report states. "Decisions of importance were necessary concerning questions of policy and management... The influence of these growing public responsibilities extends more and more into nearly every phase of business activity, and the resulting additional expense thereby incurred has constituted an unavoidable cost burden which industry has had to absorb."

"If allowances are made for the expense caused by these changing conditions, and for the severity of the depression involved in the steel industry suffered during the greater part of 1938, the net loss for the year of \$7,717,454 is less than might reasonably have been expected."

At the heading of "Taxes," the annual report states, in part: "All classes of taxes have continued at a high level. While the total amount of the 1938 tax bill of the Corporation and its subsidiary companies falls considerably under that of 1937, it is due mainly to the 1938 reduced volume of business transactions and the increase in earnings upon which income and profits taxes are levied. Notwithstanding these lower aggregate tax charges in 1938, the net income is somewhat greater burden per unit of output and gross income than was the case in 1937."

Total taxes paid by the Corporation, according to its report were: For 1938, \$48,945,131; and for 1937, \$88,048,237.

The year 1938 reflected the continuance of satisfactory employer-employee relations," President Stettinius states. "Management readily entered into discussion and negotiation of management-employee problems, and continued attention was devoted to the application of those fundamental policies and practices which are calculated to maintain a satisfactory standard of employment relations."

"Important questions having to do with wages, hours and conditions of employment were satisfactorily adjusted through discussion with employees, or their designated representatives. Expiring agreements with labor organizations were renewed, and new agreements were entered into in conformity with the collective bargaining policy of the subsidiary companies of the Corporation."

"These agreements provide for adjustment of differences, as such may occur, between the subsidiaries and any and all employees of the employees concerned. They are subject to change upon ten days' notice from either party, and to termination, if changes are not agreed to, within twenty days of the notice; thus affording, so far as possible, an opportunity for adjustment of operating to varying economic conditions."

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Public Bid to Eastern Star Luncheon

The public is invited to a luncheon to be given under the auspices of the Eastern Star at Torrance Masonic Hall, Monday noon, March 20. The regular monthly business meeting of the Eastern Star will be held following the luncheon in the afternoon.

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Ask for these at the Library

DOROTHY THOMPSON'S POLITICAL GUIDE: "Here is a book written by a smart woman for those of us who are not very smart and know it. Fifteen or 20 years ago when we came out of our salt water or home all the honors and degrees. We thought, and our instructors thought, that we had an up to date last minute education in vocabulary that with proper care should last the rest of our life."

But alas about 15 years ago something happened—the style in education changed and we were left with a vocabulary of high pressure words that confuse and bewilder us, "twas difficult to master a new vocabulary. Some of us gave up the struggle and in permanents and diets, others still clung to lifeboats but it has been slow going. This little book should help." (Sally White—Emporia Gazette.)

The author clarifies most of the "isms" and all women will be interested and stimulated by the very fine essay. "In what do we differ? Both fully written it is a friendly helpful discussion and one all club women need."

REMEMBER THE END by Agnes S. Turnbull

This is the story of Alex MacTay, who, filled with idealistic dreams of America, came to California from Scotland. There his ambition for material success throttled his dreams and he fought his way to the top of affairs in the "American Doctor's" golden haired Meggie, transcends his driving ambition. She is held by the spell of his passionate devotion to her but she understands and encourages her son when the latter is swayed and moulded by the lost ambition of his father.

A dramatic conflict ensues between father and son based on jealousy greater than affection. The author's "American Doctor's Odyssey" and though both are successful medical men who have traveled widely there is marked difference in the books.

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I SWEAR BY APOLLO by W. E. Aughlerbaugh: Of later there have been many fine medical memoirs and several have made extremely good reading. "I Swear by Apollo" is a worthy addition to the list. The reader will be struck by its likeness to the author's "American Doctor's Odyssey" and though both are successful medical men who have traveled widely there is marked difference in the books.

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