

WEIRD TRAGEDY IS UNVEILED; 2 DEAD

Men Fight Revolver Duel to Death; Winner Agrees to Commit Suicide

Third Man Held for Questioning By Officials; Cause of Enmity Not Known; Bodies Found

BRAWLEY, Cal., July 20.—(By Associated Press.)—Mystery and deadly hatred founded on a feud that has extended over six years, culminated Sunday and this morning in a weird duel which ended the life of H. Kirk of Imperial, this county, and in the suicide of John Truden of Imperial and San Diego.

An unidentified stranger who, police believe, holds the solution of the problem of the deaths, is under arrest. He refuses to give his name or reply to any questions. The story, pieced together from a letter left by Truden and from incidents recalled by acquaintances of both, bristles with drama.

Truden came to Imperial about six months ago, from where no person seems to know.

He was well dressed, appeared to have plenty of money and put up at the best hotel. Nevertheless, he took a job driving an ice wagon.

A month after Truden's arrival, Kirk landed in Imperial, making guarded inquiries for a "man named Truden."

Kirk also put up at the best hotel, dressed well and seemed to be well supplied with funds. Yet, he took a job too. His work was driving a truck for the highway commission.

Several times, the two met in the hotel and almost invariably they came to blows and had to be separated.

About ten days ago, Harry Riddle, an acquaintance of both men, brought Truden back from Mexico, drunk. In his cups, Truden told Riddle, the latter says, "that the object of my life for the past six years is about to be satisfied. It probably will mean my death, but it also will mean somebody else's death."

The following day, Riddle said, Truden came to him and asked him not to repeat what Truden had told, "no matter what happens to me or any of your other friends."

This morning, Truden's body was found propped against a rock near the Jacumbe bathing pool. There was a bullet wound in the hip and a bullet hole in the temple.

In the pocket of the coat were two letters. One, addressed to Vincent Truden of Forest Hills, Mich., was a brief notice of John Truden's death. The other missive was addressed to the chief of police of Imperial, Cal. It told a strange story as follows:

Truden and Kirk had been enemies for six years (no reason for this enmity was given).

Last Saturday morning, they met on the highway between Brawley and Imperial and came to blows. Ranch hands separated them. Then they went to a quiet gully off the main road and there came to an agreement to fight a duel with pistols, both pledging their word that the survivor would commit suicide within three days.

They were to stand back to back, march 12 paces away from each other, count three aloud and then begin firing.

Truden's letter said that Kirk, when it came to the crucial moment, "cheated" and fired at the count of two, wounding the other in the hip.

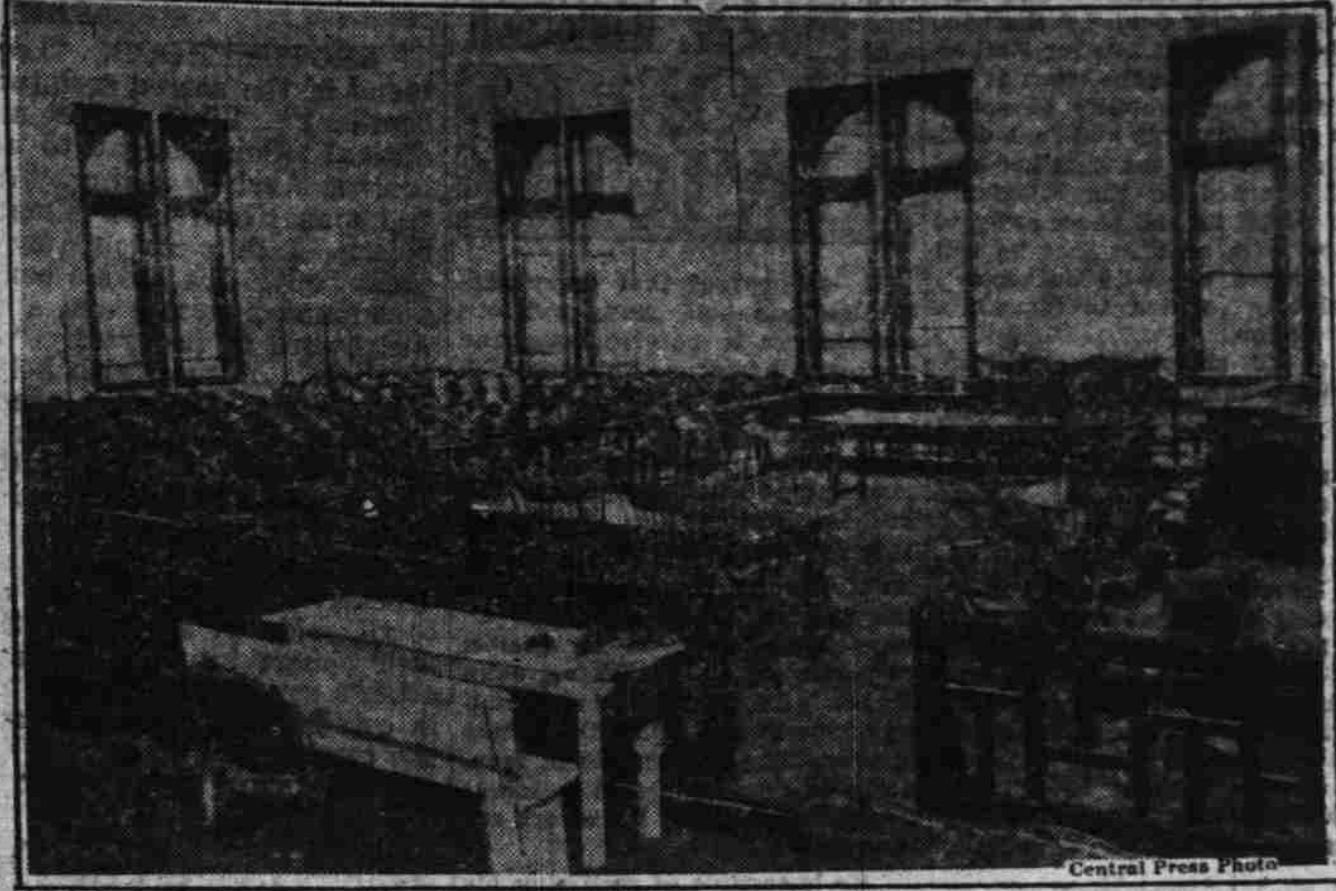
Truden then fired and missed. Kirk fired again and also missed. Truden fired a second time and killed Kirk.

Truden said that Kirk fired only two shots, but there were three exploded shells in the pistol clutched in Kirk's hand when his body was found today.

After Kirk died Truden said in a short memorandum included in his letter, he dragged the body out of the sun, he drew a rude map to guide searchers to the spot. Then he went up into the hills early this morning. His letter concludes with a grim jest.

After explaining that he had agreed to take his own life if he survived the duel, he continued: "I will do this as soon as I leave the valley. It is so hot that I

"Ape" Trial Courtroom Not Big Enough for Crowds



The courtroom in Dayton, Tenn., scene of the Scopes evolution trial, is a spacious one but large enough to accommodate even a small part of the thousands gathered to listen to the battle between the state and John T. Scopes, charged with teaching evolution in the Dayton schools. Photo shows the courtroom.

would rather leave this life for a future in a cooler place, even though I am headed for a much hotter one, according to William Jennings Bryan."

Truden's body was found upright against a large stone, a bullet hole in the temple.

Kirk's body could not be found at the designated spot, although a disturbed pile of leaves and blood stains seemed to indicate that it had lain there. A further search revealed it not far away, a bullet hole in the abdomen and through the backbone, the pistol with three exploded shells in the man's dead hand.

Before the news of the affair had become public property a stranger entered the office of the coroner and asked to see Kirk's body.

The coroner asked him how he knew that Kirk was dead. "Never mind," said the stranger, as he started for the door. He was arrested and lodged in jail, but he refuses to give his name or reply to any questions.

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SPORTS DONE BROWN

A few weeks ago I wrote rather enthusiastically of a little brown fighter, Pete Sarmiento. I had just seen him, daffie the clever, cunning little ring general, Carl Tremaine for 12 rounds when the betting was 10 to 1 that Tremaine would drop him in the first couple of rounds.

Sarmiento's ability to block punches, shake 'em off and otherwise render them null and void, appealed to me. Not only that, but he had a boring-in style that was pleasing.

The other night he met Charley Phil Rosenberg, newly crowned bantam-weight champion of the world. And stocky little Pete bore out my expectations when he gave the so-called champion a boxing lesson for 12 rounds. He made Rosenberg look like the cheesiest of champions—outboxed and out-gamed him throughout the mill.

He proved two things conclusively in that battle. First, that he is really a great little fighter.

Second, that Rosenberg is no better than the average run of fairly clever bantams and has little license to carry the title once sported by men like George Dixon and Johnny Colton.

Sarmiento today has more idea of defense fighting than 99 out of 100 fighters. He takes punches on his shoulders, arms and the side of his head with no damage to himself. He takes them while going in and keeps on going in. He worries his opponent from going to gong by his failure to step out of range or clinch to avoid punishment and then coming out of a sally unscathed.

If he has the desire and the will power to refrain from flirting

with the "white man's evils" and keep himself in perfect physical condition this lad from the Philippines will land some place in the flistic sun.

Having captured the Pacific coast championship as usual, little Bill Johnston and Miss Heien Willis are now ready to do their stuff in the eastern tennis tournaments. And their showing in the western meet gave the aforesaid easterners little cause for joy.

Miss Willis may still be said to be approaching the end of her career. Wonderful tennis can be expected of her for many years if she chooses to continue in competition. Little Bill is a vet. How long he will retain the dashing speed that has helped him beat

Clark Griffith, not usually a howling optimist, has come out with the flat assertion that his team will win the pennant.

Griffith, right now, has mighty good reasons for so thinking. His team is stronger than it was last year. He is better fortified with pitchers, for one thing.

But Connie Mack begs Clark's pardon for being obstinate and asks that the schedule be played out, just for the fun of it, for the gate receipts and to see what may happen.

Liquor owner fined. A. F. Cherry was fined \$60 in police court yesterday when he was found guilty of the charges of drunkenness and possession of intoxicating liquor.

STOCK DISEASES PROBED

VETERINARY BOARDS DISCUSS CONTROL OF EPIDEMICS

PORTLAND, Ore., July 20.—(By Associated Press.)—Mrs. Jennie Laura Brown, John F. Tipton and Fred Mills, principal in a sensational trial for the murder of Lee Camp, well to do young rancher on the ranch of Mrs. Brown near here, were given prison sentences

of from 18 years to life today, after having been found guilty of a second degree murder charge. Motions for a new trial for each of the defendants on the ground that their conviction was brought about by "public clamor" were denied, but Superior Judge Van Bunt, the trial judge, signed an order permitting the defendants to remain in the county jail until their appeal is disposed of.

Mrs. Brown heard the sentence while sobbing in the arms of her nephew, Robert McCamish, the only one of the defendants who was acquitted.

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work of the men in charge of the eradication that out of 763 ranches were reported during the epidemic last summer, only two instances of reinfection have occurred, he said.

Special consideration was given to the foot and mouth disease and fowl plague both of which have caused widespread damage to stock and chickens during the past year. Dr. John R. Mohler, chief of the United States bureau of animal industry of Washington, D. C., outlined the methods employed in combating all sorts of stock diseases and declared that the bureau's plan for rigid quarantine has been successful in keeping American stock comparatively free from the scourges which visit the stock of European and Asiatic countries. The fowl plague was brought to this country by scientists who desired to study it and for that reason the bureau will insist that hereafter such studies be carried on where the disease exists, he said.

Dr. Rudolph Snyder, who was the federal inspector in charge of the fight against the foot and mouth disease in California, told the meeting that there has not been a case reported among the domestic livestock of the state for six months although a few isolated cases among the deer had been discovered. So thorough was the

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Advertisement for 'A Kiss in the Dark' featuring Adolphe Menjou and Lillian Rich. Includes showtimes and prices for matinee and evening performances.

Advertisement for 'Piles' treatment, claiming to be a permanent cure. Includes contact information for Dean M.D. Inc.

Advertisement for 'Any Size Loan Required' by Hawkins & Roberts Inc. Features a large '6%' interest rate and details about mortgage loans and investments.

GAS STATION REMAINS EARLIER ACTION. A petition asking that the city council rescind its action in voting to allow the building of a filling station on the corner of Court and Capitol, presented by the property holders adjacent to the proposed filling station, failed to have the desired effect upon the members of the council last night and the aldermen refused to reconsider former action.

MINER KILLED BY BLAST. WALLACE, Idaho, July 20.—W. L. Frazer of Kellogg, Idaho, was killed on the 700-foot level of the Ambergris mine at Burke Sunday night by a premature explosion, mine officials reported today. One man was injured slightly while another escaped injury.

SPEEDERS ARE FINED. Walter Martin, H. Chettlek and H. Ellner were fined \$5 each in police court yesterday for speeding. Martin A. Stengel, Portland, forfeited \$10 for failure to appear to answer to charges of speeding.

Advertisement for 'Wanted 50,000 Pounds Junk Tires and Tubes' by Capital Tire Manufacturing. Offers cash payment for old tires.

Advertisement for 'Last Day' at Bligh Theatre featuring 'The Three Musketeers' and 'B. P. O. E. National Convention Parade'.

Large advertisement titled 'Friend of yours' promoting business advertisements. Argues that ads are 'commercial friends' that provide valuable information to consumers.