Chicago Streetcar Tragedy Tops Nation's List of Traffic Disasters

(Story also on page one.)

CHICAGO, May 26 –(AP)– The street car-gasoline truck collision here yesterday that claimed 32 lives was the worst traffic disaster involving a motor vehicle in the nation's history.

Gasoline exploded with a billowing whoosh that turned a block of street into a seething sea of fire and destroyed five buildings. At least 30 persons were injured and several parked cars were destroyed. Between 150 and 200 were made homeless.

William C. Liddell, Negro conductor who escaped the inferno by smashing through a rear window, today was booked on a charge of leaving the scene of an accident. He was released on $100 bond.

Liddell disappeared after the accident last night. He turned up today at the hearing held by the CTA, which operates Chicago's street car and subway and elevated systems.

"The only thing I know I was on the floor," he said. "There were flames in front of the car and people were rushing to the rear. I set the rear doors to open so that people could get out. But they couldn't. They piled up. I hollered at them. I pleaded with them to stand back. Then I was swept out with the crowd.

"They were panicked. There were too many people. I just couldn't open the door. I was carried out by the crowd through the rear window. I don't know how it was opened."

Other witnesses at the scene, however, said a negro woman passenger smashed the glass with her fist.

The motorman, Paul Manning, 42, was killed in the crash.

Most of the dead were found crowded against the closed rear doors of the street car. A few survivors said they succeeded in getting the doors open, but that they closed again.

Safety bars on the side windows prevented many from escaping by this means. A CTA spokesman said these bars are standard safety equipment on street cars and that a person could get out of the windows if they are opened sufficiently wide.

A CTA spokesman said Manning, the motorman, had been employed for four years. Last year, the spokesman said, he was involved in nine minor accidents, for one of which he was held responsible. This year, he added, Manning was involved in one accident which was charged to him.

Gas Rationing Abolished in Great Britain

By Sydney Mirkin

LONDON, May 26 –(AP)–After 10 years of "petrol-pinching," gasoline rationing was abolished by Britain today on the eve of a long Whitsun holiday weekend.

The order, effective tomorrow, came with an agreement between the labor government and two American oil companies. The oil firms agreed to furnish additional gas and take payment in pounds sterling when ever Britain quit rationing.

The mayor of Buxton, a county resort, said the town would set off rockets and balloons tomorrow to celebrate the end of rationing and the three-day Whitsun holiday.

Limit Taken Off

Although controls are not officially removed until tomorrow, dealers gave their customers as much gasoline as they wanted. The old limit was sufficient to drive only 90 miles a month.

The two American oil concerns, whose agreement with Britain made derationing posible, are the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey and the California-Texas (Caltex) Oil company. Company spokesmen said they plan to use the sterling payments to build sea-going tankers in Britain and to buy pumps, drilling machinery and other equipment for their oil fields outside of the U.S.

Ends Long Battle

The agreement ended a long battle between Britain and the American oil companies which boiled up when Britain decided to cut imports as a dollar-saving move. The dollar imports were reduced by one-third.

The wrangle became the subject of diplomatic talks between the U.S. and Britain.

Spokesman for American oil companies charged the measure was the "thin edge of a wedge to out of the sterling market."

Wenatchee Manager Due On Active List

WENATCHEE, May 26 –(AP)– Righthander Gil Loust pitched a five-hit game here tonight to lead the Tacoma Tigers to a 6-1 win over the Wenatchee Chiefs. Meanwhile, on word from Western International League President Robert Abel five Wenatchee players were digging up fines for their part in protesting umpire Doc Regele's calls here last Sunday.

Regele was mobbed by fans following the game. Fined $10 apiece were infielders Don Fracchia, Buddy Hjelmaa, and Jay Ragni, pitcher Don Ferrarese, catcher Jim Fiscalini.

Manager Tommy Thompson was nicked for $25 for his part in arguing with Regele. President Abel said a suspension against Thompson will be lifted Monday.

Meter Tampering More Costly Than Meter Feeding

A Salem man who admitted tampering with a meter to get two hours' free parking was fined enough Friday to pay for two hours of parking eavry day for nearly 14 months.

V. F. Frahm, 468 Water st., pleaded guilty in municipal court to a charge of tampering with a meter and was fined $50 with $15 remitted. Police said Frahm was observed tinkering with the mechanism on a meter in the 100 block of South Cottage street. When he finished the meter showed two hours of parking time, but no coins were in the box, police said.

Libel Suit on Commie Issue Sent to Jury

HARTFORD, Conn., May 26–(AP) –A federal jury was sent to bed tonight without reaching a verdict in a $200,000 libel suit against a Connecticut housewife who called two entertainers pro-communists.

The jury debate was recessed until 9 a.m. (EST) Saturday after nearly seven hours of futile deliberations.

The defendant, Mrs. Hester R. McCullough, was sued by Larry Adler and Paul Draper.

Some 3,200 pages of testimony was taken during the 20-day trial.

Federal Judge J. Joseph Smith gave the case to the eight women and four men jurors at 12:30 p.m. (EST).

$100,000 Suits

Draper, a dancer, and Adler, a harmonica player, are suing Mrs. McCullough for $100,000 apiece. They charge she hurt their reputations and caused them to lose engagements by falsely accusing them of pro-communist activities.

Mrs. McCullough, 34, wife of John T. McCullough, an assistant picture editor of Time magazine, made the statements in a published letter opposing a Draper-Adler concert in her home town of Greenwich, Conn., in January, 1949.

Judge Smith told the jury in his charge:

"In the present climate of this country there can be no question that to charge a man with being a communist or pro-communist or traitor does hold him up to ridicule and contempt."

Jurors to Determine

Smith said the jurors must determine for themselves whether any of the organizations Draper and Adler admittedly supported were communist or communist-fronted groups.

The fact that such organizations have been cited as subversive in official government listings, the judge said, is not to be taken as proof.

Drive Starts To 'Draft Ike'

NEW YORK, May 26 –(AP)– A "draft Eisenhower for president" campaign has been started in New York by a publicity man who says he started a similar campaign for the late Wendell L. Willkie in 1940.

The publicity man, John Orr Young, has begun a series of paid advertisements in the "public notices" column of the New York Herald Tribune.

Young said the advertisements will be small at first, but that contributions from Eisenhower backers will increase the funds so that in a short time large advertisements will be taken in newspapers and magazines throughout the nation.

The ad says the general "cannot refuse if the people insist."

CAR THEFT REPORTED

Theft of a grey 1936 Plymouth sedan, license number 84-223, was reported to city police Friday night by Max A. Shannon, 225 W. Ewald st., owner of the vehicle.

Atomic Project Strike Spreads

OAK RIDGE, Tenn., May 26 –(AP)– A strike by AFL workers on a vital atomic plant construction job spread to other building projects today, virtually halting all construction work here.

The atomic energy commission reported that AFL workers on an atomic laboratorl, a high school and 450 new dwellings joined the wildcat walkout which began Wednesday on a $227,000,000 atomic plant project.

Farm Bureau Official Attacks Brannan Plan

"The Brannan plan is not an honest attempt to solve the American farm program, but rather seeks to nationalize agriculture and play party politics."

This charge was brought against the Truman-backed farm proposal by Marshall Swearingen, executive vice president of Oregon Farm Bureau federation, in a speech Friday before members of Salem Retail Credit association.

"The Brannan plan," Swearingen stated, "fits into the same socialistic pattern which is seeking to legislate the Columbia valley authority, government control of industry and socialized medicine."

In his speech, Swearingen cited the Farm Bureau's program that would:

Retain prices based on supply and demand as the principal guide to production; provide for insuring present and future soil productivity; encourage needed production of commodities in the best locations; help operators of uneconomic farm units make needed adjustments; discourage expansion of unneeded production in new high-cost areas better adapted to other uses; assure farmers a fair share of the national income.

Reduce government ownership and trading in farm products; encourage international trade outlets for farm products on a sound exchange basis; improve the diet of consumers; limit annual costs of the government for farm programs to an agreed amount; contribute to the national economy, discourage evasion of the law and reduce administrative costs.

Swearingen was introduced by Robert Paulus, who called for an end to government spending on agriculture plans set up during World War II.

Unit May Seek DAV Charter

Plans for a proposed Salem Disabled American Veterans chapter for World War II servicemen were reported Friday.

William Exline, co-chairman of the organizing committee, said many had expressed a desire to be charter members. He said about 20 of them met Thursday and elected Keith Harris temporary commander.

The charter is not expected to be issued until after the national D.A.V. convention in July, Exline said.

Seychelles nuts are native to the island of that name in the Indian ocean.

Dam in Montana To Supply Energy Ahead of Schedule

HUNGRY HORSE, Mont., May 26 –(AP)– Hungry Horse dam will supply 142,000 kilowatts of power by the end of 1952 — ahead of schedule — Construction Engineer C. H. Spencer said today.

Two generators along the south fork of the Flathead river, where the dam is rising in northwest Montana will help to meet Pacific northwest peak power loads during the 1952-53 winter, Spencer added.

He reported the federal reclamation bureau and General-Shea-Morrison company, prime contractor at the project, have signed an agreement to speed up the powerhouse construction schedule.

Final Rites for Ralph Johnson Set Monday

Services for Ralph Johnson, 64, of 215 S. Winter st., a longtime Salem resident, will be Monday at 3 p.m. at the Clough-Barrick chapel. Interment will be at City View cemetery.

Johnson died unexpectedly at his home Thursday night of a heart attack. He had lived in or near Salem about 40 years and was employed by the Valley Packing company for many years prior to 1942.

Johnson was born at Heppner, Oct. 15, 1885, the son of pioneer Oregon parents. He married Estella Amelia McQueen at Milton in 1904.

Surviving besides the widow are two sons, Percy and Dale R. Johnson, both of Salem; a brother, Tom Johnson, Heppner, and four grandchildren.

MOTORIST ARRESTED

John Bruno Panavas, Salem route 9, was arrested by state police officers late Friday night on a charge of driving while intoxicated. Panavas was being held early this morning in the Marion county jail.

THIEVES ENFORCE BATH

CLEVELAND, May 26–(AP)–Mrs. Rosell Johnson, 35, told police today two robbers forced her to sit fully-clothed in a bathtub full of water while they carted off a small safe containing only a lady's wrist watch from her home. The safe was later found looted nearby.

State Employes Chorus Makes Concert Debut

By Maxine Buren
Statesman Music Editor

The chorus of State Employes made its initial appearance in concert at Salem high school auditorium, and plan to repeat the performance tonight at 8 o'clock. The chorus, under the direction of Ronald Craven, provided a pleasant evening for those who attended, and for the very short time they have been organized, the performance was creditable.

The chorus was formed for the pleasure of the singers, and was obviously fulfilling that plan for the performers were having a very good time.

The program was of popular appeal and generously interspersed with talent of solo caliber. Theodora Humiston, soprano, Victor Wolfe, basso, Edith Fairham Gunnar, mezzo soprano and Don Wordon, organist, were featured in special numbers. Certainly each gave a fine performance.

The director, Ronald Craven, sang a tenor solo and Mrs. Craven, the accompanist, and Ruth Bedford added two duo piano numbers to the program.

On the whole, the evening was very satisfactory though the group is far from a finished one, surprising progress has been made and singers, director and organizers deserve credit for that accomplishment. And high praise is due to those who found the excellent talent among employes of the state.

It is hoped that tonight's audience will be larger and more responsive to the efforts of the performers, encouragement does much to enliven such an entertainment.

Fish Perish in Croisan Creek

Statesman News Service

ROBERTS, May 25 — Several score of trout and other fish were killed Friday when Croisan creek, three miles south of Salem, became polluted by an undetermined substance.

Sheriff Denver Young said residents along the creek found dead fish floating in the stream Friday morning about a mile east of South River road.

Young said the presence of cement was detected in the water, but authorities were unable to determine whether it killed the fish. About 15 or 20 trout ranging from 4 to 15 inches long were lost, but a larger number apparently escaped unharmed.

The stream had practically purified itself by Friday afternoon.

Police Patrol, Signs Asked for Front Street

Erection of new traffic signs and active patroling by city police cars will help cut the high accident rate on north Front street, members of the North Salem Boosters club stated Friday night.

Members met with about 60 north Salem residents in Highland school to discuss a series of accidents that reached a tragic climax Tuesday night with the death of 12-year-old Ronald Eugene Carlson.

It was pointed out at the meeting that new signs reading "speed limit - 25 miles an hour" were erected Friday at the north city limits and that police squad cars have been more active in the area since the Carlson boy's death.

Members generally disapproved of a proposal now before the city council to limit parking to one side of Front between Columbia and Hickory streets.

Other possible traffic controls discussed included painting of cross-walks on north Front street and installation of a blinker light at the city limits to warn approaching drivers to reduce speed.

STRIKE CONTINUES

ROSEBURG, May 26 –(AP)– The strike at Martin Brothers box factory in Oakland continued uneventually today, with no negotiation meetings in sight. The firm, which employs 400 workers, was being picketed by the AFL lumber and sawmill workers, in support of their demand for a 10½ cent hourly wage increase.

The cacao tree was imported into the African Gold Coast from tropical America 70 years ago.

Services for Mrs. Atkinson Due Monday

Services for Mrs. Alice Gertrude Atkinson, 67, of 2261 Hazel ave., will be Monday at 10 a.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic church.

Recitation of the rosary will be Sunday at 8 p.m. at the W. T. Rigdon chapel. Interment will be at Belcrest Memorial park.

Mrs. Atkinson died at a local hospital Thursday night. Death was caused by coronary thrombosis.

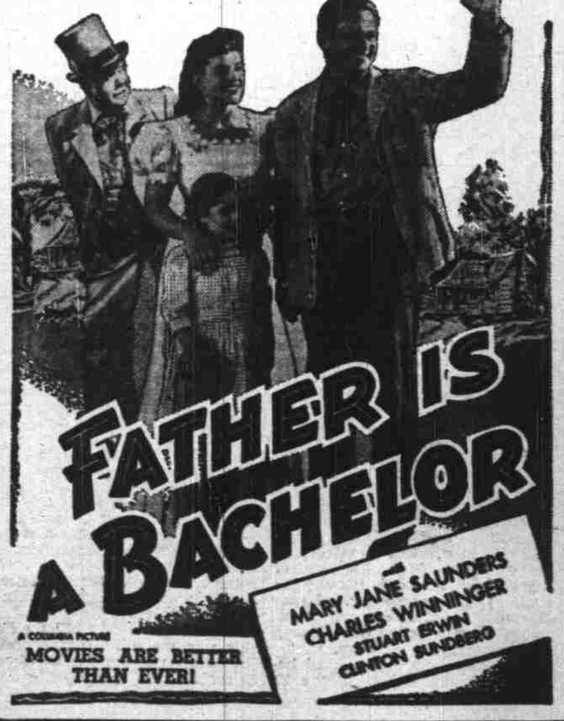
Born at Chicago, Aug. 19, 1882, Mrs. Atkinson moved to Seattle in 1923 and to Oregon in 1929. She moved here from Seattle about 10 years ago.

Surviving are the widower, Samuel W. Atkinson, Salem; children, A. L. Elvin and Mrs. D. C. Godlove, both of Salem; brothers, John O'Brien, Circle, Mont., and Charles O'Brien, Des Moines, Iowa.; a sister, Elizabeth O'Brien in Colorado; and three grandchildren.

ELSINORE
NOW!
It's O'Greaty!
Mervyn LeRoy's
The Daughter of Rosie O'Grady
TECHNICOLOR
JUNE HAVER · GORDON MacRAE
JAMES BARTON · CUDDLES SAKALL
GENE NELSON · DAVID BUTLER · WM. JACOBS

Bugs Bunny Cartoon
Brevity - Warner News

HOLLYWOOD
Hollywood Kids Matinee Today—1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
3 CARTOONS—SERIAL
Special Matinee Feature:
"Queen of the Amazons"
A Jungle Story with Lots of Animals and Action
also
Benson's Birthday Cake for
Lois Baker, Roger Bolmeier, David Kromer, Frank Nenzel, Judy James, Judith Edminster, James Mills, Ronald Chapel, Margie Alkire, Marsha Miller, Bonnie Penny, Patricia Holzkamp, Judith Seamster, Jimmie Whitmire, Viola Yost, Ronny Carr, Robert English, Barbara Haakenson, Arlo Charboneau, Carol Robison, Tom Lovell, Jimmy Rolofson, Kathleen Goodrich, Joyce Sealey, Dickie Chandler, Jerry Collins, George Davis, Barbara Roth, Jerry Neff, Eugene Kammler, Adrian Clifton, Laura Moore, Larry Mason, James Panger.
Eve. Show Cont. after 5:30 p.m.
ENDS TODAY!
When Willie Comes Marching Home
John Ford's
Dan DAILEY · Corinne CALVET
Colleen TOWNSEND · William DEMAREST
20th
Co-Feature
"FIGHTING FOOLS"
with the Bowery Boys
Starts Tomorrow—Cont. 1:45
Claudette COLBERT · Paulette GODDARD · Veronica LAKE in
'So Proudly We Hail'
A Paramount Champion Brought Back by Popular Demand
and
WAKE ISLAND
with
BRIAN DONLEVY
A Paramount Champion Brought Back by Popular Demand

TOMORROW! GRAND
• PH. 3-3467 • MATINEE DAILY FROM 1 P.M. •
A BIG FAMILY PROGRAM! GOOD FOR EVERYONE FROM THE BABY TO GRANDPA!
IF EVER A BACHELOR NEEDED A WIFE IT WAS JOHNNY . . . WITH 5 KIDS AROUND
WILLIAM HOLDEN · COLEEN GRAY

FATHER IS A BACHELOR
with MARY JANE SAUNDERS · CHARLES WINNINGER · STUART ERWIN · CLINTON SUNDBERG
MOVIES ARE BETTER THAN EVER!
ENDS TODAY! (SAT.)
Mickey Rooney
"THE BIG WHEEL"
Brian Donlevy
"IMPACT"
A BOY... A GIRL... A GOLDEN HORSE!
... CAUGHT IN A CROSSFIRE OF TREACHERY AND GREED!
The Gallant King of Wild Horses!

The PALOMINO
Color by TECHNICOLOR
Jerome COURTLAND · Beverly TYLER · Joseph CALLEIA · Ray ROBERTS
COLOR CARTOON
AIRMAIL FOX NEWS!

LIBERTY
KARTOON KARNIVAL TODAY
At 12:30 with Reg. Show
NOW SHOWING!
CARY GRANT
"I WAS A MALE WAR BRIDE"
"ABBOTT & COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN"

MAJESTIC
Dallas, Oregon
Phone 3346
Last Time Tonight
"A Ticket to Tomahawk"
&
"Bomba on Panther Island"
Starts Tomorrow!

It's a riot on wheels...
Red SKELTON
in MGM's
THE YELLOW CAB MAN
with Gloria DeHaven
Cartoon

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Labish Gardens – Hiway 99 ★ Tel. 2-7829
• OPENS AT 8 — STARTS AT DUSK •
FREE PONY RIDES
NEW SHOW TONITE!
Fred MacMurray · Claire Trevor
"Borderline"
Preston Foster · Barbara Britton
"I Shot Jesse James"

STATE
• PH. 3-3721 • CONT. FROM 1 P.M. •
NEW SHOW TODAY!
IT'S GOT EVERYTHING!
EXCITEMENT! DANGER! LAUGHS! SUSPENSE!

ROY ROGERS and TRIGGER
in TRUCOLOR
"TWILIGHT IN THE SIERRAS"
DALE EVANS
ESTELITA RODRIGUEZ · PAT BRADY · FOY WILLING and THE RIDERS OF THE PURPLE SAGE
CO-HIT! DID YOU EVER HEAR THE ONE ABOUT THE SALESWOMAN?
RIOTOUS WESTERN UPROAR!

JOAN DAVIS
The TRAVELING SALESWOMAN
starring ANDY DEVINE · ADELE JERGENS · JOE SAWYER
• COLOR CARTOON • LATE NEWS •

CAPITOL
Ends Tonight! "ON THE TOWN" Technicolor! "The Kid From Cleveland"
TOMORROW!
2 Top-Notch Treats!
They Click like a key in a Lock!

Clark's a baby-kissing mayor—and Loretta's the lucky baby!
M-G-M's RIOTOUS ROMANCE!
Clark GABLE · Loretta YOUNG
KEY TO THE CITY
with MARILYN MAXWELL · FRANK MORGAN · JAMES GLEASON · LEWIS STONE
★ 2nd Ace Treat! ★
PARADISE UNTAMED!
... in all its wonder and fury!

J. Arthur Rank presents
JEAN SIMMONS · DONALD HOUSTON
"THE BLUE LAGOON"
with JAMES HAYTER
IN FABULOUS COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR!
- Extra! — Cartoon ★ News