

Stampede's Toll 124 At Japanese Shrine; Mourners Shocked

NIGATA, Japan (U)—A trickle of mourners filed silently up the steps of Iyahiko Shrine Monday, shocked with grief for the 124 Shinto worshippers who died there in a panic-triggered stampede only hours earlier.

They moved slowly through debris scattered over the ground where thousands of Japanese had gathered to greet the new year.

Action Urged For Livestock Price Decline

WASHINGTON (U)—Thirteen Democratic senators demanded Sunday that Secretary of Agriculture Benson take immediate action to bolster livestock prices.

They included in a letter to Benson a charge that a pledge by President Eisenhower in 1952 of "equal treatment" for raisers of perishable commodities has not been kept by his administration.

The letter, made public Sunday, calls upon Benson to embark immediately on "an expanded purchase program of animal products for school lunch and relief distribution out of funds available to you for that purpose."

It suggested this be followed by legislative recommendations "for effective protection to our producers of all forms of livestock and animal products."

The signers are Senators Humphrey (Minn.); Morse and Neuberger (Ore.); Murray and Mansfield (Mont.); Hennings (Mo.); Scott (N.C.); Chavez (N.M.); Kefauver (Tenn.); Kerr and Monroney (Okla.); Magnuson (Wash.) and Douglas (Ill.).

"Ample evidence is now available that your present hog buying program is failing to bolster effectively hog prices to farmers," the letter said. "Instead, its benefits are going primarily to meat packers whose profits have already soared during the past year as farm prices declined."

The Democratic senators said the expanded program of purchases of meat and animal products "should be geared to increasing the returns to farmers."

Gambling Club In Las Vegas Closes Doors

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (U)—The roulette wheels were silent and the crap tables dark Sunday in the casino at the Royal Nevada Hotel, beset with financial troubles for weeks.

The management closed the casino about 11:30 o'clock Saturday night, almost at the peak of the New Year's Eve celebration, after employees, fearful that the hotel was closing, began helping themselves to cash and chips, a spokesman said.

Publicity Director Morry Brodsky said Sunday: "The casino is closed and we don't know when it will reopen, but the hotel's 250 rooms are full and we have 500 reservations for the Crown Room tonight."

He admitted that the future of the five million dollar hotel, opened last April 19, is uncertain.

Brodsky said the trouble Saturday night started when the Culinary Workers Union served a writ of attachment for \$3,900 in wage claims.

"The management claims this money is not due until Jan. 5, the culinary workers having been paid through Dec. 15, but rather than have trouble we paid the \$3,900, leaving the matter for later investigation by our attorneys," Brodsky said.

But casino dealers who saw sheriff's deputies serving the writ thought the place was being closed. A sort of hysteria went through the place. Dealers grabbed cash and chips from the tables and gave some to their friends.

"Bartenders helped themselves from the cash registers, taking what they considered wages due to date. We don't know how many thousand dollars was taken in this way. We were forced to close the casino in a hurry."

Singer Anna Maria Alberghetti and her family are entertaining in the Crown Room.

Marilyn Monroe, Laurence Olivier To Team in Film

LONDON (U)—The Sunday Graphic said Sunday Sir Laurence Olivier and Marilyn Monroe—Britain's top straight actor and America's most famous curved one—are to be teamed up in a film version of "The Sleeping Prince."

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with thanks to their gods for good crops and good fortune in 1955.

Police said their earlier count of 112 dead had been raised by 12 after a careful recheck. They also listed 36 injured, 8 of them seriously.

The disaster struck five minutes after throbbing drums and pealing bells heralded the birth of a new year. It began as a crowd scrambled for the traditional good luck rice cakes thrown by Shinto priests. It ended with bodies piled three and four deep, spilling off a raised platform and down a narrow stairway.

Grim Story
Police and survivors told this grim story:
At midnight, several hundred Japanese stood before the rail of the open-air Iyahiko Shrine altar. Below them, 6,000 to 7,000 people had jammed onto a broad raised platform surrounded by a stone fence. Farther down were 30,000 others awaiting their turn to worship.

When the deep boom of a Shinto bell announced the new year, the worshippers above began moving slowly down the stairway. The crowd below pressed relentlessly forward.

Three Rice Cakes
Robed Shinto priests stood atop special towers on each side of the 15-step stairway, which served as a funnel between the worshippers at the altar and the crowd below. Then the priests began throwing pounded rice cakes, known as mochi. The worshippers scrambled for the good luck tokens—and in a moment the solemn rite became a wild stampede.

"Those who had finished praying swarmed back down the stairs to catch the mochi, crashing into the arriving worshippers," said Tsuneo Togawa, a reporter for the newspaper Asahi. "Some tumbled off the staircase or were crushed under the oncoming human waves."

Panic flashed through the crowd. There were screams of terror and shouts of agony. The stone fence broke. Many were pushed off the platform and fell shrieking to the ground below. Others fell on top of them.

Mass Surged
The mass of worshippers surged toward the altar, even as more and more on the stairway lost their footing and were engulfed by trampling feet.

Only a handful of the 36 police assigned to the ceremony were actually at the scene. They were powerless.

In the clear, crisp New Year's dawn a few hours later, Iyahiko Shrine was a scene of pitiful scene as bereaved relatives came to claim the hooded bodies of loved ones arranged neatly at the gates.

And the disaster brought widespread predictions from superstitious Japanese that it was an omen of an evil 1956.

Miss France Title 'Split' Three Ways

NICE, France (U)—Parliament may have trouble finding a Prime Minister after Monday's election, but there's one firm fact Frenchmen can hold on to: They have succeeded in electing Miss France.

Or maybe three.

Out of a haze of champagne bubbles, heady Riviera ozone, and the hot air of press agents, the following claimants have emerged:

Miss Maryse Fabre, 18, blonde secretary from Marseille, chosen Thursday night by the judges amid outraged howls from the audience, and dehorned 45 minutes later.

Miss Gisele Charbit, 18, brunette secretary from Casablanca, chosen early Sunday morning by popular vote of those willing to pay 10,000 francs (\$28.57) for a New Year's Eve party.

Miss Monique Lefebvre, 18 student nurse from Metz, named as runner-up to Miss Charbit, who comes from Africa and therefore is not, strictly speaking, qualified to compete for the "Miss Europe" title May 4, 5 and 6 at La Baule, an Atlantic resort city near St. Nazaire.

Here are the essential measurements of the three girls:
Miss Fabre—Bust 35 1/2, waist 21 1/4 and hips 36.
Miss Charbit—34 1/2, 23, 35.
Miss Lefebvre—35 1/2, 23 1/2, 35 1/2.

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Soviet Embassy Burns in Canada



OTTAWA—Fire which started on the third floor of the Russian Embassy in Ottawa, seen ablaze above, destroyed the building Sunday with a loss estimated unofficially at \$250,000. No one was reported injured. (Story on Page 1.) (CP Wirephoto.)

Highway, School Aid, Social Security Top Congress List

KEY WEST, Fla. (U)—President Eisenhower started the new year Sunday with a 45-minute work session on the State of the Union message he will send to Congress Thursday.

The President abandoned plans to attend 11 a.m. church services at the naval base chapel here

when suggestions for changes in the message arrived unexpectedly from Washington.

James C. Hagerty, White House press secretary, said Eisenhower incorporated the changes and then sent the revised version back to aides in the capital.

Hagerty declined to provide any details regarding the new material, but said in reply to newsmen's questions that the changes were not major ones.

Secret Service agents and newsmen were at the chapel awaiting the President's arrival when word came that he had changed plans and was on his way to his office in the base administration building.

The chief executive walked there and remained three quarters of an hour. When he started back on the two-block walk to his living quarters newsmen wished him a happy new year and he responded with a "Same to you."

Since his heart attack the President usually has retired long before midnight, but he stayed up Saturday night to welcome the new year at a quiet family celebration. He napped for about an hour earlier in the evening, however.

Woman's Nude Body Found; Veteran Held

CLEVELAND (U)—The nude body of a slender brunette in her early twenties was found Sunday on the frozen ground of an East Side baseball diamond. Police said a 24-year-old sailor admitted beating the girl, whose name he did not know.

Held by police was William Miller, a Navy veteran of eight years who was home on Christmas leave prior to shipping out for Formosa. Miller, a handsome, rusty-haired 6-footer who is estranged from his wife, admitted he picked up the girl during a New Year's Eve round of bars, Homicide Capt. David E. Kerr said.

Both were drinking heavily when they went out to Humphrey Field, near Euclid Beach Park on Cleveland's East Side.

Maddened by the girl's refusal of a proposition he made, Miller, stripped, punched and kicked her, he told police. The sailor said she was still alive when he left.

Coroner Samuel R. Gerber said a preliminary autopsy showed the girl, not yet identified, died of contusions and hemorrhage of the brain. Her beige skirt, white sweater and underclothing were scattered around the field.

Wreck Near Stayton Hurts Jefferson Man

STAYTON—A Jefferson area man was taken to Santiam Memorial Hospital with a thigh fracture following an auto accident early Sunday morning just west of Stayton.

LeRoy Farnen, Jefferson Route 1, Box 36, was injured when his car ran into a ditch, rolled over and struck a power pole about 2:45 a.m. at West Stayton Y, state police said. Power in the area was interrupted for a time because of wires on the ground, they said.

Farnen's condition was "good" Sunday night, hospital attendants said. A passenger, Gerald Leland Cruse of Lebanon, apparently was not seriously injured, police said.

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10 MILLION GET VACCINE
NEW YORK (AP)—Ten million American children were inoculated with Salk polio vaccine in 1955, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis reports. The foundation predicted that the disease eventually "will be beaten, finally and irrevocably."

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Story of the Men Who Guard America's Skies!
"24 HOUR ALERT"
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French Claim Rebels Using Foreign Bases

ALGIERS, Algeria (U)—A French spokesman charged Sunday night a diary found on a captured Algerian rebel leader showed the insurgents are using both Egypt and Libya as bases for their uprising.

The diary... gives the essential details of the role of (Algerian rebel chief) Mohammed Ben Bella and his clique, who from Cairo direct the rebellion in Algeria," the spokesman told a news conference.

The diary was seized from Hocine Ben Ouarja, 26, who was captured last Thursday in a surprise French raid in the Nementcha Mountain area. He was identified as an envoy from the Cairo rebel headquarters who played an important role in the Algerian uprisings.

The spokesman, a high official of the Algerian governor general's office, told newsmen:

"The diary and the first declaration of Ben Ouarja throw a very clear light on certain hostile attitudes shown to our country in a scarcely veiled manner by certain official circles in Cairo.

"They confirm equally that Libya is a base and a staging point for action against France in North Africa, in such conditions that one is astonished that governing circles in Tripoli are unaware of it."

The spokesman said Ben Ouarja had been specially trained in political undercover work and commando tactics in Egypt and passed himself off as an Egyptian among the rebels to gain prestige.

A military spokesman here announced four camel convoys of ammunition and weapons, including a British 2-inch mortar, were captured in December while attempting to cross the Libyan-Algerian frontier in rebel-infested areas.

"The rebels are not sparing with their ammunition," the spokesman added. "They obviously have plenty and think nothing at all of keeping up harassing fire on one of our military outposts all night."

Nothing Suspicious About This Blaze

NEW YORK (AP)—Even a minor fire sometimes makes an entry in fire department records. Take Sunday's report on a blaze in a lower east side apartment for example:

"Pants in oven. Damage trifling. No injuries. Nothing suspicious."

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\$1.00
12 Noon to 8 p.m.
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440 STATE SALEM

Rose Bowl Game on TV—Marine Room, Today!

Rose Bowl Game on TV—Marine Room, Today!
For a Delightful New Year's Dinner Eat Smorgasbord Style at
It's Real Easy
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Dinner for Dad—99¢
Dinner for Mom—99¢
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Hot Entrees—This Monday
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