

## Girl Pinned in Wreck 9 Days Is Fully Well

Co-ed Working in Toy Shop, Will Return To College

By JAMES C. O'NEILL  
United Press Staff Correspondent

SUNNYVALE, Calif. (UP) — Eighteen-year-old Jean Margetts works today in a toy store to earn money for Christmas—a Christmas few ever expected her to see. Less than five months ago Jean was trapped for nine days beneath the wreckage of a car in the desolate Wasatch Mountains of Utah; her only companion the body of her sweetheart.

"I can't believe yet that it could happen," the dark haired girl said as she stood behind a counter in the toy store.

Surrounded by dolls, blocks and gay Christmas decorations, Jean said "It's all like a big dream. But I'm standing here because the Lord was standing by helping me."

Jean's extraordinary escape from double death—auto accident and starvation—has left practically no visible mark on the pretty Brigham Young University coed. Her color has come back; she's vivacious and laughs as freely as any girl her age.

Tires Easily  
"She still tires easily," her mother, Mrs. Lawrence Margetts said. "But her strength is coming back."

Right now she is busy with Christmas plans and preparations for returning to school at Provo, Utah, after the holidays.

"I've been buying some new clothes and the money I'm making now—it's not much, I'm only working parttime—I'll spend on Christmas presents," she said.

Unless one talks to the girl there's little about her to hint at the nine days of living death she went through last June.

Returning from an excursion with her fiancé and boyhood sweetheart, James Hixon Jr., 22, Jean was in high spirits as they drove toward Provo. Somehow Hixon lost control of the car and it plunged off the mountain road into a heavily wooded ravine. Hixon was killed and Jean was pinned under the wreckage unable to move.

Wreckage Spotted  
A search plane spotted the wreckage more than a week later, and a party reached it on July 3 to remove the bodies. They found Hixon, who was to have wed Jean in the Mormon Temple in Salt Lake City in September, dead 15 feet away from the semi-conscious girl.

Salt Lake City doctors at first gave Jean little chance to recover. Besides exhaustion, near starvation, extreme thirst and deep shock, Jean was suffering from multiple internal injuries.

"I want to thank everyone so much," Jean said.

To which Mrs. Margetts added her "heartfelt thanks."

"There's no doubt," Mrs. Margetts said, "but that it's going to be a truly merry Christmas here this year."

## Trainmen Turn Down Offer of Mediation Unit

Final Pay Proposals of Rails Nixed; Ike Action Next

CHICAGO (AP)—The contract dispute between the nation's major railroads and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, representing some 133,000 operating workers, appeared headed today to a presidential fact-finding board.

Mediation of the dispute ended yesterday when the union said it had rejected final wage and other proposals offered by 140 carriers. The trainmen also turned down an offer of arbitration extended by Leverett Edwards, member of the National Railway Mediation Board.

No strike vote has been taken by the union. Appointment of a fact-finding board to investigate the dispute and make recommendations for a settlement would put off any strike for 60 days.

The union rejected an offer of a 26½ cents an hour wage increase, saying the carriers declined demands for seven paid holidays and insisted on a three year moratorium on changes in wage and working conditions.

The union originally asked for a \$3 a day basic increase, plus seven paid holidays. The railroads have been negotiating on a new contract with the trainmen and two other unions since Sept. 5. Mediators came in on Oct. 5. Still in mediation are the Switchmen's Union of North America, with 8,000 members, and the Order of Railway Conductors and Brakemen, with 20,000.

A railroad spokesman declined comment, saying the carriers had not been told of the trainmen's rejection.

Interstate Commerce Commission statistics show workers represented by the trainmen's union earn the following average wages: road trainmen, \$314 a month and \$5,167 a year; road conductors \$300 a month and \$5,652 a year, and yard conductors and brakemen, \$420 and \$5,163.

In the Virgin Islands, 5,000 acres have been donated by Laurence S. Rockefeller so that the island's old plantations can be restored to grow sugar cane and tropical fruits.

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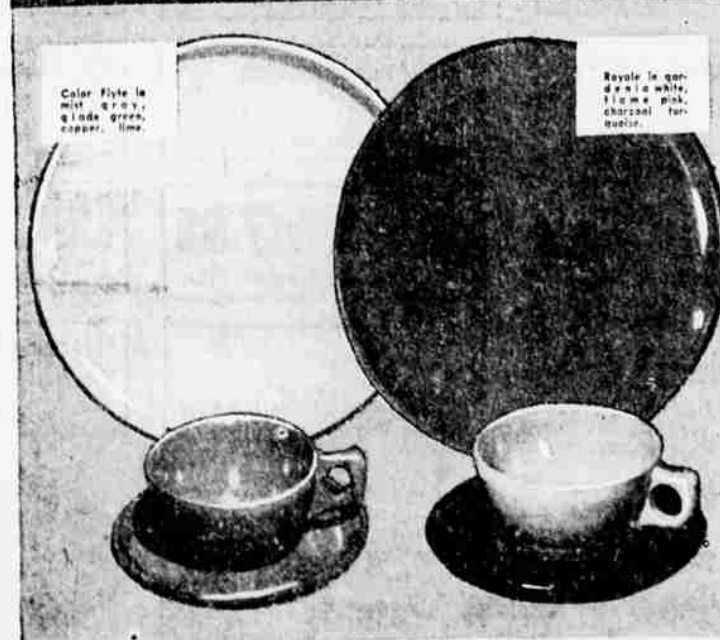
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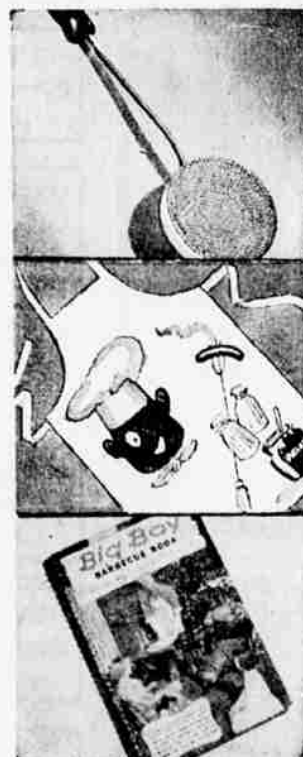


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