

Mechanical Failure Indicated As Cause Of Deadly Train Wreck in Los Angeles

Los Angeles—(U.P.)—The district attorney investigating the deadly Santa Fe train wreck here said today he had found no evidence of criminal negligence in the smashup which killed 29 persons.

S. Ernest Roll, the district attorney, said he planned no criminal action of any kind at the present time and indicated a mechanical failure may have been responsible for the wreck.

A thorough investigation was planned before Feb. 3 when an inquest will be held and all evidence presented to a grand jury. Tentative plans were made for at least three other official investigations.

Emergency Failure Seen
There was some evidence a

"dead man's control" emergency device failed to function when the train left the track as it hurtled around a dangerous curve at 71 miles an hour.

Fireman Homer Smith told Chief Deputy District Attorney Adolph Alexander that the engineer, Frank Parrish, threw the train into emergency "and nothing happened."

Smith, under treatment for back injuries, said he called out as the train passed the 15 miles per hour warning sign and received a waved acknowledgment from Parrish. However, the train continued to pick up speed, Smith said. He shouted at Parrish to throw the brake into emergency, and the engineer did so but it failed to operate.

Controlled by Pedal
The emergency device would theoretically stop the train automatically. It is controlled by a pedal which the engineer must keep depressed with his foot at all times while the train is in operation. Should an engineer collapse he would fall away from the pedal and release the stopping mechanism.

Parrish, 61, said he blacked out before he came to the dangerous curve. He told investigators he had no recollection of releasing the dead man's control pedal. But he said he was aware of something happening just before the crowded two car diesel commuter train lurched over on its side.

The engineer said he had "a

hazy feeling of seeing an orange glow" just before he blacked out. There are orange groves near Parrish's San Bernardino, Calif., home but none where the accident happened.

Treated for Shock
"I'm solely responsible," Parrish sobbed from his bed at the Santa Fe hospital where he is being treated for shock.

He told investigators that it would be very dangerous to take the curve where the wreck occurred at a speed of more than 35 to 40 miles an hour. The curve has a posted limit of 15 miles an hour. But an automatic tape recording device in the diesel showed the train was speeding at 71 miles an hour just before the smashup.

The official death toll in the crash was set at 29 today with 142 listed as injured. Only one of the dead remained to be identified. The body, listed as "Jane Doe," had nine \$100 bills pinned to the underclothing. It remained unclaimed in the county morgue.

Official investigations planned were those by the Public Utilities commission, the city of Los Angeles and the Interstate Commerce commission. Rep. Pat Hillings (R.-Calif.) said in Washington he would urge the ICC to investigate the accident.

JACKSONVILLE New Librarian Assumes Job

By MRS. C. S. HOSKINS
Jacksonville—The new librarian who took over last week at the Jacksonville library is Mrs. Helen Roberts, who lives on Valley Lane, Jacksonville.

Mrs. Roberts and family moved here from Massachusetts last spring. The former librarian, Mrs. Ted Hewlett, resigned because of illness. Mrs. M. Schmidt has been assisting Mrs. Roberts to get acquainted with the work at the library.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Book of Klamath Falls are visiting at the home of Mrs. Book's daughter, the Rev. and Mrs. W. D. Turnbull, at the Assembly of God church.

Book while here is putting in all the cabinet work at the new parsonage which is in process of being built next to the church. The Books expect to be here for about two weeks.

Election of officers of a youth group known as the Christ Ambassadors at the Assembly of God church was held Saturday, Jan. 22, at the church.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Cooke from Springfield were house guests at the Warren Hazen home over last week end.

Mrs. Mable McCallie returned this week from Lebanon where she visited her sons and families over the holiday season.

Also returning from a holiday visit in Huntington Beach, Calif., at the homes of her daughter, Mrs. Jean Archer, and two sons, Dick and Don, and their fam-

ilies, is Mrs. Helen Maples, formerly of the Kottage Kitchen, Jacksonville.

Mrs. Herbert Hanna flew to San Francisco last Tuesday to be with her daughter, Mrs. Clement Dang the former Anita Andrews, and her new son. The baby was born Jan. 11 and has been named Herbert Gregory.

Mrs. Joanne Misener and husband, Anaheim, Calif., are visiting at the home of Mrs. Misener's parents, Mr. and Mrs. David O'Connor, this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Long, Ojai, Calif., were guests this week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Riley Norris. Mrs. Long is Riley's sister. The Longs were here to attend the funeral at Dillard, Ore., for Mrs. Milton Norris, and drove to Dillard from here. They stayed here with the Norris family for a few days.

Mrs. Tim Spellman was guest of honor at a baby shower given by Mrs. Kenneth Norris in Jacksonville last week. Twelve guests were present for the occasion. Games were played, refreshments served and many gifts presented. The Spellmans are from Prospect, and are teaching down the old Miller residence on North Oregon st., Jacksonville, and plan to build a new home at that location in the near future.

Mrs. Florence Whitley left this week to go to Cottage Grove where she was called due to the serious illness of her mother,

Klatsch for the March of Dimes fund drive will be held for this week at the home of Mrs. B. J. Christianson on Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 1040 South Third st. Mr. Christianson will be assisted by Mrs. Patty Maddox and Mrs. Jerry Montgomery. Anyone interested is invited.

A March of Dimes dance was sponsored last Saturday night by the Jacksonville Lions club with music supplied by Johnny Lusk and his six-piece band. The dance was held in the Jacksonville Community hall.

Douglas Speaking Against Gas Bill

Washington — (U.P.) — Sen. Paul H. Douglas hit the halfway mark today in his speech-making campaign in the Senate against the controversial natural gas bill.

The Illinois Democrat held the Senate floor for the third day in a row to continue a 150-page prepared speech, augmented by tables of figures and charts.

Douglas told a reporter he is making the marathon speech to "offset all the nonsense" that has been said about the bill. It would exempt independent natural gas producers from direct federal rate regulation.

The long speech, he emphasized, is no filibuster. Douglas said he is not trying to block a vote on the bill — the aim of Senate filibusters. Supporters of the bill have made no complaint about the length of his speech.

Douglas said the speech is aimed at "the framers of public opinion," newspapers and an estimated 20,000 "careful" readers of the Congressional Record.

In 10½ hours of talking yesterday and Friday, Douglas completed half his prepared speech, consuming several boxes of cough drops in the process. He was interrupted many times by questions.

Douglas contends that the bill would result in higher gas rates to consumers by some \$600,000,000 a year — a charge hotly disputed by the bill's supporters.

The enlistment of Negroes as U. S. soldiers was authorized by President Lincoln Aug. 25, 1862.

Henry Knox was appointed the first U. S. secretary of war Sept. 12, 1789.



PLUCKY — Ten-year-old Carol Allen of Gardena, Cal., blind since birth, shows how she has mastered art of bike riding. She steers by "feel," feeling bumps as she comes to them. Carol can also roller skate and dance.

Deportation Case Of Romanian Set

Miami, Fla. — (U.P.) — Romanian industrialist Nicolai Malaxa goes before a closed Immigration Office hearing Wednesday to determine if he will be allowed to stay in this country.

Malaxa, 72, once termed the "Henry Ford of Romania," was picked up by immigration authorities last Dec. 16 when he arrived from a nine-month business trip to Argentina. He was paroled on his own cognizance and ordered not to leave Florida until the hearings.

Immigration officials claim the elderly industrialist did not make a "full and true statement" when he claimed preference under the available Romanian quota.

His attorney, Jack Wasserman of Washington, denied this and said, "Mr. Malaxa has nothing to hide. We feel any charge unjustified."

He said that Malaxa already has had a "full investigation of loyalty, security and everything else and is willing to undergo another one."

Joseph Savoretti, district immigration director, explained that under the Immigration Act such hearings are closed and even the records of his case could not be examined by newsmen.

Old Columbia River Road Blocked by Slide

Troutdale — (U.P.) — A slide blocked the old Columbia River highway just east of the upper Sandy river bridge early today. Highway crews expected to clear it before noon. It was the third time this winter the road has been blocked near that point.

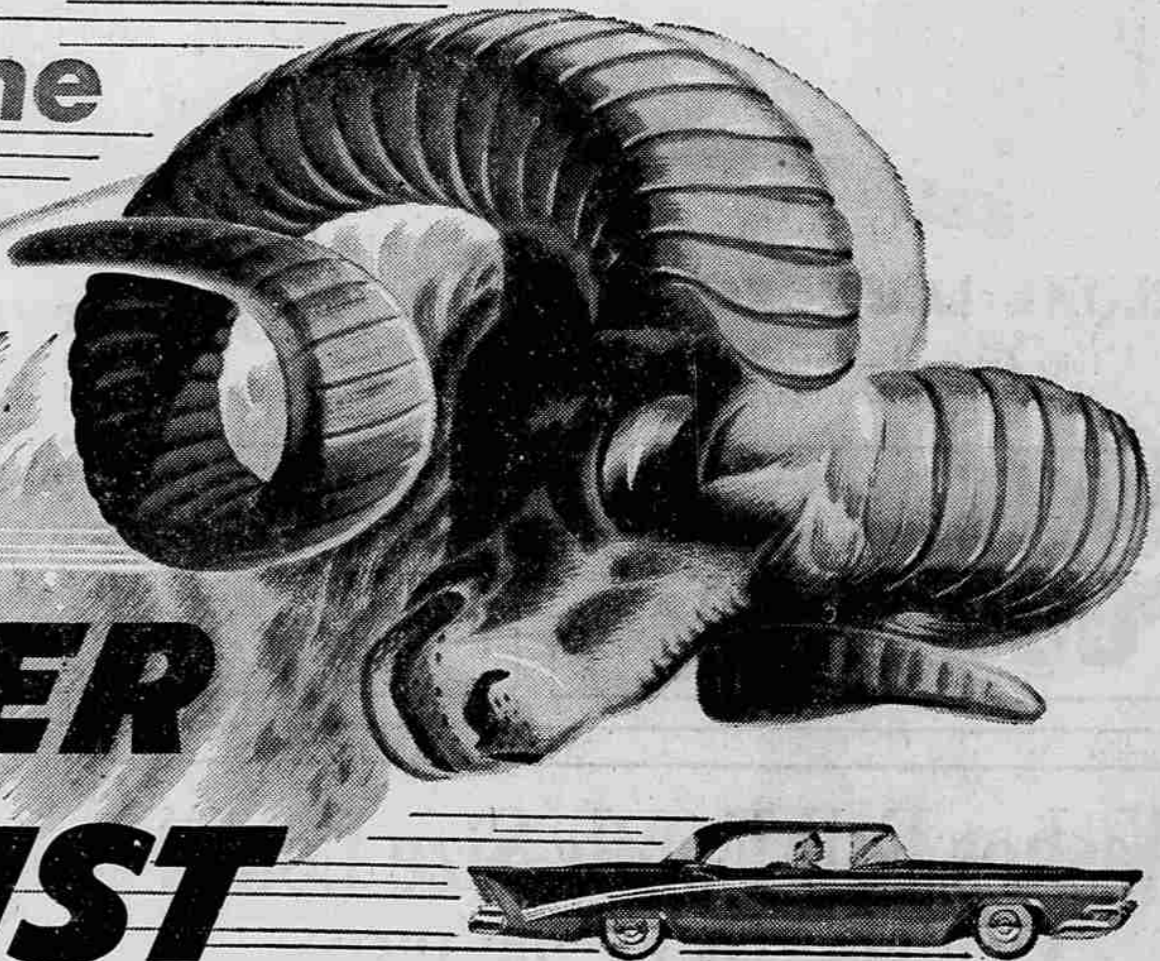
Central Point Students Raise Funds for MOD

Students of the Central Point elementary school have contributed \$264.16 to the March of Dimes, it was reported today by Aubrey Loper, county campaign treasurer. Loper said the money was raised by various projects at the school.

Loper said Medford city schools have already raised more money for the fight against polio than in any previous year, with a week remaining in the campaign. The money came from various projects within the schools and through the city Teens Against Polio program.

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SEATTLE
"Even in coldest weather, Richfield Ethyl starts my car instantly...gives extra power in traffic and for passing," says Arthur Andrell, real estate salesman.



SACRAMENTO
"Richfield Ethyl brings out the power and smooth performance in my car better than any other gasoline I've ever tried," says Mrs. Marie Shipman.



PASADENA
A. E. Barrington, owner of a plumbing company, reports, "I use Richfield Ethyl in my fleet of service trucks and in my own cars. It's loaded with performance!"



PORTLAND
John Hankins, a farmer, says, "What I want in a gasoline is knock-free performance and plenty of power. That's why Richfield Ethyl is the gas for me."



CARSON CITY
"Using Richfield Ethyl helps my budget by giving me more mileage per gallon and better performance," says Mrs. William Franklin of Nevada's capital city.



PHOENIX
Businessman William L. Ray says, "Since I switched to Richfield Ethyl, my car never stalls in traffic. It's got more pep and power than ever before."

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