



'BLACKED OUT' — Frank Parrish, 61, engineer of the Santa Fe commuter train which overturned in the East Los Angeles railroad yards killing 29 persons and injuring 142 others, is led from the scene of the accident by his wife, who was a passenger on the train, and an unidentified youth. Parrish said he "blacked out" after passing a 35-mile-per-hour block signal and "came to as the train was flipping on its side."

Coty Probes Leaders On Choice of Mollet

Paris (U.P.)—President Rene Coty sounded out France's leaders today on his plan to name Socialist leader Guy Mollet as premier to succeed Edgar Faure. Mollet became an almost certain choice when one of his followers, Andre Le Troquer, was elected president (speaker) of the new National Assembly Tuesday with Communist support. Faure resigned immediately after Le Troquer was elected. His resignation plunged France into its 22nd cabinet crisis since the war and left it leaderless at another crucial time in history. Pierre Mendes-France, a Radical Socialist who teamed up with Mollet in a "republican front" and who also had been considered a possible choice as pre-

mier, took note of that development today in his newspaper, L'Express. Mendes Notes Conference Speaking of the forthcoming Big Two conference in Washington between President Eisenhower and British Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden, Mendes-France wrote: "France is absent and neglected... she does not perform the major role which had come back to her in the Atlantic community." Coty conferred today with Albert Sarraut, president of the French Union Assembly; Emil Roche, president of the Economic Council, and Edouard Herriot, honorary president of the National Assembly. He had conferred with Le Troquer immediately after his election and with Senate President Gaston Monnerville. Selection Expected Today Coty was expected to name the new premier today or Thursday. The new National Assembly would vote later in the week on the premier and his program. Most observers believed the Communists would support Mollet's nomination. The election of Le Troquer represented a major political victory for Mendes-France's and Mollet's left of center Republican front over the center right group of Faure and Independent Antoine Pinay, the out-going foreign minister. But it also showed Mollet cannot muster a majority in the National Assembly without Communist support. Both he and Mendes-France formally rejected Communist invitations to revive the old "popular front" government.

Beautiful Models to Sell Grade Change

Portland (U.P.)—Oregon lumbermen are relying on beautiful models to help sell the first change in lumber grades in 50 years. The girls will help the lumber industry acquaint tens of thousands of lumber workers and millions of carpenters, architects and builders with the fact that on March 15 lumber grades will be designated by name instead of by numbers. Instead of Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4, grades of lumber produced in the Douglas fir region of the Pacific Northwest will be known as construction, standard, utility and economy. The campaign to reeducate lumber users with the new grade designations will be nationwide.

Chicago Police Order Roundup Of All Teen-Agers With Record

Chicago (U.P.)—A fatal stabbing capped a week of shocking "wolf gang" attacks Tuesday night and police ordered the pickup of every Chicago teenager with a police record. The unprecedented roundup was touched off by the murder of William McNeff, 20, on a west side sidewalk. Four youths jumped McNeff and a friend at the entrance of a restaurant. While McNeff pleaded "for God's sake, don't use that blade," one of the toughs plunged a 12-inch switchblade knife into his heart. The killing was the latest in a series of "wolf gang" attacks which have shocked Chicago in the past week.

On Sunday night, a gang of teen-agers pulled a semi-pro football player, 18-year-old Donald Stevens, from his car and beat him unmercifully with a wrench. The same gang swaggered along southwest side streets that night, "jumping anybody who came along," police said.

Hours after the McNeff murder Deputy Uniformed Police Chief Robert Ryan ordered the mass pickup of teen-agers. "Bring 'em in as fast as you can find 'em on the streets," he told his men. "I'm putting an end to this terrible situation right now."

Roundups of known criminals are routine in Chicago police annals. But this was the first time that a blanket pickup order had been issued for juvenile offenders.

Practically all the persons involved in the McNeff knifing, including the victim, were graduates of the city's jails.

Both McNeff and his companion, 20-year old John Gahier, had spent time in county jail. Gahier said they were getting out of McNeff's car when the "wolf pack" blocked them.

Three members of the gang pinned Gahier's arms and the fourth, identified as 19-year-old

Robert Hoffman, led McNeff cry, saw a struggle, and then his friend slumped to the pavement. Gahier said he heard McNeff's

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Hoffman ran back, shouting "I go to jail for this, you'll get a hospital. Gahier said he under-

stood there was "bad blood" between McNeff and Hoffman, also an ex-jail inmate.

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