

SPURLIN DENIES ACCUSATIONS

Ask Water Company for Uniform Pressure During Day

CASE WILL BE HEARD FRIDAY

Scores of Friends of Torrance Man Flock to His Support

SUIT FOR MONEY PENDS

County Not Collection Agency, Says Accused in Julian Fist Fight Charges

Friends of DeKalb Spurlin of Torrance were flocking to his support as a result of the indictment returned against him by the grand jury as a result of an alleged fist fight at a Julian stockholders committee meeting in June, 1926.

Mr. Spurlin was indicted on four counts in connection with the alleged assault against Arthur Loeb, who declares that he lost an eye as a result of an attack on him by H. M. Kimmie during a meeting of Julian stockholders in the crisis through which that company passed in 1926.

Mr. Spurlin was arrested, tried and convicted of assault and sentenced to two years in jail. Members of the jury made affidavits that they were unaware they had convicted him of a charge which would draw such a sentence and sought his parole which was granted.

Mr. Spurlin was sued by Loeb in a civil action. When the case came to trial Judge Wood declared in court that there was no evidence to show that Mr. Spurlin had participated in the assault. The plaintiff's attorneys withdrew the suit, but shortly after instituted another which is now pending.

Last week came the indictments against Kimmie and Spurlin by the grand jury. The previous grand jury had refused to indict Spurlin. Kimmie is also indicted and virtually will be tried again for the same offense of which he was convicted, sentenced and paroled.

According to Mr. Spurlin attorneys for Loeb sought a settlement of the civil suit just prior to the returning of the indictments of the grand jury.

The indictments against Spurlin declare that he conspired with Kimmie to bring about the assault on Loeb. This Mr. Spurlin vehemently denies and his friends insist that he is not the type of man to conspire with anyone for a personal assault on any man.

Preliminary hearing of the case will be held tomorrow in Superior Court.

In speaking of the case Mr. Spurlin said: "The indictment against me is an outrage. I never attacked Loeb. I did not conspire with Kimmie or anyone else to bring about the assault. I was on the Julian stockholders committee, endeavoring to protect the interests of the thousands of stockholders when the crash in the Julian stock came. Judge Wood has declared in open court that there was no evidence of my participation in the alleged assault. My attorneys have been repeatedly urged to settle the civil suit.

"I was an innocent of any part in the unfortunate incident and neither I nor my attorneys would agree to a payment by me for an act in which I had no part. All I am seeking in this case is justice and fair play. I do not believe the police arm of the Los Angeles county government is in the collection agency business."

Kimmie declared positively that Spurlin had no part in the fight with Loeb either directly or indirectly.

Mrs. Brooks Enters Doctors' Office

Mrs. Willis M. Brooks, who resigned last week as president of the Women's Club of Torrance has taken a position as office manager for Drs. J. S. Lancaster and George P. Shiller.

Observations

The Kellogg Treaties and the Cruiser Bill—Sports Writers Who "Run the Wrong Way"—Shall the Courts Kill Our Birthright?

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

TWO internationally important issues have held the attention of the United States Senate for several weeks. Both are part of the administration's program. One is the ratification of the Kellogg peace treaties—a moral gesture toward peace. The other is the cruiser bill—a definite move for preparedness.

Pacifists lobbying excitedly in Washington have striven to bulldoze Senators into the belief that the two measures are incompatible in purpose and policy. With one hand, declares these pusy-footers, the United States would sign treaties to outlaw war and with the other bill a great fleet of ships designed to make war. The horrors inherent in the two moves, as pointed out by these gentlemen, is groundless. True, the Kellogg treaties renounce war. True, cruisers carry guns which might be used in making war. But to declare the two actions incompatible is to declare that an athlete training for a big race would do wrong to read the Bible.

THE Kellogg treaties pledge the United States to the theory that war is outrageous and should be eschewed by all civilized nations. But they come to us to no warlike action in case any nation signatory to the treaties elects to fight. They are moral commitments—no more no less.

THE cruiser bill provides for the construction of new and fast ships to replace obsolete vessels of today's navy. It calls for the construction of 10,000-ton vessels with wide cruising range, suited to our needs and the protection of our long commercial lanes.

OUR emissaries at Geneva seeking limitation of cruisers were unsuccessful in an agreement with Great Britain. Because of that failure we must prepare to build enough cruisers to protect our commerce. We must hope and strive for peace but be prepared for the worst.

NEXT year the great powers will meet again in a conference on naval limitations. If there is standing on our national books a measure providing for the construction of many cruisers we will enter that conference with a strong argument in favor of limitations. On the other hand if the bill is not passed, everything we say, every program we put forward will be idle and insignificant.

The best way to back up the intent of the Kellogg treaties and to secure world wide naval limitations is to approve the treaties and pass the cruiser bill.

THE great football team which represented Center College a few years ago prayed before every game. They called them the praying colons. They trusted in God, but trained hard and practiced long. They defeated Harvard by a combination of strength and faith.

It is well for the United States to ratify treaties which morally outlaw war—providing we keep on training—providing we realize fully that European nations which also sign the treaties are right now building large fleets of warships suitable to their needs. By displaying complete preparedness for every eventuality and by that alone will we be able to carry through our international program for world peace.

THE "wrong way" run of Roy Regels of the California team in the Rose bowl football game against Georgia Tech New Year's day proved an acid test for the sports writers. Sad to say some of these recorders of athletic events fell down miserably. Steeped in the lore of the prize-fight ring, many of them wrote of the poor lad's mistake as they would have described a foul intentionally committed by a slug of the cauliflower industry or a homeless play by a professional baseball player in a crucial game.

Sports writers delved into the history of professional mistakes for terms of opprobrium with which to label Regels. They called him another Merkle, another Snodgrass, a Steve Brody. One writer with ugly inference declared that although Regels ran north "he went south with thousands of dollars which had been wagered on California."

REGELS made a mistake in a pinch. But we have ten times as much respect for him as for those writers who failed at the job of recording the error. Regels was playing the game for the pure sake of the game. He came back in the second half and literally tore his opponents' line to shreds. The great crowd was deeply sympathetic for him. The only persons who deserve censure because of the mistake were the writers in the press box who failed to sense the difference between a contest played by gentlemen amateurs and a money grabbing match fought out by professional pugilists.

The Regels incident proved that a real man can run the wrong way and still come back; that some of the sports writers run in the wrong direction almost every day.

LET us hope that the American editorial association will win its fight in Minnesota. The freedom of the press and free speech are at issue. The facts: A Minneapolis weekly published a statement declaring that city officials were in league with racketeers. City officials sued. A court, contrary to the state constitution, and that of the United States, suppressed the publication. Great newspapers all over the country took up the fight, pouring money into the little paper's defense fund. The case will be carried to the highest court in the nation.

IF the weekly published falsehoods about the Minneapolis officials they had recourse under the libel and slander laws. But to throttle the paper is to tear up the American bill of rights. Our courts should be the last to destroy the very foundations of our democracy. They should be the first to protect them.

TORRANCE IS HOST TONIGHT

Supervisors and 300 Will Attend Harbor District Dinner at Women's Club

WILL INSTAL OFFICERS

Fine Program Arranged as Public Invited to Attend Function

More than 300 civic leaders from all parts of the Harbor district will be guests of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce at the annual installation dinner of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce at the Women's Clubhouse tonight. Dinner will be served at 6:30. A large attendance of men and women of Torrance and Lomita is expected.

The Harbor District Chambers of Commerce has adopted a plan of constructive programs for the year. Each monthly meeting will consider one subject of importance to the district.

Officers to be installed in Torrance tonight are: president, Sam Dulleck; vice president, E. M. Hennig; treasurer, E. M. Hennig; secretary, Carl L. Hyde.

The program follows: "America," invocation by Rev. R. A. Young; address of welcome by Harry H. Dolley, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce; response to welcome, A. B. Hennig; music by county fire department band; valedictory address by retiring president Frank Walton; acceptance of gavel by Sam Dulleck; introduction of new officers; reading, Miss Virginia Buxton; short talks by the five members of the board of supervisors, R. F. McClain, Fred Bentley, Earl H. Blount, J. W. Graves, Henry T. Wright; entertainment by Harold Proctor, tenor; Fred C. McPherson, baritone; Will Garraway, pianist and Roland Hamblen, magician; remarks by John Dennis, mayor of Torrance.

School Bus Hit by Another Car

None Hurt in Accident; Two Other Crashes Damage Machines

Three crashes occurring in Torrance and vicinity last week caused but little damage and no injuries.

The school bus, driven by George Vandegrift of 1877 25th street, was struck by a car driven by J. M. Sontchi of El Monte when Vandegrift brought the bus to a stop to discharge school children passengers. The bus was dented on one side, and some of the paint knocked off. The accident occurred at 3:30 p. m. Thursday afternoon, Jan. 3.

Cars driven by W. B. Bliger, 2240 Redondo boulevard, and D. A. Sipes of Los Angeles, collided at the intersection of 19th and Western avenue at 6 p. m. Thursday, Jan. 3.

Bliger was travelling south and Sipes was going north on Western avenue. It is asserted that Sipes started to turn west, became confused and turned into the vehicle being driven by Bliger.

Twenty-five dollars was the estimated damage when cars driven by John Guyan of 1807 Andreo avenue, and T. Mallon of Long Beach, came together on 21st street, between Andreo and Gramercy avenues, Saturday, Jan. 5 at 10:30 a. m.

C. of C. Will Buy 2 New Neon Signs

Two new neon signs to direct traffic to Torrance will be purchased and installed by the Chamber of Commerce. The directors Monday night authorized Secretary Carl L. Hyde to secure bids for signs similar to those now placed at Carson street and Truck boulevard and at Hawthorne road and Redondo boulevard.

Torrance Men May Reap Large Profits in Lawndale Oil Field

Several Torrance men promise to reap large financial rewards if the Lawndale oil field develops into a major production area.

When the first well was brought in at Lawndale several business men here bought considerable property, scattered throughout the district. Dr. George P. Shidler, Fred Patton, George W. Neill, Sam Levy, D. Spurlin and Harry Dolley "got in on the ground floor." Since their original investments prices in the Lawndale district have soared high. Several Torrance syndicates were formed. Some of the property bought by these syndicates has been sold at a substantial profit. Other pieces are under lease and still others being sought for lease by oil companies.

Three pieces of property owned by the Shidler-Dolley-Levy syndicate will be drilled within the next month, it is reported.

George W. Neill and Fred Patton are among the substantial owners of property spotted throughout the district.

Within a few weeks as many as 30 wells are expected to be drilling in the territory.

Prices of land-owners' royalties are increasing rapidly.

B. C. Buxton and E. M. Kingsley are operating in the new field as real estate, leasing and royalty agents.

Police Busy in Holiday Period

Many Roisterers Arrested; Jailed and Fined in Torrance

The recent holiday period kept Torrance police busy and the city jail full.

Six men, and one youth from Lomita, were arrested for intoxication, and received fines from \$26 to \$50, or 30 days to 100 days plus 8 days in the city jail.

Robert Croker was fined \$300 or 200 days in jail for the possession of a quantity of wine and beer, found in his apartment by officers on the complaint of Mrs. M. J. Cook.

S. Posos of Redondo Beach forfeited a \$50 bail, after being arrested for possession of liquor and carrying concealed weapons.

Paul Reed was arrested Dec. 25 for disturbing the peace. This was his third offense, and he was fined \$75 or 75 days in jail.

R. G. Jones, arrested for disturbing the peace, received a fine of \$50 or 50 days, suspended for 2 years.

Homer McGuire, held on two charges, was fined \$50 or 50 days on each charge.

Choir of 40 Will Sing Here Sunday

A choir of 40 voices from the Trinity Baptist church in Los Angeles will give a concert at the First Methodist church in Torrance Sunday evening, Jan. 13, at 7:30 p. m.

On the program will be a Christmas cantata by the choir, called "The King Cometh." Torrance people are cordially invited to avail themselves of this wonderful opportunity to hear these splendid voices.

Members of the Kiwanis Club and their guests enjoyed a wild duck dinner last Friday noon—and all because of the straight shooting of Mose Tolson.

Mr. Tolson, using his famous duck-talker at the Pinyon Duck Club bagged a limit of wildfowl and presented them to the club.

DIRECTORS REQUEST ACTION

Low Pressure Until 7:30 A. M. Brings C. of C. Resolution Monday

CO. CONSIDERING TANK

May Erect Standpipe or Lengthen Hours of Pump Operation

The Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce Monday night passed a resolution requesting the water company to take steps necessary to provide uniform water pressure throughout the city from 6 a. m. to 8 p. m.

At present it was pointed out, the pressure is low until 7:30 a. m. as well as in the summer in the evening when residents wish to irrigate lawns.

The company, it was stated, has for some time been considering the advisability of erecting a large standpipe which would make the pressure uniform 24 hours a day. If this is not done, the directors expressed the opinion that the company might operate the booster pump earlier in the morning and later in the evening.

Seek Change in P.E. Schedules

C. of C. Names Committee to Confer with Railway Officials

B. C. Buxton and C. A. Faxman were appointed by Harry Dolley, president of the Chamber of Commerce as a committee to confer with Pacific Electric officials regarding the company's schedule of cars between Torrance and Los Angeles.

At the directors' meeting Monday night Mr. Buxton expressed the opinion that it would be advantageous to Torrance if cars leaving here could be scheduled to arrive in Los Angeles on the even hour instead of after the hour.

It was also pointed out that the elimination of the 4:35 p. m. car on holidays causes considerable inconvenience here. This run is not a scheduled run and is not made when Torrance factories are closed down. Many citizens, however, are not aware of this fact and were inconvenienced on New Year's day and Christmas when the car did not appear at 4:35.

Freak Accident Damages 3 Cars

Trailer Razes P. E. Poles, Trolley Wire Falls Hitting Auto

A freak accident at Border avenue and Carson street damaged three cars and knocked down two Pacific Electric trolley poles Monday evening, when the trailer of a truck of the Lang Transportation company and driven by W. A. Bill-ersen of Roscoe, Calif., ran wild and crashed into two cars parked along the curb by the Union Tool company, and then hit the trolley poles.

The trailer pole, connecting the trailer to the truck, came unhooked at the P. E. crossing and allowed the trailer to career across the street. The accident occurred at 7:15 p. m.

The third car, driven by W. C. Darnel, was travelling west on Carson street about 3:55 and was struck by the trolley wire dangling from the broken pole. The accident razed the windshield and top of Darnel's car, although he escaped injury.

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