

**A. M. GAMBY**  
Mortuary

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Hammock Berths on Train  
PARIS (U.P.)—A novelty in over-night transport has just been introduced by the Paris-Orleans-Midi railroad here, when voyagers were presented with the hire of hammocks for over-night travel.

**Do You Know the Law? . . . by**  
**KENNETH B. HUGHES**  
Attorney at 1313 Sartori Ave.

## CRIMES

The attitude of the law toward criminals has changed greatly in recent years. Contrasted with the continental system, whereby every defendant must prove his innocence—we indulge every presumption in favor of the defendant and he must be proven guilty beyond reasonable doubt.

The English law of 1800 enumerated not less than 300 offenses for which the death penalty was assessed, thereby placing shop stealing and failure to attend church on a par with murder. Today, thru the medium of the probation statutes and of the indeterminate sentence law, we place emphasis upon the reformation of the prisoner, rather than on the theory of deterrence. Our Supreme Court has said that our penal methods of today are designed "not to break the will of the prisoner and make him submissive, but rather to strengthen his will to do right, and make him less susceptible to the urge to do wrong."

It is an open question whether we have not gone too far in this direction; whether easy parole, and unsupervised probationary periods in lieu of more drastic punishment actually accomplish much in the way of reformation, or of crime prevention. We can only note that in the United States the crime toll steadily mounts, while in England—where punishment is severe and certain—crime most certainly does not pay.

Definition: A crime is an offense against the state, for which one of the following punishments is provided: Death, imprisonment, fine, removal from office, or disqualification to hold office. Crimes are classified as felonies and misdemeanors; felonies being those crimes punishable by death or imprisonment in the state prison.

Elements of a Crime: There must be a union or joint operation of an act which the law declares to be wrong, plus a criminal intent, or criminal negligence. Thus, acts done thru misfortune or accident are not crimes; nor are the acts done by persons of unsound mind for whom, of course, the holding

of a specific intent is impossible.

However, some acts are declared to be so inherently wrong that the doing of that act is a crime, even tho no criminal intent be present. Possession of narcotics is such an example for which one might be convicted even though the drugs were innocently held.

Defenses: Ignorance of the law is no excuse for doing a criminal act, though it may lighten the punishment. Insanity which renders the person incapable of distinguishing between right and wrong in regard to the act in question is a complete defense.

An irresistible impulse to do a criminal act which one knows to be wrong is no defense.

Voluntary intoxication is not a defense, and the mere fact the liquor was taken for medicinal purposes has been held in California to be no valid defense. But intoxication may so negative the presence of a specific intent, as to reduce the crime—as from murder to manslaughter, wherein no such intent is requisite.

## Weber and Fields Reunited



Rumor has it that after a five-year separation the famous comedy team of Joe Weber and Lewis Fields will again be giving their famous Yiddish comedy skits. Weber has been on the West Coast for the past five years, the first time he has been away from Fields since the pair were eight years old 60 years ago.

## INTEND TO WED

Notices of intention to marry were filed this week by the following local residents:

Jesse R. Kastrup, 22, 2370 250th street, Lomita, and Mary C. Kulp, 20, 2116 Redondo boulevard, Lomita.

William J. Eagers, 21, 2236 255th street, Lomita, and Thelma J. Clemenson, 19, South Gate.

## Postmasters Plan State Convention

Postmaster Earl Conner, Mrs. Conner and Postmaster Birda Paddock of Lomita attended the Culver City dinner-meeting of the Los Angeles Postmasters' association Friday night. Plans were made for the state convention to be held in Long Beach June 15-18. The National Postmasters' association will convene in an Francisco in October.

One Crash; 15 Law Suits  
AUBURN, Me. (U.P.)—Out of a single automobile accident here, no fewer than 15 law suits developed.

## Student Election Campaign Gets Under Way Here

Getting under way this week at the high school was the annual campaign leading to the election of student body officers for the 1937-38 term. This political effort, which holds the same interest for students as city, state or national campaigns, do for adults, began Wednesday with home-room groups electing their representatives on a nominating committee.

This group will meet May 28 to complete nominations for the various offices and then the student politicians unlimber all their publicity and oratorical guns. The week preceding the election, which will be June 4, always produces the same, tho on a smaller scale, feverish activity that characterizes the vote-getting efforts of adult office-seekers.

## CARD PARTY SATURDAY EVENING

Pacific Electric Auxiliary will hold another of their card parties in their hall on Dominguez street, Saturday evening, May 22.

They invite members, their friends and families to attend. Prizes and refreshments. Hostesses for the evening are Mmes. Olga Davis and Anna Chiochine.

## TOWNSEND CLUB MEETS TONITE

Townsend Club No. 1 of Torrance meets tonight in the auditorium of the Elementary school, 1905 Martina avenue. Members and friends are urged to attend.

## SURPRISE PARTY HONORS TWO

The birthdays of Patty Post and Doris Kresse furnished the incentive for a scavenger hunt and supper at the Post home, 1541 Post avenue, Saturday evening, when Mrs. O. A. Kresse and Mrs. J. W. Post entertained the younger set.

Those included were Misses Patty Post, Doris Kresse, Georgina Trifany, Peggy Olsen, Marion Spehger, Messrs. Henry Pupkoff, Jimmy Herlett, Weston Leech, Bill Walker and Ray Richart.

## BURGENERS PARENTS OF SECOND SON

Richard Earl is the name Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Burgener, 1630 Beech avenue, have chosen for their second son, who arrived Tuesday evening at California hospital Los Angeles. Richard tipped the scales at seven pounds.

## WILL OBSERVE WEDDING ANNIVERSARY TOMORROW

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Sault of Keystone will observe their silver wedding anniversary with a party in their home Friday evening. Among those invited are members of their 500 club, friends of Torrance, Wilmington and San Pedro.

## CELEBRATE 30TH WEDDING DATE

Mr. and Mrs. Willis M. Brooks celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary and their son Comet observed his 29th birthday yesterday at Mrs. Brooks' brother's home in Sherman Oaks. Mr. and Mrs. John Singlaub were hosts to the Torrance residents at a gala dinner party.

## LEGION AUXILIARY RADIO PROGRAMS

American Legion Auxiliary folk are urging everyone to listen in at radio station KGER at 6:30 p. m. Saturday evening, May 22. Pauline Ellison, state officer of the American Legion Auxiliary will speak over radio station KFOX Thursday, May 27, at 5:00 p. m.

## IN SOCIETY

## CARLIN-SCHMIDT NUPITALS SATURDAY

Marie C. Carlin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Carlin, 1019 Amapola avenue, and Steve Schmidt, 743 Sartori avenue, exchanged nuptial vows in a quiet ceremony in Los Angeles, Saturday.

Both have a host of friends in Torrance, where they have resided for many years. The bride was graduated from Torrance high school with the class of '32 and is at present employed at the National Supply company. The groom has for the past two years been employed at the Star department store.

The couple are at home to their friends at E. Cajon court.

## FORMER AUXILIARY PLANS FREE AFFAIR

The former Mothers Auxiliary of Troop No. 3 will hold a meeting at the home of Mrs. T. J. Wilkes, 2717 Carson street, Monday, May 24, at 1:00 p. m., to complete plans for the free entertainment and dance which will be given in the civic auditorium Thursday evening, May 27, by the Federal theatre group.

R. L. Lowellen, chairman of Boy Scouts in this district and former scoutmaster of Troop No. 3 will act as master of ceremonies at the public entertainment.

## ENTERTAINS FOR CONFIRMANTS

Mrs. Chris Dobrich, 1904 Martina, entertained at a delightful party for confirmants of the Lutheran church last Thursday evening. The honored guests who received the rites of the church on Sunday were Helen Bay, Leah Bratton, Pearl Lovelady, Dorothy Leetz, Vern Lovelady, John Batovsky, Bob Schwartz and Joe Manera. Rev. F. D. Mechling, pastor, was also a guest. Community singing and bingo afforded entertainment. Prizes at bingo were given to Pearl Lovelady, John Batovsky, first, with consolations to Bob Schwartz and Dorothy Leetz.

## KEYSTONE WOMEN START BRIDGE TOURNAMENT

One of the week's latest affairs will be the party at the Koehler home in Keystone Friday (tomorrow afternoon) when ladies of the Keystone Women's Club will hold the first of their series of seven card parties. Prizes will be awarded and scores preserved until the end of the tournament, when a grand prize will be given to the high point lady.

All ladies of Torrance and surrounding communities, who remember these tournaments of the past will be eager to attend. Secure tallies from ladies of the club or at the Koehler home.

## W. B. A. LADIES HONOR SUPREME PRESIDENT

Torrance, Wilmington, San Pedro and Long Beach Woman's Benefit Associations joined forces Tuesday and celebrated the birthday of their supreme president, Berna West Miller in Long Beach.

In honor of the supreme leader a class of ten candidates was initiated one being Mrs. Anna Bay of Torrance.

Among other Torrance ladies present were Mmes. Flora McDonald, Luella Curler, Clemma Watson, Anna Sandstrom, Anna Stadig, Matilda Winters, Hattie Shugg, Alma Jones, Anna Bay and A. Freeland.

## LADIES ATTEND INITIATION AT L. A.

A party of Torrance ladies attended a meeting of the Greater Los Angeles Women of the Moose at their hall in Los Angeles, Tuesday evening. A class of 16 candidates were initiated at this meeting among whom were Judge Georgia E. Bullock and Miss A. French, who is president of the Los Angeles Humane Society.

In the party from Torrance were Mmes. Marie Hurner, Emma Mackey, Augusta Barnett, Lillian Gossiaux, Olive Javens, Elsie Smith and Irene Wilkes.

## MRS. SCHROEDER HOSTESS AT PARTY

Mrs. Mary Schroeder, 1016 Arlington avenue, entertained at a 500 party in her home Thursday evening. Prizes were captured by Mmes. Helen Fouts, Mary Conner and Louise Walker. Others included were Ella Quigley, Aida Munsie, A. McEwan, Mary Baker, Martha Cooper, Anna Woodbourne, Leola Denny, Mary Conner, Grace Smith and Adeline Smith.

## EPISCOPAL PARISH BUSINESS MEETING

An important business meeting for the parishioners of St. Andrew's Episcopal church, will be held Monday, May 24, at 6:30 p. m. in the Guild hall. All members of the church are urged to be present.

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