

Codona Kills Estranged Wife and Self in Long Beach

Four Patients Enter Hospital

Four new patients were received at Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital during the past week. They were:

Mrs. Vera Bates of Wilmington, who entered Tuesday for medical treatment; H. C. Davis of 1103 Madrid avenue, who was received Sunday for medical attention.

Mrs. Cora A. Faulkner of Redondo, on Monday for medical treatment, and Gertrude Priest, 12-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Priest of Los Angeles, former residents of Torrance, who was received Sunday for an appendectomy.

Grass Fire Halted in Shoestring Strip

A grass fire off Carson street and Denker avenue in the Shoestring strip was extinguished by the local fire department Tuesday afternoon before causing any damage. It burned over about an acre and for a time threatened some abandoned buildings.

Wife Balks as Spar Mate OAKLAND (U.P.)—Mrs. Irene Kupidloski won a divorce from her husband on the grounds that he is a navy boxer.

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FAMED AERIALIST'S PARENTS LIVED IN WALTERIA

A blazing gun held in his own hand wrote "finis" to the career of Alfredo Codona, 42, famed trapeze performer, last Friday when he fatally wounded his divorced third wife, Vera Bruce Codona, and then killed himself in a lawyer's office at Long Beach. Mrs. Codona died Saturday morning. A terrified witness to the double shooting was Mrs. Codona's mother, Mrs. Annie Bruce.

Codona's parents lived in Walteria for many years and Los Codona street in that community is named after them. Alfredo never lived in Walteria although he visited his parents there many times and was associated in the garage business with his brother-in-law, W. K. Adolph, of that district.

The couple had met in the office of Attorney James E. Pawson on the sixth floor of the Security-First National bank building in Long Beach to discuss property settlements following the divorce which Mrs. Codona obtained July 2. Codona asked the attorney to step out for a moment so he and his estranged wife and her mother might discuss their affairs in private.

Rites Held Tuesday Then the one-time great aerialist locked the door, said to Mrs. Codona: "Vera, this is all you have left for me to do," and shot her. Turning the gun on himself, he fired again, dying instantly.

Codona, known years ago as the "king of the aerialists," was laid to rest beside the ashes of his second wife, Lillian Leitzel, "queen of the aerials," whose tragic death as the result of a circus fall in Copenhagen five years ago blighted his career. In his room after the Long Beach shooting, relatives found a note which read: "I have no home. I have no wife to love me. I am going back to Leitzel, the only woman who ever loved me."

A great white monument in Inglewood cemetery, which Codona erected in 1933 after the death of Lillian Leitzel, marks his last resting place. It bears the word "Reunion." Codona's parents, Eduardo and Hortense Codona, were famous in circus and vaudeville annals for many years before they retired to

live in Walteria. Alfredo is also survived by his brother, Lalo.

While performing the difficult triple somersault at Madison Square Garden in the spring of 1933, when he was appearing with the Ringling circus, Codona injured a shoulder muscle so severely that it was believed he never would be able to perform again.

However, a few months later, he began training once more, hoping he would be able to rejoin the "big top." He never quite regained his old amazing skill, although he appeared in trapeze acts at benefit performances and other shows. He retired a year or so ago.

Catholic funeral service was held for Vera Bruce Codona, 32, at Long Beach Tuesday morning and she was buried at Calvary cemetery in Los Angeles. Chief mourners were her mother and son, Clarence, who was a boy comedian with the "Flying Codonas" in happier days. Mrs. Eduardo Codona, wife of the youngest of the three Codona brothers, also attended.

Fire Brought to Station for "Little Water"

The mountain may not have humped its way to Mohamed but a fire was brought to the central fire station this morning for extinguishing.

Tommy Turner and his assistant on the city pick-up truck gleamed something hot on their tour of the downtown alleys and soon smoke was billowing out of their debris-loaded vehicle. Calmly they proceeded to the fire station, pulled the burning load to the rear and asked fire men if they would "put a little water on it."

Hooking up a hose, the firemen obliged, grateful to Turner for bringing the fire into their back yard.

CODONA SLAYS EX-THIRD WIFE



Mrs. Vera Bruce Codona, ex-wife of Alfredo Codona, one-time world's premiere aerialist, is shown above in a practice session at Long Beach, Cal., a short while before Codona shot her as the culmination to a divorce row. She died of four bullet wounds a few hours after Codona shot and killed himself.

Flipping The Herald Files Backward

1924—Thirteen Years Ago

Legion post launches move to erect memorial clubhouse. Ask council for loan of park at intersection of Cota and Englewood.

"With 12 new wells on production, the yield of the Torrance-Lomita field this week reached 62,000 barrels a day, the highest point yet recorded."

Paul Boggs, former president of the Union Tool, becomes assistant general manager of the Union Oil.

Maccabee surprise Mrs. E. N. Tomkins on her birthday.

Mail robbers, steal \$12,000 from consignment of cash mailed from Los Angeles bank to Torrance First National bank. Package contained white paper cut from magazines instead of money when opened here.

Fifty citizens protest paving of alleys in residential sections of city.

1927—Ten Years Ago

Quake temblors felt early on morning of Aug. 4, but no damage is reported.

Six teams, Cal Pet., Oil Well Supply, Tolson Transportation, Standard Oil, Petroleum Securities and Superior Oil, form oil circuit for ball games here.

Jesse Cotter, 104 years of age, moves to 2607 Carson street from home in Joplin, Mo.

Local delegates to Legion convention in Santa Barbara parade in overalls and workmen's caps.

L. J. Smith, C. T. Rippey, George B. M. Smith, Sam Rappaport and Torrance C. Welch form Western Oil Fields Equipment company.

F. L. Parks leaves for Wisconsin to visit mother.

1932—Five Years Ago

\$400,000 building permit issued Columbia Steel for new rolling mill.

City has 3,508 registered voters, a gain of 44 over the number eligible to participate in the May primaries.

Fire truck sinks in sand trying to reach irrigation ditch to get water to put out hay fire at 190th and Hawthorne.

Vacationists enjoying holidays were: The Geo. B. Worcesters at Twin Lakes, the C. T. Rippys at Lake Arrowhead, the A. A. Smiths at Yosemite, the E. S. Smiths at Pine Springs.

1936—One Year Ago

Louis Zamperini qualifies in Berlin for 5,000 meter finals at Olympics; he finishes in eighth place, the first American to end the gruelling gallop.

Democrats outnumber G. O. P's in Torrance more than two-to-one. Total voting power is 4,192 of which 2,707 are Bourbons, 1,286 Republicans.

Gaston J. Arac named manager of Miller's Furniture store.

Howard G. Locke completes redecorating of office.

Bess Myers installed as president of Legion Auxiliary; Mrs. Lucille Lewellen named vice-president of 19th district.

H. S. Gym Open to Men Daily

All of the facilities of the high school gym, including sports equipment and showers, are available to boys and men of Torrance without charge every day from 3 to 6 p. m., except Sunday, Bert Merrill, playground director, reiterated this week.

"I feel that there are many men here who do not know that they can 'work-out' or enjoy sports at the gymnasium any day without cost. We want them to join in the games and participate in any form of exercise they wish," Merrill said.

Water Parley Is Deadlocked

There was very little accomplished at the special meeting in the city council chamber Tuesday night, called to allow residents on Arlington street between 182nd and the north side of 166th further study of City Engineer Frank R. Leonard's proposed plan for water service in that vicinity.

A delegation of about 14 North Torrance people attended the session. Mayor William H. Tolson presided and R. A. Young, assistant city engineer, re-explained the data available on the proposed water district. Young was pinch-hitting for Leonard, who is on his vacation.

Further Parleys Due The general opinion of the North Torrance group was that the proposed water plan, which Leonard has estimated would cost approximately \$10,949 to install, was too expensive. They objected to installing an eight-inch main part of the distance along Arlington avenue, contending that a six-inch line would be sufficient to meet the needs of the district.

After nearly two hours of discussion the meeting was adjourned, with nothing definite decided one way or the other. Further consideration of the long-sought domestic water facilities would probably be given in future city council sessions, Mayor Tolson indicated.

Adamoli Estate Hearing August 24

Mrs. Angelina Adamoli, 413 West Ocean street, Torrance, filed a petition for letters of administration to the estate of her late husband, John Adamoli, who died last July 11.

Three sons, Bruno, Emilio and Tullio, survive the father in addition to the widow. August 24 was set for hearing on the petition.

SCREENS STOLEN

Six patented window screens, made to order for the job and useless for any other home, were reported stolen this week from Alden W. Smith's new residence being completed in Rolling Hills.

Legion Launches New Officers

(Continued from Page A-1)

James Scott, Americanism; Goddard, bowling and entertainment; Robert Deininger, community betterment; Boyle, county council representative; Burdett, disaster and relief; L. J. Gilmeister, public relations; Dr. W. A. Hoxie, hospitalization and rehabilitation; W. H. Stanger and Earl Conner, ways and means; Alex McPhail, inter-post relations; D. A. Murphy, baseball; Jack Barrington, child welfare; Doan, house committee and food detail; Wilkes and H. C. Bender, canteen, and Robert Lewellen, publicity.

It was announced that the post's delegates to the Stockton convention would leave Friday and Saturday. McPhail, bugler with the Los Angeles post No. 8 drum and bugle corps, will also make the trip and if his aggregation wins the state championship he may go to New York this fall for the National convention.

U. S. Judaism Center SALT LAKE CITY (U.P.)—The United States is the present center of world Judaism, Rabbi Morris Goldstein of Sherrith Israel synagogue, San Francisco said here. Of the 17,000,000 Jews in the world, 4,500,000 reside in the United States.



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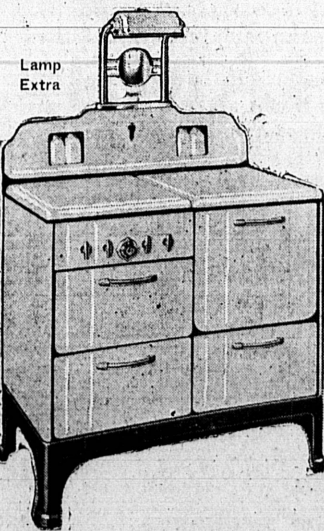
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