

Pursuit Pilot Dies In Crash; Saves Lives of School Children



ESCAPED . . . Mrs. J. Wilson Jones, wife of Navy chief warrant officer, and her son fled from home as plane hit the yard. Note wing section against side of the house.



CRASH IN KLUSMAN GARDEN . . . Here is general view of wreckage after P-38 crashed in narrow garden lot, owned by William T. Klusman, between two houses in Lomita Monday. The pilot was killed and a wing struck one house, while parts of the plane tore up the garden-plot and were scattered for wide distances.

He gave his life!
You can buy at least an
Extra Bond.

Fourth War Loan Drive Begins With Lively Sales Folk Rivalry

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000 is expected to come from corporations and the remaining \$400,000 from individuals. Lee feels confident that the quota will be reached—and more.

formation received today was that the United States Steel and subsidiary companies would purchase U. S. government securities amounting to \$75,000,000 during the Fourth War Loan Drive. This came from Irving S. Olds, chairman of the board of directors of the U. S. Steel Corporation. This subscription, he said, will be allocated in proportionate amounts for credit of the districts in the United States in which the corporation operates. Torrance is one of them, with its Columbia Steel plant.

Chairman Lee expressed gratification over results reported by the mobile unit which went out for the first time Tuesday night. There were six persons in the unit and after canvassing two blocks, a check showed that they had sold bonds amounting to \$1,750. They made their appeal on "Buy an Extra Bond" and each purchaser was given one of these stickers to post on the front window of homes where a sale was made.

U. S. Steel Subscription
Another bit of interesting in-

spot where no one would be injured but himself. Mrs. Jones, whose husband is a chief warrant officer in the Navy, with her son was at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. The vacant lot where the plane fell is owned by William T. Klusman, former mayor of Torrance. Klusman said he had planned to work Monday morning on the very spot where the P-38 crashed, but for some unknown reason he decided to make a trip to Los Angeles instead. Upon returning to Lomita, he had considerable difficulty convincing Army officials that he owned the property before they would permit him to approach the scene, he reports.

Army Flyer Dashed to Death in Plane Crash Near Narbonne High

Just what thoughts raced through the brain of 2d Lt. Merle V. Ogden, 23-year-old Army pilot from the Lomita strip, just before his P-38 crashed inches from the living room window of Mrs. J. Wilson Jones, 1925 253rd st., Lomita, between 11 o'clock and noon Monday, will never be known.

But while Ogden died in the crash, occurring just a block from Narbonne High School, where hundreds of boys and girls saw his fall, his thoughts must have communicated themselves with his known ability as a pilot, because no one was hurt but himself. Veteran fliers who looked with tear-filled eyes over the battered and scattered mass of junk which was once a proud sky riding fighting ship were amazed that the landing was made with so little damage to the Jones home.

Just Misses Home
There was some plaster knocked off near the front steps, some fell from the inside walls, a window out of which Mrs. Jones saw the plane hurtling toward her was broken. With her young son she rushed from the house. Inside the home a bureau was tipped over, that was all. Of course a few boards were torn from the roof of an outbuilding adjoining the Jones residence, two rather deep holes were dug in an adjacent victory garden, pieces of the P-38 were scattered over a large area, but only the pilot, badly mangled in the crash, paid with his life.

There are various reports regarding what happened after the crash. From reliable sources it was learned that there was no explosion and no fire. Firemen from the Lomita fire station, first on the scene, did pour water on the smoldering pieces of the ship, but that was a safety measure. Bystanders who arrived on the scene about the same time as this writer told of flames shooting eight feet in the air. This report was denied by those on the scene and who were in a position to know.

Tribute Paid Pilot
Of course there is not even conjecture on the part of Army authorities as to the why and wherefore of the crash. Some of the veteran pilots and officers spent hours on the spot making exhaustive examinations of the spot where the ship fell, the position of the pilot's body, pieces of the ship and its equipment that were gathered from where they had fallen.

Many on the scene paid trib-



FUNERAL SERVICES . . . were held on Monday at Glendale for Harry V. Adams, one of Lomita's pioneer bankers, who died Jan. 14, aged 75. He was the father of Mrs. A. E. Cook, whose husband is manager of the Narbonne Ranch Water Company No. 2.

Home Use Program Begun to Help Solve Housing Problem

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managers. The War Housing Centers are listing approximately 1,000 family units a month, but applications for rentals are now exceeding 5,000 per month. This housing campaign is a part of the overall program designed to allow workers to stay on the job and finish the job, as sponsored by the Citizens' Manpower Committee.

The local War Housing Center, under the management of MacDonnell, is located at 1119 Sartori ave., Torrance; telephone number Torrance 1526. This office is open to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

It is necessary for all applicants for war housing to apply to the War Housing Center in accordance with current regulations.

MacDonnell emphasized the fact that builders are restricted to selling and renting only to certified war workers.

Former and visiting Illinoisans are to hold a mid-winter picnic reunion at Sycamore Grove Park, Los Angeles, Saturday, Jan. 22.

Federated Societies To Hear Dr. Townsend

Dr. Francis E. Townsend, founder of the Townsend national recovery plan, will speak at the noon luncheon of the Federation of State Societies of Southern California, Monday, Jan. 24, at 648 South Broadway, Los Angeles. His subject will be "The World of Tomorrow."

Dr. Townsend, a musical program will precede the speaking. The public is invited.

NORTH DAKOTA PICNIC

In response to a call from J. Edward Pufft, president of the North Dakota State Society, members and friends from the Flicker Tails Commonwealth will gather for their annual all-day winter picnic in Sycamore Grove Park, Los Angeles, Feb. 5, 1944.



This is what we've been working for all along. This is the year to hit and hurt the enemy. This is the time when everything you do counts double. If we all get together and do all we can, we'll be over this hurdle and well on our way to complete and crushing victory.

No question about the men in uniform—they'll go "all out." But can we count on you to back them all the way? Your quota is where you work—you've got to buy your War Bonds and then buy more, until every last loose cent

you have is fighting. Tough? Of course, it's tough—unless it is a sacrifice you're simply not doing your share!

Make the sacrifice now—buy more than the extra \$100 Bond your country counts on you for—winning the war is worth any sacrifice you make. Besides, you aren't giving, you're lending to America! You'll get back every dollar you invest in War Bonds, with interest.

An extra \$100 War Bond now is the minimum for everybody—can't we count on you for more?



This sticker in your window means you have bought 4th War Loan securities.

Let's All BACK THE ATTACK!

"Friendly Credit"

NATIONAL HOME APPLIANCE CO

HARRY M. ABRAMSON

1317 Sartori

Torrance 78



BULLETIN BOARD



BUY ★ MORE ★ BONDS

4th
War Loan Drive

January 18
to
February 15



LET'S ALL
BACK
THE ATTACK!