

HUSBAND AND SON LOOK ON

Woman Whipped to 'Drive Out the Devil'

ST. PAUL, Minn., Nov. 4. (CP) A 47-year-old woman lay in a hospital today and told how her husband and son watched as she was horse-whipped in a weird religious ceremony "to drive the devil from my soul."

Mrs. Alice Christensen told Sheriff Thomas Gibbons that she underwent the beatings voluntarily. One was administered by her husband. Neighbors found her unconscious in her home and took her to Ancker Hospital where doctors discovered severe welts and bruises over her entire body.

A slight and frail woman, Mrs. Christensen told Gibbons about the religious cult she joined two years ago with her husband and her two sons. She also has a daughter. "About 20 of us formed the group because we were sick and tired of the junk they were feeding us in our regular churches," she said.

The cult, which they referred to as the "club," had no name and no connection with other religious organizations, she said.

As part of the weird rites they observed, she said, members flogged each other to cleanse their souls of sin. She suffered her first whipping last summer, when members felt she needed the devil driven from her soul.

"I asked for the second beating myself," she told Gibbons. "My husband handled the whip."

Last Sunday, she said, the

cult met at her home and the members decided that she should be whipped because they believed she had been "disobedient to God."

She refused to say which of the members administered the "10 or 12" lashes she suffered and which caused her to faint in her home.

But she said that her son Ralph, 24, watched as she was beaten. The son admitted to Gibbons that he was present at the time.

"How could you stand by and watch your mother beaten like that?" Gibbons asked the son.

"She needed the whipping to clean her soul of the devil," the youth replied. "Which comes first—your mother, or God?"

Gibbons said he had learned the name of a woman who leads the cult and that she would be taken into custody for questioning.

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FOLKS JUST LIKE YOU are making \$\$\$ through Press-Telegram Classified ads. If you want buyers or tenants, place a Classified ad by phoning 6-9066.

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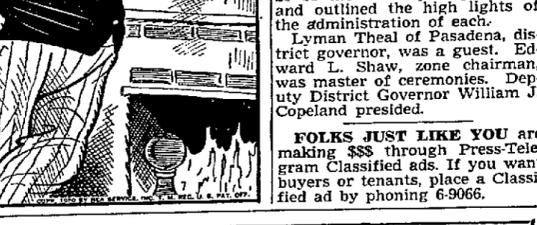
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OUR BOARDING HOUSE



MUST BE PRETTY STRONG JAVA

Polio Paralytic Bears 7-pound Baby

SANTA BARBARA, Nov. 4. (UP) A healthy seven-pound girl was born to a Montecito woman paralyzed by polio since September, 1948, St. Francis Hospital officials revealed today.

The mother, Mrs. Herbert Crawford, and the baby, Judith Esther, are reported in fine condition.

Charter Lions Honored

Four of the eight surviving charter members of Long Beach Lions Club are shown with two district officials at a dinner in Wilton Hotel last night in celebration of the 29th anniversary of the club's founding in 1921.

Left to right: E. E. Buffum, Morse Travers, William J. Copeland, deputy district governor; Lyman Theal of Pasadena, district governor; Richard Loynes and Stephen Ford. The other charter members are Norman Cozby, Lewis P. Lane, Frank H. Jaques and Dr. Roy Sheldon. (Julius Young Photo.)

Luncheon Club's 29th Year Feted

Charter members of the Long Beach Lions Club were guests of honor last night when 17 district Lions Clubs attended a dinner meeting in Wilton Hotel in celebration of the 29th anniversary of the founding of the local club.

Six of the eight surviving charter members were present. They were E. E. Buffum, Morse Travers, Richard Loynes, Stephen Ford, Norman Cozby and Dr. Roy Sheldon. Lewis P. Lane and Frank H. Jaques were unable to attend.

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Public Workers Nearly All Sign Oath of Loyalty

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 4. (AP) Nearly all California's city, county and state employees, estimated at 25,000 have signed the new state loyalty oath.

The first reports to Sacramento yesterday indicated that only one employee of the state had refused to sign. Officials said that later complications may turn up more non-signing state employees.

Non-signing city and county employees are scattered. Recorded to date are 41 in San Francisco and two in Oakland, but none in Los Angeles or San Diego.

A person taking the oath must affirm that he belongs to no subversive organizations and has belonged to none for the past five years except those which he lists.

There has been no report of the Communist party being listed, but some signers have listed the Consumers' Union and the League of Women Voters. The law does not list organizations considered subversive.

The figures on signers do not account for those at the University of California or the state colleges, where signatures have not yet been tabulated.

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Westinghouse Okays New Labor Contract

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 4. (UP) Westinghouse Electric Corp. today announced tentative agreement with the United Electrical Workers on the terms of a new contract.

The agreement, subject to the ratification of the U. E. conference board in New York Tuesday, covers 19,000 workers in 20 company plants.

The terms of the agreement, which climaxed summer-long negotiations, were not disclosed.

Gas Station Man Short-changed \$10

Benjamin D. Wertz, 27, operator of a service station at 3598 Atlantic Ave., lost \$10 to a short-change crook last night. He said that a man drove into his station and bought 98 cents worth of gasoline, paying for the purchase with a \$20 bill.

After the customer had left Wertz realized that he had lost \$10 in the transaction.

L. B. Man's Son Drowned in East

Lone victims of an overturned boat containing six clamdiggers, Clifton Burnell, 29, of North Weymouth, Mass., son of Baxter Burnell, 362 Coronado Ave., was drowned in Hingham Bay, near Weymouth, yesterday, the Long Beach parent was informed.

Burnell attempted to swim 60 yards to shore from the overturned boat but failed.

Two men swam to safety and three men were rescued from the overturned boat by firemen. A gust of wind overturned the craft in rough water after its outboard motor failed, according to the Associated Press.

Fire Chief Rates City's Equipment as U. S. Best

LONG BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT is as good, if not better, than that of any other city in the United States, Fire Chief Frank S. Sandeman told the Civic League yesterday in the Y. W. C. A. building.

Chief Sandeman depleted the local department as ready for any emergency, including major disasters and even war.

He said that 15 pumping units could be put on the road for a rush to some neighboring city under the mutual-aid agreements between Long Beach, the county and other cities within the county.

Tracing the advances made in fire-fighting since World War I, he said that no more do firemen loaf around fire stations with nothing else to do but look at the traffic.

Training schools, special instruction, fire prevention work, takes up spare time. Many local fire-fighters hold engineering degrees.

The chief revealed that all firemen are being assigned, from time to time, to fire prevention inspection.

All types of structures are gone over in a search for fire hazards, and their occupants are told how to eliminate them.

Sandeman urged building managers and apartment house owners to cooperate with these fire-fighters when they call to make an inspection.

He praised the work of the fire department ambulances, which respond to emergency calls.

"Within three or four minutes you can get a modern-type high-speed ambulance at your service," said the chief, "at no added expense above your regular taxes."

Last year these ambulances made 2194 calls.

The principal need of Long Beach in the way of additional fire protection is a new alarm system, according to Sandeman.

The present system is 60 percent deficient, he said. The electric cables are worn and only about 100 fire alarm boxes exist in the city, while about 500 are needed.

To replace this system with a new one would cost in excess of \$500,000, the chief estimated.

Verne Morrill, president of the league, presided.

State College Eyes Association Role

Long Beach State College will seek membership in the North-Western Association of Secondary and Higher Schools at the December meeting of the organization in Spokane, Wash., Dr. P. Victor Peterson, president, announced.

A three-member accreditation committee representing the association visited the campus here Thursday to examine the college objectives, building plans and future curriculum, preparatory to submitting a report at the December meeting. Acceptance of the school into the association would put it in the organization's "blue book" of recognized educational institutions and facilitate transfer of credits from and to other member schools.

Members of the committee who visited the campus were Dr. Raymond M. Mosher, director of psychology department, San Jose State College; Dr. Paul F. Gaiser, president of Clark College, Vancouver, Wash.; and Dr. F. A. Gillfillan, dean of the science school, Oregon State College.

The application of the college for authority to grant teaching credentials and masters' degrees is also scheduled for consideration in December by the State Board of Education.

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