

Three Seized for Burning Cross in Bayside



'JUST A PRANK'—William White (left), Stanley Suida (center) and George Oliver are lined up in the Bayside Precinct in front of the cross they're charged with burning on a Negro family's lawn.

Three youths were under arrest today in Bayside after admitting, according to police, that they planted a fiery cross in front of a Negro couple's home during a "drunken prank" on Jan. 19.

Held for arraignment this morning in Flushing Magistrate's Court on malicious mischief charges, a misdemeanor, are Stanley Suida, 20, of 202-24 46th avenue, Bayside; George Oliver, 21, of 14-05 145th place, Whitestone, and William White, 21, of 79-15 147th street, Kew Gardens Hills.

THE FIERY cross was placed on the lawn in front of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ruel Lester of 45-34 204th street and a brick was thrown through a window at the same time. Attached to the brick was a note stating:

"No juvenile delinquent—KKK."

A storm of protest arose in the Bayside area over the fiery cross incident and several church and civic groups held meetings to demand action for the "insult" to the quiet Lester family.

A painstaking, round-the-clock

investigation was launched by a team of four Bayside detectives. Assigned to the job were Detectives Joseph Vilchek, Vincent Sacco, Charles Herrman and Anthony Vincent.

VILCHECK, a former carpenter, examined the cross and came up with the revelation that it was built by a left-handed workman. This proved to be the key to the crime, police said.

The detectives visited more than 250 homes and stores in seeking clues to the perpetrators. The trial took them to

Suida's home yesterday where Vilchek found a hatchet and several nails that matched the ones used to make the cross.

Vilchek picked up the hatchet in his left hand and it made the same type of cut found in the cross, police said.

Confronted with this, police declared, Suida broke down and admitted he and his pals planted the cross and threw the brick at the Lester home.

"It was just a drunken prank," police quoted Suida as saying. "We don't hate anyone. We don't even know the family."

WHITE, police said, admitted he was the one who threw the brick. He was discharged from the Navy three weeks ago.

Greater Bayside veteran organizations will hold a joint meeting Monday night to decide on methods of preventing future incidents like the cross-burning.

The session will get under way at 8 P.M. in Muss Jewish War Veterans Hall at 24th avenue and Francis Louis boulevard. Members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Catholic War Veterans, Jewish War Veterans and American Legion plan to attend.

TUGS OUT ON STRIKE; GO EASY ON OIL, COAL

Wilson To Testify On Guard

WASHINGTON (UP)—Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson today agreed to testify before a House armed services subcommittee on his charge that the National Guard was a "draft-dodging business" during the Korean War.

Subcommittee Chairman Overton Brooks (D-La.) said he received word from the secretary that Wilson would be willing to testify any time after Feb. 16 when he returns from a vacation in Florida with Mrs. Wilson.

Mrs. Wilson yesterday criticized President Eisenhower for failing to back up her husband's explosive statement on the guard.

"I think the President should have stood back of Mr. Wilson instead of spending his time commenting on how wonderful Foster Dulles has been," she declared.

BROOKS said Wilson informed him today he would be glad to appear "at any time satisfactory to the subcommittee" after Feb. 16.

The subcommittee is studying the Defense Department's new order requiring national guardsmen as well as Army reservists to take six months' basic training. The guard favors an 11-week summer training plan.

Father Injured

Boy, 9, Finds Mother Dead

A 9-year-old Astoria boy awoke from a nap at 7:30 last night to find his mother dead on the floor of their apartment at 29-08 31st avenue.

The horrified child, Richard Hellwig, summoned his father who was asleep in a bedroom. In hurrying to his son's aid, police said, the elder Hellwig fell, opening a deep gash on his head.

Richard quickly telephoned an uncle who in turn notified Dr. Mark Teichman. Teichman lives across the street from the Hellwigs at 29-11.

THE DOCTOR pronounced the boy's mother, Mary, 41, dead. A short while later, Dr. John Furey, assistant medical examiner, listed the death as "not suspicious" pending an autopsy today at the Queens Morgue.

Richard's father, Arthur, 43, was given emergency aid by an ambulance doctor from St. John's Hospital.

On the Inside:

- After Hours — 12
Bridge — 23
Bulletin Board — 22
Civil Servants — 16
Classified Ads — 16-20
Crossword Puzzle — 18
Editorials — 10
Fortune Finder — 17
Lou O'Neill — 13
Morehouse — 11
Movie Timetable — 11
Obituaries — 15
Political Roundup — 4
Television — 21



Dorothy Horleibin of Middle Village puts the finishing touches on a new hairdo for Joanne Russo of Corona in a Queens Vocational High School hair styling class as Mayor Wagner looks on.

Rain Hits Flood Area

A floodtide drained from the devastated, four-state basin in which 11 persons died and thousands lost their homes and surged over downriver banks for hundreds of miles today, unleashing landslides and flash floods.

More rain fell in hard-hit areas of Virginia and Kentucky, increasing the threat of new floods. The Kentucky River was expected to crest at two feet above flood stage in the Kentucky capital of Frankfort.

National Guardsmen hurried to Prestonsburg, Ky., to stop an outbreak of looting and to help quell a rash of fires.

AUTHORITIES appealed to President Eisenhower to expand disaster areas. A flowoff swollen by a seventh day of steady rain broke over banks of the Tennessee River system and cascaded on Sevierville, Tenn., driving 200 families from their homes.

Wagner Doesn't Show, U. S. Does

Iraqi Crown Prince Gets City Snub Too

Crown Prince Abdul Ilah of Iraq arrived in Queens today en route to Washington to discuss his country's economic and military situation with President Eisenhower.

But there were no official greetings representing the mayor. A large delegation of foreign ministers and United Nations representatives met the prince, who was greeted by U. S. Ambassador James J. Wadsworth, deputy permanent representative of the United States at the U.N., as well as State Department representatives.

Mayor Wagner earlier this week vetoed any official ceremony of welcome when King Saud of Saudi Arabia arrived on a state visit. It was apparent the Iraqi heir to the throne had received the city's now familiar "snub."

escorted the crown prince from Idlewild Airport to the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, where a reception is scheduled for him tonight by Dr. M. J. Jamail, chairman of the Iraq delegation to the U.N. General Assembly.

EIGHT POLICE motorcycles.

City Faces Shortage Of Fuel

A strike of tugboat and barge crewmen today crippled the bulk of traffic in New York Harbor and threatened to create a serious shortage of oil, coal and other vital materials within a week.

A union spokesman said the strike had spread to other major U. S. ports, but a check failed to bear out his claim.

There was no immediate danger of any fuel shortages, but dealers warned that a prolonged strike could have grave consequences for some 12 million persons in the metropolitan area. The walkout was said to affect 70 per cent of oil and coal shipments here.

A spokesman for area fuel oil distributors said oil users could expect to feel the pinch in about a week, and possibly earlier, should the strike last more than three days. Coal dealers said supplies will dwindle rapidly after a few days.

SOME FOODSTUFFS also stand to be affected by a strike of more than four days. Most food supplies, however, are delivered by railroad barges and tugs not involved in the strike.

Hopes for an early settlement were dim, however. Union leaders said only the employer association's assent to the union's 70 demands, including an 18 per cent pay boost, would end the strike.

While no immediate steps were taken to ration fuel supplies during the present strike, some city agencies put fuel conservation programs into effect today.

Delivery Strike Hits Papers

Delivery crews struck today against wholesale firms that handle a large part of the newspapers and magazines distributed in the metropolitan area.

The strike was put into effect at 2:30 A. M. by the Newspaper and Mail Deliverers Union of New York City and Vicinity (Ind.).

The strike halted delivery of many thousands of copies of late editions of several morning newspapers, and posed a threat to the afternoon papers.

Newspapers and magazines delivered by the publishers' own trucks were reported not affected.

The Star-Journal, which operates its own trucks and has a contract with the union drivers, was not substantially affected by the strike. In the Jamaica area, however, where some sections are served by a wholesale distributor, there were no deliveries.

The strike was called after a stormy meeting of the union's members voted to reject the terms of a proposed contract negotiated with the aid of federal mediators.

The union meeting continued past the midnight strike deadline which had been set.

Queens Tax Valuations Boosted \$189 Million

Queens tentative assessed valuations for 1957-58 have been increased by \$189,699,030, it was disclosed today by William E. Boyland, Tax Commission president, who emphasized that small home owners as well as large industrial projects have been spared from heavy hikes in valuations.

No comparative figures are available for small homes but a breakdown of the large apartment projects, industrial plants and commercial buildings showed there were no widespread large increases in values.

Boyland explained that much of the increase on the proposed assessment roll reflects the great new building activity in Queens, which leads all other boroughs with a total of 3,937 buildings and structures. This represents \$76,894,500 in new valuations.

IN ADDITION, 2,280 properties previously exempt have been restored to the rolls accounting for another \$37,023,530.

Of the total increase \$138,261,080 is on ordinary real estate and \$51,437,950 on utility holdings.

In contrast to the increases the single largest decrease in the city was granted to the Bulova Watch Company in Jackson Heights. Last year's assessment of \$8,760,000 has been cut to \$6,260,000, a decrease of one and one half million.

"In rechecking this assessment," Boyland explained, "it was found that some of the cost of the new structure included personal property, which should not be included in the valuation. It, therefore, was corrected and settled before a court suit was instituted."

Boyland stated that personal property includes special tile floors, ceilings, cafeteria and kitchens. He said the cost of

See TAX VALUATIONS Page 6, Col. 1

Schoolyard Crash

Plane Kills 7, Injures 78

VAN NUYS, Calif. (AP)—A collision-crippled airliner smashed into a crowded schoolyard yesterday, scattering its deadly debris like shrapnel. Seven persons died, two of them children.

The injured numbered 78. Shocked citizens today sought some curb on plane testing over such populous areas as this sprawling San Fernando valley.

The four-engine plane, on its final test flight, collided at 20,000 feet with a jet fighter, also being tested. The transport came down in a screaming dive, disintegrating as it fell.

A BLAZING wing section exploded over the athletic field at Pacoima Junior High School, where nearly 100 seventh grade boys in gym clothes were exercising.

The plane's flying fragments cut them down as they ran. Two of them were hurt fatally. The four men in the transport also were killed, as was the pilot of the fighter plane.

Hospitals said 28 persons were admitted, all but one of them students. Fifty other boys were treated and released, attendants reported.

New Bus Schedules Will Force Some Riders to Transfer Twice

(This is the third of a series of articles dealing with the Transit Authority's new bus schedules, which go into effect on Sunday. The net effect of the new schedules is an overall reduction in service, with some North Queens lines hit harder than others. The principal changes involved non-rush hour service.)

By JOSEPH W. MOONEY JR.

Something new has been added to the traveling woes of College Point bus riders under the Transit Authority's new timetables scuttling nearly 1,000 trips a day on Queens lines starting Sunday.

The something new is double transfers for Point riders who may happen to be students at St. John's University in Flushing-Hillcrest or just riders who are accustomed to going to Jamaica by way of Utopia parkway.

But to understand the topsy-turvy mish-mash into which the T.A. has thrown bus schedules in areas formerly served by the soon-to-be-scrambled Q-17-20 College Point-Jamaica and the abandoned Q-30 Fresh Meadow-

188th street lines, even the most erudite college student may need the assistance of his calculus professor.

A COMPARISON of existing

Mothers to Barricade New Bus Street

Aroused Clearview Gardens mothers today threatened to form a human barricade across 166th street Monday when the Transit Authority starts routing its Q-16 buses along that narrow thoroughfare.

Their determination crystallized after a 5-year-old schoolboy was killed by a car Wednesday just off 166th street on 17th avenue while returning from lunch to kindergarten classes at Public School 209 a few blocks away.

The mothers say more such tragedies are inevitable if buses use 166th street between Francis Lewis and Willets Point bou-

levards—as they're scheduled to start doing Monday.

That route, replacing present runs along such broad arteries as Utopia parkway and Clintonville street, will take the buses past two schools, P. S. 209 at 16th avenue and P. S. 184 at 21st avenue.

At an emergency caucus mothers living along 166th street decided to blockade 166th street at 17th avenue Monday at 8:30 A. M., a spokesman said. Many have been walking their youngsters to school since the kindergarten pupil, Charles Fuchs of 166-11 17th road, was fatally injured as he dashed against a passing auto.

See BUS SCHEDULES Page 6, Col. 4