MAGISTRATE OPENS FIGHT ON SPEEDERS

Dugan Fines Man Limit of $10 and Says Others Will Get Same

WILL PROTECT CHILDREN

Magistrate Dugan, sitting at the Thirty-second street and Woodland avenue police station this morning, declared war on automobile speeders, citing the fact that three West Philadelphia children's lives had been sacrificed to motorcars in the last three days.

Pincus Mielstein, traveling at the rate of forty miles an hour on Cedar avenue, was stopped at Sixty-second street by Traffic Officer Middleston and arrested.

"I am sorry that the law does not allow me to be more severe with you," said Magistrate Dugan, when Mielstein was arraigned. "I am fining you $10 and costs, which is the limit that the law allows.

"You and men like you are putting the lives of all the West Philadelphia school children in jeopardy daily. Three little ones have died in as many days.

"I will change that situation out here if it is humanly possible. From now on I issue this warning to all speeders that I will, regardless of who their friends may be, punish them always to the full extent of the law."

Just after he had kissed his mother in exchange for pennies for candy, Charles Lawrence, eight years old, 113 North Fifty-first street, ran in front of an automobile at Fifty-first and Race street, and was fatally injured. He died last night at 10 o'clock in the West Philadelphia Homeopathic Hospital. His death was the 143d resulting from automobile accidents in this city since January 1.

Madeline Hummerie, seventeen years old, Fifty-seventh street below Girard avenue, driver of the car, was arrested although witnesses say she could not have avoided the accident. With her in the automobile were Marion Silverwood, Fifty-seventh street below Girard avenue; Anna Putt, Race street above Fifty-first, and Eleanor O'Brien, Fifty-third street below Master. All are seventeen. They were on their way from the West Philadelphia High School, where they are students.

The appalling toll of life taken in street accidents in Philadelphia can only be blamed on insufficient traffic control outside the central sections of the city, according to police officials, investigators of the Coroner's office, churches and schools.

Director Cortelyou says that not a day passed for weeks without bringing to his office delegations or communications from sectional organizations, schools or churches asking that policemen be stationed at corners where accidents occur almost daily. A mass-meeting of protest is being planned by residents in the vicinity of Sixty-first and Walnut streets, where a boy was killed Tuesday night.

GUNS FOIL SPRINTER

Medal Holder Decides to Hand Over Cash When Held Up

The sprinting ability which won him two gold medals for 100-yard dashes proved of no value to Gilbert A. Nahm, 1116 Duncannon avenue, early today, when five armed motor bandits held him up at Thirteenth street and Windrim avenue.

Nahm, who is twenty-seven years old, was walking home at 12:50 A. M. when a big touring car drew abreast of him and the five men leaped out. All had guns. Nahm meditated a championship dash, but changed his mind when the pistol barrels were pointed at him.

The robbers took $75, a gold watch and two gold medals which Nahm won in 1915 at athletic contests.

TROLLEY HALTS ON R. R.; 14 NEAR DEATH

Many Children Just Escape When Train Crashes Into Stalled Car

PASSENGERS CUT BY GLASS

Fourteen passengers, most of them children returning from school, were in danger of death when a trolley car in which they were riding late yesterday stalled in front of a train near South Woodbury.

The car was on the Public Service Company's line from Camden to Mantua and was crossing the tracks of the Pennsgrove Branch of the W. J. and S. S. Railroad. The trolley conductor had run ahead and signaled it was safe to cross, as a bend in the road hid the train from his view.

The trolley was in the middle of the tracks when the pole came off. By this time the train was in sight. The passengers saw the onrushing train, and made a wild dash for the doors to escape before the inevitable crash. Men and women on the car unselfishly shepherded the children before them, waiting to see that all the youngsters were safely off.

Fortunately, it took but a few seconds to empty the car. The engineer of the approaching train saw a collision was inevitable, as soon as he rounded the curve. He used all his skill to stop the train, but though he reduced its speed greatly, thereby probably saving the lives of at least some of the passengers, he was unable to avoid a collision.

The train struck the trolley with sufficient force to damage it badly. One passenger, William Harris, a Negro, was thrown violently to the floor and suffered nervous collapse. He was taken to Brewer's Hospital, at Woodbury, where he was kept overnight for observation. Others were slightly bruised or cut by flying glass. It was necessary to drag the damaged car to the barn and get another to take the passengers to their home in Mantua.

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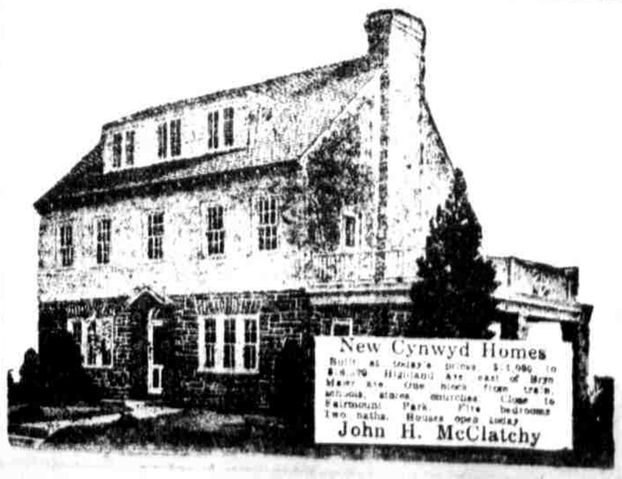
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