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OAKLAND'S LOCALLY OWNED AND LOCALLY CONTROLLED DAILY NEWSPAPER

VOL. CLX OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1954 17 E NO. 26

Daily Knave

Nothing, but nothing at all, is really needed to add to the confusion over whether Ashland is South San Leandro or something else, but C. A. Wooldridge Jr. is just trying to be helpful.

Wooldridge was interested in a recent item about the problem of naming the area between San Leandro and Hayward. As secretary of the East Bay Council on Surveying and Mapping, he has an idea.

Why not, he suggests, use latitude and longitude coordinates and call it by the numbers.

This is the method devised by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey and adopted since 1947 by the State under the California Coordinate System. It enables surveyors to identify any point anywhere, to exactness.

A mythical base point has been established, somewhere out in the Pacific Ocean, approximately 90 miles south and 285 miles west of here. That approximation is going to grate on surveyors, because they get everything down to feet at least and sometimes to hundredths of a foot.

For example, Wooldridge reports, the flag pole on top of The Tribune Tower is y (north) 479,338 feet, x (east) 1,488,706 feet.

And, for further example, he adds, the water tank at the San Leandro Chevrolet plant is y 454,896 feet, x 1,519,205 feet.

This is extremely valuable information if you happen to want to know that the auto plant tank is 24,442 feet south and 30,499 feet east of the Tribune flagpole.

Wooldridge admits that the system might be difficult to apply to the Ashland-San Leandro dispute. It would be necessary, he thinks, to give the coordinates for each corner of the area and if lines overlapped, as they do, and how they do, people would be certain to argue over the y's and x's.

However, Wooldridge maintains the coordinate number system is much simpler and far more scientific than saying, for example, that The Tribune is at 13th and Franklin Sts. and the Chevrolet plant at 10910 East 14th St.

♣ ◇ ♡ ♤

If one of these dark nights, you run across a devil, the Alameda police would like to know about it.

An Alameda matron, walking with her 5-year-old son in the 2300 Santa Clara block Sunday night, was "scared to death" when a figure, garbed in a devil's costume, complete with mask and horns, jumped before her.

"Your son is next!" he cried, pointing at the trembling 5-year-old.

Police attribute the strictly non-funny event to a prankster who, if apprehended, will in turn have the devil scared out of him.

♣ ◇ ♡ ♤

For Korean Kids

Pieces of wool cloth, loaves of homemade bread, and pocket combs can add up to some essential comforts for orphans in Korea who have been adopted by American GIs.

When Pfc. Manuel Silva of Irvington, through The Tribune, asked the folks at home to send him clothing for 70 children in Korea, he got action.

Mrs. Wayne Day, of the Irvington Fire Department Auxiliary which assumed the job of collecting and sending, reports that in the past month bundles weighing a total of 600 pounds have gone to Korea. Silva has also received many letters containing gifts of money, and one writer wanted information on how to adopt one of the orphans.

But the prize came from Mrs. E. S. Gilbert, 4734 Walnut Street, Oakland. In addition to money, she offered to make a quilt, bake homemade bread for sale to benefit the campaign, and prepare individual toilet kits.

The Auxiliary sent Mrs. Gilbert a package of wool pieces for the quilt, ordered 14 loaves of bread, and is arranging to get pocket combs for the kits.

♣ ◇ ♡ ♤

Mrs. Xenia Boodberg Lee may appear to be a dreamy-eyed aesthete, with little or no concern for the mundane matters of life, when she appears tonight as guest soloist on the Oakland Symphony Orchestra's second concert of the season.

Such an impression would seem to be heightened by the fact that she is the daughter of Peter A. Boodberg, professor of Oriental languages at the University of California.

But she is also the wife of Dick Lee, and wives are wives, bless 'em.

Just the other day a salesman had Dick trapped and paralyzed at his front door. Dick was on the verge of succumbing to a high-pressure approach.

At which point Xenia came to his rescue. She gently pushed Dick aside, politely murmured "nothing today," and saved the family budget from extinction.

Dick is hardly qualified for action in such situations. He's merely a former Marine lieutenant.

♣ ◇ ♡ ♤

Misadventure sat on the shoulder of one of those hardy souls, an all-night disc jockey, as he chaperoned a flock of platters the other early-morning. Yawningly, he started something in noisy high-style jazz, with overtones of bebop—"Aunt Hagar's Children Blues." Came the end of the record, and with it a deep, gloomy silence. After a minute, listeners, entranced, speculated on the silence. Had the jockey actually fallen asleep? But no. Presently there came a muffled exclamation (someone nudged him?) and the voice exclaimed: "You have just heard Mario Lanza, with the RCA Victor Orchestra, singing I Pagliacci." Short silence. "In 15 seconds, it will be 3 o'clock," the jockey continued in a sturdy, pear-shaped voice, full of conviction. Would have been a splendid public service if it hadn't been 5 o'clock. Don't feel badly about the contretemps, disc jockey. You gave some equally sleepy-headed early risers the best chuckle in months. And pleasant dreams tonight.

♣ ◇ ♡ ♤

From this distance it appears that Mrs. Ambrose Diehl, widow of the Pittsburg steel executive (Columbia Steel) and president of the International Council of Women, may become the Grover Whalen of Washington — with overtones of Jimmy Rolph and Jerd Sullivan.

She becomes the Director of Reception Centers in the Nation's capital following a two-month indoctrination in her new job by the State Department. As such, she'll look after government guests, exchange students and accept similar chores.

♣ ◇ ♡ ♤

Signs may not be effective, but good luck omens do the trick. That's a conclusion arrived at by Fred Wells, 4149 East 14th St., after considering the case of an auto dealer who departed his office in the 4100 block of East 14th St. the other night leaving the door open, lights on, cabinets and files unlocked—and a row of car keys temptingly displayed for anyone caring to steal a $3000 car from the firm's used car lot.

Wells, an observant man, noted the status quo. He notified police.

"A horseshoe nailed over the door must have protected the place," Wells observes drily, "because a conspicuous five-letter sign certainly didn't. It read T-h-i-n-k."

—THE KNAVE

Joseph Lear, 43, one of the two men held in the Moskovitz kidnaping, hugs his son, Jimmy, 4, after the boy and Lear's wife, Betty, slipped in to see him before last night's grand jury meeting in San Francisco. Mrs. Lear and the boy were ousted promptly by police.

S.F. Kidnapers Indicted; Face Death or Life Terms

Two Prisoners Mum at Grand Jury Hearing; Jackson's Wife Refutes Lear's Story of 'Dupe'

The accused kidnapers of Leonard Moskivitz faced grim alternatives today—death in San Quentin's gas chamber or life imprisonment without hope of parole.

The two, Harold Jackson, 51, and Joseph Lear, 43, were indicted under California's "Little Lindbergh" law by the San Francisco grand jury last night.

Under this law, the trial jury can at its discretion decree either death sentences or life terms without chance for parole.

The grand jury returned the indictments against the two former private detectives after hearing five hours of testimony. Each was indicted for kidnaping for ransom with bodily harm and conspiracy to commit kidnaping.

PRISONERS KEEP MUM

Jackson, tough, uncooperative ex-convict from Sacramento, and his more talkative companion were among the witnesses at last night's session. But both, on advice of counsel, refused to answer questions on the grounds that to do so would violate their constitutional rights.

Lear arrived at the grand jury room unshackled and accompanied by police and his two attorneys, Miss Frances Carr of Sacramento and Robert K. Winters of Benicia.

Jackson, who was handcuffed, was accompanied by officers and his attorney, Emmett Hagerty.

When he came out of the jury session, Jackson, still the swaggering wiseacre he has been since his arrest, quipped: "I'm ready to go home now. They (the grand jury) are lovely people. We got along famously."

WIFE TELLS STORY

By the time Jackson appeared before the jury, his estranged wife already had slipped back into the mysterious anonymity that had surrounded her since the kidnaping exploded in its dramatic climax a week ago today.

Sought only as a woman named "Vi" who had been living with Jackson in Sacramento prior to the kidnaping, Mrs. Viola Jackson, 47, voluntarily contacted police yesterday and told them her story. Then, she quickly faded out of the kidnap picture and out of her pillar-to-post existence with Jackson.

"I never heard any talk in Sacramento about the plans the two of them (Jackson and Lear) might have," she said. "I didn't hear them talk about any 'big deal'. I just presumed that my husband and Lear were going to do some work together."

This part of her story was important to police in that it failed to substantiate Lear's story that he was an innocent dupe in the kidnap plot. His story is that Jackson hired him in Sacramento to go along on an unnamed "big deal" and that he didn't know he was involved in kidnaping until it was too late for him to back out.

Mrs. Jackson said she first met Jackson in 1936 and that they were married in 1944. She said that she never knew that he had served a San Quentin prison term under his true name of Hans Anderson.

"We separated in Florida for the first time last August," Mrs. Jackson said. "I just couldn't stand the instability of life with him. I came to San Francisco and stayed with friends.

"He came back last November and said he had lost out on a big shipping deal. We went back together and moved to Sacramento where he got in with a detective agency.

PLANNED DIVORCE

"I left him on January 11 and came back here. I told him I was going to divorce him."

The first she knew of her husband's involvement in the kidnaping came after news of the crime was released last Tuesday when a friend called from New York to say that she had seen Jackson's picture on television.

She declined to give the address of the friends with whom she is staying in San Francisco, adding that she will leave shortly to find employment in Southern California.

"Eventually," she said, "I hope to pick up the pieces of my life."

Star witness at the grand jury session was Moskovitz, the 36-year-old San Francisco real estate operator who was held chained, bound, gagged and blindfolded for 64 hours in a rented house at 167 Arbor St. in San Francisco.

Other witnesses were the police officers who worked tirelessly to find Moskovitz as the kidnapers sent three ransom notes, first demanding $500,000 and later $300,000, and then captured Lear and Jackson and rescued Moskovitz in the case's dramatic climax early on the morning of Jan. 19.

Mrs. Viola Jackson, 47, wife of one of the accused kidnapers of Leonard Moskovitz, voluntarily contacted police yesterday to give her story.

Berkeley Wife Slayer Dies

BERKELEY, Jan. 26—Charles J. Jens, 45, died last night at Herrick Memorial Hospital several hours after police said he killed his sleeping wife and shot himself in their apartment at 1653 Scenic Ave.

Apparently incurably ill from cancer, Jens detailed his murder-suicide action, officers said, in a lengthy note to his landlord and neighbor, attorney Ross T. Corey, written after he had killed his wife.

The body of his wife, Mono Fayette Jens, 39, was found in her bed when Corey summoned police after reading the note Jens left in his mailbox. Jens, critically wounded with a .22 caliber rifle bullet in the head, was found lying face down in the bathroom of the apartment. The rifle was beside him.

WIFE UNAWARE

In the note to Corey, Jens related that his wife had "no inkling that I have any thoughts of this kind." The note continued in part:

"Using the firearm in my hands . . . I extinguished the life of my precious and adorable wife, Mono, who was sleeping peaceably when I committed this act which took place at approximately 5:40 a.m. almost immediately following, using the same weapon, I took my own life."

Jens moved to Berkeley last August with his wife from Washington D.C. He had been operating an appliance business from his apartment.

HAD OPERATION

He underwent a tumor operation in the Bethesda, Md., Navy Hospital last year and was due to appear for examination at Oakland Naval Hospital in April. Jens had retired as a Navy lieutenant commander.

A group of persons to be notified of Jens' death included the tumor and cancer board of the Oakland Naval Hospital. Others were:

Miss Donna Mae Jens, 19, his daughter; Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Jens, his parents, and Arthur H. Jens, his brother, all of Chicago, Ill.

S.F.'s Famous Cable Cars Given the Ax by Board

Large portions of San Francisco's cable car lines will be abandoned in an effort to save an estimated $449,191 of the city's traction budget.

In a public hearing yesterday packed with some 500 spectators, the Board of Supervisors voted seven to four to slash the cable car lines in accordance with the recommendations of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.

The vote authorizes the Municipal Railway and the PUC to abandon the following:

The O'Farrell-Jones-Hyde Sts. line.

The Jones St. shuttle service from Market to O'Farrell Sts.

The western portion of the California St. line from Van Ness to Presidio Aves.

OPPOSITION VOICED

Opposition to the cable car cuts was voiced by Mrs. Hans Klussman, leader of the Citizens Committee to Save the Cable Cars, who declared the estimated deficit of the Municipal Railway would not be sufficiently affected by abandonment of the cables.

After the meeting, Mrs. Klussman warned, "This is the beginning of the end of our cable cars. All of us will live to see the day when they take out the Powell St. turntable."

Speaking in defense of the cable line slash was Supervisor Francis McCarty, who said failure to economize would result either in a large municipal subsidy or a 20-cent fare.

WARNED ON COSTS

Others who asked for the abandonment included Sylvester J. McAtee, attorney for the Downtown Association, who warned that operating costs might become so high that all cable lines would be abandoned.

Among those who opposed the cuts were John Quigley, director of the San Francisco Convention and Visitors Bureau; Charles R. Wood, president of the AFL Carmen's Union, and Mrs. Robert D. Schmidt, president of the Federation of Woman's Clubs.

Also appearing for the maintainance of the present lines were three 12-year-old boys, Crossman Hoover, 1382 Sixth Ave.; Stephen Hughes, of 1379 Sixth Ave., and Tom Imme, of 91 Central Ave., who told the supervisors they use the Hyde St. cable line to go fishing and swimming at Acquatic Park.

DON'T LIKE THE BUS

"We don't like the bus," young Hoover said, "We like cable cars."

Meanwhile, the Public Utilities Commission approved new recommendations lopping more than 100,000 service hours from other bus and streetcar lines in moves which are expected to save an estimated $521,903 a year.

The service cuts will be presented to the Board of Supervisors as soon as possible.

Aerial Tram to Link Pt. Lobos, Cliff House

A new attraction for San Francisco sightseers will be added in June when an 850-foot aerial tramway will carry passengers between the Cliff House and Point Lobos.

Plans for the operation were disclosed yesterday by George Whitney, operator of Ocean Beach concessions, who said nine businessmen have formed the $100,000 venture.

Roebling and Sons, the firm which installed the cables on Golden Gate Bridge, will erect the tram, Whitney said. Plans call for extensive work on Point Lobos, closed to the public since 1886, to make it safe and attractive.

Sailor Admits Slaying Woman

VALLEJO, Jan. 26 — A conscience-stricken teen-age sailor has confessed strangling a 38-year-old former Contra Costa County woman whose nude body was found in a San Francisco hotel room early Saturday.

Richard M. Elliott, 19, of Los Angeles, was released by Mare Island Shipyard officials to San Francisco police, who booked him at city jail there for suspicion of murder.

Elliott voluntarily admitted the crime to the medical officer on board the USS Romulus, a landing ship dock berthed at Mare Island. He repeated the story to his commanding officer, Lt. Comdr. R. R. White.

The victim was red-headed Elinore Prout, 38, who had a police record of petty theft and was placed on two years probation in 1952 for child neglect. Her body was discovered after the hotel clerk received an anonymous telephone call that a dead woman was in the room. The woman had registered with a young man who left about half an hour later, leaving his shirt in the room.

Colorado River Plan Draws Solons' Fire

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26—(AP)—California and conservationists told congressmen today about their objections to the upper Colorado River development plan.

California officials contended before a House Reclamation Subcommittee which is considering the plan that its proponents haven't clearly shown what its ultimate effect would be on the water supplies of the lower Colorado River basin states.

Maj. Gen. U.S. Grant III, lead-off witness for conservationist groups, protested plans for immediate construction of one unit of the project—Echo Park Dam in the Dinosaur National Park. He suggested that feasible alternate sites can be found.

$300,000 Plant To Be Built in San Leandro

SAN LEANDRO, Jan. 26. — The Multiple Products Manufacturing Company of Detroit will move into a new plant here.

The new building, to be erected on the Walter Johnson property on Merced St., will have 18,000 square feet of floor space and will be constructed by W. K. Owens, Emeryville contractor, at an estimated cost of $300,000.

Automobile and aircraft parts will be manufactured by the company, which also serves as agent for the Alliance Industrial Sales Company, the Service File Sharpening Company of California, and the Cutting Tools Distributors, Inc.

Plans call for the employment of 20 persons at the outset with prospects for employing 200 in the future.

The building site is between the St. Regis Paper Company and 137th Ave.

Senator Is Candidate

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26—(AP)—Sen. Cordon (R., Ore.) announced today he's a candidate for reelection.

M'Carthy Aides Claim Victory

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26—(AP)—Senate Democrats claimed "complete vindication" today in their six months' boycott of Senator McCarthy's Senate Investigating Subcommittee.

The Wisconsin Republican announced yesterday he was making major "concessions" to the Democrats to woo them back to what has been since last July an all-Republican subcommittee.

The major point of dispute was McCarthy's claim to sole authority to hire and fire staff members, a claim which the Democrats said in effect made the subcommittee a one-man operation.

Senator McClellan (D., Ark.), who had led the Democrats' resignation from the subcommittee, said the negotiated peace amounted to "complete vindication of the position we took."

McClellan told newsmen in McCarthy's presence he sees no reason why Democrats now should not agree to serve on the subcommittee, adding: "This removes the barrier."

"I agree," said Senators Symington (D., Mo.) and Henry M. Jackson (D., Wash.), the others who had quit.

The three Democrats said they would announce later today whether any or all of them would agree to return to the subcommittee, or ask that some Democratic successor be named. McClellan had said previously other assignments would prevent his return.

He Signs Off

SHENANDOAH, Pa., Jan. 26—(AP)—Al Mack welcomed the Pennsylvania deer season by posting this sign on his confectionery shop, "Closed—Gone Hunting." He was lost in the woods for 30 hours. When he returned safely, Mack changed the sign to read, "Closed — Resting After Being Hunting."

Bomb Blast Sprays Court

CLEVELAND, Jan. 26—(AP)—A homemade "hydrogen bomb," used as a trial exhibit, exploded in court today and sprayed the judge and 12-man jury with sludge from a city dump.

Judge Ross Michener wiping from his bald head, said he would rule later today on a mistrial motion the defense made immediately after the blast.

Mrs. Mary Grosser sued for damages against Armet Alloys, Inc., in the death of her husband, Fred. He died of burns suffered in 1949 while operating a bulldozer at the city dump. The widow said Grosser's bulldozer hit magnesium shavings, dumped by the alloy firm, and was wrapped in flames when they ignited.

Today, Dr. Aaron Teller, Fenn College chemist, attempted to prove for the plaintiff that the sludge at the dump is explosive. He did.

Narcotics Cases in Orient Serious But Not Alarming

Chicago Daily News Foreign Service

TOKYO, Jan. 26 — How serious is the use of narcotics among American servicemen in the Far East?

The answer is so loaded with moral implications that it usually depends on who's holding the yardstick. However, a balanced answer seems to be this: Serious but not alarming.

The lurid picture, carried back to America by some visitors, of American youth being corrupted in sinister Oriental opium dens is more imaginary than real. And it seems safe to say that the average GI out here is in no danger of becoming a "dope addict."

That the drug problem exists, and has grown with the increase in American troop strength in the Far East, is something that U.S. military authorities cannot and do not attempt to deny.

At the same time these authorities are painfully sensitive to the sensationalism that is inevitably associated with the word "dope," or the suggestion that use of drugs is rampant in the Far East Command.

Statistics are necessary, although they don't tell the whole story by any means. According to Far East Command headquarters here, 1,854 servicemen were "apprehended" for narcotics offenses from Jan. 1, 1951, through August, 1953, latest date for which figures are available.

This figure covers the Army, Navy Air Force in Japan, Korea, Okinawa and other Far Eastern bases. Because the Army outnumbers the other services by far, all but a few of the offenders were Army men.

Not all of those arrested for narcotics offenses were users. Some offenders had narcotics or nervous stimulants in their possession, or else were found with such incriminating evidence as hypodermics. Only 953 of the 1,854 cases were considered conclusive to warrant courtmartial.

From the Army's viewpoint, a better way of looking at the drug problem is this: During the first six months of 1953 the narcotics arrest rate for the entire Far East Command was only 1½ men for each 10,000 military population a month.

Presumably, however, the Army doesn't catch all the offenders.

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JOIN MARCH OF DIMES — STOP MARCH OF POLIO

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