

Dixie Coed Is Crowned Miss U.S.A.



MIRIAM STEVENSON
"I Can't Believe It"

LONG BEACH, July 22.—(AP)—Miss South Carolina, a Dixie coed who is all women, today is the new Miss U.S.A.

Miriam Stevenson, 21-year-old college senior from Winnsboro, S.C., won last night over 46 other entrants for the title which will pit her against 32 foreign beauties for the Miss Universe crown.

Miss Stevenson's first words to newspapermen after she won were: "I can't believe it."

Asked if she knew she would have to lose her Southern accent now that she has won a movie contract, she answered: "Shunuf."

SHE'S PERFECT 36

Of voluptuous build, the wholesome-looking winner has perfect measurements: 36-inch bust and hips and 24-inch waist. Her 120 pounds are well distributed over a 5-foot-6 frame.

She had come here without luggage except for an evening gown which she had designed herself and a bathing suit which contest officials gave her.

Her luggage, lost on an airliner that brought her here last week, hasn't caught up with her yet.

Girl Dies, One Saved in Second Suicide Pact

NEW YORK, July 22.—(AP)—Pretty Helene Jacobs, 19-year-old Columbia University student, today clung in unconsciousness to the life she apparently sought twice to throw away in a suicide pact with a friend.

The friend, Madeline Jean Sommer, also 19, died yesterday in the East Side art gallery-apartment where the girls evidently turned on kitchen gas after a night of wine drinking.

As authorities pieced together events, there were indications it was the second suicide attempt by the girls this week.

Police at Bergenfield, N.J., said firemen put out a gas fire Tuesday at Madeline's home while both girls were there. A note by Madeline, hinting at suicide, was found afterward.

'REHEATING A CAKE'

Firemen asked Madeline how the fire started. They quoted her as replying that she was "reheating a cake" in the oven. However, firemen said, there was no cake.

A taxi driver reported Madeline told him Monday of her love of art and that she felt she was a failure. A school official also told authorities that the girl was "never a happy youngster."

Despite a lengthy note left by Helene, her father, Chicago attorney Joseph Jacobs, told reporters he could not believe she had taken part in any suicide pact.

Referring to a portion in which she called herself "spasmodically violent," he said:

"That's ridiculous. She was never violent, she never talked or wrote that way. She was a very stable girl... one of the best adjusted girls I ever met."

IN GOOD SPIRITS

He said he was with Helene last Saturday, talked to her by phone on Sunday and that on Monday she was out with friends who said she was in good spirits.

He voiced a theory his daughter was asleep and, smelling gas, tried to reach the kitchen and turn off the jets before she collapsed.

Jacobs and the girl's mother kept a vigil at the Roosevelt Hospital, where Helene's condition appeared to be improving although she remained unconscious.

Woman Gets Jail Term in Dope Case

An Oakland barmaid began a six-months sentence in the county jail today after she pleaded guilty to the possession of marijuana at the time of

PATHETIC SAGA

Death Takes All From Mary Smith

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, July 22.—(AP)—You would think that some God of the waters had been angered by the Smith family. If so, the angered one should be appeased now.

The sad saga of the Smiths of Tyonek, 60 miles west of Anchorage, began at their family fishing site at Three Mile Beach in the early 1930s when Mrs. Mary Smith's husband drowned in a fishing accident. His body never was recovered.

The widow, with three sons to rear, continued to go annually to the fishing grounds, superintending operations during the season until the boys were able to take over.

Then, three years ago one of the three sons, Roland, drowned at the same spot his father had perished.

Last year, another son, Byrne, drowned on a hunting trip on the Olympic Peninsula in the State of Washington.

Gerard, 26, the last of the three, carried on. Monday, his dory, its bow stove in like it had struck a barge or scow, was found at the spot where father and brother had died. His body has not been recovered.

Fate has not been content to take Mary Smith's husband and three sons. It has left her almost totally blind.

No One 'Invented' Iron; It's Element

BIRMINGHAM, July 23.—No one "invented" iron—it is one of the chemical elements and has existed for millions of years. Men learned very early to extract it from the ores in which it occurs. As early as 3,000 B.C. the Egyptians were making iron articles. Iron is mentioned in several places in the Bible: Job refers to an iron pen (Job 19:24) and Ezekiel to the iron traded in the fairs of Tarshish (Ezekiel 27:12).

Park Program Under Study In El Cerrito

EL CERRITO, July 22.—Plans for a 10-year, \$450,000 park development program are under study today by the Park and Recreation Commission.

They were submitted last night by City Manager Kenneth Smith with a recommendation for a special 10-cent tax levy over the 10-year period. This would produce an estimated \$25,000 annually and Smith contemplates spending another \$20,000 annually from the general fund.

Major projects contemplated are:

1—Completion of the Cerrito Vista Park, Mooser Lane and Pomona Avenue, \$150,000.

2—Acquisition and development of the Chung Mei Chinese home property on Hill Street, \$75,000.

3—Acquisition and development of land at Buckingham Avenue and Arlington Boulevard, \$35,000. This park would contain two tennis courts.

4—Green belt areas throughout the hill district for hiking trails and picnic areas, \$40,000.

5—Ten tot-lot areas—neighborhood parks for small children—\$100,000.

The City Council has already rejected the 10-cent levy and will call a special election in November for a vote of the people on it.

Optometry Requires Minimum of 5 Yrs.

NEW YORK, July 23.—To be eligible for a state licensing examination, an optometrist must be graduated from an accredited school or college of optometry. All such institutions require at least one year of preoptometric college education. Thus five years may be considered the minimum time optometrists spend in study beyond the high school level.

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