

TRAGEDY

L.T. - Olds. Thurs, Dec. 14-61,

The train that hit the school bus near Greeley, Colorado was almost two hours late on its run to Denver. A Union Pacific Streamliner, racing along, at high speed. Suddenly the engineer spotted -- a bus on the track ahead, ^{and} he slammed on the brakes. -- But ~~it~~ was too late.

The streamliner, smashing into the school bus ~~which was~~ crowded with youngsters. Sheering off the rear end, leaving a trail of tragedy behind as it rolled to a stop. Bodies, books, lunch boxes, Christmas cards -- scattered along the tracks for four hundred feet.

Twenty dead - fourteen injured. A somber Christmas - in Greeley, Colorado.

VENEZUELA

The reason for the Venezuelan government in bringing tough paratroopers into Caracas - is obvious. Caracas has its Communist problem in a big way. It's assumed the Reds will try to stir up street violence - when President Kennedy arrives on Saturday. President Betancourt is taking no chances on a repetition of what happened - three years ago, when Vice President Nixon was insulted and stoned - by the Leftist mob of Caracas.

Mr. Kennedy is making the trip in behalf of - the Alliance for Progress. Kennedy and Betancourt, hoping to pull the fangs of the Venezuela Communist Party - by raising the standard of living in that rich country.

I suppose it was inevitable that a group of prominent Americans would form - a ~~Committee for Aid to Katanga~~ - Freedom-Fighters. The Katanga problem, looking more and more ambiguous - to many leaders of the free world. Especially in Britain - where Prime Minister MacMillan called for a cease-fère in the secessionists province. The London appeal, turned down by - the Acting Secretary General of the UN.

Now, the inevitable result ^{over} ~~here, at home,~~ a Committee formed - to support Katanga against the UN. Eighty-one Americans - including General Wedemeyer, and Seventeen University professors. But not Senator Dirksen, who's name appeared - in the Committee ad in the New York Times. The Illinois Republican admits he's in general agreement - with the Committee, ^{says} But ~~he never~~ he never authorized the use of his name.

CANADA FOLLOW CONGO

Meanwhile, Canada seems in agreement - with the official policy of the United States. Prime Minister Diefenbaker, telling newsmen in Ottawa - that the United Nations went into action in Katanga, only after mediation had failed. And the organization is simply taking the necessary steps - to fulfill its mandate. The Diefenbaker interpretation being that the U.N. could not stop the Katanga attacks on U.N. personnel - except by a military offensive.

KATANGA

Katanga President Tshombe sent a personal message to President Kennedy today. He was reported to have expressed readiness to negotiate the Congo crisis with Central Congolese President Adula. Tshombe also was said to have asked the President to intervene in the Congo crisis to prevent further bloodshed.

As a result President Kennedy has asked Ambassador Stevenson to arrange for negotiations.

SYRIA

The new President of Syria was used to be -- Syrian Ambassador to the United States. Nazim Kudsi, well known in Washington - where he served just after World War Two. Nazim Kudsi an ideal man for the assignment -- another graduate of the great American University in Beirut -- A U B as it is called, which has turned out so many of the most distinguished men in the Near and Middle East. He came here with a fluent command of English -- and an understanding of the American system -- our way of life.

Today, elected President of Syria -- by the Damascus Parliament - another graduate of the University of Beirut. Nazim Kudsi says he'll run a moderately Socialist regime, and keep Syria among the uncommitted nations.

TANGANYIKA

The newest member of the U N, -- Tanganyika.

The former British colony in Africa - voted in today

by the General Assembly. The vote - unanimous.

Tanganyika, becoming - number one-hundred-and-four

among the nations. Tanganyika, land of snowy

Kilimanjaro, the great Morungoru crater -- home of the

lion, the elephant and the rhino.

-- cholera.

CHOLERA

In the Philippines, an epidemic of cholera. Three hundred and fifteen fatalities - within three months. The Philippine Medical Association, urging the government to declare - "a state of calamity." Manila, answering by sending doctors, nurses and technicians - into the infected areas. Also, enforcing strict quarantine measures - to keep the dreaded plague from spreading. Still a scourge of the Orient -- cholera.

SHELTERS

The administration Civil Defense program calls for spending - seven hundred million dollars. Twice as much - as we spent last year. A big part of the hike, due to - the new shelter program. The government, to help build enough shelters - to protect twenty million people, in case of nuclear war. That doesn't mean - you can forget about your do-it-yourself shelter. *It simply means* ~~operations. It does mean~~ that populated areas will soon have community shelters.

FOOTBALL

The "Player of the Year" in college football - is rather different than "the lineman of the year". You probably remember the top lineman -- Colorado Guard Joe Romig, who happens to be a Phi Beta Kappa, as well as an All-American.

The Player of the Year - is no Phi Beta. Ohio State's Bob Ferguson, handier with the football -- than he is with the books. But the bulldozing Buckeye fullback is getting top grades from the experts polled by the U P I. They remember how he shattered ~~an~~ opposing lines - as the key man in Ohio State's thunderous attack. ~~Bob Ferguson grinding out yardage the way Woody Hayes likes it.~~ "Five yards and a cloud of dust," as they say in Columbus.

Player of the Year -- the power man of power football. Now ~~headed~~ headed for the pros -- the Pittsburgh Steelers. Buckeye Bob Ferguson.

HORSE

A lawsuit in Los Angeles has come up with a new twist in legal history. The ground of complaint -- unique. In fact, it couldn't have been thought of -- before the jet age. Mrs. Jane Wood is asking damages because of the sonic boom. A jet plane, breaking the sound barrier over her ranch in the San Fernando Valley.

Mrs. Wood, out riding her favorite Arabian pony - at the time. The sudden roar from the sky - throwing the animal into ^{such} a panic. It threw it's rider and then bolted, ~~jumping~~ over a cliff - rolling to the ~~bottom of a rocky slope.~~ ^{bottom where} ~~So badly injured,~~ it had to be destroyed.

The lady rancher, demanding Fifty Thousand. ^{Dick -} That much - for an Arabian steed. And - a sonic boom.

DOGS FOLLOW HORSE

~~That was the story of~~ The unlucky horse!

^{now}
~~Here's the story of~~ the lucky dogs. King and Silas --
a couple of bloodhounds who hunt together. ~~Considered~~
The top trackers - in North Carolina.

Also, the boldest - considering what happened
when they picked up ^a ~~the~~ scent on the railroad. King
and Silas, charging forward between the tracks. Charging
straight into a freight train barreling down on them.
The two bloodhounds disappearing - under the freight.

When it passed, they found King with a crushed
tail. Silas with a broken leg. Neither any the worse
for their experience. Both bloodhounds ~~still~~ alive -
in fact, ^{okay,} ~~still~~ lively. Back hunting - after a visit
to the vet. After being run over - by a freight train.