

He Loved His Job — It Killed Him

"He was a wonderful son," said Mary Smullen. "I know all mothers say that, but..." and her voice succumbed to the sobs of a woman whose heart had been broken.

It was on Saturday night that Robert Smullen, 31, only hours away from the day when the youngest of his five children was to be christened, slipped from the truck of Hook and Ladder Company 142, and was crushed to

death beneath its wheels on 98th street in Ozone Park. He had been a fireman for six years and during that time had answered many false alarms. This one proved fatal.

THERE WAS only time for two priests to administer last rites. Then, quietly, his closest friend, Jim O'Connor, walked back to the firehouse at 98th street and

103rd avenue, changed and drove out to Far Rockaway to break the news to Florence Smullen.

Florence Quigg and Robert Smullen fell in love when they were classmates at Jamaica High School.

"He was 16 years old then," said Mary Smullen, his mother. "At graduation, when he was 19, he told us that he would first join the Naval Reserves, then return home

and get married and raise a family."

AFTER THE Korean War, he worked as a tabulating machine operator and attended Queens College at night.

A year later, he joined the Fire Department. He liked being a fireman and for the last few months, at night, he was studying for the lieutenant's examination. "He loved

his job," said Mrs. Smullen. "And I know that it killed him."

The words came hard for Mrs. Smullen whose husband, Tom, was comforting his eldest grandson, 8-year-old Robert Jr. Also at home were June, 7, Jane, 5, Peter, 3, and Theresa who was christened yesterday in St. Mary Star

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ROBERT SMULLEN

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COMMUTER TAX FOES SOUND OFF

U. S. OK Seen on 3-Paper Merger

Publishers sought government approval today for an amalgamation that would combine three of Manhattan's daily newspapers into a single corporation.

The New York Herald Tribune, The New York Journal-American and The New York World-Telegram and The Sun announced the amalgamation plan yesterday and said they would present it to the Department of Justice today.

UNDER ITS terms, the new corporation, to be called the World Journal Tribune Inc., would publish a morning paper, The Herald Tribune, an afternoon paper, The World Journal, and a Sunday paper, The World Journal and Tribune. There was no indication of when the combination would take effect.

At present, the Herald Tribune publishes morning and Sunday editions, the Journal-American afternoon and Sunday editions, and the World-Telegram and The Sun afternoon editions.

The action would reduce the number of afternoon and Sunday papers in Manhattan from three to two. The number of morning newspapers would remain at three.

THE THREE publishers, the Hearst Corporation, F. W. Scripps Company (Scripps-Hearst) and Whitney Communications Corporation, said the economic of the newspaper industry compel this move.

Although the Justice Department refused comment until it examined the proposal, a spokesman said last week the department was

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We're Still Ahead in Remap Plan

ALBANY—Queens is expected to come out still ahead in the court-dictated legislative redistricting plan due to be handed down today.

The Court of Appeals is expected to issue a reapportionment plan trimming the Legislature from 150 present members to 207.

DRAWN by a five-man commission appointed by the court, the plan reportedly

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Special Session Seen for Passage

Either the income tax on commuters goes, or the whole income tax goes.

That was the comment yesterday of the chairman of the powerful Senate Finance Committee on Mayor Lindsay's proposal to tax all who work in New York, regardless of where they live.

Republicans in the Legislature, meanwhile, explored the possibility of adjourning the Legislature in about two

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weeks and leaving action on Lindsay's tax and transit programs for a special session to be called by the governor later in the spring—most likely in May.

They feel most of the regular legislative business could be disposed of within two weeks and there is no need to bog down the lawmakers while the embattled tax and transit programs are being thrashed out elsewhere, notably in the City Council.

SENATOR WARREN Anderson, Republican of Birmingham, said the income tax had a fair chance of legislative passage if the provision to tax non-residents were deleted. Otherwise the tax is dead, he declared. Other portions of the Lindsay tax program were rated a fair to poor chance of passage.

As Anderson made his comments, Representative Lester L. Wolff, Democrat of Kensington and Harold J. Pryor, general chairman of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen on the Long Island Railroad, were also condemning the income tax on commuters.

"Taxation without repre-

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Woman, 63, Killed In Fall Under Bus

Mrs. Angela Solimeno, 63, of Corona, died yesterday after she slipped and fell under the wheels of a bus at Broadway and Corona avenues, Elmhurst.

Mrs. Solimeno of 108-17 49th avenue, was president of the Flanders Field Auxiliary of the Corona Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Police said she was pounding on the door of the bus about 3 P.M. trying to get the driver's attention when she apparently lost her bal-

ance and fell under the rear wheels. She was pronounced dead at City Hospital, Elmhurst, shortly afterwards.

NO SUMMONS was issued to the bus driver, Nicolas Miserych, 46, of 91-23 97th street, Woodhaven.

Mrs. Solimeno is survived by a son, Vito of Corona; two daughters, Mrs. Benjamin Boudreau of Corona and Mrs. Janet Schreiner of New Castle, Pa., and seven grandchildren.

CONRAD, who flew eight

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Moses On 3rd Tube: 'Dig We Will'

In the face of Mayor Lindsay's disapproval, Robert Moses, chairman of the Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority, is going ahead with plans to build a third tube for the Queens Midtown Tunnel.

The authority will receive bids at 11 A.M. Thursday for test borings on the Queens and Manhattan sides of the tunnel.

While Mayor Lindsay is opposed to the project, his office conceded today there is virtually no way the mayor can stop construction, except by closing access streets.

Just 13 days ago Mayor Lindsay told the Legislature's Joint Committee on Rules that Moses' plan for a third tube was "unsound and unnecessary." He added "these proposals will never be accepted" by his administration.

LINDSAY said he was opposed to the third tube because it would add to midtown traffic congestion. He said it would be a factor in the displacement of 5,000 families and 2,000 business establishments.

They are located along the route of the proposed mid-Manhattan express highway to which Lindsay also objects. The proposed highway would connect the Queens Midtown Tunnel with the Lincoln Tunnel.

On the Queens side, the third tube would be linked with the proposed Bushwick expressway, which Moses envisages as running eastward to Southern State parkway and the Nassau expressway in the vicinity of John F. Kennedy Airport.

Easier access to the North Queens would be provided by a new route connecting the Brooklyn-Queens expressway from the LaGuardia Field

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MAKING A SPLASH—Mayor John V. Lindsay (left), and Comptroller Mario B. Proccacio get together to throw a switch in Poughkeepsie starting the pumping operations at the reactivated Chelsea station, marking the first use of Hudson River water in the city's water supply. The purified water will be mixed with other city water to augment the drought-depleted reservoir supply.

Apollo Team 1: White, Grissom and Chaffee

SPACE CENTER, Houston (UPI)—Spacewalker Edward H. White, veteran spaceman Virgil I. (Gus) Grissom and rookie Astronaut Roger Chaffee will ride the first Apollo spaceship in the program aimed at landing the first man on the Moon.

Their spaceship may link up with a Gemini craft.

THE NATIONAL Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) said their flight could get under way this year and might last from 12 to 14 days.

A Saturn IB super-rocket will blast them into space from Cape Kennedy.

Dr. Joseph Shea, Apollo

project director, said studies are under way for a possible rendezvous between the three-man ship and a two-

man Gemini capsule, possibly Gemini 12.

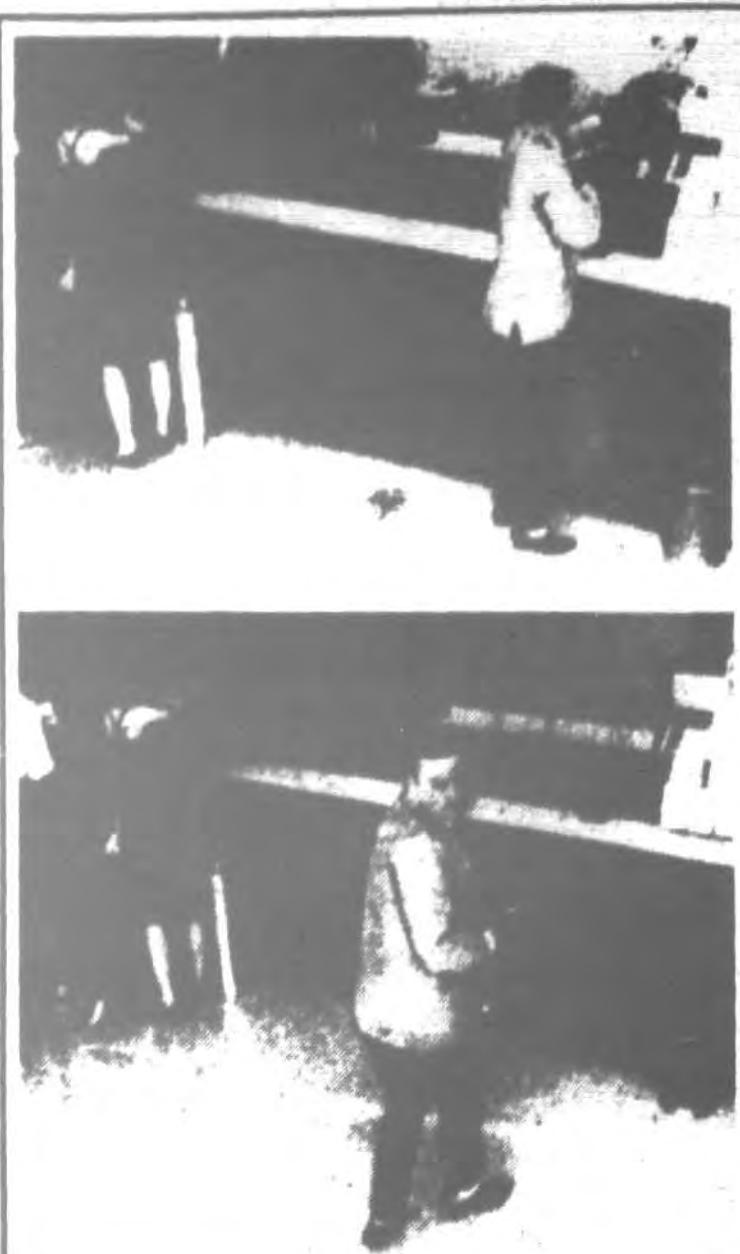
THE SPACECRAFT center released the names of a series of Gemini crews and reserve crews for the remaining four Gemini flights. But the surprise was the naming of Apollo spacemen. They will be the forerunners of Apollo astronauts who could leave for the Moon in 1968 or 1969.

Depending on progress of additional unmanned flights of Saturn IB and Apollo, Grissom, White and Chaffee could make a fiery departure from Cape Kennedy as early as next October or November, informed sources said.

Other crews named Monday included: James A. Lovell and Edwin E. (Buzz) Aldrin, new backup pilots for the flight of Gemini 9, now expected in May. They would be reserve pilots; Alan L. Bean and Clifton Williams, new backups for the flight of Gemini 10, now expected in July or August. The No. 1 crew for that flight, named earlier, is John W. Young and Michael Collins, and veteran space pilot Charles (Pete) Conrad and rookie Richard F. Gordon command pilot and co-pilot respectively for the flight of Gemini 11 in September or October.

CONRAD, who flew eight

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Lens Louse

A busy camera clicked away for the second time in 12 days as a gunman held up a National Bank of Georgia branch yesterday. The pictures helped police identify the bandit as Bobby Lee Reynolds, 34, who was caught graphically in the act of taking \$5,000 from Mrs. Judy Johnson. She was the same teller held up for \$15,000 12 days ago by two Atlanta brothers who were caught March 13 as they fled toward Mexico.

U.S. Jet Pilots Blast Viet Cong Truck Convoy

SAIGON (AP)—U. S. jet pilots reported today they struck heavy blows at trucking and shipping in North Vietnam, blasting more than half of a 50-vehicle convoy in a mountain pass and sinking or damaging five gunboats.

Marine spokesmen reported meanwhile that the leathernicks killed at least 204 Communists in expanding ground operations in South Vietnam's northern provinces. But 10 leathernicks were killed in the crash of a Marine helicopter, and an A4 Skyhawk crashed on a bombing run in support of the Marines. The pilot was rescued.

The Viet Cong gave another demonstration of guerrilla tactics, hitting the airport at Dalat before dawn and damaging a number of planes. Two platoons of about 50 Reds penetrated the airport grounds after a mortar barrage.

PRIME Minister Nguyen Cao Ky meanwhile said today the government wanted to listen to legitimate complaints of the people. The statement was seen as an effort to calm angry Buddhists protesting the dismissal of Lieutenant General Nguyen Chanh Thi as 1st Army Corps commander.

Ky's remarks were made shortly after students at one of Saigon's largest high schools walked out of class shouting anti-government slogans and denouncing Ky and other military junta leaders as "traitors."

L. I. Eyed For Huge A-Smasher?

WASHINGTON (AP)—The government narrowed to six locations today its search for a site for a \$375 million atom smasher, the world's largest.

The National Academy of Sciences, after appraisal of 85 proposed sites, recommended further study of sites at:

Long Island's Brookhaven National Laboratory, near Yaphank; Madison, Wis.; the Sierra foothills near Sacramento, Calif.; South Barrington or Weston, near Chicago; Denver, Colo., and Ann Arbor, Mich.

As to the first five sites, the selection committee said they all have "either the nucleus of a strong accelerator design group or one of the nation's outstanding universities nearby."

DENVER, the report said, "has neither the university strength nor the existing design group that is considered desirable." But it said the combined advantages of geology, accessibility, good climate and an area readily available large enough to accommodate any conceivable

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Was Girl Beaten By Drug Addict?

By ROBERT AMON
Was 16-year-old Anita Watson attacked in her bedroom early Saturday by a narcotics addict?

This was one of the lines of investigation being pursued last night by Flushing detectives.

The victim, still in serious condition in Parsons Hospital, Flushing, was struck on the head with a cast-iron fireplace holder while asleep in her home at 30-30 153rd street.

She suffered a skull fracture, but apparently was not sexually molested, doctors said.

THIS, police theorize, may indicate the intruder's motive was robbery to obtain funds to buy a fix. "Narcotics addicts are notoriously uninterested in sex while in the throes of their habit,

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THE WEATHER

Cloudy Tonight (40s)
Cloudy Tomorrow (60s)