

# Broken Home Blamed for Attempt to Die

## Girl, 15, Tries to End Life in Juvenile Cell

A home shattered by divorce was blamed today for the suicide attempt of a 15-year-old girl in a detention cell at Juvenile Aid Division early this morning.

A check of records of the family showed that the girl's 14-year-old brother committed suicide by hanging in 1935. Officials believed the girl patterned her "easy way out" after that of her brother.

The girl's attempt, however, was unsuccessful. The belt which she had looped around her neck and over an electric fixture broke as she jumped from a ladder.

### Out After Curfew

JAD officials were puzzled by the suicide attempt until they discovered the other suicide in the family. The girl was charged only with being out after curfew.

There was never any official reason given for the boy's death. The investigation at the time showed however, that there was strife between the mother and father. They were later divorced.

"The mother has remarried twice and in between has returned to the home as a housekeeper," Lt. Forest Higgs of the JAD said. "The home has constantly been in a state of turmoil and the father turned to drinking. Apparently the girl turned to staying out late to escape the home atmosphere."

### Father Out Drinking

He said the father was out drinking last night and was not located until this morning.

The girl made the attempt after a policeman picked her up in a downtown restaurant at 1:15 a. m. for violation of the curfew for juveniles.

She was treated by a General Hospital ambulance doctor and detained in the city police lockup for safekeeping.

### Shortly before 6 a. m. today

she was taken to General Hospital after she complained that her throat hurt. She was released to JAD authorities at noon.

### Becomes Hysterical

Juvenile Aid officials said the girl would give no explanation of her suicide attempt after she recovered. She became hysterical and tore out handfuls of her hair, a policewoman said.

The attempt was witnessed by another 15-year-old girl, a runaway from Detroit, who was locked up in the same cell.

She made no outcry for help, as the Indianapolis girl prepared to jump from a ladder with the belt looped around her neck or after she fell to the floor unconscious when the belt broke.

Police said the Detroit girl provided the belt used in the suicide attempt and that she helped set up the ladder.

The ladder had been left in the cell by repairmen, officials said.

The unconnected girl was found by Policewoman Virginia Tinnel at about 2:30 a. m. when the policewoman checked the cell.

The girl had been arrested at 1:15 a. m. by Patrolman Dennis Maxey and Elwood Weneke in Blacker's Chili Parlor, 17 W. Ohio St. She was talking to a group of soldiers.

She first told police she was 17 but later admitted her true age. After her arrest she be-

# 'Cold' Gets Warm Reception



Mrs. Rose Bennick and Dorothy Elizabeth

## Mother Elated by 'Cold That Settled in My Back'

### 'The Baby Was a Complete Surprise To Both of Us,' Says Astonished Father

DETROIT, Jan. 4 (UP)—Mrs. Rose Bennick said she had recovered from her "cold" today but she still was having trouble getting used to the idea that she was a mother.

Mrs. Bennick, 39, said she left her typist job Friday because of a "cold that settled in my back." Hot packs applied by her husband, Felix, failed to help. Several hours later she unexpectedly gave birth to a 7-pound daughter.

"I had no idea that I was going to have a baby," she said. Her physician said the story was correct. The last time she visited the doctor's office was in May when she complained of being nervous and overweight. She mentioned no symptoms of pregnancy, the doctor said, and no examination was made.

## Plains Blizzard By-passes Indiana

### Clearing Weather and Cold Wave Forecast

(Continued From Page One)

ed for today will fall to 24 by morning, and remain there throughout tomorrow.

Temperatures will average five to nine degrees below normal in Indiana for the next five days, according to a long-range forecast.

(Normal maximum for this period is 33 degrees north, 43 south. Normal minimum is 16 north, 25 south.)

Tomorrow's cold will continue through Friday, after which temperatures came very "stubborn and sullen," the officers said.

The arrest was the girl's fourth, police records showed. She was arrested in August last year in the same restaurant, also for violation of the curfew law. Her case was turned over to Juvenile Court.

Previous to that she had been arrested twice, once in 1943 and once in 1946, on charges of shoplifting.

Juvenile Aid Division officials said the girl was "attractive and bright." Most of her trouble has stemmed from lack of home supervision and guidance, a JAD worker said.

# Capehart Hails Re-election of Senator Taft

## Joins Fight Against 'Progressives' Revolt

By DAN KIDNEY  
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Sen. Homer E. Capehart (R. Ind.) today expressed pride in the continuing leadership of Sen. Robert A. Taft (R. O.), who was elected head of the minority policy committee 28 to 14 in a GOP caucus yesterday following the opening session of the 81st Congress.

Both Sen. Capehart and his junior colleague, Sen. William E. Jenner (R. Ind.), supported the Taft ticket against the abortive revolt of the so-called "progressives" in the party.

That the "progressives" haven't done so well was pointed out by Sen. Capehart, who said that Sens. Irving M. Ives (R. N. Y.), Henry Cabot Lodge Jr. (R. Mass.) and George D. Aiken (R. Vt.) all were active in the Dewey defeat. This group was trying to unseat Sen. Taft and put Sen. Lodge in his place as policy head.

Lost 3 Times

"These progressives have had three tries at the presidency and lost each time," Sen. Capehart declared.

"They were all for the late Wendell L. Willkie in 1940 and for Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York in 1944 and 1948. Since we lost all these elections, it could be that they are wrong and the Republican Party should defend intelligent conservatism."

In the caucus the Senior Senator from Indiana took on Sen. Aiken in debate.

"When we put such an outstanding progressive as the Senator from Vermont in the chairmanship of the Senate Agriculture Committee we all figured that the farm vote was certainly safe and we could forget about it," Sen. Capehart chided.

Farm Parity Prices Out

"But what happened, Sen. Aiken pushed through the Hope-Aiken bill in the closing hours of the regular session of the 80th Congress and cut farm parity prices from the 90 per cent provided by the 79th Congress to a sliding scale of 65 to 90 per cent."

"That cost us the farm vote in Indiana and I feel sure it was the farmers, normally Republican outside the South, who defeated us elsewhere."

Sen. Aiken rose to his own defense, but later stalked from the meeting angrily declaring "the old guard is in complete control."

## Sgt. W. J. Lewis Airmen of Month

S. Sgt. William J. Lewis, son of Mrs. Irene W. Lewis, 1375 Silver Ave., recently was selected as the unit Airmen of the Month for the 3d Air Police Squadron, Yokota Air Force Base, Japan.

Prior to entering service in February, 1943, Sgt. Lewis was a fireman on the New York Central Railroad. He served in the European Theater and was discharged in November.

After re-enlisting in the Air Force in December, 1947, he was sent to Japan.

Most schools were closed in the storm area and many business houses closed their doors.

## Local Accident Victim 'Serious'

One of three persons injured in the Mars Hill bus collision with an automobile yesterday at the White River bridge on Oliver Ave. was reported in "serious" condition today. The others were listed as "fair."

Robert Brazelton, 29, of 1617 Lyndhurst Dr., who suffered four broken ribs, was in serious condition at General Hospital.

Mrs. Norma Keenan, 23, of 114 N. Belmont Ave., suffered three broken ribs, multiple fractures of the pelvic bone and is reported in "fairly good" condition at St. Vincent's Hospital.

General Hospital attaches listed the condition of Wayne Hackle, man, 45, of 4950 W. 16th St., as "fair."

## Official Weather

UNITED STATES WEATHER BUREAU  
Jan. 4, 1949

Station	Temp	Wind	Clouds	Vis	Bar	Rel	Hum	W. Wind	W. Temp
Indianapolis	34	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	34
Chicago	30	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	30
St. Louis	30	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	30
St. Paul	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Minneapolis	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Omaha	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Des Moines	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Sioux Falls	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Lincoln	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Wichita	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Fort Worth	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Dallas	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
San Antonio	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Austin	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Phoenix	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
San Diego	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Los Angeles	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
San Francisco	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Portland	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Seattle	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Portland, Ore.	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Boise	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Denver	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
Albuquerque	28	10	100	10	30.0	65	100	10	28
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