



—Californian Photo

PRIZED CAMELLIA BUSH—Darla Nobles, city hall employee, is dwarfed by this 68-year-old camellia bush, presented as a gift to the city by Mrs. Frances Brower in 1948. The city recently enlarged the metal slat hood that protects the plant. The bush is the parent plant of most Purity strain camellias in the Southern San Joaquin Valley.

TENDER LOVING CARE

68-Year-Old Camellia Bush Receives Special Treatment

The City of Bakersfield takes special care of a camellia bush in the courtyard at city hall. The plant is 68 years old and has the distinction of having been transplanted three times—once when it was accepted as a gift from Mrs. Frances B. Brower and twice as a result of the 1952 earthquakes.

Tony J. Reina, city employee, reports that it is the parent plant for most of the Purity strain of white camellias in the Southern San Joaquin Valley.

Successful Transplant
Reina had charge of the moving operation in 1948 when he removed the camellia from the Brower home on the south side of 19th Street, several hundred yards west of F Street. Many of the city's camellia fanciers were skeptical of the move because so few of the plants have survived transplanting.

Reina was successful and planted the camellia on the north side of the old city hall on Truxtun Avenue. It remained there until the earthquakes of 1952 when Reina had to remove it to make way for the construction of the new city hall.

Using 2 by 12-inch planks he built a box 33 inches deep, 80 inches wide and 85 inches long. The 3,200-pound package of camellia and earth was moved to the city's sewer plant on Vernal Place, now Vernal Park, south of Brundage Lane.

The Camellia remained at Vernal Place until the city hall was completed when Reina moved it on Oct. 26, 1955 to its present location in the northwest corner of the courtyard.

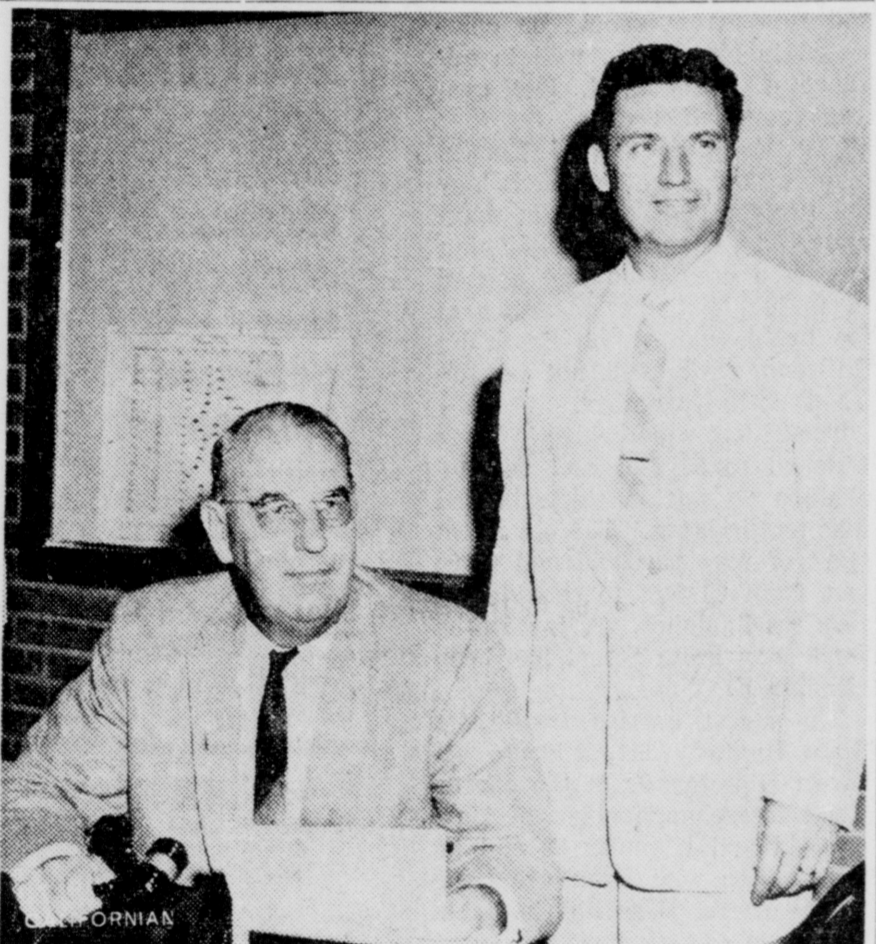
Winter Blossoms
Reina said that the plant was 12 feet tall when he first moved it in 1948 and it has been growing since that time. It had more than 1,000 blooms on it when he checked it after moving it to the present city hall site.

Reina said that the plant's original Purity strain is scattered throughout the Southern San Joaquin Valley. Best time to look for the white blooms is in December or January, he reports.

Attention was drawn to the plant and its colorful history

when the city recently built a metal slat hood over it to protect the camellia from Bakersfield's hot summer sun.

Mrs. Brower was the widow of Celsus Brower, pioneer resident who made his home in Bakersfield in 1872.



BOARD OFFICERS FOR 1960-61—Albert S. Gould, seated, member of the board of trustees of the Kern County Union High School and Junior College District, will serve as board president for 1960-61 and M. Glenn Bultman, standing, will continue as board clerk. They were elected at the annual reorganization session of the school board Friday.

Albert S. Gould Elected School Board President

Albert S. Gould was elected president of the board of trustees of the Kern County Union High School and Junior College District, and M. Glenn Bultman was re-elected board clerk at the annual reorganization meeting of the trustees Friday.

Gould is Consultant, Weapons Planning Group, U.S. Naval Ordnance Test Station at China Lake. He has been a member of the school board since May, 1950. Formerly head of the rocket ordnance division, rockets and explosives department of NOTS, he has been at China Lake 15 years.

Gould succeeds H. E. Woodworth, president of the trustees for 12 years. Woodworth retired from the school board June 30 after serving since 1938. Mark Raney, who recently was appointed in Woodworth's place by County Superintendent of Schools Jesse D. Stockton, was welcomed as a new member of the board.

Clerk Re-elected
Bultman, who was re-elected clerk of the trustees, is a Bakersfield attorney who served last year as president of the Kern County Bar Association. A graduate of the law school at the University of California at Berkeley, he has been at China Lake 15 years.

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Death by Drowning Accidental

Accidental death was the finding of a coroner's inquest held yesterday into the death of Mrs. Beverly Gruver, 35, of Gorman, who drowned in Lake Isabella Thursday afternoon.

Dep. Coroner Ross Jones announced his decision after hearing testimony from Wayne Sechrist, one of the woman's companions on the boating trip, and from Frank Erdman, Kern Parks and Recreation Department supervisor for Lake Isabella.

Sechrist testified that the third member of the party, Thomas Stone of San Gabriel had invited Mrs. Gruver and him to go along on the trip to Lake Isabella when he arrived at Gorman Thursday morning.

The group arrived at the lake around noon and secured a permit to launch their boat, Sechrist testified.

Life Preservers
Subsequent testimony by Erdman brought out the fact that the boat was equipped with life preservers, buoyant cushions and a paddle in accordance with state and county requirements.

After securing the boat permit, Sechrist told Jones, the group launched the boat and Stone showed Sechrist how to operate the boat and outboard motor controls.

Sechrist then operated the boat while Stone was water skiing, but after a short time the water became too rough for water skiing and Stone rejoined Sechrist and Mrs. Gruver in the boat.

Motor Stalls
Sechrist said the motor had stalled and he was unable to start it after Stone got back into the boat. It was at that time that Mrs. Gruver announced, "At least I'm going to get my suit wet," and she jumped into the water from the left side of the boat.

While attempting to make her way around the stern to the other side of the boat to climb back in, the boat began to drift away from Mrs. Gruver who asked for help when she was six or eight feet away, Sechrist said.

In answer to a question from Jones, Sechrist said Mrs. Gruver told them she could swim.

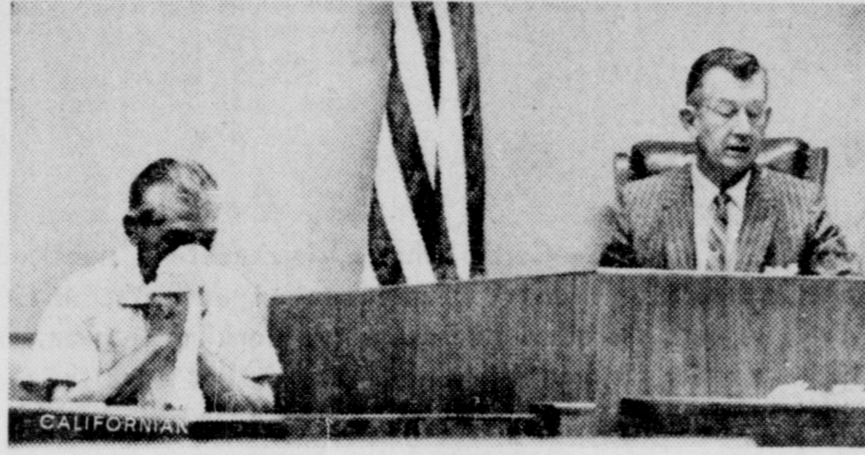
Jumps Overboard
Stone jumped overboard to aid Mrs. Gruver, but the boat was being blown away from the two swimmers. Sechrist said he tried to use the paddle when he was unable to start the engine, but that the wind and waves were too strong and he continued to drift away from the couple.

When the boat was about 30 feet from shore, the wind changed and began to blow the boat back into the lake, Sechrist said, so he jumped overboard and waded ashore.

At that time the waves had pulled the woman from Stone's grasp, and they were about 30 feet apart, the witness said, but Stone was nearly exhausted and Mrs. Gruver was drifting away from shore.

Sechrist removed some of his

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DESCRIBES DROWNING—Wayne Sechrist of Gorman sobs as he tells Deputy Coroner Ross Jones how Mrs. Beverly Gruver, 35, also of Gorman was drowned at Lake Isabella Thursday afternoon. Sechrist told his story at a coroner's hearing yesterday.

SIGHT-SEERS

Bus Tour Acquires Another Member

By GARY STEIN

ON TOUR THROUGH THE UNITED STATES—The traveling caravan of Kern County high school students which left Bakersfield by bus June 12 with 47 teenagers and 6 chaperones, was expanded to 48 students when Emma Lou Odaffer joined the third annual U.S.A. tour in Albuquerque, N.M.

The six-week tour, now half completed, covers 36 states, the District of Columbia and Canada on a 10,500-mile itinerary.

The sight-seers wasted no time in getting down to politics, as they elected first-week officers during the initial day of the journey. Marya Wasem was elected president, Lee Boyd was voted vice president and Mark Azzara, treasurer. Officers preside over daily fine sessions, which penalize students for minor offenses.

Watermelons
The students decided immediately that the fines would be spent for watermelons in Hot Springs, Ark. Even a carefree vacation through the United States is not without its financial worries. The most progress the

students made was in handling the food money, which was strained on the first night because of a luxurious meal at the Stardust Hotel in Las Vegas.

Later that night the teenagers spent their first "night out," as they termed it, when they camped at Lake Mead. Many went swimming before "lights out" at 11 o'clock, however, but others slipped into their sleeping bags for a well-deserved rest.

But early the next morning, a 5 a.m. awakening was aided by a swim in the lake. Among the early-arising swimmers were Tony Hungary, Bunny Anderson, Bonnie Muir, Sue DiGiorgio, Jo Ann Fleming, Sharon Blake-more, Marilyn Fry, Lee Boyd, Sandy Phelps, Mark Gay, Janis Lehr, Linda Federhart, Diane Weller and Mrs. Marger Apsit.

Hoover Dam
The group toured Hoover Dam that morning and the same night slept in a campground, overlooking beautiful Grand Canyon. Since the tourists found that words cannot measure a clear

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12 Injured in Collision of Four Cars

Kern County made a grim contribution to California's Fourth of July holiday traffic record as the Highway Patrol reported two children were killed yesterday.

The two fatalities are half of the state's total of four deaths recorded from 6 p.m. yesterday to noon today.

Killed at 12:30 a.m. today when he fell to Highway

466 from the partly-opened back window of his family's westbound station wagon, was Steven Lewis Wanczewicz, 4, 230 Ordway St., San Francisco. At 7:15 p.m. yesterday, Gloria Miranda, 2, was struck and killed by a sedan when she wandered into the street in front of her home at 1923 Padre St.

Falls From Wagon
The Wanczewicz boy was riding in the back seat of a station wagon operated by his father, Edward V. Wanczewicz, 31. The victim's brother, Edward V. Jr., 6, was also in the back seat while the mother of the boys was in the front seat.

The driver told investigating Patrolman L. R. Hughes he thought both boys were sleeping. They were a mile east of Monolith

DEAD
1959 67 1960 92
July 2

when Edward Jr. shouted that Stephen had fallen out, despite the fact the bottom half of the tailgate was shut tight.

The father stopped the station wagon and walked back to find his son's body in the highway, straddled by another car. The second driver, Ebert Woodhead, 54, Chino, said he saw "something in the road" and applied his brakes, stopping over the child but, to his knowledge, not striking him.

Nevertheless, the 4-year-old was pronounced dead on arrival at Tehachapi Medical Center and his body was taken to the Turner Funeral Home.

Walks Into Street

The driver of the car that struck the Miranda girl was Lino Salazar Gonzales, 56, tractor driver for the Kern County Land Co. He told Patrolman H. L. Reed and E. L. Trogdon he had stopped to talk to Antonio Cardill, 21, at 1920 Padre St., remaining behind the steering wheel of his car. The child apparently walked in front of the car without the driver's knowledge.

Gonzales said goodbye to Cardill and started the car forward, running over the tiny victim. She was taken to Kern General Hospital.

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Mercury Expected to Climb

Temperatures remained below normal for the opening of July, but indications are that the mercury will begin moving upward again early next week.

The forecaster said the maximum of 94 degrees forecast for today is five degrees below normal, and the 68 minimum indicated for Sunday is two above the normal for the morning's low range. Weather will be slightly warmer Sunday and the warming up process will continue into next week, the forecaster said.

June ended as the hottest month on a 60-year record, with the average temperature 84 as compared to a normal of 77 degrees for June. There were 12 days during the month with temperatures well above 100 degrees, the maximum reading being 109 on June 3, the all-time high record on the weather bureau records for that date.

The hot spells during the month stretched from the June 1-5; from June 12-14; June 16-17; and June 22-25. The lowest minimum for the month was 60 degrees on June 9 and the highest reading in the early morning temperatures was 78 on June 2.

Closest to this year's records was 1957 with 81 degrees.

Other years with hot June weather were: 1949 with 80 degrees the average for the month; 1940 with 83; 1935 with 81, and the remaining years going back to 1900 showed temperature averages for the month below 80 degrees.

Car Hits Pedestrian at Truxtun and F St.

Calvin Masey Holloway, 65, 1913 Truxtun Ave., today was recovering in Kern General Hospital from injuries suffered when he was struck by a car at Truxtun Avenue and F Street.

Bakersfield police said Holloway, who incurred a concussion and fractured hip, stepped into the path of an automobile traveling west on Truxtun Avenue. The driver, Frank Robertson, 3407 L St., was not held after the mishap at 4:30 p.m. Friday.

Planning Commission to Meet Tuesday Night

The master plan for the Kern County Airport at Meadows Field, the Kern County Administration Center, and an application for a zoning change on Mt. Vernon Avenue will be the topics of three public hearings Tuesday night before the Kern County Planning Commission.

The master plan for the airport, prepared by Leigh-Fisher & Associates, consulting engineers, includes recommendations for the acquisition of additional site bordering the present county airport property, and for the addition of hangars, additions to the administration building, and development of more parking area.

The second hearing will relate to "Plan H" for the administration area in the civic center and the plan provides for additional parking facilities south of 16th Street between 16th Street and the Santa Fe Railroad tracks. The parking lot is at 16th Street and Truxtun Avenue and the new area would place an additional half block of parking space and also include a 40-foot circulating road between the railroad and parking lot.

The third hearing on the agenda proposed for 7:30 p.m., will be

consideration of the application of J. A. Porterfield for a change from R-4 zoning to C-1 at 1520 Mt. Vernon Avenue for construction of a service station. The proposed station would be located at the southwest corner of Mt. Vernon Avenue and Quincy Street.

Other matters on the commission agenda are subdivision tract maps, one for Rosedale, two for Bodfish; one for Wofford Heights, one for Isabella, and one for Cantil.

The metropolitan area boundaries for Bakersfield also will be considered under the urban area study underway. Zoning applications and consideration of proposed school sites for Greenfield Union School District and one for Maple School District will be included on the agenda.

RACQUET CLUB TO BEGIN NEW SWIM CLASS SERIES

A second series of swimming classes will open Wednesday at the Bakersfield Racquet Club with John Kelly as the instructor. The classes will be open to all children from three years through high school. Classes in junior and senior life-saving also will be part of the planned instruction.

A demonstration of swimming skills learned during a series of three weeks of lessons was given by a class Thursday evening. Students instructed by Kelly performed the various strokes and water safety skills with Kelly giving explanations of the teaching methods for approximately 100 parents and friends.

Swimming pupils in the demonstration were: Dee Dee Cawley, Kevin McDermott, Tommy Seaman, Teri Cooper, Jeannie Biggar, Lisa Woolomes, Brian Snodgrass, Marion Barrett, Cathy Mee, Tracy Ridlon, Lorn Johnson, Jeff Turman, Terry Fischer, Tommy Housin, Diana Barrett; Charon Barrett, Steve Lentz, Dennis Chan, Patrick Jacobs, Mary Strickler, Eric Biggar,

Nancy Cawley, Laura Stern, Pam Houchin, Ricky Hornung, Bobby Jean Hackett, Martin Plumb, Chuck Henry, Cynthia Johnson, Doug Forney, Bruce Forney, and Susan Lentz.



BLOW, GABRIEL, BLOW—A trumpet quartet will be specially featured at the Sunday band concert held at Beale Park under the direction of Lawrence Foster, Sr., left. Other members of the quartet are: left to right, Larry Thornton, Larry Conley and Jack Agan. Tomorrow's concert will be a musical salute to the Fourth of July. The quartet will play the Triumphal March from Aida and the Rishin' Trumpeters.



POOL FUN—Instructor John Kelly gives Terry Fischer some pointers on floating as Tracy Ridlon, Diana Barrett and Tommy Seaman look on at the Racquet Club.