



# 7-Year-Old Boy Drowns in Oneida Lake

## Firemen Work 2 Hours in Try To Save L. I. Child

A seven-year-old Levittown, L. I. boy drowned yesterday in Boysen's Bay on the south shore of Oneida Lake.

A more than two-hour attempt by Bridgeport and Cicero firemen to revive Donald W. Nelson failed. Dr. Frank Williams of Cicero pronounced the child dead at 5:15 p.m.

The father, Donald H. Nelson, 31, of 24 Gunland Rd., Levittown and the child's uncle, Stephen Stevenson, of 2920 Court St., Lyncourt, watched anxiously while firemen attempted to bring the youngster around.

Nelson said he missed Donald around 2:30 p.m., seconds after he saw the boy wading toward the shore. About 200 persons were swimming in the area.

"I ran up and down the shore asking for him, but I couldn't find him, then I knew he was out there," the father said.

**Finds Body**

"I ran two houses up the beach and asked a man if he had seen a little boy, and he said no," Nelson said. "He had a row boat and he said 'let's go.' Another fellow got in the boat and we went out in the water. I saw Donald underneath the water and I pulled him out. There was a deep hole out there and he must have stepped off in it."

Nelson found the child about 200 feet from the shore about 25 minutes after he first missed him.

Cicero and Bridgeport firemen began attempts to revive the child with a resuscitator at about 3 p.m.

The area in which the rescue attempt was being made was roped off, and police had to shout repeatedly to spectators to move away from the scene.

**Learning to Swim**

"He is... he was a good looking boy," the father said at one point during the rescue attempt. "He didn't know how to swim. He was just learning back home."

Nelson, an electrical engineer for the Sperry Gyroscope Co., said that he had no other child.

David B. Nelson, 2, Nelson's brother-in-law, Stevenson, said that yesterday was the second day of a two-week vacation for the Nelson family.

The Bridgeport Fire Department arrived at the scene with an ambulance and the resuscitator. The operation was under the command of Chief Bob Koeckel, assisted by firemen Don Then, Jim Dalley and Assistant Chief James McJury. Cicero Fire Department was under the command of Chief Peter Wooding.

**Use Oxygen**

The thousands pounds of oxygen used in the attempt to revive the youngster.

Trooper Thomas McDonald of the North Syracuse substation, North Syracuse Patrolman Robert Newkirk, and Deputy Sheriff Alfred Antonello also participated.

Following the tragedy, a trooper said, "They certainly need a life guard out there if they are going to allow that many people to go swimming."

The body of the youngster was released to Welter Funeral Home. The body will be sent to Cavalier, N. D., for services and burial.

Besides his parents and brother, Donna, he is survived by his paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Nelson and maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Stevenson, all of North Dakota.

**GIRL HURT IN FALL**

Seven-year-old Bonita Fox of 906 S. McBride St. was treated in Syracuse General Hospital last night for a laceration over her right eye, suffered in a fall in Wilson Park. Patrolman Louis Spoto Jr. said three stitches were required to close the wound.



**TO NO AVAIL**—Cicero and Bridgeport firemen work feverishly to revive seven-year-old Donald W. Nelson who drowned yesterday in Boysen's Bay on the South side of Oneida Lake. Donald was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald H. Nelson, Levittown, L. I. Yesterday was the second day of a two-week vacation for the Nelson family. They were visiting relatives in Lyncourt.

## P-S Poll Discloses Folks In 15th Ward Desire Public Housing There

Residents of the 15th Ward want public housing where they now live—not on the West Side.

That's what an opinion poll conducted by The Post-Standard discloses.

Most of them object to the proposed public housing site along Rowland street because:

1. It is too far from their work.
2. It would create racial problems.
3. Slums in the 15th Ward should be torn down and replaced with modern dwelling units.

The Post-Standard survey shows, too, that the West Side is united against Mayor Mead's plan to construct 150 to 200 units on a 15.3-acre tract bounded by Rowland street, Velasco road, W. Onondaga street and the House of Providence playfield.

**Oppose West Side Plan**

Another aspect of the poll was the random questioning of Syracuseans unaffected by the housing—those who live neither in the sub-standard area nor near the proposed site. They, too are against the West Side suggestion.

Here is what those most concerned have to say about it:

Mrs. Augusta Jackson, 519 E. Adams St.; "Why don't they build the housing here? I work at Crouse-Ingalls Hospital and I can't wait to work. If I have to move to the West Side it would cost me lots of bus fare. Now I can bring my lunch with me or go home to eat it—and that saves money, too." Mrs. Jackson has lived at the Adams street address 14 years.

**Problems Cited**

Miss Daisy Smith, 151 Renwick Ave., who works at Memorial Hospital; "The housing should be put down here, not far away. My father and I talk about the housing problem all the time. We agree it would be better for working people in this neighborhood. Up there, there could be trouble. I'm only a stone's throw from work now, but if I lived on the West Side, I have a real problem. The Smiths have resided on Renwick avenue 12 years."

Otis Reese, 832 S. McBride St.; "I would rather remain in this area." His wife added, "If it's cleaned up."

Frank Catiello, 521 E. Adams St., a grocer; "I am in favor of new housing erected in the 15th Ward. About 17 years ago I had to move my place to make room for Pioneer Homes. I would be willing to move again if a similar project would require this store." Catiello said he spent \$7,000 to remodel his home "on the corner" but would "tear it down if it means new housing here."

**Conditions Terrible**

Vernon Walker, 2003 E. Fayette St., Salt City Homes; "I like living in Salt City Homes. I think there should be something like this in the 15th Ward. The 15th Ward is terrible. Let me ask you one question: 'Where in Syracuse is the Negro supposed to live?' We can buy property over on Paul C. DeBernardis, a Democrat, is circulating designating petitions for the Democratic nomination for Traffic Court Judge and has said he will oppose Preston in the Democratic primary.

Rafter has plenty of time to make up his mind. While Preston's and DeBernardis' petitions must be filed by Aug. 9, Rafter's, if he runs as an independent, would not have to be filed until Sept. 26.

Appointment of a Democratic assistant industrial commissioner in Syracuse to succeed Frank J. Costello, Republican, is still up in the air, and there is a new candidate in the field. Originally, Nicholas Ferrante, Syracuse Federation of Labor (AFL), and Vincent Sullivan, president of the Greater Syracuse Industrial Council, (CIO) were vying for the appointment which would be made by State Industrial Commissioner Isador Lubin.

Sullivan has now dropped out of the race and the CIO is backing Francis X. O'Melia, area director of the United Auto Workers, CIO.

**300 Hear Debate On 15th Ward as Housing Location**

Both for and against had an opportunity to express opinions last night concerning the controversial low rent housing project. Approximately 300 persons attended a meeting at Dunbar Center to hear a debate on the subject, "Should All Of The Proposed New Public Housing Be Located In The 15th Ward?"

The only disturbance at the orderly and well policed meeting was the appearance of First District Councilman Joseph Gross, who appeared at the end of the meeting and moved his remarks to the sidewalk outside when he was ruled out of order.

**Favors 15th Ward**

Irving Lessen, chairman of the 15th Ward Democratic Committee, one of the principal speakers in favor of building a proposed new public housing in the 15th Ward.

Charles V. Willie, assistant professor of Sociology at Syracuse University, gave his reasons for not placing the project in that area of the city.

"I believe that vacant land in the city should be reserved for expensive houses, and I believe that slums should be taken down and public housing should be built where they stand," Lessen said.

"There have been no public improvements in the 15th Ward, with the exception of Pioneer Homes, in a great number of years," Lessen declared. "The slums will be eliminated if the project is located in this section of town. Let's spend this some six million dollars in the 15th Ward."

**Opposition Reasons**

Willie, opposed placing public housing in the 15th Ward for the following reasons: 1. The 15th Ward is already overcrowded. 2. The streets in the 15th Ward are dangerously overloaded with traffic. 3. It is undesirable to mix businesses and residences. 4. The 15th Ward is best suited for the city's expanding business district.

"As for the population density in the 15th Ward, from 20,000 to 30,000 persons to the square mile are living in the 15th Ward, as against 9,000 persons to the square mile elsewhere in the city," Willie said.

Willie said that it has been erroneously stated that the proposed West Side housing site is, in part, of the Bellevue section of the city.

**Not Part of Bellevue**

"The Velasco road section in 1950 was below average in socioeconomic (incomes and level of education) status," Willie declared. "Don't ever let anyone tell you that it is a part of the Bellevue section, because it is not."

Willie said that in 1950 a good half of the dwellings in the West Side housing area were rented, and that a new housing project there now would be "harmonious with the existing land use."

"Between Onondaga St. and Burnett Park not a single home exceeds \$9,000 in price, and there are few, if any, high-priced homes in the area," Willie said.

**Community Needs**

Executive director of the Syracuse Housing Authority, Wilbur L. McGarry, said that the primary point of consideration of the Housing Authority is running out the overall public housing in the city to fit the needs of the community.

McGarry said that the cost of purchasing a lot in the 15th Ward for the construction of the project would be in the neighborhood of \$15,000, and if we went straight up on that property we would still be paying \$15,000 per unit."

McGarry pointed out that the Townsend St. Arterial Highway would replace all buildings on the west side of the street and that all of the area between Townsend and Salina is planned for the expansion of the business section.

"This area is definitely planned for business expansion, and I don't think we should hold on to it at their minimum of \$3 a foot," McGarry said.

**Queries Raised**

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## 'Firefly' Sparkles With Song, Delights Audience at Lyric

"The Firefly" sparkles with lovely songs by Rudolf Friml and its presentation last night at the Lyric Circus, Skaneateles, was delightful to hear.

Nancy Kenyon, as Nina, the "firefly" has a crystalline-clear voice that's warm and vibrant. Her singing of the beautiful "Giannina Mia" demanded an encore which she graciously gave. Then, joined by John Reardon, Jim Dalley and Assistant Chief James McJury. Cicero Fire Department was under the command of Chief Peter Wooding.

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**Clambake Sept. 14 For Supervisors**

Worried members of the clambake committee of the Board of Supervisors were smiling yesterday when they received the cheerful news that L. L. Edinger & Son, Onondaga citymen, will donate a blooded bull calf to head the prize list at the board's annual outing at Hinerwad's Sept. 14.

With the bull calf problem solved, tickets for the 1955 regional of the combination gorge-fest and political pow-wow have been placed on sale and the demand is brisk. Miss Helen Bordes, secretary to Albert H. Coling, clerk of the board, reported.

**TRYING TO KEEP COOL**—Three foreign students on the Syracuse University campus for six weeks of orientation pause in front of the Hall of Languages to attack triple-dip ice cream cones before heading for Thornden Park Pool. From left: Sadayuki Hirose, and Miss Jkuko Ohno, Japan and Juergen Mitthiessen, Germany.

## Lack of Petitions Marks 1st Filing Date for Primary

Yesterday was the first day for candidates to file designating petitions for the Sept. 13 primary, but none was filed at the Bureau of Elections.

Deadline for filing the petitions, in person, is 5 p. m. Tuesday, Aug. 9. They are acceptable however, when mailed, if post-marked by midnight of that date.

There were two ripples yesterday in an otherwise calm Syracuse political sea.

First District Councilman Joseph Grosso, a Republican, announced he would accept the Democratic nomination for Commissioner of Education, if it was offered to him. It hasn't been offered, and he has had no discussion with Democratic leaders about the possibility, he said.

Dr. Grosso said he had heard the Democrats might have two education commissioner vacancies on their ticket, so he made known his availability.

**Might Decline**

There has been report that John Ewaniszyk, 128 Worden Ave., local labor leader, and Marcellus Eichenlaub, former councilman, who have been endorsed by the Democrats for Commissioners of Education, might decline. Ewaniszyk has not reached a final decision on his availability yet, it was learned last night. Eichenlaub was not available for comment on whether he will run.

Attorney William J. Rafter, deputy police court clerk, disclosed yesterday he has not made up his mind whether he will be an independent candidate for traffic court judge in this fall's election. He said he had been approached by several people and urged to run, but hasn't decided what to do. He is a Republican.

**Preston Is Candidate**

The Republican candidate is the incumbent, Truman H. Preston, who also has the Democratic party endorsement. Attorney Paul C. DeBernardis, a Democrat, is circulating designating petitions for the Democratic nomination for Traffic Court Judge and has said he will oppose Preston in the Democratic primary.

Rafter has plenty of time to make up his mind. While Preston's and DeBernardis' petitions must be filed by Aug. 9, Rafter's, if he runs as an independent, would not have to be filed until Sept. 26.

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**'SAILORS' GROUNDED**  
Four teen-age boys were issued blue tickets yesterday for sailing a flimsy, home-made raft on Onondaga Lake after ignoring warnings from deputies. According to Deputy Sheriff William Hayford, the boys were sailing about 100 yards out from shore. They will appear at the Youth Bureau with their parents at 10 a. m. today.

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