

## 'Mercy Killing' Case Recalls Blazer Trial 25 Years Ago

DENVER—(AP)—A Colorado doctor was exonerated after a jury deadlocked in a highly-publicized mercy killing nearly a quarter century ago.

Another death, labelled a "mercy killing" in New Hampshire, recalled the case. Called the "Dr. Blazer case," it was one of the most celebrated in American court annals. One wire service reported it transmitted more words on it than on the San Francisco earthquake.

Dr. Harold E. Blazer was brought to trial in Littleton, Col., for the alleged mercy slaying of his own daughter, Hazel Ingrid Blazer, 32.

From the age of two when she had been stricken with infantile paralysis, Hazel had been completely helpless. She neither talked nor walked. She required more care than an infant.

Lived With Other Daughter  
Dr. Blazer and Hazel lived with another daughter of the 61-year-old retired country practitioner. On the evening of Feb. 24, 1925, their other daughter—Mrs. Frances Bishop—and her husband returned home to find Hazel dead in her crib-like bed. The elderly

doctor lay on another bed, unconscious. There were evidences of chloroform and a mercy poison.

Dr. Blazer survived and was tried for murder. The case stimulated debate as to the moral and legal aspects of euthanasia—"mercy killing"—across the nation.

The attorney for the defense started the court with a defense based upon the contention Hazel had none of the human attributes usually associated with a "soul." No soul, he reasoned, hence no murder.

The prosecution was quoted as being sympathetic with the doctor, but duty-bound to prosecute him. The death penalty, however, was never sought.

The jury reported itself deadlocked and was dismissed. The prosecutor, learning that the jury had stood 11 to one for acquittal, said he would drop all charges. Later, the case was stricken from the court records. Dr. Blazer was exonerated completely, in the eyes of the law.

Closing the case, the judge said: "There are many riddles in this life that are never solved. The court is forever with the Blazer case through."

### Myrtle Creek Soldier Promoted At Yokohama

Clifford G. Brownson, Myrtle Creek, has been promoted to the grade of private first class. He is a member of the Yokohama engineer depot, attached to the Eighth Army.

The Yokohama engineer depot is charged with the maintenance, storage, repair and issue of all engineer equipment in the Far East command.

### BRAINS LIVE AFTER DEATH

NEW YORK—(AP)—Proof that human brains do not die quickly after death was reported to the American Association for the Advancement of Science here.

This is shown by some grey brain tissues of babies kept alive for months in test tubes at the University of Pennsylvania school of medicine. The tissues came from babies which had died natural deaths.

In two cases the brain tissues came from unborn babies, which had died. One of these was an unborn infant about three months along. It had enough developed brain to continue living under artificial cultivation.

## Douglas County Addressees May Claim Payments

The State Industrial Accident commission, after a year-end check up in Salem, reports that it is holding 238 checks amounting to \$6,110.67 which have been returned as "unclaimed." The amounts range from \$1.28 up to \$421.17 for the individual checks, according to Chairman Paul E. Gurske.

Because these checks are awards made to persons injured or partially disabled as the result of industrial accidents, the commission wants to get the payments into the hands of the addressees.

After seven years, if the money remains unclaimed, it will revert to the general accident fund. Then it may still be reclaimed, but only on proof of the original claim and other complicated procedures.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of persons who gave mailing addresses in this area should communicate with the persons named, or should send new addresses to the State Industrial Accident commission, Salem.

The following are Douglas County addressees: Stella C. Aucoin, 491 Main Street, Roseburg, \$6.00; W. B. Boorman, Gardiner, \$2,636; Charles W. Carr, Sutherlin, \$1.83; Virgil W. Canfield, Sutherlin, \$9.23; Robert T. Daily, care Tyee Lumber Co., Oakland, \$32.73; William C. Lloyd, Hotel Canyonville, Canyonville, \$30.67; Arthur D. McIntire, Creason hotel, Roseburg, \$3.17; Harion McCullar, Gen. Del. Drayn, \$25.00; Robert L. Olson, Brockway, \$15.36; Larry Leon Suit, Oakland star route, Oakland, \$21.82; William H. Siegel, 318 Fullerton, Roseburg, \$6.00; Charles A. Steelman, Glide, \$10.91; Richard G.

## Court Order Strengthens General's Position In Office Of State Adjutant

OLYMPIA—(AP)—The hold Brig. Gen. Ensley M. Llewellyn has attempted to maintain on the office of adjutant general of the state has been strengthened by a court order which said he never lost the job.

The court order issued here in a memorandum opinion by Superior Judge Charles Wright upheld Llewellyn's contention that Governor Langley had no right to oust him.

The governor fired Llewellyn in July after a board of inquiry found him guilty of 11 out of 12 charges filed against him by the governor.

Appraised of the judge's action, Langley said he still believed the court was in error and that his office would promptly appeal the case to the state supreme court.

Judge Wright held that Llewellyn was entitled to an order restraining Langley from interfering with his occupancy of the office. He upheld the on-again, off-again adjutant general's claim that he had actually held the office at all times despite the appointment of another man to the post.

Clouded by the action of the Thurston county court will be actions taken by Brig. Gen. Elburn Stevens who was named adjutant general by Langley after he ousted Llewellyn in an executive order.

Also to be decided is whether Stevens is entitled to pay for the time he has served and where such pay will come from. Some attorneys believe that if Judge Wright's decision stands it will invalidate official acts of General Stevens in his "now-clouded" role.

Titus, Rt. 1, Box 50, Oakland, \$5.45; James G. Turner, Yoncalia, \$45.45; Joseph J. Vickers, Canyonville, \$80.00; Horace C. Brown, Riddle, \$10.91; Jeff Ivey, Riddle, \$16.36.

## Data On Divorce Too Incomplete For Appraisal

By HOWARD W. BLAKESLEE Associated Press Science Editor  
NEW YORK—(AP)—Don't be misled, the American association for the advancement of science was told, about statistics on the great American divorce problem.

The figures aren't reliable, because they are far too incomplete, the association was informed by Dr. Samuel C. Newman, chief of the marriage and divorce analysis branch, national office of vital statistics, U. S. public health service and federal security agency.

Newman offered no opinion whether the divorce situation is getting better or worse. He said complete figures for today are lacking, and there aren't even any very good figures on past Ameri-

gren. He has consistently maintained that the governor's order dismissing him was based on political motives. The governor has denied this.

"When I take up duties again as adjutant general, my first move will be to reestablish unity within the Washington National Guard that eliminated partisan politics. No defense mechanism can be successfully created that is based on party politics."

The governor said he would make every effort to see that the general does not resume his post.

"The decision rendered by Judge Wright does not in any way touch or effect the main issue in the case involving the adjutant general's office. His decision does involve temporary injunctive relief and we believe the court is in error in its decision, and we will promptly appeal the decision to the supreme court."

Llewellyn was appointed to the post he is fighting to keep by former Governor Mon C. Wall-

can performance in divorce and marriage.

Two world wars and the depression virtually stopped collection of these figures.

The newest attempt to find out about American divorces is going into effect. And, said Dr. Newman, this will give data on divorces for 18 states, marriages for about half the states, and marriage licenses for the entire country.

"These limited tables," he said, "will not represent the national picture. They should be used with caution."

"Some persons do not appear to realize how much is lacking in available marriage and divorce statistics, and sometimes make generalizations which are hardly warranted."

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