# Owens, On Stand, Claims He Didn't Intend To Kill Wife

With one rebuttal witness momentarily unavailable the circuit court trial of Bert Owens was recessed Thursday afternoon. The trial went into its fifth day Friday.

The defendant was one of 20 persons taking the witness stand during the trial Thursday. He was on the stand about two hours.

The Riddle man has been charged with first degree murder in the shotgun slaying last Aug. 25 of his Choctaw Indian wife, Betty, 29.

Through introduction of evidence and witnesses, defense attorneys tried to show the defendant had no preconceived intention of shooting his wife and that the act resulted from Owens' state of mind brought on by anxiety and fear.

They attempted to show that the anxiety and fear came about because of Betty Owens' threats against her husband, actually shooting at him on one occasion, and the fear of losing his children and property through a divorce action.

Portland psychiatrist Dr. Gerhard B. Hougen, one of 17 defense witnesses, described the defendant as a "mildly inadequate individual." He said Owens' constant state of preoccupation and anxiety could be described as "acute situational depression." He said it is more likely the defendant acted on impulse than by premeditation.

The doctor's testimony was based on an examination of the defendant late in December, cross-examination by Dist. Atty. Robert M. Stults revealed. Such a mental state is not a rarity, he said. Under the legal definition of insanity (whether a person knows right from wrong), the doctor admitted Owens was not, in his opinion, insane at the time of the shooting.

He admitted there are many people outside mental institutions who also are suffering from situational depression.

On the stand, the defendant was unable to recall certain answers given in written and recorded statements on the day of the shooting. He denied the intention of killing his wife before he actually did it. When he went up to their residence to talk to her that day, he said he took his shotgun with him in case "she made a gunplay on me."

He related in detail all action leading up to the tragedy, the shooting itself, and what happened later. He mentioned that he is 48 years old and that he went through the third grade in school.

As many other witnesses, Owens told of his wife's threats and how she fired a gun at him three times on Aug. 16.

Witnesses testifying as to the relationship of the couple, Owens' state of mind, the defendant's character or about evidence introduced were:

Mrs. Flossie Boyd, half-sister of the defendant; Albert Blankenship, fellow worker; Vernon Cheesman, neighbor; Willard Boyd, brother-in-law; Aaron Owens, son; Bruce Wynter, ambulance driver at the scene; Sam Winship, fellow worker; Mrs. Winship; Leo Denton, neighbor; Joseph Macer, neighbor; Jim Byford, Myrtle Creek car dealer; Lonnie Jones, garageman and plywood worker; Mrs. Lonnie Jones; Theo Bond, owner of a Roseburg tire shop, and Mike Gibbons, acquaintance.

Bond had recovered the slug of a bullet from an inner tube from the defendant's car. The defense maintained the bullet was one of three fired at Owens by the deceased on Aug. 16.

One moment of drama occurred as attorney Fred Bernau introduced into evidence the pistol allegedly used by Betty Owens on that day. Judge Carl E. Wimberly eyed the weapon suspiciously as Bernau laid it on the court reporter's desk and walked away.

The judge said, "Mr. Bernau, are you sure. . ."

Before he could finish the sentence, Bernau jumped back to the desk, saying "The last time I examined (the gun) it was empty."

He proceeded to examine it again, with the barrel pointed to the ceiling. It was still empty.

## Glendale March Boundaries Told

By MRS. G. B. Fox

Glendale and the surrounding community has been divided into 18 separate districts for the Mother's March on polio. Captains and their assistants met at the Glendale City Hall Wednesday, to receive their coin containers and instructions for the march.

On Jan. 28, at 6:15 p.m., the whistles in the Glendale Community will blow. Everyone is asked to turn on his porch light or place a light in the window. The mothers expect to be able to make their rounds in the entire community between 6:15 and 7:15 p.m. when the whistles will again blow as a signal that the March is over.

According to Mrs. Mary Harris, director of the March of Dimes effort in Glendale, the following mothers and their assistants have volunteered to conduct the drive in their various sections: Kellie Wright, assisted by Stella Burke and Pearl Frost, Windy Creek Road beyond Fir Point. Grace Powellson, assisted by Lucy Harris, Virgil Harris and Virgie Burke, Lower Reuban Road from Cow Creek Bridge.

Esther Perry, assisted by Sid Perry, 6th Street and Pacific.

Mary LaPrath, assisted by Ada Ames, Windy Creek Road from Fir Point to the Junction with the Glendale Road and continuing to and including Barton Road.

Lela Smith, assisted by Gladys Reyonolds and Melba Hays, Molly Avenue, including the area behind the school and out toward the Twin Harbor Mill.

Doris Johns, and undesignated assistants, 3rd and Gilbertson Avenue and out through the Montgomery Addition.

Myra Opperman assisted by Doll Taylor, from the Glendale Arch out Sether Avenue to Bill Hamm's corner.

Lorraine Hamm and undesignated assistants, from the Bill Hamm residence out through the Humphrey's Addition Section.

Angie Nensteil, assisted by Bill Nensteil and Dorothy Mize, from 6th and Pacific west and including the Hamilton Hotel area.

Betty Thompson and assistantants, the block between 5th and 6th, beginning at Pacific avenue.

Mae Basye, assisted by Kay Dollar, and Thelma Reynolds, the block between 4th and 5th.

Life Edson, assisted by Velma Edson and Mrs. Fred Wright, the Upper Hill District.

Mary Harris, assisted by Effie Reed and Lucille Harris, between 3rd and 4th.

Sudie Poole, assisted by Dorothy McDonald, and Mrs. Doyle Heyne, between 2nd and 3rd.

Phillipa McGrath, assisted by Mary Ruth Thompson, between 1st and 2nd and including the Dollar Trailer Camp.

Ruth Hyland, assisted by Beth Haggard and Peggy Butler, Pacific Avenue from 6th, north to top of hill.

Ida Edson, assisted by Howard Edson and Thelma Clark, from 3rd and Gilbertson to the Glendale Arch.

## Falcon Winch, Inc., Stockholders To Meet

The first annual meeting of stockholders of the Falcon Winch, Inc., Roseburg, is scheduled at the company plant at the Garden Valley junction Jan. 26 at 10 a.m.

Stockholders will elect officers and list suggestions for future operations of the plant, according to spokesman Harry Brubaker. He urged all stockholders to be on hand.

# Local News

**Class To Sponsor Sale** — The junior class of Roseburg High School will sponsor a rummage sale Saturday, Jan. 23, in the basement of the Presbyterian Church from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Proceeds will go to the March of Dimes.

**To Attend Convention** — State Representative and Mrs. John P. Amacher left Thursday for Los Angeles where they will attend a convention of house trailer dealers and will visit a couple of weeks. Mr. and Mrs. Amacher operate the Winchester Motel and Rainbow Trailer Sales.

**McClintocks Return** — Mr. and Mrs. Leon E. McClintock have returned to their home in Roseburg following a visit in Centralia, Wash., where they called by the serious illness of Mrs. McClintock's father, N. F. Gillespie. Mr. Gillespie, well known in Roseburg where he has visited frequently, is reported to be recovering satisfactorily. Mr. McClintock, president of the Commercial Abstract Co., Roseburg, expects to be able to return to his office next week.

**Attends Title Meeting** — Mr and Mrs. Leland K. Wimberly have returned from Portland where Mr. Whimberly attended a meeting of the executive committee of the Oregon Land Title Association. Mr. Whimberly, secretary-treasurer of the Commercial Abstract Co., Roseburg, is a member of the executive committee of the Oregon Land Title Association.

## House Votes Approval Of Air Force Academy

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House Thursday voted 328-36 for establishment of an Air Force academy.

The roll call tally sent on to the Senate a measure authorizing appropriation of 26 million dollars for the air "West Point."

Before the final vote, the House beat down an attempt to send the measure back to committee. A 131-25 standing vote defeated it.

The bill, backed by President Eisenhower, was the first major legislation considered by the House in the present session.

DON'T FORGET!
CLEARANCE SALE
CLARK'S STUDIO

## Roseburg Stockholders Of Company At Meeting

Some 40 stockholders of Redi-Bilt Products, Inc. from the Roseburg area attended the first annual meeting at the Corvallis plant this week.

The company went into operation last January and now boasts approximately 100 stockholders from Roseburg. The meeting was highlighted by election of officers and a review of the progress of the plant which now manufactures elevators, houses, ammunition container parts, a special plywood and which recently purchased controlling interest of a toy factory. It manufactures these items from wood by-products.

Officers re-elected were: Virland Wolfe, Corvallis, president; Melvin Housley, Corvallis, vice president; and Virgil Long, former Roseburg man now of Corvallis, secretary-treasurer.

Good champagne is the result of expert blending of several wines produced in the French province of Champagne.

Travel TRAILWAYS SHORT ROUTE EAST thru BEND & BOISE
Save up to 12 hrs. with TRAILWAYS on your next trip East!

Better buy Blitz!

FIVE FULL GLASSES OF LIGHT, MILD REFRESHMENT IN THE ECONOMICAL KING-SIZE QUART!
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## Bills Would End U. S. Jurisdiction Of Indian Tribes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bills to end federal jurisdiction over eight Indian tribal groups, including the Klamath and the Grand Ronde-Siletz groups in Oregon, have been submitted to Congress, Secretary of Interior McKay said Wednesday.

Also affected would be all Indians in California, Florida, New York, and the Flatheads of Montana, the Turtle Mountain Chippewas of North Dakota and four tribes under jurisdiction of the Indian Bureau's Potawatomi field office at Horton, Kan.

McKay said the bills vary in detail, but that all provide for an eventual end of federal trusteeship over Indian property, and would make the Indians subject to the same federal and state laws as other citizens.

He said the bills would affect about 66,000 Indians, roughly one-seventh of the Indian population as estimated by the Indian Bureau.

McKay said federal responsibility for such special services to the Indians as roads, health and education also would be ended.

"Ample time is allowed, however, for the completion of arrangements under which the Indians would receive customary services from state and local agencies on the same basis as other citizens," he said.

The bills contain provisions designed to protect the interests of minors, incompetents and other individual Indians who will need such protection after federal trusteeship ends, he said.

## Retired Farmer Burns To Death In House Fire

PULLMAN, Wash. (AP)—An elderly retired farmer who lived alone apparently was burned to death late Wednesday in a fire that destroyed his eight room house five miles north of here.

Bert I. Pickell is believed to have lost his life in the blaze but Sheriff Jerry Mulcahy said a body in the ruins has not been positively identified. A passing bus driver discovered the fire. Pickell hasn't been seen since last Saturday.

CLOSED FOR INVENTORY

WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY
JANUARY 27, 28, 29
We Will Reopen Saturday Jan. 30
Umpqua Valley HARDWARE
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SAVE! SAVE! SHOP Miller's
HUNDREDS OF ITEMS HAVE BEEN ADDED!
January JAMBOREE of Savings

If you haven't shopped our great January Jamboree of Savings, you have missed the biggest bargains ever offered.
We have added hundreds of items to this sale.
We are going to continue it for a few more days so you can buy top quality at the lowest prices in town. Make Miller's a must to shop tomorrow. Hurry! Take advantage of these savings. They are terrific!

FASHIONS — Second Floor

DRESSES . . . a wide selection of dresses taken from regular stock that sold for prices up to 10.95. Top designs, favorite materials. Each priced to give you an old fashioned bargain, ..... 4.88

DRESSES . . . dozens of our better dresses have been added to this Saving Jamboree. Rayons, cottons, nylons and in the most desirable styles. All sizes. Values to 14.95. Hurry for the best buys. ..... 6.88

DRESSES . . . these have been taken from our regular stock of top dresses. Each a stunning style that flatters. Favorite fashionable colors in styles that are so wanted. All sizes. Values up to 29.95. ..... 10.88

HATS . . . this seasons hats at a price you'll love to pay. Wide assortment of hats, all on one table and at one low, low price. ..... 1.00

KNIT DRESSES . . . popular 2 piece dresses now reduced to bring you the best fashions at the lowest possible price. Originally priced from 24.50 to 39.95. All sizes. ..... ⅓ OFF

SPORTSWEAR — Second Floor

WHITE STAG JACKETS . . . seldom are winter jackets reduced to such low prices in the heart of the winter season. Made by White Stag of all wool material. All sizes. Jacket values to 24.95 now only ..... 14.88

FLANNEL JACKETS . . . made by White Stag of the most beautifully colored flannel material. Just the jacket to wear around the house or for that short trip to the store. All sizes. Wide color assortment. Values to 15.95 now only ..... 6.88

JACKETS . . . . designed and made by White Stag. These are a lighter weight jacket. Ideal to wear with skirts for casual wear. Values to 14.95. Now reduced ..... ⅓ OFF

FOUNDATIONS — Second Floor

GIRDLES AND PANTY GIRDLES . . . made by Playtex. The popular Fablined model. All sizes. Originally 5.95 each, now ..... 4.69

HOUSEWARES — Downstairs Store

PICTURES . . . new pictures are appreciated by everyone. A basic decorating media. Wide assortment of florals, birds, etc, in square and oval frames. Your choice ..... 2.95

SHEETS . . . made by Piquot. Our best quality sheets are at a price you'll want to take advantage of. Buy several pair at this low sale price and save
72" x 108" 2.29 81" x 108" 2.49

SHEETS . . . 142 threads to a square inch gives you longer, more lasting wear than most other sheets. Made by Pacific Sheets. A White Good special.
72" x 108" 2.29 81" x 108" 2.49

CHILDREN'S WEAR — Downstairs Store

LINED JEANS . . . children love to wear these jeans because they are lined for extra warmth. Designed for little boys and girls. Easy to launder, iron. Sizes from 2 to 8. ..... 1.39

FLANNEL PAJAMAS . . . here is our best buy in Children's wear. Warm flannel pajamas in colors children love. Made just like big sister and brother's. Sizes 2 to 6x. Were 2.95. ..... 1.98

ACCESSORIES — Main Floor

GLOVES AND MITTS . . . attractive wool and fabric gloves, all wool mitts in colors that harmonize with your ensemble. Fashionable and yet s-o-o-o warm to wear. Values to 2.50 now only ..... 99c

AISLE OF BARGAINS OUR CENTER AISLE

Thousands of bargains have been purchased from our avenue of values! Our center aisle has been transformed to the biggest and best bargain avenue in Douglas County. Items are being added daily, some each hour. Be extra thr-r-r-ifty! Shop our center aisle of bargains for prices you haven't seen for years. Yes, shop Miller's January Jamboree for kind-to-the-pocketbook prices.

MEN'S WEAR — Main Floor

DRESS SHIRTS . . . our best known brand of men's Dress Shirts have been reduced for this sale. All sizes, many collar styles. Originally priced at 3.95, yours now at only ..... 2.00

SUITS . . . a selected number of suits taken from our better suits for men in assorted materials and styles originally selling for $75 to $100 have now been reduced for sale. Get yours for only ..... 49.88

MEN'S SUITS . . . one of our top known brands originally priced from $50 to $55 but now reduced for quick sale. We need room! ..... 23.88

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The most handy traveling bag ever made. Heavy duck colth cover. Water resisttant lining. Can be used as a diaper bag.
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Main Floor

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