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All Police Officers Invited To Attend Training School

A blanket invitation to all po-
lice officers to attend Advanced
Police Officers Training School in
Roseburg next month has been ex-
tended by Police Chief Carl E.
Rumpf.

The school will be given in six
days in a period from March 5
to March 26. It is sponsored by
the Oregon Association of City Po-
lice Officers and Oregon State
Sheriff's Association in cooperation
with the FBI, Oregon State Po-
lice, League of Oregon Cities and
the Bureau of Municipal Research
and Service at the University of
Oregon.

Classes will be held at the police
and fire building between 1:30 and
4:30 p.m. on March 5, 8, 12, 15, 19
and 26.

Chief Rumpf said, "The top men
in their fields have been obtained
as instructors for the six courses
offered." He stressed that any po-
lice officer was welcome to attend.

The first class to be given is
titled "The Police Approach to
Human Relations." Instructors will
be Charles Champlin, Medford po-
lice chief; John Truett, Bend po-
lice chief; Leland D. Weaver, Sa-
lem police captain.

"Traffic Enforcement and Rules
of the Road" will be given by
William H. Smith, Eugene police
lieutenant. Ronald McKenzie, de-
tective with the Portland police bu-
reau, will discuss "Juvenile Prob-
lems."

"Handling Mental Problems" will
be taught by Edwin Elder, Lane
County sheriff; Rupert Gill-
mouthe, Hood River County sher-
iff; Louis D. Ringuette, Josephine
County deputy sheriff.

Robert Wampler, Oregon State
police, will head the class in "Auto
Thefts."

The school will close with "The
Officer in Court" by Howard Pat-
erson, Julius Rice and Alvin Bar-
ton, special agents for the Federal
Bureau of Investigation.

DIKE WORK SLATED

PORTLAND — Work will be-
gin soon on repairs and restora-
tion of Lower Columbia River
dikes in the area of the Portland
Meadows race track, the Corps of
Engineers reported Thursday.

Col. Jackson Graham, district
engineer, said that \$111,000 has
been made available for the work.

The area was threatened by the
1956 spring flood. In the disas-
trous 1948 flood the entire 1,425
acres were under water.

Geisler's Defense Alleges Infidelities Of Slain Wife

By BUD BODINE
Staff-writer, News-Review

The defense attorneys of Laval
Lloyd Geisler began presenting
their case Thursday afternoon in
circuit court after 1 1/2 days of tes-
timony by witnesses called by the
state. A pattern of testimony that
Geisler was driven to temporary
insanity by the actions of his wife
as stipulated in the defense affi-
davit started to unfold as defense
witnesses took the stand.

Geisler, charged with the first-
degree murder of his wife by shoot-
ing her with a rifle, Jan. 29, ap-
peared more composed during
Thursday afternoon's session
when the defense began its case.

Courtroom Closed

The highlight of Thursday's ses-

Police Charge Ex-Convicts With Slayings Of Six

HARTFORD, Conn. — Lanter-
n-jawed Joseph L. Taborsky, who
was freed in 1955 from a state
prison death cell, and an ex-con-
vict buddy were held today as the
execution killers of six persons in
petty cash holdups since Dec. 15.

State Police Commissioner John
C. Kelly said one of the two con-
fessed the killings yesterday. Kelly
refused to say which one con-
fessed "because our investigation
is not yet completed."

The money taken in the holdups
was little in contrast to the bru-
tality of the slayings, State Police
said.

In all the killings but one the
victims were shot in the head. In
two holdups, four victims were
forced to kneel on the floor and
shot in the heads. This is a method
of execution used by the Chinese.

When Taborsky and his buddy,
Arthur Columbo, 33, of Hartford,
were picked up Saturday police
recovered eight guns from them.

Taborsky, 33, was moved to
Brooklyn, N.Y., after his release
from prison, was convicted of kill-
ing a package store dealer in June
1951.

Umpqua Sunday School Receives New Pulpit

By MRS. GEORGE MUNSON
The Umpqua Sunday school has
a new pulpit, it was constructed
from matched maple and yew
by Don Coffey.

At the monthly meeting of the
Umpqua Sunday school, members
gave him a vote of thanks.

About 20 people attended the
last regular meeting of the Card
Club at the Umpqua school house.

Word has been received by John
Bacon of the sudden illness of his
brother, George, in Berkeley, Calif.

George Bacon taught school in
Douglas County for some years.
Mrs. Clarence Mobley has re-
turned to her home at Umpqua
from Longview, Wash., where she
spent several days visiting her
mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Leather-
wood and children and Mrs. Mel
Leatherwood, all of Tacoma, Wash.,
have been guests recently at the
homes of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Ba-
con and Mrs. Margaret Hanna.

The Leatherwoods lived in the
Umpqua area for many years be-
fore moving north.

Speech Correctionist To Explain Stuttering

Richard Swerzbis, speech cor-
rectionist of the Roseburg School
District, will give a report on
stuttering at the next meeting of
the Benson Parent-Teachers Assn.

The meeting is scheduled Mon-
day at 8 p.m. at the school. An
open house will precede it from
7:30 to 7:55 p.m. Fifth grade pa-
rents will serve refreshments.

Swerzbis will present informa-
tion on what stuttering is, how it
starts, problems encountered and
treatment and prevention.

sion came when defense attorney
Eldon Caley arose to request the
courtroom be cleared of spectators
because a witness was to be called
who was to offer "testimony of a
confidential nature which bears di-
rectly on his well being as well
as others." Caley also indicated
that the presence of spectators
might "affect his testimony."

The state's attorneys offered no
objection and the judge ordered
the courtroom cleared except for
representatives of the press and
radio.

Testimony was given alleging
the infidelity of Mrs. Geisler in
past years.

State Closes Case
Mrs. Geisler's mother and sister
were the last witnesses called by
the state. The mother, Mrs. Carl
Coleman, testified that she had
called Geisler on Monday to ask
him if it was all right if his wife
and two youngest children accom-
panied her to Grants Pass. Mrs.
Coleman stated that he said yes
but was "very sullen about it."

She described in her testimony
an accident on U.S. Highway 99
when the youngest child fell from
the moving car and had to be hos-
pitalized. She said that after Geis-
ler arrived in Grants Pass that he
"was arguing" with his wife and
that the next day when she went
by he "was as white as a sheet."

Mrs. Coleman avoided looking
at the defendant while testifying.
When she walked from the stand
back toward the door, however,
she glared directly at Geisler.

Nancy Coleman, Barbara Geis-
ler's young sister, testified that her
sister had confided in her on nu-
merous occasions. She stated that
that Geisler argued over money
and what her sister did.

She testified that twice she
heard Geisler threaten his wife say-
ing during the arguments that "By
God, I'll just shoot you."

Earlier, Dr. A. B. Munroe, who
was identified as Mrs. Geisler's
physician, testified that he was
called to the emergency room of
Douglas Community Hospital the
night of Jan. 29, and later per-
formed an autopsy at the Chapel
of the Roses when requested to
do so by Coroner L. L. Powers.

Dr. Munroe brought X-rays and
slides which the state entered as
exhibits over the protests of de-
fense attorneys Caley and Donald
S. Kelley.

Employers Speak
Three former employers offered
testimony as to the accused's char-
acter following the opening of the
defense's case. Clyde Knight, for-
mer manager of Pierce Freight
Lines' Roseburg outlet, said that
Geisler was a "very good em-
ployee."

Claude Kesner, owner of Mt.
Scott Retail Lumber Yard, Suther-
lin, and his former partner in
the business, Elton O. Holmes,
gave testimony in the same vein
as Knight's.

The next witness was a former
neighbor of the Geislers, Mrs.
Betty Jackson. Mrs. Jackson tes-
tified that Mrs. Geisler "wasn't a
very nice person." Dist. Atty. Rob-
ert M. Stults objected to this, but
was overruled by Judge Woodrich
on the grounds that it was part
of the defense's duty to rebut evi-
dence offered by the state earlier.

Friends Speak
Robert Greenley, who identified
himself as a friend of Geisler,
took the stand to say that the de-
fendant mentioned "having family
troubles" and that because of im-
proper advances made by Mrs.
Geisler that his own wife insisted
on ceasing the association of the
two families. Greenley also stated
that Mrs. Geisler "used to tell him

Oregon Shows Increase
In Lung Cancer Deaths
PORTLAND — Oregon had a
25 per cent increase in lung can-
cer deaths last year, the state
Board of Health said.

According to the board there
were 304 such deaths compared
with 236 in 1955. It said such
deaths have risen 375 per cent
since 1940, when 64 were reported.

Dr. Harold M. Erickson, state
health officer, gave no explana-
tion for the 1956 figure but said it
does not necessarily indicate a
trend. He pointed out that lung
cancer deaths dropped 7 per cent
in 1955 and a similar decline was
noted in 1951.

Increased Welfare Funds Are To Be Requested

PORTLAND — The state
Welfare Commission decided
Thursday to ask the Legislature
for a budget increase of \$4 1/2 mil-
lion dollars in the next two years.
The budget request for the 1957-
58 biennium will total \$74,725,000.
Commissioners said costs of nurs-
ing home care, homes for the
aged, medical care and funerals
are rising. They predicted the
budget for 1959-61 will be \$82,346,
972.

The Legislature will be asked
to grant a 20 per cent increase
in rates for welfare recipients in
nursing homes, to become effec-
tive April 1. Another 10 per cent
increase is recommended for July 1.

The commission ordered a study
of nursing home financial prob-
lems, to be completed by Sept. 1.
The commission approved a
burial fee increase from \$228 to
\$318. The Oregon Funeral Direc-
tors Assn. said that fee would cov-
er costs but provide no profit.

Lightning Bolt K. O.'s
Speaker, Causes Panic

KAMPALA, Uganda — An
open air Uganda National Con-
gress meeting broke up in panic
here Monday when David Lubogo,
legislative councillor, collapsed in
the middle of a speech.

The crowd thought he had been
shot — but it turned out he had
been struck by lightning which
heralded a sudden storm. Lubogo
cabin that night that he didn't give
him an answer to the question
asked his brother-in-law, Williams.

One of the witnesses, Bob Wil-
liams, told the court that when
Geisler arrived he denied knowing
Mrs. Geisler although she had
been there previously. The second
witness, Clyde Clement, testified
that he had seen Mrs. Geisler at
Lindy's south of Roseburg and at
other places. He told the court that
when Geisler showed up at the
cabin that night that he didn't give
him an answer to the question
asked his brother-in-law, Williams.

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