

Trial Exhibits 'Gathering Dust' in County Courthouse Storage Vault

By VINITA HOWARD Staff Writer - The Statesman Exhibits which figured in trials that made yesterday's headlines and those which rated no more than a brief line in the public records column have achieved a common denominator: all now gather dust in the vault which

houses them in the Marion County clerk's office. The exhibit many of which do not lend themselves to easy storage, are carefully tagged by case and exhibit number, but of necessity are scattered throughout the vault, stacked on top of files or in out-of-the-way corners.

Newcomers to the collection, two rusty rifles, a map and a box of other exhibits from the Overross first degree murder trial, repose unceremoniously just to the right of the vault door. Numerous X-Rays, Mattson said, are X-rays which figure

frequently in damage suits stemming from accidents. These, along with other less-bulky exhibits, are stored in files. Included in this category are a few love letters, property settlement agreements, and contracts.

Strange items find their way into the vault. Right now, for example, a huge insulating door to a walk-in type cooler occupies part of the floor space. Others include a broken perfume bottle, a broken mixing bowl, an empty whiskey bottle and a rock weighing about two pounds; all presumably entered as exhibits in one case.

Labelled Axe
Next to these is an axe labelled case number 39083. It was the axe which was used to kill Mrs. Susan Litchfield in 1952, a murder which sent Albert Karnes to his death at the state penitentiary.

Twelve full bottles of beer and an equal number of "dead soldiers" in a case, a nearly empty bottle of bourbon, an empty gasoline can, a revolver, two milk cans, a gunny sack containing electrical wiring, and a piece of old machinery can also be found in the vault.

Most of the items are worthless, but once the vault held \$4,000 in pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters which had been dumped in some old boxes. The money came from a supermarket sale.

Retained 10 Years
Exhibits must be kept for 10 years unless both parties in a case agree that they can be withdrawn once the 60-day appeal period on the case expires.

Once, however, County Clerk Henry Mattson obtained a court order to go around the 10-year period. The exhibit, in this case, was a display of fireworks which had been condemned by the state fire marshal's office.

'Hot' Exhibit

Mattson, fearing that a careless flip of a cigarette or match might bring on an out-of-season fireworks display of roman candles and skyrockets among county records, got an order to dispose of the "hot" exhibit just as soon as the 60-day appeal time passed.

Almost anything may eventually find its way into this vault, Mattson said as he pointed out some of the exhibits. "Once," he added, "we even had a motor bike back here."



Chief deputy county clerk Art Roethlin examines a few of the exhibits stored in Marion County's vault from long ago and recent trials. Roethlin holds a revolver from a 1946 manslaughter case; the axe figured in the Litchfield murder in 1952; the two rifles from the more recent Overross trial. Even the milk can bears an exhibit label. (Statesman Photo)

Dakota Tot Found Safe

VERMILLION, S.D. (UP)—Two-year-old Jeanette Mosefin was found early Thursday safe and unharmed about two miles from the farm home near Wakonda from which she had wandered Wednesday night.

A search party of 1000 had toiled through the night looking for her. Jeanette had wandered from the farm home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Mosefin, who live six miles southwest of Wakonda, about 6:30 p. m. Wednesday.

She was found walking in a stubble field about two miles from the farm home.

New Bridge Started Over Deschutes River

BEND (UP)—Work is under way on a new bridge across the Deschutes River on the McKenzie Highway about four miles west of Redmond, the state highway department said Wednesday.

The new bridge will replace an old narrow one near water level on the Deschutes.

NO PARKING TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, N. M. (AP)—No one is safe from the dogged determination of Parking Meter Patrolman Bill Darr. One of his latest tickets was on a police car driven by Police Chief C. L. Clark.

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STAR GAZER
By CLAY R. POLLAN

Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars

To develop message for Friday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

<p>Aries 7-19-30-41 52-64-73</p> <p>Taurus APR. 21 MAY 21 8-12-23-34 57-67-79-88</p> <p>Gemini MAY 22 JUNE 22 2-18-29-40 50-63-82-89</p> <p>Cancer JUNE 23 JULY 23 1-13-24-35 46-58-69</p> <p>Leo JULY 24 AUG. 23 9-20-31-42 45-56-80-88</p> <p>Virgo AUG. 24 SEPT. 22 55-66-68-75 76-77-84-85</p>	<p>1 Back 2 Happy 3 Let 4 Be 5 Active 6 Avoid 7 Put 8 Be 9 Friends 10 There's 11 Avoid 12 Confident 13 A 14 Giving 15 Cooperation 16 Others 17 Tactful 18 Day 19 On 20 My 21 Talk 22 Unexpected 23 Advance 24 Local 25 Frank 26 Will 27 Take 28 Today 29 For 30 Full</p> <p>31 Be 32 About 33 Good 34 Some 35 Activity 36 Expression 37 Make 38 The 39 Rather 40 Social 41 Steam 42 Unreliable 43 Your 44 News 45 And 46 Or 47 Initiative 48 To 49 Than 50 Affairs 51 Day 52 Ahead 53 Private 54 Concerning 55 Bright 56 Touchy 57 Of 58 New 59 Your 60 A</p> <p>61 Be 62 Top 63 And 64 Be 65 Private 66 Aspects 67 Your 68 Indicate 69 Proposition 70 Thoughts 71 Patient 72 Aggressive 73 Aggressive 74 Matters 75 Ideal 76 Day 77 Especially 78 Plans 79 Heart's 80 Be 81 Social 82 Private 83 To 84 For 85 Travel 86 Desires 87 Friends 88 Tolerant 89 Life 90 Life 91 Success 92/22 93/22</p> <p>Good Adverse Neutral</p>	<p>Libra SEPT. 23 OCT. 23 6-21-32-43 53-78-83-87</p> <p>Scorpio OCT. 24 NOV. 22 4-17-28-39 49-62-72</p> <p>Sagittarius NOV. 23 DEC. 22 10-22-33-44 54-65-74</p> <p>Capricorn DEC. 23 JAN. 20 11-14-25-36 48-59-70</p> <p>Aquarius JAN. 21 FEB. 19 3-16-27-38 47-61-71</p> <p>Pisces FEB. 20 MAR. 21 5-15-26-37 51-60-81-90</p>
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CONVICT TIME UNCHANGED
SANTA FE, N.M. (AP)—The New Mexico Penitentiary isn't going along with Santa Fe on daylight saving time. A prison official explained: Prisoners aren't going anywhere anyway.

PEOPLE DO READ SPOT ADS You Are!

SCHAEFER'S Healing Salve
With vitamins A-D-F for diaper rash, cuts, burns and irritated skin. Just the thing for baby—makes him or her happy. At

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Statesman, Salem, Ore., Friday, July 22, 1955—(Sec. 1)—11

Spanish War Vets Pick Barth Boland

BEND (UP)—New president of the United Spanish War Veterans is Barth P. Boland of Portland, Mrs. Fred Schwiepering, Eugene, is president of the women's auxiliary. Both were elected Wednesday at the closing session of the group's 46th annual encampment.

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In the Cherry Room on the Roof

Mary Barton playing the Wurlitzer Organ from 6 to 8 p.m.

Friday Only
Breaded veal cutlet with country cream gravy,
Buttered fluffy white rice Buttered peas and corn
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