

Assault Trial Ends in Court

Dangerous Weapon
Verdict by Jury

After two and half days of testimony and oral argument, a circuit court jury Monday found Milburn L. Wells guilty of assault with a dangerous weapon. The jury deliberated a little over two hours.

Wells was accused of attacking Robert Harper and beating him with a rock Aug. 9, 1951. The beating took place on the Wells place which had recently been sold to him by Harper. Harper, who testified he was after some wire he had left on the property, was accompanied by Wells' former wife. Since the former Mrs. Wells was still part owner of the property the court ruled that Harper, as an invitee, was not trespassing.

THE TWO HAD had trouble before. Prior to the assault Harper had sued Wells over their sale contract. One of a number of unusual aspects of the case is the fact that Harper, who has purchased Virginia Wells' interest in the ranch, is now co-tenant with Wells of the property.

With variations, witnesses told the following story of the attack: Harper and Virginia Wells were proceeding up a narrow logging road when their way was blocked by Wells' truck. Wells parked at an angle, blocking the way and with his son Gene, advanced on Harper. Gene pulled open the door of Harper's truck and disarmed him of a .22 caliber pistol which he wore on his belt.

Wells then hauled Harper out of the truck and proceeded to give him a beating which Dr. John Boyer testified resulted in numerous lacerations about the head, a slight concussion, and several broken ribs.

Harper's version of the affray is that of an unprovoked attack by Wells, with the latter closing in, jabbing his fingers in Harper's eyes, pulling him from the truck by one arm and a hold on his eye sockets. He then kicked him with his feet and pummeled him with a rock. He admitted to being hazy as to some of the details, asserting "I was incommunicado, I tell you, I can't recall everything that went on."

GENE, WELLS' son, differed from Harper's version in that he said he detected a movement of Harper's shoulder as if to go for a gun just prior to the beating. He said he disarmed Virginia Wells of a auto crank and using Harper's pistol, covered the group from a distance.

The beating over, the group de- camped to a spot down the road where work was commenced on a singular manuscript. It was a penciled "confession" by Virginia Wells of a number of acts. In a halting, barely audible voice she testified she was coerced into writing the thing by Wells.

Perhaps the star witness was the defendant, Wells. Suppressing an amiable grin, he recounted in vestigial southern accent a tale of mutual combat, with no rocks employed and Harper striking the first blow.

HE DENIED coercing Virginia into writing the "confession," saying that she had felt a desire to unburden her conscience following the beating. The thing was written on a tablet he said he kept in his truck.

Summation by Deputy District Attorney W. Keith Rodman, consisted of a brief recap of the episode which he blamed on Wells' "uncontrollable temper. Rebuttal by District Attorney Luckey stressed that the nature of Harper's wounds strengthened the rock theory.

Defense Attorney Sid Milligan, in his closing argument, hammered away at what he termed and "incomplete examination (by police officers), incomplete investigation, and incomplete presentation." He said testimony by Harper and Virginia Wells should be discredited because of discrepancies.

Wells, who is to be sentenced Wednesday, faces from six months to ten years imprisonment or a fine of from \$100 to \$1000.

Harve M. Perry

Harve Marion Perry, 84-year-old native of Oregon, died at his home in Junction City Monday, March 31, 1952. He was born in Stayton, April 24, 1867, and was married to Etta Rose Arehart at Albany in 1894.

Surviving are his widow; a son, Wallis of Portland; a daughter, Mrs. Ted Colson of Junction City; a sister, Mrs. W. S. Parker of Toppenish, Wash.; a brother, Lawrence of Yakima; two grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Services will be Friday, April 4, at 2 p.m. in Miller-Sherman-Murphy Funeral Home, Junction City. The Rev. Arthur Vandezande will officiate, with vault interment in the Junction City IOOF Cemetery.

Peter Bodtker

Peter Bodtker, 1122 Juniper St., Junction City, died March 31, 1952. Complete obituary and funeral arrangements will be announced from the Miller-Sherman-Murphy Funeral Home in Junction City.

Alta L. Davis

Alta L. Davis, 1651 W. 14th Ave., died Monday. Complete obituary and funeral arrangements will be announced by Bartholomew-Buell Mortuary.

NEWS BRIEFS



INTERMITTENT SHOWERS

U. S. WEATHER BUREAU FORECAST: Eugene and vicinity: Partly cloudy becoming mostly cloudy with possible showers Tuesday night and Wednesday. Little change in temperature. High Tuesday and Wednesday, 54. Low Wednesday morning, 37.

Local Statistics: Highest temperature Monday, 56; low Tuesday morning, 35; rain in 24 hours tending 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, 8 inch; total for month, 0 inches; normal for month, 2.07 inches; stage of river at 7:30 a.m., Tuesday, plus 1.5 feet; wind at 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, calm; prevailing Monday, N-E.

Sunrise and Sunset (PST): Wednesday, 5:52 a.m. and 6:40 p.m. Thursday, 5:50 a.m. and 6:41 p.m.

LESTER G. LLOYD, 39, of Rt. 1, Junction City, was in fairly good condition at Sacred Heart Hospital Tuesday noon. An employee of the Blue River Lumber Co. mill at 3rd Ave. and Garfield St., Eugene, he caught his hand in a chain around an edger at about 7:15 a.m. Four fingers were severed. He was taken to the hospital by Eugene Ambulance Co.

OAKRIDGE—Aamo Harm of Oakridge, taken to Eugene Hospital and Clinic Sunday by Oakridge Ambulance with severe stomach pains, was in good condition Tuesday after surgery, according to his doctor.

LOWELL—The Lowell Community Club meeting has been postponed from this Thursday to next Thursday because of a Lowell Sanitary District bid opening in Eugene this Thursday. Sale of bonds would allow sewer construction.

SCOUT MOTHERS of Troop 101 will meet at 7:45 p.m. Wednesday, April 2, with Mrs. I. S. Schulz, 2003 Columbia St.

WALTER SWANSON, Democratic candidate for Congress, will be the guest of University of Oregon Young Democrats at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Erb Memorial Union Bldg.

OLYMPIA—George Grant Magerie, 25, Rogue River, and Emma Ruth Monstad, 26, Sweet Home, applied for a marriage license here Monday.

CHARLES N. BUTLER, 1040 High St., last week pleaded guilty to a reckless driving charge in Eugene's Municipal Court and was assessed a \$100 fine. The charge had been reduced from one of driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

SPRINGFIELD LIONS Monday noon in Legion Hall viewed a movie, and heard a sound track discussion of safety practice in the Northwest's logging industry. Don Low, Lion and personnel member of Weyerhaeuser Timber Co., showed the film.

MOOSE BAND will practice at 8 p.m. Tuesday. An invitation is out for all musicians to turn out and have some fun.

BOY SCOUT TROOP No. 177, sponsored by the Howard PTA, planted 2500 Douglas Fir seedling trees Saturday, March 29, in the Willamette National Forest up Big Fall Creek. The following Boy Scouts participated in the planting: Jimmy Aird, Mike Bartlett, Gerald Becker, Jack Bennett, Bob Brown, Jimmy Bryant, Billy Cook, Bob Crosby, Don Eigsti, Kenny Hamilton, Jerry Hawke, Fred Hawke, Jimmy Hall, Clarence Ingel, James Jackson, Leonard Kearney, John Maynard, Don Montel, Richard Roblyer, Jon Rold, Raymond Senkel, Wade Williams, Wiley Wright and committeemen Ray Brink, Fred Brown, Roland Jackson and Elmer Roblyer.

NEIGHBORS OF Woodcraft drill team will meet Friday at the home of Jerre Swindal, 1990 Prairie Rd., for a business meeting and potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m.

OBSEDIANS hobo breakfast has been postponed to Sunday, April 6.

MODERN WOODMEN of America will meet Friday, April 4, 8 p.m. at the WOW hall for a regular business meeting. The date has been changed from Thursday to Friday. All members are asked to attend.

COLLEGE CREST Community Club will have a card and game night for adults only starting at 8 p.m. April 2 at the clubhouse. Cake and coffee will be served by the ladies. All area residents are asked to attend.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY of Christian Service of Trinity Methodist Church will have its Quiet Day observance Thursday at 1:30 p.m. at the church parlor. Mrs. John R. Roth will be in charge.

June G. Hoyt

June G. Hoyt, 29, a resident of the Drain-Yoncalla area for five years, died in Cottage Grove Monday, March 31, 1952. She was born June Berghold on Feb. 24, 1923, at Barron, Wis., and was married in June, 1941, at Pahoko, Mo., to Mervin L. Hoyt.

Other than her husband, survivors include three children, Larry, Clayton, and Sandra, at home; parents, Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Berghold, Perry, Mo.; six brothers, and six sisters.

Services will be at the Drain Methodist Church at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 2. Rev. Carl Conrad will officiate, with interment in the Drain I.O.O.F. Cemetery. Mills Funeral Home, Drain, is in charge of arrangements.

A RUMMAGE sale will be held Wednesday at 31 W. 7th Ave., Eugene, by the Missionary Society of the Church of God. Clothing and household items will be included.

THE PRE-SCHOOL group that meets at the Recreation Center Wednesdays will not meet this week because of the recreation conference.

A NUMBER of boys were invested with Tenderfoot rating by Boy Scout Troop 102 at Lowell recently. They are: Stanley McCredie, Donald Tierney, Ancil Lesiter, Clark Gregg, Donald Cleland, Arlan Baumgartner, Diamond Sloan, Stanley Main, Richard Cole, Dennis Steirs and Billy Robinson.

A REGULAR meeting of the Y. Wives will be held Wednesday, April 2, at 10 a.m. in the Y-Center library. After a short business meeting a tour of Rubenstein's Furniture store will be made. Hostesses will be Mrs. Bob Carlson, Mrs. Paul Patoinne, and Mrs. L. V. Ward.

VFW Elects New Officers

Springfield Post No. 3905, Veterans of Foreign Wars, has elected the following new officers:

Paul Pavlovich, post commander; Charles Ingersoll, junior vice-commander; Marvin Sanders, judge advocate; Dr. George Varney, surgeon; Clifford Briscoe, quartermaster, and Ray Hollenworth, chaplain.

Visitors at the election meeting were Bill Ashworth of Portland, department commander; Harry Allen, district commander; George Hedding, legislative officer of Eugene Post 293 and commander-elect of that post, and a visitor from Camp White Post.

Officers will be installed at 8 p.m. April 11, with Ashworth as installing officer. The public has been invited to this meeting, at which refreshments will be served.

Pellets Blast Plate Glass

Damage running well over \$500 was done to plate glass windows of five business places, in downtown Eugene Monday night.

Investigating officers reported that a series of cone-shaped holes in the windows appeared to have been made by some type of weapon firing copper-clad BB pellets.

Damage was reported heaviest at the new Club Cleaners Shop, 12th and Pearl Sts., where six large plate windows were ruined and one showed four separate holes.

Other windows were damaged at Marlatt's Heating Co., 655 E. 13th Ave.; the Cascade Bldg., 163 E. 13th Ave.; Nason's Coffee Shop, 1130 Oak St.; Western Auto Supply Co., 50 E. 11th Ave.

The police also had reports of BB damage to the rear window of a panel delivery truck and to an outdoor night light at one business place.

Limb Kills Logger

ROSEBURG — (AP) — A falling limb killed Norman Gilbert Vredenburg, 32, a logger, in the woods four miles east of Myrtle Creek Monday.

Vredenburg moved to Myrtle Creek several months ago from Bremerton, Wash.

Youth Put On Probation

Wayne Stanley Strickland, 21, Cottage Grove, was sentenced to two years probation Monday morning in circuit court after pleading guilty to the theft of four rifles.

In granting the probation, Circuit Judge G. F. Skipworth took note of the youth's troubles with petty larceny and drink. He added a new variation to the old warning and cautioned Strickland "If you steal don't drink."

Also in circuit court, Dent Kenneth Anderson, 41, of 694 Charnelton pleaded guilty to a charge of obtaining property under false pretenses. He will be sentenced Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Jack Gilkyson, 54, of Medford, changed his plea of not guilty to guilty to a charge of embezzlement. He will be sentenced Wednesday.

Three Treated For Minor Hurts

COTTAGE GROVE—Three accidents sent persons to Cottage Grove Hospital Monday. None was seriously injured.

James L. Jeroue, age 70, of Port Angeles, Wash., was admitted with facial injuries about 6:30 p.m. He was injured in an auto accident, details of which were not known.

Admitted at about 2:15 p.m. was McGlendon Richardson, 25, of Lorane, whose ankle was broken when a log rolled over it at a local mill.

Four-year-old Penny Epperson was given outpatient treatment for a deep forehead laceration received when she fell on a rock. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Epperson, Rt. 1, Cottage Grove.

Highway Closed

SALEM—(AP)—The State Highway Commission reported Tuesday that the John Day-Burns route remains closed by high water at Crow Flat—20 miles north of Burns.

All other routes closed by high water in Eastern and Central Oregon last week, were reported open.

HELD FOR FORGERY

John Max Mullen, 23, Anglers' Court, Leaburg, was arrested by Eugene police Monday on a charge of forgery. In district court Monday afternoon, preliminary hearing of the charge was scheduled for Wednesday.

Clean-Up Week Set

The Eugene Junior Chamber of Commerce will observe its annual Clean-Up, Paint-Up, Fix-Up Week April 6-13.

According to the chairman, Dick Sawyer, the group for its kickoff Sunday will:

- Sweep downtown sidewalks.
 - Mark places on the sidewalks that need repairs.
 - Paint some lucky family's home.
 - Confer with Eugene firemen on projects for the week ahead.
- Sawyer explained Tuesday that further plans, incomplete as yet, will be announced later.

Theft of Equipment Reported to Police

Theft of two heavy-duty batteries, a number of hand tools and an undetermined quantity of gasoline was reported to Eugene police Monday by an employee of the Coast Construction Co.

The thefts were made last weekend near 22nd and Almaden

where the company has equipment working on a sewer construction job. The batteries, gas and tools were taken from a large crane and a steam shovel.

BRIEF REGION
NEW YORK — (AP) — Shawkey, Primo Carnera, Baer each held the world weight boxing crown for less.



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(a) Classic 4-button rayon sheen gabardine in navy, aqua, lilac or red. 14 to 20.

(b) Checked bolero; plus rayon sheen gabardine skirt in navy, brown, gold or pink. 9 to 15.

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