

# Mrs. Oveross Tells of Rendezvous at Ex-Mate's Murder Trial

## VFW Conventioneers Hear Patterson Speak

Oceanlake—(U.P.)—Gov. Paul Patterson yesterday told the state convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars meeting here that devotion and service to country were the continuing obligations of all men, even after they were out of uniform.

The governor spoke at the opening session of the 34th annual state encampment.

Speakers yesterday included Oregon State Treasurer Sig Underer, the Rev. Thomas A. Barton, Grand Island, Neb., national VFW chaplain; H. C. Saalfeld, director of the state department of veteran affairs; J. B. McDonald, president of the Oregon Federation of Labor, and Dr. George L. Wadsworth, director of the Roseburg veterans hospital.

Washington—(U.P.)—The Defense Department has announced that 10,000 men will be drafted into the Army in September.

## Jewish Foster-Father Would Rather Go To Jail Than Give Up Catholic Child

Boston—(U.P.)—A Jewish foster-father said today "I am prepared to go to jail" rather than give up a Catholic child he and his wife have reared.

Melvin B. Ellis of Brookline apparently had two weeks to think over his statement. On a motion by Atty. James Zisman, the Massachusetts Supreme Court Wednesday continued a hearing on the legality of an arrest order until July 20. Supreme Court Justice Raymond S. Wilkins received informal assurance that the arrest order would not be carried out.

**Legal Moves Likely**

However, new legal moves appeared likely today. Atty. John F. McAuliffe, counsel for 4-year-old Hildy McCoy's real mother, said Wednesday night that he would "continue activity in this case until the order of the court has been complied with."

McAuliffe and Atty. John Sul-

livan met with Norfolk Probate Judge James F. Reynolds at his home Wednesday night for more than an hour. It was Reynolds who ordered the Ellises to give up Hildy or "go to jail."

The Ellises had been hiding somewhere in the state since the arrest order was issued last Friday. But Wednesday night Ellis returned to his Brookline home and said "I may stay here."

**Not Willing Here**

"I'm not a willing hero or martyr," Ellis said, "but I'll do anything that might help the child."

"The best interests of the child should be the prime concern," Ellis said. "The mother has no feeling at all for the child."

The blue-eyed child has been the pawn in a legal battle for more than two years. The Ellises took custody of Hildy when she was 10 days old.

Mrs. Marjorie McCoy Doherty

of Hingham, the natural mother, won custody in a decision by Reynolds last fall.

The mother was an unwed nurse in training when Hildy was born. She claimed she didn't know the couple was Jewish when she signed Hildy over for adoption. Mrs. Doherty intends to give the child to a Catholic bureau for adoption by Catholic parents. She refused to comment on the case.

A 1951 state law requires foster parents to be of the same religion as the child "whenever practical." During the long legal battle, the Ellises offered to send Hildy to a Catholic school, and raise her in that faith.

Buenos Aires—(U.P.)—The National Statistical Service reported today that women outnumber men by 2,000 among native-born Argentines. The total Argentine population reached 19,101,788 as of July 1, the service said.

## Expert Will Probe Disappearance of Two

West Palm Beach Fla.—(U.P.)—Authorities said today they will hire an outside expert to help investigate the disappearance of Judge and Mrs. C. E. Chillingworth three weeks ago from their summer cottage on a deserted Atlantic beach.

The Palm Beach County Commission agreed to set up a \$10,000 fund to employ the private investigator, who has not yet been selected.

The wealthy couple mysteriously disappeared from their oceanfront home at Manalapan, Fla., some 10 miles south of West Palm Beach. State and county investigators have conducted an intensive search for the couple or their abductors with no success.

Ellensburg—(U.P.)—Archie McDonald, Kittitas county welfare administrator since April, 1953, resigned yesterday to take the same post in Kitsap county, effective Aug. 1.

## Testimony Injects Triangle in Case Of Kaser Slaying

Salem—(U.P.)—The last meeting of Ethel Oveross and Ervin Kaser before he was killed Feb. 17 was related yesterday by Mrs. Oveross in the murder trial of her former husband, Casper A. Oveross, accused of shooting Kaser to death.

Mrs. Oveross said she met Kaser about 7:45 p.m. Feb. 17 north of Silverton. She said they drove on the Monitor highway in Kaser's car and parked on a side road for about an hour and a half.

She said they returned to their homes near Silverton about 10:40 p.m. She said she never saw Kaser again after they drove away in their separate cars from their meeting place.

Attempts by the defense to ask several questions about family relationship of Casper and Ethel Oveross were parried successfully for the most part in objections by the prosecution. However, Mrs. Oveross answered defense questions a couple of times before the prosecution made its objections, which led Circuit Judge George Duncan to suggest to District Attorney Kenneth Brown that he make his objections more promptly if he didn't want Mrs. Oveross to answer.

Mrs. Ervin Kaser testified that she had separated from her husband and had filed suit for divorce. Her case was to have come up March 17. Kaser was shot to death just one month before that, about 10:45 p.m. Feb. 17, as he sat in his car on the driveway of his home near Silverton.

**Other Witnesses**

Several other witnesses appeared during yesterday's sessions, including Betty Hollin, who lives across the street from Harvey Kaser, Ervin's brother, and not far from the Ervin Kaser residence. She said she heard two shots shortly after retiring about 10:30 p.m. Feb. 17, and moments later she heard a car or two apparently heading from the vicinity of Ervin Kaser's home toward Stayton. She said from the sound, the car or cars were going fast.

Other witnesses testified to seeing Oveross before the shooting. Mrs. Rose Mary Teglund of Silverton said she saw Oveross at Frank's grocery store in Silverton about 8:15 p.m. on the night of the shooting. Denny Legard, who operates Legard's Union service station in Silverton, testified Oveross bought \$2 worth of gasoline at his station about 8:30 p.m. that night.

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