

Mrs. Smith Gets Change of Venue

Portland—(U.P.)—Circuit Judge James R. Bain yesterday granted attractive Marjorie Smith a change of venue and ordered her tried in McMinnville next month for the April 21 bomb slaying of her husband, Attorney Kermit Smith.

In granting the defense plea to the young widow, Judge Bain made it clear he directed no criticism at newspaper coverage of the case. But he held that, due to widespread publicity, there was "an undercurrent of feeling that the defendant is guilty—if only the state can prove it."

The judge said he thought this feeling would not exist in a county removed from Portland. Trial there, he said, would assure the defendant of her constitutional rights.

Regarding publicity, the judge said "the newspapers published the statements and facts given to them by officials and other as news."

The case is expected to be heard by Circuit Judge Arlie Walker, dean of Oregon circuit judges.

Mrs. Smith was indicated jointly with Victor Laurence Wolf, who implicated her in the plot. Smith died when his car was demolished by a blast at the Columbia-Edgewater Country Club.

Portland Housing Personnel Changed

Portland — (U.P.)—A split in the seven-man Portland housing authority commission ended yesterday in the ouster of Executive Director Floyd S. Ratchford, the resignation of Chairman Anthony DuBay in protest, and the appointment of Clinton S. McGill to take Ratchford's place.

The four-man majority called the shake-up an economy move and said that McGill, a one time engineer for the authority, would serve at \$4000 a year less than Ratchford's \$12,000 salary.

Ratchford was not present at the executive session.

Du Bay resigned his chairman's post after calling the action "completely unethical." He will remain on the commission as a regular member, however.

Police Seek Youth In Death of Parents

Columbus, O. — (U.P.)—Police issued a pickup order today for a 19-year-old youth whose parents were killed in a vicious double murder.

The battered bodies of Gomer Thomas, 45, and his wife, Betty, 39, were found yesterday in the bedroom of their frame home. Charles Miller, 18, Mrs. Thomas' son by another marriage, and Mrs. Clarebelle Fast, a sister of Mrs. Thomas, forced their way into the home after earlier attempts to contact the couple had failed.

Near the bodies were two hammers and two butcher knives, all stained with blood. A pickup order was issued immediately for Robert Jacob Miller, Mrs. Thomas' other son by her previous marriage.

Range Fires Burn In Ontario Area

Ontario — (U.P.)—Several range fires were still burning in the Ontario area and across the Idaho border near Weiser today.

A 300 acre grazing-land fire about 12 miles north of Vale was brought under control yesterday by a crew of 100 men and three bulldozers. Originally four fires had been started in the area by lightning.

Across the river in Idaho, another range fire near Weiser was being fought with 60 men, with more men ready to go on the line today.

Woods Closure Faces Uranium Prospectors

Lakeview — (U.P.)—Uranium prospecting operations in the Lakeview area were threatened temporarily today by a possible woods closure until the danger of forest fires is past.

John McDonald, forest supervisor, said "there are so many prospectors in the area now we may be forced to go through with the closure to insure the safety of the trees." A 200-acre blaze, biggest in the Fremont national forest this season, was curbed after a 24-hour battle.



CONGRATULATIONS ARE GIVEN Reuben Robertson, Jr., Hamilton, O., by family after he takes oath as deputy defense secretary at White House ceremony. From left: Reuben Robertson III, 15; Margaret, 6; Robertson; Louisa, 3; Mrs. Robertson holds George, 1; Daniel Robertson, 13 (rear) and Peter, 9. Robertson succeeds Robert B. Anderson. (International)

Society Mother of Young Bride Takes Steps To Have Marriage With GI Annuled

Chicago — (U.P.)—A wealthy widow vowed today she would get an annulment of her 16-year-old daughter's runaway marriage with the soldier son of a television repairman.

But the daughter, a bride of only five days, announced "I've never been so happy in my life." She went to live with her husband's parents and said she wanted to follow him to France as soon as he's let out of nearby Fort Sheridan.

The husband, 21-year-old Cpl. Stephen Doerner Jr., meanwhile faced charges of contributing to the delinquency of a minor. The charges were filed by his mother-in-law, Mrs. Louise Sterling.

Inquest Planned in Crescent City Deaths

Crescent City, Calif. — (U.P.)—The coroner planned today to hold an inquest into the drowning of four members of a prominent Phoenix family.

One body was recovered and was tentatively identified as that of Dr. Fred W. Holmes. However, positive identification was withheld pending the coroner's inquest. No time has been set for the inquest.

Sheriff Harold Scott described the body as being that of a man about 40 years old and said he presumed it was that of Fred W. Holmes.

Meanwhile, search parties resumed for the third straight day their search for Holmes' father, Dr. Fred G. Holmes, and his two sons, Fred Jr., 10, and Stephen, 8.

The four disappeared Saturday while salmon trolling in a heavy fog off the mouth of the Klamath river. Their rented skiff was later found overturned near the rugged coast.

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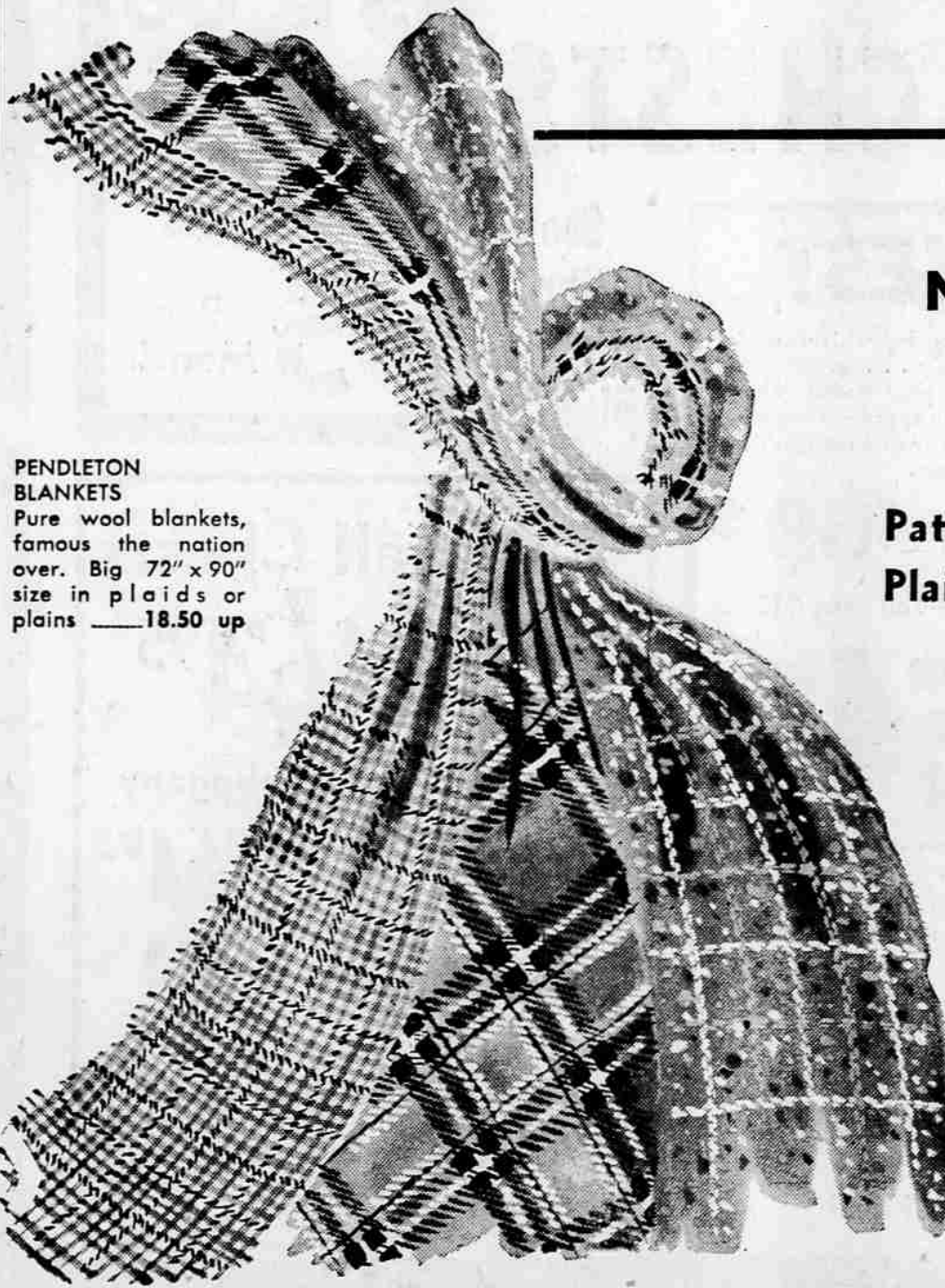
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