

Scott Convicted of Murder In Well-Publicized Trial

Los Angeles — L. Ewing Scott, dapper self-styled "investor broker," Saturday was convicted of first-degree murder in the disappearance of his wealthy socialite wife who vanished nearly three years ago.

The verdict was returned despite the fact that no trace of Mrs. Evelyn Throsby Scott, who was 63 when she disappeared from their Bel-Air home, ever has been found.

The jury of five men and seven women reached a verdict after 29 hours of deliberations which spanned four days, most of which was taken up with the review of more than one million words of testimony and some 300 exhibits introduced

during the 11-week trial. Scott's face flushed slightly when the verdict was read, but otherwise he displayed no emotion.

Corrects Bailiff

The only words were uttered by the 61-year-old defendant when he was led manacled from the courtroom and he corrected the bailiff who made the wrong turn en route to the jail.

"Isn't that the wrong way?" corrected Scott when the flustered bailiff started to make a right turn, instead of a left, down a corridor.

The same jury will return to court Monday to receive instructions on their future deliberations for determining the pen-

alty Scott will receive. Under a California law adopted last summer the same jury or another panel must also determine the sentence a defendant receives — in this case either the death penalty or life imprisonment.

The state said when the trial opened it would not try to establish a corpus delicti, acknowledging no one ever had found or seen the body of the society matron who Scott said disappeared from their home when he went out to buy her a special brand of toothpaste she preferred.

Jumped Bond

Scott jumped \$25,000 bond and fled to Canada following his in-

dictment for forgery and grand theft in connection with her estate, and was captured about a year later, last April, when he reentered this country to buy a new car in Detroit. The murder charge followed.

The defendant, who maintained a high degree of composure throughout the entire case, steadfastly maintained that his wife was alive somewhere and could clear him of the "ridiculous" charges if she was able to come forward. He declared she had disappeared in similar manner on several previous occasions.

Defense attorney P. Basil Lambros declared when the defense opened its case that he intended

to present evidence that Mrs. Scott was alive.

When asked if he would appeal the verdict, Lambros replied, "Whether we will make a motion for appeal will be determined after the completion of the trial." He also refused to let the press talk to Scott.

The trial before Superior Judge Clement D. Nye was one of the most publicized in the history of California criminal litigation. It got underway last Oct. 7 and more than 130 defense and prosecution witnesses appeared.

The defense witnesses who claimed they had seen Mrs. Scott since her disappearance. Scott's attorneys at one time said they had been checking out reports she had been seen in the East. They also charged that local authorities were not

Yule Log Dinner For Zoo Animals

Washington — A yule log's not for burnin' Christmas at the Washington Zoo. They're going to eat it.

Zoo Director Theodore Reed said raw, crunchy yule log was a top item on the Christmas menu for some of his star boarders.

He said the big Christmas Day feast at the zoo also would include worms, ground oyster shells, hay and horsemeat,

doing enough to check out such reports.

Australia produces 1,700 types of wool with different spinning qualities.

Death Free Holiday Hope Of Safety Men

Salem — A death free Christmas holiday was the hope expressed by traffic safety officials Saturday.

During Christmas last year, from 6 p.m. the night before until midnight of the holiday, five persons lost their lives and 69 more were injured in 192 traffic mishaps in Oregon. Christmas last year was on a Tuesday.

The department of motor vehicles said that with Christmas on Wednesday this year, the temptation to drive too far to spend the day with relatives or friends will be strong.

Drivers were reminded by state police Superintendent H. G. Maison that anyone who drinks and drives faces arrest

which could result in a stiff fine and jail sentence, as well as mandatory suspension of driver's license for at least 90 days.

Patrol cars will be out in full force, Maison said.

The state police will also continue to cite drivers to appear in court instead of giving verbal or written warnings for violations of the basic speed rule.

TO HOLD LAIKA FLIGHT

Tokyo — Japan Airlines announced Saturday it will celebrate the traditional "year of the dog" with a special invitational flight over Tokyo Jan. 2. The flight will be named "Laika Flight" for the dog sent up in the second Russian space satellite.

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