

Attempted Assassination Charges Dropped by Jury

New York — (UPI) — A 12-man jury Tuesday night acquitted Vincent (Chin) Gigante of the attempted assassination of gambler Frank Costello.

The blue ribbon panel deliberated 6½ hours before deciding that Gigante, a former heavyweight boxer, was not the fat, waddling gunman who creased Costello's scalp with a bullet as the gambler entered the foyer of his apartment building May 2, 1957.

If convicted of the attempted murder charge, Gigante, 30, could have received a maximum prison sentence of 25 years.

Repudiates Testimony

The jury's verdict, returned shortly before midnight, in effect repudiated the testimony of the prosecution's star witness, Norval Keith, the doorman in Costello's apartment building. The only witness to the shooting, he had identified Gigante as the gunman who followed Costello into the foyer, snapped, "This is for you Frank," and fired one shot at close range.

Defense counsel Maurice Edelbaum stressed to the jury, however, that Keith has "I've always had an ambition to be a deliverer of dills."

extremely poor vision in one eye and that the sight in his other eye was impaired.

Costello, testifying for the prosecution, maintained he did not see his assailant and had no idea why anyone would want to kill him.

California School Sets New Program

Salinas, Calif. — (UPI) — Many critics of the United States education system feel that the more capable students are not given enough to do. Salinas has formulated a new program in an attempt to meet this challenge.

Special classes in separate rooms have been set up for rapid learners in the fifth and sixth grades. The pupils attend these classes for half a day each. The remainder of the day is spent in the regular classroom.

"The atmosphere of the room is charged with scholarship," according to Mrs. Beatrice Schoenwiesner, who teaches one special class. "The pupils know why they come here. They feel a responsibility and I must say that they live up to it."

Science, mathematics and social studies form the core of the special program.

The highest waterfall in the world is Tugela in Natal in the Union of South Africa. Its height is 2,810 feet.



LISTENING TO MESSAGE of congratulation are the Wisconsin triplets, on their 83rd birthday. Reading the congratulations is their sister, Miss Barbara Schlegel. Others, left to right are Julia Schlegel, Mrs. Mary Schlegel, and Mrs. Helen Sholes. They are believed to be second oldest triplets in U. S. Party was at Alma Center, Wisconsin. (UPI Telephoto)

Alfred Hitchcock Claimed Best Cocktail Entertainer

By DOC QUIGG

New York — (UPI) — I've had cocktails, through the years, with such enchanting personalities as Polly Adler, Winston Churchill, Ataturk's favorite dancing girl, Princess Grace of Monaco, Frank Costello, and other names too fancy to drop, but let me tell you this — there's no cocktail host like Alfred Hitchcock.

When Hitchcock throws a cocktail party, whimsy breaks out in great dollops and spreads all over the place. His latest drinkery for the press was in an unfinished room near the top of an unfinished skyscraper and was reached by taking an unfinished elevator.

The elevator had no lights. It was draped inside with funeral black cloth. But enough light came through the black lining, as you were borne skyward, to disclose a skeleton standing in the corner. It was not a naked skeleton. It wore a black brassiere

with red trimmings, and a sprouting red-feather head-dress.

As you entered the party room, a place of bare, unfinished concrete and plaster, a couple of zombie ladies with scraggly-hanging black hair-dos handed you a Hitchcock insurance policy. It provided indemnity for loss of life, limb, sight or time by accidental means.

The bartenders were dressed as surgeons, with white masks. An oxygen tank, labeled "just in case," stood by. The room was dressed with two coffins and a scattering of skeletons in various poses.

Two nurses were coming and going, but their going appearance was a vast change from their approaching one. Their uniforms were standard in front. But in the back they opened wide in an upside down V. The top of the opening was at about mid-spine.

Didn't Look Like Nurse

One of the nurses wore special panties, tiered with lace ruffles and tiny black bows. "Made 'em myself," she said. The other apparently had not got the word beforehand about the new-style uniform she would be wearing. She wore nothing special. I asked her what was the name of the new style.

"Peek-a-boo," she replied. The affair was called a "vertigo party." Guests got worker's plastic helmets with "vertigo room" printed on them. A platform outside a window was marked "get your vertigo here," and sure enough, it did afford a rather dizzying view of third avenue.

Maybe you think the whole thing was just too cute, but everybody had a nice time, and Hitchcock got in some nice plugs for his hair-raising movie.

"Vertigo," as if you didn't know.

Depressed Flat Car To Haul Transformer

Chicago — (UPI) — Ten new depressed flat cars, recently delivered to the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad, will be used mainly for transporting transformers and heavy industrial equipment.

David O. Mathews, C.&E.I. president, said the deep-well cars are the first equipment of its type ever ordered by the railroad. Total cost of the new cars was about \$350,000.

Each car has a 21-foot deep-well center, which allows clearance under bridges with loads of machinery and other bulky cargoes. The deep-well centers are only 24 inches above the rails.

House Built in 1791 Still Stands

Windsor, Va. — (UPI) — The Green House, built in 1791 and still standing here, was once a girls' school which was attended by one boy—Salmon P. Chase.

Chase, who was born across the Connecticut river in Cornish, obtained special permission as a little boy to attend the school with his older sisters.

The curriculum must have been effective. Because Chase grew up to become Lincoln's Secretary of the Treasury and a Chief Justice of the United States. And today his face appears on the \$10,000 bill.

The United States postal savings system with deposits of more than \$2,341 millions, is said to be the largest savings bank in the world, according to financial experts' estimates.

Medford Gets Award In Traffic Safety

Chicago — (UPI) — The eastern Oregon city of Baker has received the National Safety Council's second highest honor, the award of merit, for the second year in a row.

Five other Oregon cities got certificate of achievement awards for outstanding work in one or more fields of traffic safety. They were Bend, Corvallis, Medford, Portland and The Dalles.

Foresters Plan to Replace Redwoods

Berkeley, Calif. — (UPI) — California foresters are giving some thought to replacing the redwood forests that grew along the coast hundreds of years ago and have supplied lumber for generations.

Young stands of redwoods are growing up where the venerable giants were cut down. Some of these "young" trees—now 50 to 60 years old—are ready to cut. Forestry experts have undertaken a program to manage the new crop of redwoods "most efficiently."

The project of research on red-wood foresting is being conducted by the University of California, with the aid of a grant from the Foundation for American Resource Management.

Oregonian Editor's Widow Dies in Portland

Portland — (UPI) — Mrs. Alice Taylor, widow of Fred G. Taylor, labor editor of The Oregonian, died Sunday in a local hospital. Her death followed by a year that of her husband.

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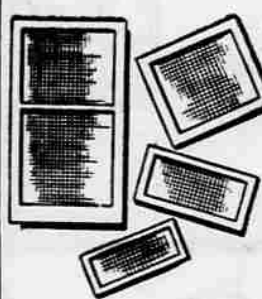


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