

Greed, Drunkenness, Lust Mar Holiday

By United Press International
Greed, drunkenness, lust and pride—together with other motives as varied as the true Christmas spirit is singular—today posed as villains in a wave of holiday violence.

Murder and accidental death came as suddenly and tragically as at any time of year, but in some cases the fatal mechanism seemed to be tripped by seasonal anticipation and fatigue.

Most pathetic were those instances in which children were involved.

Father Shoots Infant

A Chicago father wept as he told of accidentally shooting and killing his infant son Christmas Eve while practicing fast draws with a loaded gun in the family living room.

Dead was 14-month-old Wyatt Earp Bender, whose cowboy-loving father named him after the legendary western hero. The father, Jack, 29, allegedly had been drinking before shooting Wyatt Earp.

In San Francisco, 5-week-old Mark William Netherby died when his father, William, 22, over his wife's Rita's protests, muffled the boy's sobs with a pillow, the mother told police. The infant was dead when she went to pick him up Thursday morning.

In Mobile, Ala., expectant mother, Mrs. Troy Bolt, 34, apparently made light of a giant carton her intoxicated husband brought home on Christmas Eve, police reported. A subsequent quarrel resulted in death by gunshot wound, said authorities. They

held her husband in connection with Mrs. Bolt's shooting and also the death of their 3-week premature infant, delivered by caesarian section following the shooting.

Murder-Suicide

An apparent murder-suicide left a 6-year-old girl homeless in Glendora, Calif. Police said her step-father of four months, John Moll, 62, apparently shot her mother, Mary, 39, early Christmas Eve. The girl discovered the bodies Christmas morning.

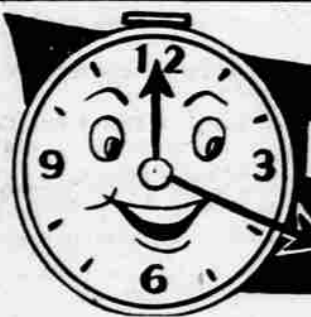
In New York, a neighbor calling to wish a mother and her two small children a merry Christmas found all three shot to death Thursday. Orlando Courte told police he found Mrs. Anna Figueroa, 22, sprawled on the floor of the one-room apartment and her

children, Alfredo, 3, and Eugenia, 5, in bed. Police began a search for a former suitor of the woman who was said to have threatened her.

Kreste Glenda, 52, was in critical condition in a Gary, Ind., hospital today, the lone survivor of a Christmas Eve triple shooting. Police said Metro Planovich, 32, apparently went berserk with a .32 caliber pistol, killing Milard Tomasich, wounding Glenda and then shooting himself.

NEXT STEP: PUPIL

Sayama, Japan—(UPI)—High school principal Masao Ishikawa, 47, was demoted to regular teacher Thursday after railway officials caught him using a commuter's ticket that had expired two months ago.



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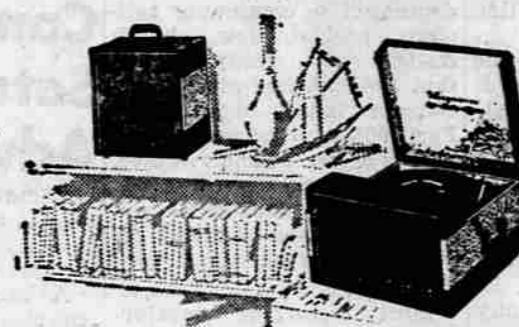
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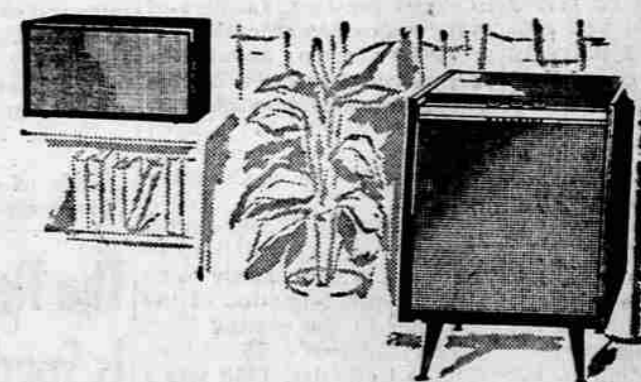
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