

Witnesses Tell Of Mrs. Duncan's Jealous Hatred

Ventura, Calif.—UPI—Prosecutor Roy Gustafson promised a "good day" today in the trial of Mrs. Elizabeth

Duncan, 54, charged with hiring killers to murder her son's pregnant wife. The close-mouthed district attorney refused to identify his next witness.

At the end of the second day of testimony Wednesday—after a week of maneuvering to select a jury—Gustafson had called 10 witnesses. Three of them testified that Mrs. Duncan offered them money to help kill her daughter-in-law.

Others told of Mrs. Duncan's jealousy of her son's pretty wife. They said the mother-in-law called Olga a "bitch" who was not good for Duncan's law career.

One of the witnesses was Rudy Romero, husband of 19-year-old Diane Romero. He testified Mrs. Duncan offered him \$2,500 to kill Olga.

Romero was followed to the stand by Rebecca Diaz, 38-year-old Santa Barbara woman who said that Mrs. Duncan asked her to find someone willing to "get rid" of a woman who was bothering her.

Gustafson presented a picture of Mrs. Duncan as a mother consumed with jealous hate for a rival for her son's affections.

Repeatedly he asked witnesses if Mrs. Duncan had not called her daughter-in-law names. He attempted to show that she "shopped around" for someone willing to kill for pay.

He said Mrs. Duncan "poisoned the air" for her Canadian-born daughter-in-law by saying that Olga was a foreigner, that she had abandoned two children by another husband, and that she was "living in sin" with Frank Duncan, who has stood steadfastly at his mother's

side since the Grand Jury indicted her last Dec. 26, charged Wednesday that witnesses were lying about his mother.

Rules Committee Studies Statehood Bill for Hawaii

Washington—UPI—Congress labored today to extend America's boundaries far into the blue Pacific by making Hawaii the 50th state.

The statehood bill faced a crucial hurdle in the powerful and traditionally hostile House Rules Committee. But prospects were good that the group would grant its approval.

At the same time, the Senate territories subcommittee worked behind closed doors to polish up its statehood measure after virtually no opposition was voiced at one-day public hearing.

Supporters are pushing the Senate and House passage before Congress goes home for its Easter vacation March 26.

Despite past opposition, there were strong indications that the House Rules Committee, which funnels legislation to the floor, would approve Hawaiian statehood rather than risk a scrap with the bill's backers.

These supporters have threatened to invoke a special parliamentary action to get the bill to the House if the committee holds back. This maneuver was used to get a House vote when the rules committee tried to bottle up the Alaskan statehood measure last year.

Lions Club Auction Scheduled Tonight

The annual Crater Lions club television auction to raise funds for charitable purposes will be held between 10 o'clock and midnight tonight over station KBES-TV.

Bob Taylor, general chairman, said anyone wishing to submit an early bid for items donated may do so by telephoning SPing 3-6661 starting at 7 o'clock tonight.

Items to be auctioned have been donated by valley merchants. Taylor said those wishing to make donations to the Heart Fund may do so during the auction. Donations may be telephoned to SPing 3-6661.

Manville Heisel, Medford attorney, will be auctioneer.

Recognition Party Set at Camp White

The annual recognition ceremony and turn-about party for volunteer workers at the Camp White Domiciliary will be held at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, in the Camp White theater.

Certificates of appreciation will be awarded by Henry C. Herzog, manager, to volunteer workers who have accumulated 100 hours, 300 hours, 1,000 hours or 2,500 hours of voluntary service work.

A turn-about program will follow the ceremonies. All volunteer workers and friends are invited to the program.

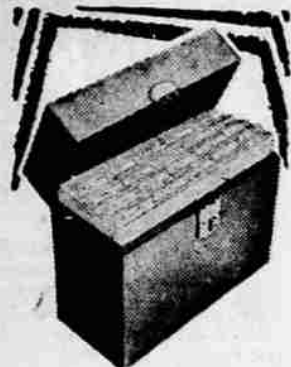
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