

IT'S YOUR LAW

Respect for Law Makes Democracy Live

Editor's note: The following article was prepared as a public service by the Oregon State Bar and is not intended to be legal advice. Persons with a legal problem should consult an attorney.

DOUBLE JEOPARDY

Most likely you can't picture yourself being brought into court on anything worse than a speeding violation. Nearly everyone feels that way. Even so, it is good to know that in this country you can't be made to stand trial twice for the same offense.

We have a provision in the Oregon constitution against "double jeopardy." That's one of the important safeguards in our system of law which makes it certain that once a court has reached a verdict of "innocent," the acquitted person may not be put on trial again for the same offense.

This right holds good, however, only if a full trial is held and a verdict is reached. It is possible to face another trial on the same charge if the first trial ends with a "hung jury" or a "mistrial," or if a new trial is requested or if the judgment of acquittal is reversed by the state Supreme Court on appeal by the State.

A classic example comes from the "Wild West" in the

1880s. A man named Ball was charged with murder, along with two others. Ball was acquitted, but the others were found guilty. The guilty pair appealed to a higher court, and their original indictment was found to be faulty.

Once again the government accused all three men. Ball claimed his right against double jeopardy had been invaded, and the U. S. Supreme Court agreed. He didn't have to stand trial again. The other two did, and paid the penalty for their guilt.

The reason for the "double jeopardy" provision is to protect the individual from being hounded all his life. In old England, where the fear of tyranny first prompted safeguards for personal freedom, one court said: "Were it not for this rule, anyone obnoxious to the government might be run down, by repeated attempts to carry on a prosecution against him."

PAYS UNDER PROTEST

Madison, Wis. — UPI — The Dane County Circuit Court clerk's office said it received two alimony checks from a man for his ex-wife. The checks, certified for \$22 each, were made out to "Clerk of Kangaroo Court."

Mother Loses 4th Race With Stork

San Diego, Calif. — UPI — Mrs. Leslie Marshal, 24, lost another race with the stork Wednesday, but it didn't bother the Navy wife much — she's only won one of five races.

Aided by her 27-year-old husband, Wednesday's race ended in the family car on the way to Paradise Valley Hospital where both mother and child were reported in good condition today.

Mrs. Marshal's first child, Leslie, 6, was born in an elevator of a Corpus Christi, Tex., hospital. Yvonne, 5, arrived in the lobby of a Norwalk, Calif., hospital. Timothy, 3, was born in an ambulance on the way to an Oakland, Calif., hospital. Robert, 2, narrowly beat the stork to Paradise Valley Hospital.

"Next time," said Mrs. Marshal, "I'm going to wear track shoes."

CALLS RIFLE CHIEF

St. Petersburg, Fla. — UPI — Chief of Police Harold Smith is conducting a high priority investigation within his department. Smith said if he is successful in finding out who has been making bird calls over the department's public address system, "they'll get 30 days without pay to practice."



BIG LILY LEAVES—Mrs. Leona Brinkman, Okawville, Ill. The leaves measure 26 inches left, and Mrs. Fred Foster shows the size of the blossom, center, is more than eight inches in size. (UPI)

VA Given Authority to Activate, Operate Beds for 2,000 Patients

White City — The President has authorized the Veterans administration to activate and operate facilities and beds to

son Jr., administrator of Veteran Affairs, who said the 2,000 nursing home beds would be operated in addition to the 125,000 hospital beds now authorized within the VA medical system.

The presidential action, Gleason said, will greatly help in relieving the adverse impact on VA's acute medical programs by the influx of older veterans who now comprise one-third of all VA hospital admissions, and who generally require long time care.

In his authorizing memorandum to the administrator, the President said:

Changing Characteristics
"The changing characteristics of our veteran population, particularly those who served during the first world war, are resulting in an adverse effect on the acute medical programs administered by the Veterans administration. Nearly 1,000,000 war veterans are aged 70 and over. The number will increase 50 per cent by 1966.

"Older veterans account for one-third of your hospital admissions and they comprise the bulk of the long-term care patient load. Many have attained maximum benefits of hospitalization but attempts at community placement have been unsuccessful because of the lack of facilities, inadequate financial resources, absence of family ties, and other reasons. Retention of these patients in facilities designed for acute care is costly and places an undue strain on the 125,000 hospital bed limit under which you are now operating.

To Relieve Situation
"In order to relieve this situation, I authorize you to activate and operate facilities and beds for 2,000 nursing type patients in addition to the 125,000 hospital beds presently authorized. This will provide arrangements more consistent with patient requirements and improve utilization of acute care facilities. The higher patient turnover will also defer the need for increasing present bed levels. Existing buildings best suited for this purpose and appropriately located throughout the country, according to your judgment, should be utilized. No construction, other than for necessary conversion of existing facilities, is authorized.

"This authorization is to enable the Veterans administration to gain first-hand knowledge and experience in the operation of beds specifically designed for patients requiring attendant type services. It will be possible to evaluate a full range of care from domiciliary through acute medical care, restoration centers and nursing home care where outplacement is not possible.

"I am sure that as part of your administrative studies, cost control systems will be established so that direct cost comparison will be definitive; also that you will continue to work toward the development and utilization of community and private resources in the best interest of the veteran and the nation."

JFK Wins Poll as Greatest Politician

London — UPI — President Kennedy won a British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC) poll of 2,000 young Britons to find out whom they considered the world's greatest politician, it was learned today.

Kennedy drew support from about one-quarter of the participants, aged 11 to 21. He and Mrs. Kennedy were also named in the survey as ideal parents.

Spaceman John Glenn of the United States and Soviet space travelers Yuri Gagarin and Valentina Tereshkova were among those chosen as the bravest persons in the world.

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Wanted...

3 million fire wardens!

This summer, the fire hazard in the Pacific Northwest is so great there simply aren't enough fulltime fire prevention people to handle the problem. They need your help!

The forests are littered with explosive blow-down — some 11 billion board feet of timber plus untold volumes of branches and debris felled by Columbus Day windstorms.

Warm summer weather has turned this wind-fall into "red slash" — a condition best compared with a four-week-old Christmas tree, ready to ignite with the slightest spark. This could result in some of the worst forest fires ever seen in this area. Millions of acres of productive forest lands could be lost. Whole communities are threatened. So more areas than usual have been closed by official agencies to reduce the



hazard. These include public and private lands.

Here's what you can do. Please respect all fire closures. Warn visiting friends and relatives of the danger. When you go into the woods, stick to established camping areas. Watch your

matches and cigarettes carefully and make sure they are out — really out. Build fires only in facilities provided for them. Never leave any fire unattended. When you leave, put it out completely and cover the ashes with earth.

With your cooperation it should be possible to prevent a major fire disaster this year.