

Husband, Wife Face Charges

EBENSBURG, Pa. (AP)—The young parents of a family of five children were in jail today—the mother charged with murder in the rat poison death of a daughter and the father with assault and battery with intent to kill in the scalding and beating of a son.

Mrs. Eileen Bell, 28, is held without bond pending Grand Jury action. Also awaiting Grand Jury action, and unable to post \$10,000 bonds, is her husband, William, 26, a Korean War veteran. Both pleaded innocent.

The five children range from five weeks to 6½ years.

State Police Pvt. Matthew O'Brien said he entered the case last Wednesday night after a hospital reported the couple's 2-year-old daughter, Ruth Ann, had died of rat poison.

O'Brien said 3-year-old Robert Bell was being treated for serious scald wounds on his feet in the same hospital, reportedly suffered the day before his sister died.

The officer said Bell admitted holding the boy's feet in boiling water to chastise him for taking a piece of bread from the table and beating him while he hung from a door in a stuffy bag.

Mrs. Bell was released after questioning but last night, O'Brien said, she broke down and admitted putting rat poison on bread, giving it to Robert and telling him to hand it to his little sister because "she's hungry."

O'Brien added that Mrs. Bell told him "Ruth Ann cried all the time," was crippled and that neither she nor her husband believed the youngster would live very long. The officer said Mrs. Bell declared she acted on her own free will and her husband did not cooperate with her in planning to poison the child.

Two of the couple's children are under hospital treatment for malnutrition. The fifth is in a children's home.

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BILL MOAK, LEFT, AND WALLACE CASSEL, left recently for Portland to begin four year enlistments in the U.S. Air Force. Bill Moak is a 1952 graduate of KUHS and has been acting as educational director for the First Baptist Church, Dorris. Wallace Cassel is a 1953 graduate of KUHS and has been attending Multnomah Bible School at Portland.

Fish Killed By Chemicals

Unity reservoir was chemically treated by the game commission with the assistance of local sportsmen on October 28. The reservoir, located in Baker County, was infested with rough fish including suckers, roach and squawfish.

Sportsmen from John Day, Prairie City, Ontario and Baker aided in the operation and provided boats and motors. Homer Campbell, fisheries agent located at La Grande, was in charge of the project. Prior to treatment of the reservoir, game commission crews had poisoned out the tributaries to the upper limits of coarse fish distribution. This part of the project involved the efforts of 18 game commission men for three days.

A heavy kill of rough fish was experienced; the number of trout present was relatively small.

Next spring approximately 150,000 rainbow fingerlings, now being held at the commission's Enterprise station, will be planted in the reservoir. In addition the tributaries will be stocked with yearling rainbow from the same station.

By 1956, Unity Reservoir should again regain its position as one of the better bodies of water for angling in northeastern Oregon.

Phone Company Pays County Tax

The 1954-55 property taxes paid Saturday by the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company in Klamath county totaled \$93,136.20, according to Manager S. C. Bowie. The amount, which was after the three per cent discount for prompt payment, was \$3,011.78 greater than last year.

Total property taxes for the company in the state this year are \$3,390,507.95, an increase of \$320,599.85 over last year. The company's property tax payment is the largest in Oregon.

SF Civic Group Voted Down

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—The city's "Do-It-Now" civic improvement committee doesn't have a chance to do a thing. It no longer exists.

The special, nine-member committee was formed Sept. 2 to help solve San Francisco's knotty problems of traffic, transit and parking. There was much talk, but no plans.

So late Monday the Board of Supervisors voted to end the committee's existence.

Damage Suit Request Granted

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Trial of a \$150,000 damage suit based on the logging camp accident death of Richard Dix, Jr., will be transferred to Siskiyou County.

Superior Judge James G. Whyte Monday granted the request of the defendants for a change of venue. Dix, 18-year-old son of the late actor, was working in a lumber camp near Pondosa, Calif., when a load of lumber fell and crushed him Aug. 31, 1953.

His widow, now Mrs. Jo Ann C. Nolan, 19, filed the suit in behalf of her 2-year-old son, Richard Marshall Dix, against John Berle, owner, and Edward E. Linnell, driver of the logging truck. Mrs. Nolan's husband, Michael, is an aircraft worker here.

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