

# Mercy Killer Slays Spouse

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. (UPI)—An 80-year-old man facing arraignment on a first-degree murder charge in the "mercy killing" of his wife, helpless for 12 years, said a hospital repeatedly refused to admit her because she was not an emergency case.

Plagued by mounting medical bills, increasing debts and a heart condition, William J. Gerst, a retired accountant, had sought twice on Thursday to have his crippled wife, Nell, admitted to Meadowbrook Hospital.

Her doctor also had asked that she be admitted because Gerst no longer could care for her as he had the past 20 years, eight of which Mrs. Gerst had been bedridden with Parkinson's Disease, a progressive form of palsy.

But on all three occasions, the hospital denied her admittance on the ground she was not an emergency case.

Finally, Friday, as Gerst picked up his razor to shave, his wife said:

"You could kill me with that. Why don't you?"

Gerst hesitated a moment, then slashed her throat.

Then he telephoned his granddaughter, Mrs. Lynn Hughes, in nearby Brentwood, told her what he had done and said:

"Now I'm going to cut my throat, too."

Mrs. Hughes called police. When they arrived, they found Mrs. Gerst dead in bed and Gerst wandering around in a daze, his throat cut superficially. He was taken to the prison ward of the Meadowbrook Hospital.

# Police Peeved; Posterior Picker Poking Pick

MEXICO CITY (UPI)—Police here are on the lookout for a "bright-eyed, well-dressed" young man who can't resist an urge to plunge an icpick into a well-padded feminine posterior.

Nine women in various districts of Mexico City have complained recently about rear-guard attacks. In each case, the assailant wielded the icpick and then took to his heels.

Police say the complaining witnesses are of various ages and stations in life, but they are all "well-endowed physically."

# Comic Carries On; Wife Ails

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (UPI)—Comedian Red Skelton carried forth "the show must go on" tradition Friday night by making his regular night club appearance several hours after his wife was hospitalized with a "mild nervous breakdown."

Georgia Skelton's illness apparently was brought on by strain and worry, according to Dr. Jack Cherry, the couple's son, Richard, 9, died in May from leukemia.

Skelton went on with his clowning night club act at the Riviera Hotel while his wife was confined at Southern Nevada Memorial Hospital where she had been taken in an ambulance.

# Eleanor Issues Warning On Reds

FORT COLLINS, Colo. (UPI)—Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt said Friday the United States is making "a very serious mistake" in cutting preparations for waging of "small wars."

She said the Russians are "constantly preparing trouble" and have prepared for small encounters because they "can't afford a major war."

"Ever since Korea," she said, "the Soviets have incited small wars. They give guns, stir up the dissidents — then pose as the champions of the right of the people to fight for their freedom."

# Basin Briefs

**From Bakersfield**—Mrs. Minnie Arant and her daughter, Mrs. Echo Smith, of Bakersfield arrived in Dairy at Mrs. Arant's home last week.

**In Hospital**—Mrs. Beulah Crabtree, Dairy, is in Hillside Hospital for medical care.

**To Coast**—Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ritter and son, Bruce, and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rueck and son, Bobby, all of Dairy, are on a fishing trip at the Oregon Coast.

**Returned**—Mr. and Mrs. Borroughs have returned to their Dairy home from a vacation trip of two weeks at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Jeffers Lederman, and family in Idanha, Oregon.

**Returned**—Virginia Brown has returned to her home at Union, Oregon, after spending the summer in Langell Valley with her father, Marvin Brown, and family.

**Visitors**—Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bolts of Yakima, Washington, were guests at the home of Mrs. Bolts' brother, Howard Kelleston, and family in Bonanza.

**Home**—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Totell have returned to their home in Bonanza after visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Smith, of Ontario, Oregon.

**From Hawaii**—Roy Warfield, Bonanza, accompanied by his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Harold McCollum, of Klamath Falls, weekended in Corvallis where they met Warfield's daughter, Mrs. Pearl Ash, and two children from Hawaii.

**To Reno**—Herman and Gordon Douglas of Bonanza, and their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Douglas Sr., attended the wedding of the senior Douglas' daughter, Ruth, and Russell Shearer, both of Klamath Falls, in Reno last weekend.

**Visitors**—from Cottage Grove at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Martin of Langell Valley over the weekend were Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Lebow.

**Bonanza**—Tom Morris of Bonanza is spending a few days at Cottage Grove with his mother, Mrs. Sylvia Lawrence, and at Junction City with his father, Ed Morris.

**Home**—Mrs. Bud Lee has returned to her home in Langell Valley after a visit with her son, Leonard Lee, and family in Olympia, Washington. She drove another son, Bobby Lee, to Whidby Island where he will be stationed.

**From Idaho**—Mrs. Church Bartel of Moscow, Idaho, spent several days in Langell Valley with her sister, Mrs. Doug Smelcer, and family.

**From Vancouver**—Mr. and Mrs. Tony Santo of Vancouver, Washington spent last week with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Dixon, of Bonanza. They were also guests at the home of another daughter, Mrs. ...

**SOFT DRINKS ONLY**  
GENEVA, Switzerland (UPI)—Not a drop of traditional vodka was offered Friday at a reception at Soviet diplomatic headquarters here.

The guests of honor were delegates to a summer institute for the prevention of alcoholism.

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Jerry Wagner, and family of Klamath Falls.

**To Klamath**—The Rev. L. E. Chism, pastor of the Alturas Baptist Church, is conducting revival services for the Southern Baptist Church in Klamath, California, this week. Chism's pulpit in Alturas will be filled on Sunday, August 10, by David Kinsley, summer worker from Wartburg, Tennessee. Kinsley is a teacher by profession.

**Paper Hangers**—Redecorating the parsonage of the Alturas Baptist Church is a team of women from its congregation, which includes the wife of the pastor, Mrs. L. E. Chism.

**Grandmother Club**—of Big Valley, Modoc County, will meet at the home of Mrs. Addie Yowell in Adin on Monday, August 11. Potluck luncheon will be served at 1 o'clock. The members and their guests are asked to come in hardtimes attire.

**Silver Lake**—visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pitcher are Mr. and Mrs. Earl Woodson of Cottage Grove. Weekend visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Miles Wicks, also of Cottage Grove.

**To Return**—home to Silver Lake is Roy Graham, 6-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Graham. Roy has been spending several weeks visiting his sister, Mrs. Dick Bennett, and family at Philomath. The Grahams drove to Philomath this weekend to get the little boy.

**In Hospital**—Henry Markus, Silver Lake, is in the hospital for medical treatment. Markus is an employee for the State Highway Department.

**Portland**—Mr. and Mrs. Vince Meyers have returned from a business trip to Portland. Accompanying them were their 11 daughter, Lisa, and Von Crockett of Bend. The Meyers operate a cafe and a motel in Silver Lake.

**Back**—from a visit with her friend, June Park, of New Pine Creek is Linda Nelson of Silver Lake. June spent several days with Linda prior to Linda's visit with her.

**Fort Rock**—Mr. and Mrs. Jack Murray and four children of Maupin visited early this week with Mr. and Mrs. Roy Owlsey.

**Happy Camp**—Mrs. Ed Head and sons, Gregory, Erik, and Michael, left Tuesday for Turlock, California, where Mr. Head has been managing a sawmill for the last three months. Mrs. Head has been a longtime worker in civic organizations in Happy Camp and will be missed.

**Guests**—Mrs. Thorne West's grandson, Dennis Seelig of Berkeley, is visiting in Happy Camp this week and Mrs. West is expecting Dennis' mother and sister, Diane, this weekend.

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**Happy Camp**—Mr. and Mrs. George Coombs are enjoying a week's visit of her sister and family, Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Sherer Jr. and two children, Randy and Robin of Glendora, California.

**Malin Pool**—Adult swimming classes will start at the Malin Pool on August 12 from 7 to 8 p.m. and will be held on August 13, 15, 18, 20, 22, 25 and 27. The charge will be the regular pool admission price.

**Returned**—to their home in Malin after a vacation at Lake Chelan, Washington, are Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Stasny and family. Don Stasny stopped en route home at Crescent Lake for a Boy Scout Order of the Arrow meeting.

**Recent Visitors**—at the Karl Kujac home in Malin have been Nan Wood of Eugene, who is a counselor at the Girl Scout Camp at Lake of the Woods for the summer, and Byron Meadows of Prineville.

**McCloud**—Vacation Church School will be held in Pondosa starting August 25 and will run through August 29. All Pondosa children 4 years of age through the sixth grade are invited to attend. There will be Bible study, crafts, games and singing.

**In New Pine Creek**—Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Giffen and son of La Canada, California, are guests at the home of another son, Forest Ranger Craig Giffen, and family at the Buck Creek Ranger Station.

**Returned**—Gloria Ayault has returned to her New Pine Creek home from a two week vacation in Grangeville, Idaho, where she was a guest of her sister, Mrs. Virginia Cox. Gloria's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ayault, met her in Klamath Falls on her return.

**Home**—Mrs. Carroll Mulkey returned to her home in New Pine Creek Sunday after spending some time in the hospital in Klamath Falls, and then going to the home of her stepdaughter, Mrs. Sharon ...

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Lady, and family in Chiloquin. The Lady's are the parents of a new daughter, Gerri-Gay.

**Hike**—Richard Cook of New Pine Creek hiked to the look-out station on Crane Mountain last week where he visited with Mr. and Mrs. Gerald W. Lilje of Michigan. The Lilje's, in charge of the station this summer, will attend the University of Oregon this fall. Richard said he hiked about 17 miles.

**Ladies Auxiliary**—of the New Pine Creek Baptist Church will meet Tuesday, August 11, at 1:30 p.m. in the church auditorium.

**To Sacramento**—Mr. and Mrs. William Bell, Dairy, accompanied their daughter, Mrs. Leone Morris, to her home in Sacramento.

**Baby Boy**—Mr. and Mrs. Jim Mulvey, New Pine Creek, have a new 7 lb., 6-oz. baby son, named Kim Trenton.

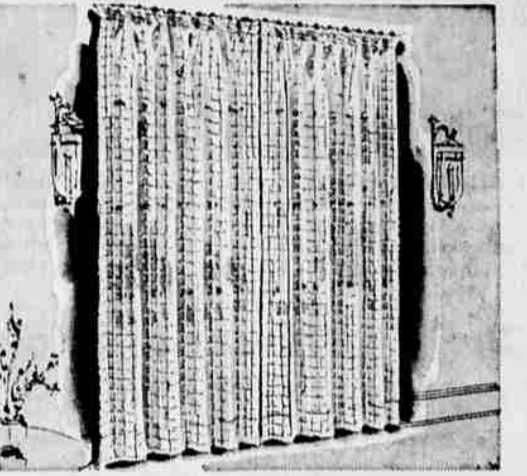
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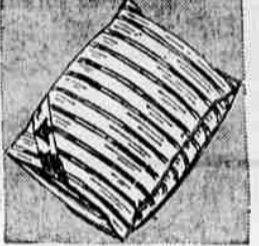
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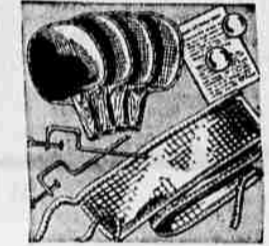
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