

### Youths Go On Trial Today For Rape Of Negro Student

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP)—A veteran north Florida jurist pledged his court would function "without regard to race, creed or color" during the Tallahassee rape trial opening today.

Circuit Judge W. May Walker told newsmen the case of four white youths charged with raping a slender Negro coed was being treated no differently than any other.

There was an atmosphere of tension in Florida's capital city as the highly publicized case began. Walker said the case probably would be concluded by Saturday.

Unless selection of a jury stretched out too long.

The four, if convicted without a recommendation of mercy, would get the death penalty. No white man ever has gone to the electric chair in Florida for raping a Negro.

The slow business of picking a jury was expected to take a day or more. Three women and several Negroes were in the panel of about 170 prospective jurors.

Seating capacity of the somewhat antiquated courtroom was supplemented by about 30 chairs to provide for about 300 spectators.

National attention has been focused on the case, partly because it took place just a week after Mack Charles Parker, 23-year-old Negro accused of raping a white Mississippi woman, was hauled from a Poplarville, Miss., jail by a group of men. His body was found in a river 20 miles away. There have been no arrests in that case.

The four youths on trial here were arrested within hours after the alleged rape of the 19-year-old Tallahassee girl on May 2. They were indicted by a specially summoned grand jury and have been held in the county jail without bond.

The fact that no white man has ever been electrocuted in this state for raping a Negro led the Rev. A. Leon Lowry, president of the Florida Conference of NAACP branches, to demand the elimination of what he called a "double system of justice."

First effective submarine was the Confederate Hundley, which blew up the U.S.S. Housatonic at Charleston, S.C.

### "DENNIS THE MENACE"



### San Francisco Disinherited By Actor's Former Spouse

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Edward G. Robinson's ex-wife has disinherited San Francisco. She is going to give her valuable art collection to some other city.

"I wanted to leave the collection to the city I loved and I thought loved me," Gladys Robinson said Tuesday before driving to Los Angeles in her scarlet Ferrari sports car. "But I got the bumps' rush and I probably never will come back."

The exhibition, containing 54 Renaissance, 19th-century French and contemporary French and Italian masterpieces, opened June 6 at the Palace of the Legion of Honor and runs through July 5.

She charged there was very little publicity, no catalogues and not enough excitement about the collection, which she values at more than a million dollars.

Also, none of the 11 trustees

showed up at a pre-opening press party.

Ross Smith, assistant director of the Palace, said trustees never show up at those affairs. As for attendance, he remarked that nobody was breaking down the doors, but it was better than average — 1,500 last weekend.

Smith's boss, Thomas Carr Howe, vacationing at Santa Fe, N.M., said "The museum is distressed that Mrs. Robinson is dis-

pleased with her reception. I thought we had done the best we know how."

Portraits by Tiepolo and Tintoretto are included in the collection as well as Pissarro's "Harbor Scene" and Medagliani's "Boy in Green." Twenty paintings are by Giuseppe Gambino, a Sicilian protégé of Mrs. Robinson.

There also is a portrait of her—"Victoria in Red"—done by Capuetti, a modern Italian Salvador Dali.

Mrs. Robinson hinted she may give the collection to Philadelphia, the city of her birth. But she made no definite commitments.

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### Centennial Fete Begins; Past, Future To Be Seen

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—A dazzling array of Oregon past and to come, telescoped into 100 days, starts here today.

Gov. Mark Hatfield touches off a spray of rockets and a 100-gun salute at noon marking the opening of Oregon's Centennial Exposition.

Simultaneously 23 nations will display their cultural and commercial wealth beside commercial exhibits from the United States.

The trade fair will be housed inside the 11-acre Pacific International Livestock Exposition building, key structure on the 65-acre site.

### Star Asked To Quit Post

HOLLYWOOD (AP)—The president of the 8,000-member American Guild of Variety Artists says she won't comply with an executive board request for her resignation.

"I've been nominated for a second term," actress Penny Singleton—"Blondie" of the movies—said Tuesday. "I'm willing to let the AGVA membership decide who's right — me or Jackie Bright."

Bright is the guild's national administrator. Last weekend, she and Miss Singleton disagreed at the AGVA convention in Washington over investment of \$50,000 of guild funds in a home for aged guild members at South Fallsburg, N.Y. Miss Singleton said she wants title of the property vested in the guild itself and not in the corporation set up to buy property in the Catskill Mountains.

The executive board backed Bright, voting 30-10 for her resignation.

### Heirs Fight Over Money

FORT WORTH, Tex. (AP)—When the late Charles J. Wrightman drew up his will, he included a \$20,000 bequest for a Negro employee named George Tatum.

The trouble is, he didn't say which George Tatum, and two men by that name may claim the inheritance left by the 90-year-old oilman who died May 20.

Warren Scarborough, Wrightman's attorney, said his client intended the money for George Tatum, 53, of Fort Worth, who served Wrightman as house boy, chauffeur and yardman for nearly 35 years.

But in Tulsa, Okla., George Tatum, 70, said he thought the money was meant for him because Wrightman "said I made the best barbecue sauce in the world."

Tatum said he worked for Wrightman more than 20 years ago in Tulsa.

### Police, BSA Seek Girl, 14

DETROIT (UPI)—More than 1,100 police and Boy Scouts stepped up the search today for a missing 14-year-old girl who had been threatened in a telephone call and received several other mysterious calls.

Susan Lawrence, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Lawrence, was last seen at 9 a.m. Monday on the way to a library to study for a final exam at Mumford High School where she was a freshman. She never arrived.

About 200 police officers, including a 150-man trouble shooting detachment, combed the northwest side neighborhood for more than 24 hours without finding the girl.

Another 100 officers and 1,000 Boy Scouts planned to relieve them and take up the search this morning.

Lawrence, manager of a shoe store, said his daughter had been threatened by a telephone caller. "If I ever get hold of Susan, she'll never know what hit her," the caller told a friend of the family.

Susan was described as a slight girl, weighing 70 pounds and 4 feet 11 inches tall. She looked more like 9 or 10 than 14 years old.

### St. Louis Papers Closed By Strike Of Stereotypers

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Both St. Louis daily newspapers were closed today by a strike of St. Louis Stereotypers Union Local 4 against the afternoon Post-Dispatch.

Materials and jurisdiction were involved in the complicated dispute.

The union struck at midnight Tuesday, forcing the morning Globe-Democrat to suspend publication. The Globe, target of a recent 99-day strike by the American Newspaper Guild, is printed by the Post-Dispatch under contract.

The Globe-Democrat's 2 a.m. edition was not published but the newspaper ran off all of its home editions by changing its schedule. Picket lines were set up at midnight. No negotiations were held Tuesday night.

The Newspaper Guild announced it would observe the picket line. Union printers were told that if they refused to cross the picket lines they did so as individuals, but that this was their prerogative under their contract.

Federal mediator Arthur Hale said that tempers are high and "both sides need a couple of days to cool off."

The dispute centers around a clause affecting the use of stereotype base material and mountings for advertising and news picture engravings.

A spokesman for the Pulitzer Publishing Co., publishers of the Post-Dispatch, said company and union negotiators agreed on a new contract but the union member ship rejected the clause in question.

The company spokesman said management agreed to a union demand for a \$10 weekly wage increase for the first year of the contract, retroactive to Jan. 1, and an additional \$5 weekly the second year.

### Liberace Defended By Actress

LONDON (UPI)—Cicely Courtneidge, 66, an actress, testified today at the Liberace libel trial she had never found anything "dirty" or "sexy" in the pianist's television programs.

Liberace is suing the tabloid Daily Mirror and its columnist William Connor for libel on grounds Connor's "Cassandra" column implied Liberace is a homosexual. The pianist has formally denied this.

Liberace, dressed in a shiny copper-bronze suit, watched quietly in Regal High Court today while the veteran actress marched into the witness box as a witness against the Daily Mirror.

Liberace's attorney, Helenus Milmo, asked her "did you in those (Liberace) performances see or hear anything that could be described as dirty?"

"Nothing at all," replied Miss Courtneidge.

"Did you see or hear anything that was suggestive?"

"No, nothing," said the actress.

The libel trial had been expected to move today to a television theater so the court could study films of the 40-year-old pianist in action. The presiding judge put off that move and the gray-haired actress was called.

Gerald Gardiner, the Mirror's attorney, suggested during Tuesday's hearing that the judge and the jury of 10 men and two women be shown some of Liberace's filmed TV appearances.

Justice Cyril Salmon told lawyers for both sides to get together and work out the viewing details.

### Charges Cite Bay Area Coed

HONOLULU (UPI)—A San Francisco State College coed, a would-be adventurer and novelist (in that order), was to appear before the U. S. commissioner today as a stowaway.

But Sharon Forsberg was not worried. She said she didn't even know if any charges were pending against her.

Sharon, 18, had 90 cents with her when she slipped aboard the M. M. Dant in San Francisco Friday. She hid in a broom locker but was discovered before the passenger-freighter was two hours at sea.

The Dant's captain contacted her father, O. M. Forsberg, San Leandro, by radio-telephone. Forsberg agreed to pay for his daughter's passage.

Sharon appeared to take it all as a lark. She told newsmen she set out to visit an old flame who was a student at the University of Hawaii, but she refused to identify him. And, anyway, she confided, he was no longer in the islands.

She said she spent her time on the Dant working on her novel. "It's very involved," she said. "I don't have a name for it yet."

Sharon said she would try to land a job here, but if she doesn't have any luck before the week is out she will fly back to the mainland.

Presumably her father will pay for that passage, too.

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### Petroleum Aide Heart Victim

PORTLAND (AP)—Albert L. Walters, 61, Oakland, Calif., West Coast secretary of the Liquefied Petroleum Assn., died from a heart attack Tuesday.

He and his wife had been here for a convention of the association. Walters also was managing director of the Western Liquefied Gas Assn.

Other survivors include two sons and two daughters in Indiana.

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