

Man Convicted, Without Proof, Of Raping Blond

Tries To Escape By Foot From Courtroom

MEDICAL EVIDENCE OF RAPING BATON ROUGE, La. (ANP) — Facing a mandatory death sentence, a 24-year-old Negro deliveryman broke from the prisoner's dock and made a desperate, but futile dash for freedom in a tense courtroom drama here last week after an all-white jury convicted him of raping a white secretary.

When the verdict was announced, Leon Brent, tried to run from a courtroom door, but was overtaken by deputies. He screamed and swung his arms wildly as he was subdued and was carried bodily from the courtroom.

Brent denied he had raped the young woman. He charged that she

framed him, after enticing him into her office in a downtown Baton Rouge building, and making a proposition to him, while threatening to call police and charge him with rape.

The defense attorney, Sam Cashion, who said he will appeal the verdict, also charged that the prosecution's evidence was "flimsy." He said there was no medical evidence the girl was raped and said it was "only her word against his word."

The girl broke into tears as she told the jury Brent was the man who raped her at knife-point and then accidentally slashed her throat when she began screaming.

The conviction carries a mandatory death sentence.



SMITH PREXY RECEIVES CHECK—P. V. Guyton, left, sales manager in the Charlotte Office of Gulf Oil Corporation, presents check for \$410 to President Rufus P. Perry of Johnson C. Smith University, right, as part of the Corporation's Aid to Education program. Frank T. Odom (center), sales representative in the Atlanta office, looks on.

Charlotte's Mechanic, Farmers Bank Observes 2nd Anniversary

CHARLOTTE—An art exhibit featuring the work of Charlotte-Mecklenburg elementary school children and an open house program with prizes were features of the second anniversary of the Mechanics and Farmers Branch Bank here on Sunday, March 1, from 4 to 7 p. m.

Located at 101 Beatties Ford Road, the new branch has "exceeded our original anticipation of 2 million dollars in deposits for the first two years of operation," according to John H. Wheeler, president of the parent Durham bank.

The board of directors and the management are highly elated at the rate of growth of our bank," Wheeler said.

Indication of the bank's progress during 1963 was seen in a spectacular gain of 60 places in rank since one year ago, according to the

American Banker's Year End Roll Call of the nation's 2700 largest banks. Mechanics and Farmers now stands in 2612th position, according to Upton E. Liptrott, president of American Bankers daily newspaper.

Wheeler paid special tribute to the "enthusiasm and zeal of our dynamic Charlotte-Mecklenburg management and staff."

Total assets for the Raleigh, Durham, and Charlotte offices have climbed from some \$10 1-2 million in 1962 to more than \$13 1-2 million at the close of business in 1963.

Bank officials revealed that for the second time in two years, Mechanics and Farmers Bank had topped all other predominantly Negro operated banks. In runner-up spot for 1963 was Citizens Trust of Atlanta with assets of \$12,574,000. Washington, (D. C.) Industrial Bank was in third place with assets of \$12,573,000.

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KINGSTON, Jamaica (ANP) — has a beat. Fifteen years ago, Ben retired from the army after serving 40 years. Just last month, Ford received from the army a clasp denoting his long service and a good conduct medal. Said the ex-GI, "I'm not surprised at having to wait 15 years for the clasp. I haven't got my discharge papers yet."

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EASTER SPEECH

In developing the Taster speech, why not discuss the arrest and three trials of Jesus in terms of Roman and Jewish laws. The speaker might also trace the events and happenings during the last week of the life of Jesus. Finally, a third approach would be to talk about good Friday—emphasizing that the Jews who cried, "Crucify him!" were not the same crowd that said, "Hosannah to the king as Christ rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.

Then a speaker might show how, even in death, Christ bore himself so nobly as a king. The dying criminal had faith in the Master and asked Jesus to remember him when he came to Paradise.

If you wanted to pursue a speech on Good Friday, you could discuss the various virtues of the Palm tree and what it symbolized in connection with Jesus. Upon request,

the writer will prepare speeches for Easter.

READERS: For my free pamphlet on public speaking, send a long business envelope and two stamps to Dr. M. H. Boulware, Florida A&M University, Box 310-A, Tallahassee, Fla. Zip Code 32307.

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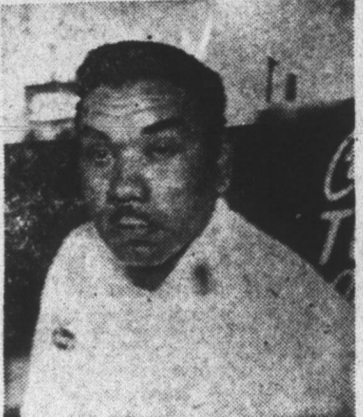
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Family Spat Over Dinner Ends As Hubby Shot, Wife Charged

DETROIT (ANP) — An argument over dinner between Mr. and Mrs. Wardell McInnis, both 35, ended in tragedy here last week. McInnis is dead of a stab wound in the chest; and his wife is being held on second degree murder charges.

Police, reconstructing the event, said McInnis returned home from work and found his wife entertaining Robert Casey, 29-year-old "boy friend of the girl who lives upstairs."

When McInnis demanded that his wife fix him some dinner, she refused.

She then hit McInnis on the head, picked up a butcher knife and stabbed him in the chest.

If convicted of the charges, Mrs.

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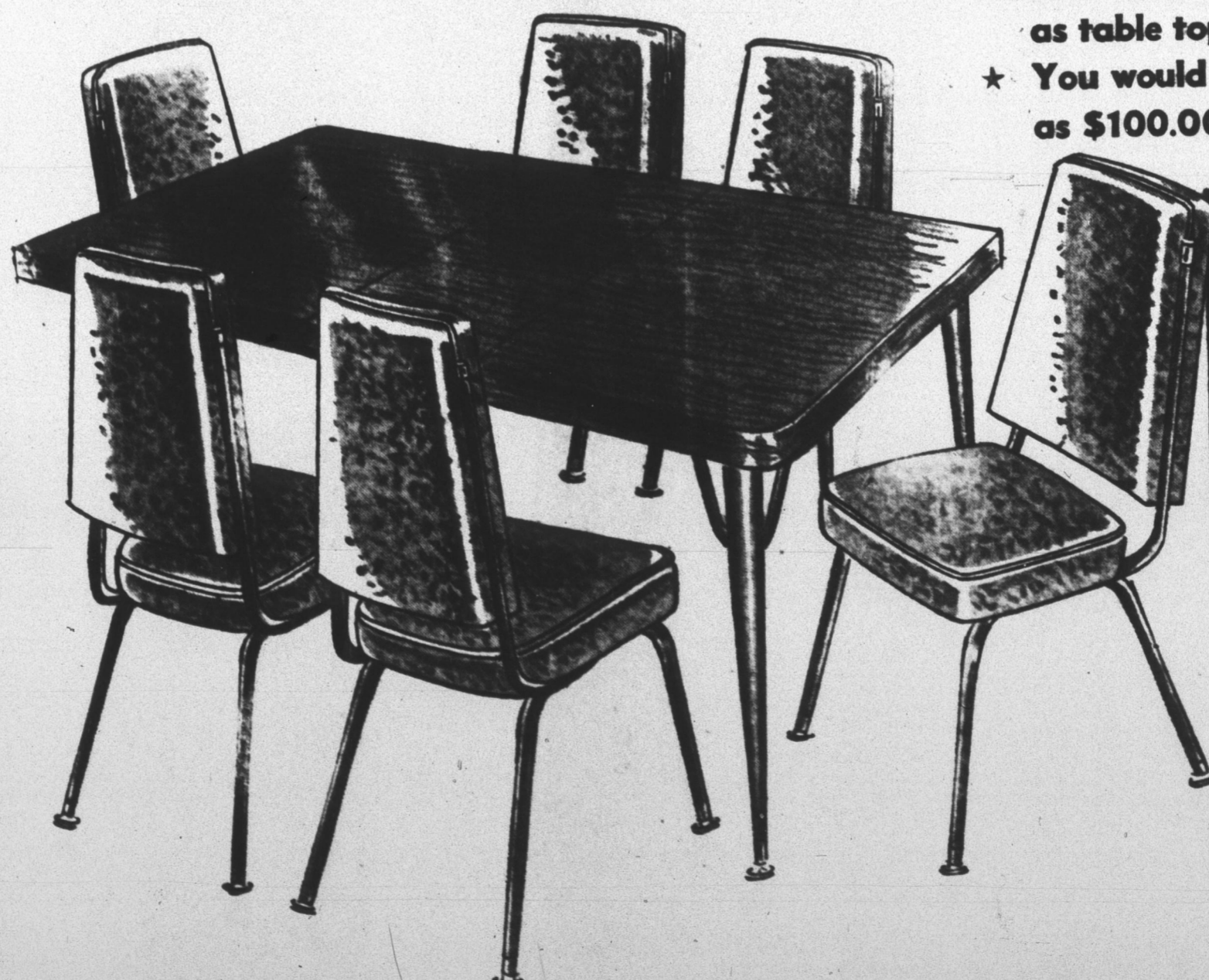
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