

BROWNELL URGES SIMPLIFIED LAW ON PERJURY TRIALS

WASHINGTON, March 6 (AP)—Apparently with Harvey Matusow and some other turnabout witnesses in mind, Attorney General Brownell urged Congress today to simplify the law dealing with perjury prosecutions.

Brownell said the change he proposed in no way would reduce the protection afforded defendants under present law, nor would it shift the burden of proof from the prosecution.

"Ridiculous" Rule Hit "It merely eliminates what appears to be a ridiculous requirement that proof be adduced as to which of two statements is false when one of such statements must, of necessity, be so," he said.

Under Brownell's proposed amendment, a conviction could be sought by showing that a witness willfully contradicted himself on "material matters" while testifying under oath within a three-year period before U. S. courts, grand juries, or congressional committees.

As the law now stands, a prosecutor must prove on which occasion the witness was lying. And this must be done through two independent witnesses or at least one witness plus documentary evidence.

Brownell renewed his proposal after several government witnesses in recent weeks, including Matusow, swore they had lied under oath at previous trials and investigations.

While he mentioned no names, the attorney general obviously has these witnesses in mind when he appealed for early action in letters to Vice President Nixon and House Speaker Rayburn.

Brownell noted he made the same proposal to the last Congress and added: "Unfortunately, such legislation was not enacted despite the fact that it is greatly needed."

Criminal penalty laws are never retroactive, so any new measures would not affect testimony already given by Matusow and two recanting witnesses before the Federal Communications Commission.

A federal grand jury in New York is currently investigating the turnabout Matusow, self-styled former communist who now says he concocted testimony as a government witness in trials and hearings involving alleged subversives.

Matusow faces a similar examination in Texas, and the Senate Internal Security subcommittee also has been delving into his jumbled stories.

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ON TELEVISION TODAY

Table listing TV programs by time slot and station. Includes programs like 'The Tonight Show', 'The Ed Sullivan Show', 'The Dick Cavett Show', etc.

News Oddities

By CHARLES MERCER NEW YORK, March 6 (AP)—Women overcome all sorts of difficulties and vanquished a variety of opposition nearly everywhere last week. In Okemah, Okla., a 60-year-old slip of a woman knocked out a wolf (four-legged variety) with a hoe when she met him at her door. In a Chicago court a fellow offered to give up whiskey if his wife would give up bingo. When she refused, a judge ordered him to go right on paying her temporary support pending outcome of her separate maintenance suit. When a physician ordered a British singer to stop talking for six weeks, she took off for Majorca. There they speak only Spanish—which she can't. A London fan dancer reported sabotage of her camouflage. Some rouge loosened the rivets holding the ostrich feathers on her fan-leaving her in the altogether. Fortunately (for her) it happened at rehearsal. Still in England, the lady of a knighted wealthy industrialist drove her gold-plated automobile down the Yorkshire mining town of Castleford and won the local women's marble championship. Back in Los Angeles a 97-pound wife won a divorce because her husband was constantly complaining she was too fat. On the other hand, a Denver chap won a divorce from his wife because every time he put his arm around her a fellow living with them would sick the family dog on him. Then there was the fellow in Detroit who got burned up when his old flame rebuffed him and set fire to her house. Speaking of fires, a bird (dubious female) set an abandoned house on fire in Cumberland, R. I. when she carried a lit cigarette to her nest in the roofpeak. One of the few women who didn't make out so well was a woman meteorologist at the North Platte, Neb., weather station. She just can't explain why she started out on a trip that ended with her and her family trapped in a blizzard for 18 hours.

TODAY'S RADIO PROGRAM

Table listing radio programs by time slot and station. Includes programs like 'The Tonight Show', 'The Ed Sullivan Show', 'The Dick Cavett Show', etc.

MASKED GUNMEN SLAY EX-CONVICT IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO, March 6—(AP) Two masked gunmen riddled an ex-convict today in what police said probably was a gangland vengeance killing. At least seven 45 caliber bullets ripped into the body of Emil (Grumpy) Grudecki, 36, a frequently arrested burglar. The shooting occurred in front of the Twenty Hundred club, a tavern on the Northwest Side, as the owner, Rock Casella, 35, and another man identified as Mike LaCurcia stood talking about sick shooting. Casella told police that two men drove up near the tavern in a four-door blue sedan. They jumped out, shouting "Don't move," and shot Grudecki, standing nearby. Grudecki was drinking in the tavern earlier, Casella said both men wore masks. They escaped in the car. Casella was detained for a lie detector test. Police said they found a shotgun, several pistols and ammunition in his tavern. They sought LaCurcia for questioning. Homeless L. James McMahon advanced the theory of gangland vengeance. He said several small crowbars and a kit of burglar's tools were found in Grudecki's home.

AIR FORCE IS SWAMPED BY CADET NOMINATIONS

WASHINGTON, March 6—(AP)—The Air Force has struggled through a last, final flood of applicants for its new air academy and now is ready for all 6,356 nominees for the 300 vacancies in the first class. Entrance examinations will be held March 12. Spokesmen said today that about 2,500 nominations came showering down on the Air Force Academy appointments branch during the last week the books were open. Officials worked day and night for four days and finally struggled through the pile of papers, sorting out those whose applications showed they would be qualified to take the physical and educational examinations and scheduling them. The nominees, in addition to meeting educational requirements, must go through medical tests in connection with flying training as well as air force aptitude and officer quality tests.

'NEW HAVEN' SCHEDULES FLOWER SHOW SPECIALS

Special excursion fares will be in effect from Connecticut points to the Boston Flower Show, the New Haven railroad announced yesterday on March 13, which is the opening date of the show, the regular Sunday excursion will be available. On March 15 there will be a Flower Show Special with the same low cost, round-trip fares. This Tuesday special will leave Bridgeport at 9:13 a.m., New Haven at 9:40, Old Saybrook 10:18, and New London at 10:45, due Boston at 12:55 p.m. The return trip on this day may be made on any regularly scheduled coach train except the Merchants Limited and Advance Merchants Limited.

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