

Lawyer of Suspect in Deaths Is Reported in Conflict
 By JOSEPH F. SULLIVAN Special to The New York Times
New York Times (1857-Current file); Dec 1, 1976; ProQuest Historical Newspapers The New York Times (1851 - 2001)
 pg. 52

Lawyer of Suspect in Deaths Is Reported in Conflict

By JOSEPH F. SULLIVAN
 Special to The New York Times
 JACKSON, NOV. 30.—The Bergen County Prosecutor's office cited today a conflict-of-interest issue against the attorney representing Harry De La Roche 2½, the 15-year-old man charged with murdering his parents and two brothers, John Taylor, a Park Ridge attorney and friend of the De La Roche family, represented the youthful defendant yesterday as he had meeting with the young man's grandmother and with the approval of his relatives.

However, the Prosecutor's office learned that Mr. Taylor was the municipal prosecutor in Montvale where the De La Roche family lived and where the murder took place early Sunday.

Roger W. Bristol 2½, the first publisher in a conflict of interest. "As municipal prosecutor he would have access to the records of the Montvale police and would be in the position of cross-examining his own witnesses at the trial."

A "Lapsed Prosecutor"
 Judge Fred C. Galla of the Superior Court criticized that the issue had been brought to his attention by Montvale officials. Mr. Taylor said he had been consulted about any possible conflict but was told by Thomas Murray, the Montvale Police Commissioner, and said that he had predicted the official with some care to avoid a show that he was not in any conflict of interest.

"I am a former prosecutor who can handle any staff, through experience and research," Murray wrote on Nov. 27.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Role as a Prosecutor in Montvale Is Cited by County Officials

"I cannot handle any matter that comes before me in my official capacity," Judge Galla said he would decide tomorrow whether to conduct a court hearing on the dispute.

Mr. Taylor said he would consider tomorrow with the young defendant, who must decide whether he wants to continue to retain him for the balance of the case. If Mr. De La Roche wants to retain him, Mr. Taylor said he would seek an immediate ruling from the Bergen County Ethics Commission regarding the propriety of his role.

Judge Galla has ordered Mr. De La Roche had withdrawn his pending petition for recusal. When the evaluation, which would require Mr. Taylor's resignation at this point, is completed, Judge Galla will be called to decide the further matters he had.

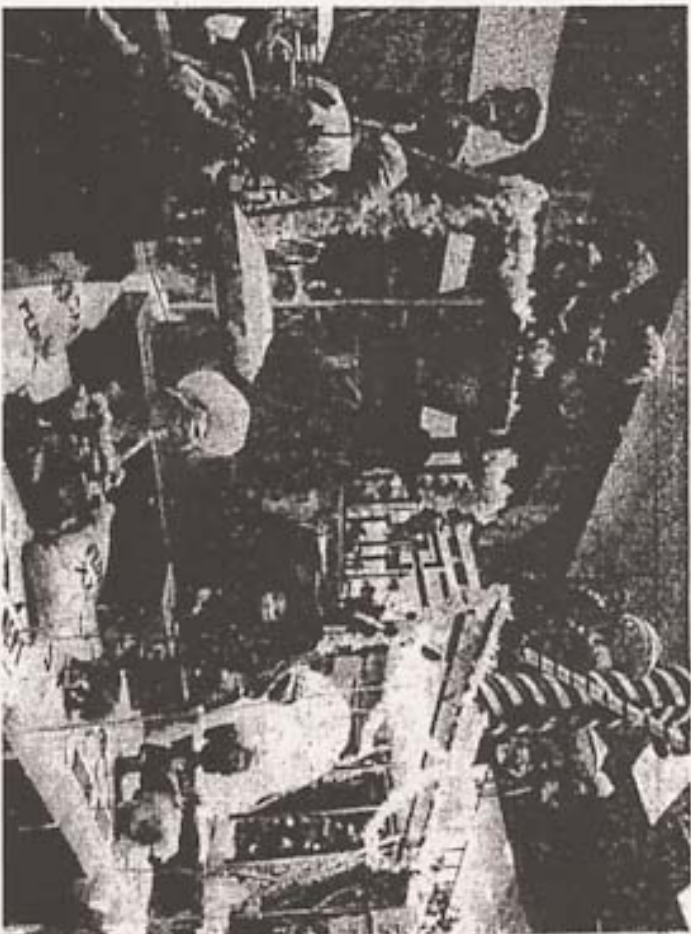
Family Edit Barbed
 For colleagues and family friends were all baffled today over a possible meeting for the children. Mr. De La Roche is charged with using a 22-caliber target pistol to murder his 44-year-old father, Harry Sr., his mother, Mary Jane, sister, De La Roche, 22, and his brother, Ronald, 15, a younger brother, Tom, 12, also was shot in the head but was killed by a blow

to the skull with a heavy object, according to Dr. Lawrence Denton, the Bergen County Medical Examiner.

Joseph C. Woodcock, the Bergen County Prosecutor, said that the murders had occurred soon after the young man returned home at 2 A.M. Sunday. At 4 A.M., Mr. De La Roche had been stopped by the Montvale police while running a red light and had told them he was on his way to report finding the bodies of his family, according to officials.

George W. Micker, the Superior Police Chief, has said the young man gave crew by investigators a statement in which he admitted the murders.

Steven A. Madepertis of Montville in Morris County, who is Mr. De La Roche's grandfather, said the young defendant was always "polite and respectful" and that he and Mr. De La Roche family was "warm and happy."



THE NEW YORK TIMES/ART STREIBER
 LURE FOR THE SMALL FRY, and their large-framed companions, is an exhibit of Santa's candy factory in Bergen Mill, Paramus. Wheels turn and there are lights—on the display and in children's eyes.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.