

1           **Gertrude Murphy of the Women's Overseas Service League's Santa Clara**  
2           **County Unit discusses a headline in the San Francisco Daily Journal**  
3           **which led to a libel suit against the paper**  
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6Gertrude Murphy:     Women's Overseas Service League and oral history by Gertrude Murphy  
7                         of the Santa Clara County Unit. Women's Overseas Service League 1975  
8                         area conference in San Francisco. Gertrude Murphy reminiscences. I  
9                         don't know why they got hold of this story but they got hold of it.  
10                        Anyway, the first thing [inaudible 00:30] across the headline [inaudible  
11                        00:35] union in [inaudible 00:39] [laughter] tremendous. So the result was  
12                        that the Musician's Union filed suit against the, um, Journal and it went  
13                        along and was approaching the day when, uh, the suit was to come to trial  
14                        and I remember at that time I had a reasonably responsible job in San  
15                        Francisco. You had to go through three secretaries to get to me. It wasn't  
16                        that our job was responsible. They didn't want people to know what I  
17                        looked like back there [laughter] but anyway, uh, a man came went  
18                        through the three secretaries and said that he was representing the  
19                        Musician's Union in this suit and he didn't remember exactly what had  
20                        taken place. And he wondered if I could refresh his mind. And I said well  
21                        I'm sorry you don't remember Mr. Jones but I remember perfectly. And,  
22                        uh, but I wasn't about to tell him. So he finally retired. And at that time  
23                        Alice [inaudible 01:46] husband was I believe the city attorney of Oakland  
24                        which was a position that, uh, carried little clout. And I don't know  
25                        whether any of that was the reason but the [inaudible 01:57] was that the  
26                        Musician's Union withdrew their suit but meanwhile this had been  
27                        [inaudible 02:02] about the San Francisco papers and was all very terrific.  
28                        And we finally get a letter from the, um, um, grand master or whatever he  
29                        is of the Musician's Union down in Santa Barbara. I remember saying,  
30                        my dear ladies anytime, anywhere you would like the use of one of our  
31                        bands, you have only to tell us. But by that time of course it was all water  
32                        under the bridge. And as I remember I think we made about \$2500  
33                        [inaudible 02:34] [laughter]. And then, in spite of, we actually paid the  
34                        union their, their fee and it was 5, 6 hundred dollars their fee and the San  
35                        Francisco Unit has been rich and prosperous ever since. [Laughter].

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37Unknown Speaker:   [Inaudible 02:51]? Did you use those bands?

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39Gertrude Murphy:    Oh, we used the army, navy bands. We didn't use the union band. No.

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41Unknown Speaker:    I wish we had had that letter when we tried to hire some music not so long  
42                           ago. [Laughter]  
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1 Gertrude Murphy: Then, uh, it wasn't too long after that that, another thing that we did that I  
2 remember in San Francisco, the fleet came in and we felt that shouldn't  
3 [inaudible 03:16] and we had a terrific party.  
4 Unfortunately, uh, I ran out of tape at this point and this is the end of the  
5 reminiscence and stories of Gertrude Murphy of the Santa Clara County  
6 Unit Women's Overseas Service League.  
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