

# Two County Home Officials Will Be Named Defendants

Administrator To Charge That Hester Pate, Aged White Woman, Was Fatally Beaten By Negro Convict—Action Planned Against Robert Nichols And Mrs. Pauline Mangum

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An alleged fatal assault by a Negro convict at the county home upon an aged white woman who was making her home there is the basis of a suit to be brought next month by Harvey Harward, administrator of the estate of Hester Pate, against County Home Superintendent Robert Nichols and Mrs. Pauline Mangum, matron at the county home.

Harward yesterday filed notice in superior court of his intention to bring the suit and was given until September 7 to record his complaint.

The summons states that the Pate woman died on July 1, the day after she was allegedly assaulted in the insane ward at the county home by a Negro woman convict assigned to look after her.

It is charged that although the Pate woman was "very sick and unable to raise her head from the pillow," the Negro attendant beat, whipped and threw her against the wall of the room, breaking her arm cutting her face and resulting in her death the following day.

The plaintiff also contends that the Pate woman was not insane at the time and that Nichols and Mrs. Mangum knew or should have known her condition and not have confined her to the insane ward.

Following the death of the woman last month in Watts hospital, relatives filed complaint with County Manager D. W. Newsom. The county manager, after an investigation, said the woman apparently died of natural causes and that no evidence of an assault by a county home attendant was found.