Four arrested for holding prisoners, stealing checks

authorities.

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. — Three men and a woman were arrested Monday on charges they held eight men prisoner at a fenced-in house, some for as long as five years, and

made the arrests after one of the victims scaled the fence and went to not allowed to leave.

The men, who ranged in age from 46 to 72, told deputies they were

Kern County sheriff's deputies thinking it was a convalescent home.

ade the arrests after one of the vic
Once there, they said, they were

One told deputies he was beaten. We found several rooms with locked windows" where the men ere apparently kept at night, said

Capt. Gary Baker.
During the day, he said, they were apparently allowed outside in a yard surrounded by a high fence. One of the men escaped Monday when he was boosted to the top of the fence by some of the others, deputies said.

Arrested were Houston Walker,
37, Mildred Walker, 57, Willard Morgan, 31, all of Bakersfield, and Eddie Robertson, 56, of Arvin, Calif.

They were charged with conspiracy, assault, extortion and false imprisonment and held in lieu of \$100,000 bail.

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Gritting and grinding teeth becoming national epidemic

United Press International
PORTLAND, Ore. — The nation
may be in the throes of an epidemic
of bruxism — the grinding, gritting or clenching of teeth.

Once it was thought to plague mainly schoolteachers. Now, it is

showing up everywhere Bruxism is caused, said University of Oregon Health Science dentists and medics, by stress — the same thing that can frazzle your nerves, erode your fingernails and cramp up

"I've treated people who were suicidal" because of severe patholo-gical effects, said Dr. William Howard, chairman of the School of Dentistry's department of fixed pros-

"In dental school in the 1940s," Howard said. "We were taught that bruxism was common to schoolteachers. But goodness, nowadays in our society the stresses of our jobs and personal relationships and so forth all contribute to it."

Almost everybody is a victim of bruxism, he said, and it is an unconscious habit.

"I tell patients frequently that our muscles tighten as we become tense," he said, " and this includes our chewing muscles which bring our teeth together. Then we start to brace on our teeth or rub them or clench them. This can be the beginning of some very serious problems.' By literally grinding away parts of teeth, Howard said, bruxism can

cause malocclusion — imperfect alignment of teeth when the jaw is closely tied to stress, some per closed — which in turn can contrimally need to seek help in bute to worse problems, such as:

Morning fatigue in the jaw; sensitivity to cold in the teeth; pain in the teeth; breaking and loosening of teeth; pain in the jawbone; clicking of the chewing joint; sensitivity in the gum area to toothbrushing; muscle spasms by the ear and along the side of the head; headaches, and sore

muscles in the neck and upper back.
Many dentists believe that bruxism contributes to problems in the gums and bones supporting the

psychiatrist's couch as well

Dr. Mario DeStefanis, a d said there are three majo techniques for treating bru

One is selective grinding 'high spots" on teeth. A se is use of a plastic bite plane patient wears to bed since 90 percent of tooth grinding while a person is sleeping. method for treating more cases is to reshape or reconst biting surfaces with crowns or

Alaska rapidly becomes urbar

United Press International PALMER, Alaska — Only 15,000 of Alaska's 374.6 million acres are under cultivation — about 0.00004

Yet, like much rural land in North America, these precious plots of productivity are being urbanized at a

In Alaska, this is occurring primarily in the Matanuska, a lush valley between the Talkeetna and Chugach ranges, less than a one-hour drive northeast from Anchorage.

The Matanuska was turned into a Shangri-la a little less than a half century ago by 202 Dust Bowl refugees sponsored by Uncle Sam. Even the transplanted midwesterners, used to corn as high as an elephant's eye, were amazed at what they could produce in this 10-by-60-mile valley during a 108-day growing season. Not the least of these achievements were cabbages weighing up to 72

Ten years ago, 13,500 acres were being farmed in the Matanuska and the bottomland along the lower reaches of the Susitna River just 30 miles or so over the hills west of Palmer. At that time, the "Mat-Su," as the borough embracing these two belts of fertility is called, provided 90 percent of Alaska's locally produced milk, 78 percent of its livestock and

70 percent of its crops.
Six years later farmland in this area had dwindled to 11,500 acres. And the drop continues as Anchorage grows and its residents seek less Orient.

Officials of the Mat-Su say that at the current rate of u zation, most of the commercial in the area may be gone wit

During each of the last foury approximately 4,000 acres i

Mat-Su have been subdivided offered for sale, mostly in one and half-acre lots. Although money has caused a slowdown estate and house building, o say this area is in immediated of becoming a "bedroom com

There are about 40,000 pan land in the borough. More th percent are owned by people not reside on these parcels.

Cotte

plast

ook gre

izes to

ity" without a tax base to support

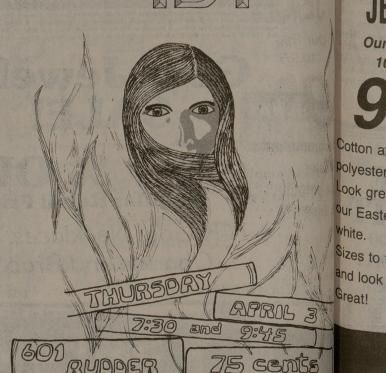
One reason farmers have selling their land, other than the that they can get a good price for that the cost of farming is they can't compete in the me with imported products.

Imports are coming into the in higher volume. In many a imported food is cheaper a grocery shelves than local pro

The U.S. Soil Conservation vice has identified approximate million acres in Alaska as having. cultural potential. But its de ment for large scale agribus appears unlikely without a sub tial increase in population

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In 1956, another tradition at Texas A&M University was introduced. November 6 of that year, the College of Agriculture held its first Agricultural Convocation sponsored by the Ag Council and Alpha Zeta. The event was held in Guion Hall, long since a part of history at Texas A&M.

The following school year, the event was held in the spring where it has been held every year since.

This year's 24th annual Agricultural Convocation is valued for the same reasons it was in 1956.

The outstanding freshman, sophomore and junior in the College are selected and recognized. The top one percent of the seniors are given Senior Merit Awards for their outstanding contributions in terms of grades, leadership and activities. The Honor Professor in the College is recognized for his outstanding qualities in student relations and teaching. And the Gavel Award is presented to the technical club in the College with the best percentage of attendance at Convocation. Each year a speaker is featured as a part of the program.

This year Convocation will be held April 7 in Rudder Auditorium at 8:00 p.m. The speaker is E. de la Garza, a representative to the United States Congress from the 15th Congressional District of Texas.

Everyone is invited to attend. Bring your friends and enjoy an evening honoring Agriculture's finest.