

WHEN WOMEN DIE IN ELECTRIC CHAIR

NEXT?

---A Ruth Snyder Story

New York State Has Seen Two
Die BravelyBY HORTENSE SAUNDERS
NEA Service Writer.

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—The last chapter in the somber story of the Snyder-Gray murder case soon is to be written, and New York wonders if the threatened electrocution of the beautiful Ruth Snyder in gray Sing Sing's "back there"—the death chamber—is to become some time between early morn of January 8 and midnight of January 15, a flashing actuality.

Governor Al Smith becomes a co-star with Mrs. Snyder in the drama as the final act nears. He is the state's sole dispenser of clemency. And New York recalls that few, extremely few, governors have shown a disposition to distinguish between sexes in such matters.

Judd Gray? He Doesn't Matter. Extraordinary appeals to the court present possibilities, too, with psychiatrists and psychoanalysts summoned to the aid of Mrs. Snyder's lawyer in an eleventh hour attempt to invoke theories of "repression," "erotic tendencies," "mental distortion" and the like, in her behalf.

But the governor in his office

at Albany and Ruth Snyder in her little cell at Ossining, hard by the bare room where they keep the "chair," are the chief characters to which the story has slumbered down.

Judd Gray, the dapper little co-set salesman, almost has been forgotten. It doesn't seem to matter much to New York now whether Judd Gray lives or dies.

Two other women, both mothers, have been electrocuted in New York state. Before that, five were hanged. All had been convicted of murder.

Mrs. Martha Place went to the chair March 21, 1899, and Mrs. Mary Farmer followed her March 28, 1909. Both died courageously. They betrayed no "feminine weakness."

Mrs. Martha Place murdered her stepchild and attempted to murder her husband with an axe. Robert Ingersoll called her execution a "disgrace to the state," and Theodore Roosevelt, then governor, was severely criticized for not acting to prevent it.

That was before women had driven war ambulances and done Red Cross work. A woman was supposed to be a weak sister. It was supposed an electrocution would be more than she could bear with equanimity. New York was amazed when Mrs. Place failed to collapse.

Two Women Among the Spectators. The night before she spent in prayer, at nine in the morning she ate a substantial breakfast, with two cups of coffee. Immediately afterward she was dressed in funeral black, with a skirt which came to the floor. She wore only one stocking, so the electrode might be applied immediately below the knee.

Mrs. Place entered the death chamber with eyes tightly closed so she might not see the chair. She was backed into it, and the apparatus snapped into place.

Two women were among the spectators. "What manner of women were those," one newspaper writer asked, "whose pulses are so even and whose nerves so true they could come, unmoved, into such a place as this?"

These women made one final gesture of femininity. As the warden was about to put the electrodes in place, they held, but their full, long skirts and made a screen, "moved by common impulse to

hide what he was doing from the men who were stooping forward with petrified eagerness to miss no detail of the death."

Dead silence prevailed. In a few minutes the affair was over.

Ten years later, Mrs. Farmer was electrocuted in Auburn prison. She was a poor woman, married to a poor man. She murdered a more prosperous neighbor and took possession of her estate. The night before her execution she confessed her guilt and made a statement in which she absolved her husband.

She divided her last night between prayer and writing a long letter to her infant son.

After being dressed in a shirt-waist and skirt for her execution, she gave away the pack of cards with which she had played solitaire so often during her 11 months of imprisonment.

"I will go quietly, like a queen going to God's high court, to atone for my sins," she said. And she did, though her appearance was not regal.

She was allowed, on the way to the chair, to see her husband, James Farmer, who was in a cell in another part of the prison. Their greeting was warm, but was without even a handshake, by the warden's orders.

A Photograph Next to Her Heart.

With two men and two women attendants she was taken into the death chamber. Her skirt and her stockings on one side were slit to the knees. Without a tremor or a murmur, Mrs. Farmer sat down in the chair and was securely strapped. Current was applied three times before she was pronounced dead.

Pressed to her heart the undertaker found a photograph of her child.

There was no less sentiment against the execution of Mrs. Farmer than for Mrs. Place. Charles E. Hughes, governor of the state, was urged to act in her behalf, but he did not. Thousands of letters and appeals from all parts of the country did not change his attitude.

Neither Mrs. Farmer nor Mrs. Place was a woman who approached Ruth Snyder in appearance, or in education, or social background. But both were stoic.

New York wonders what Ruth's final day will be like if the calendar's drab count is not interfered with.

FISHER'S SALE
CONTINUES TO
ATTRACT CROWDS

Probably the most far-reaching sale that has been put on in Roseburg by any merchandising firm during the past is being staged by Fisher's, one of the oldest and most substantial retailers in this section of the state. In the years past Fisher's has been looked upon by the public of Douglas county as one of those concerns whose dependability is a household word, and so when this Volume Sale was proposed, thousands of people from all over the county began to look toward the store as a spot where some unusually low selling prices would be announced.

A special advertising campaign was undertaken under the personal direction of Mr. J. L. Carman, of Portland, who came here expressly for the purpose, and for the first two days of the week Fisher's big establishment was closed while the stock was rearranged and all prices marked down in conformity to the public price program. Not only did full page and double truck announcements appear in this paper, but

several thousand big posters, printed on both sides, were widely distributed throughout the county.

All this, coupled with the name of Fisher's, had its culmination in the crowd congregating in front of the store on Wednesday morning, the opening day of the sale, and in the throngs that have visited the store Thursday and Friday as well. At nine o'clock Wednesday morning the crowd in front of the doors had blocked the sidewalk. In less than five minutes after the doors were swung open that morning the three floors of the big store were literally crowded with eager buyers, compelling the closing of the entrance until the congestion inside could be relieved by some of the buyers finishing their purchases and moving out. It was also found that the force of extra clerks was unable to handle the situation, and S. O. S. calls were sent out for more help. This situation prevailed the greater part of the day, and unprecedented sales have continued up to this time.

The sale included all goods in the store, and is expected to be the opening wedge to a greater volume of business by Fisher's during 1928 than has ever been transacted by the firm in the past.

Five religious foundations have been established in Australia to provide suitable homes for impoverished ladies of noble families who have rendered distinguished service to the state.

SAMMY BAKER IS
NOW OWN BOSS

(Associated Press Leased Wire)
LOS ANGELES, Jan. 6.—Sammy Baker, co-claimant with Ace Huddins for the first chance at Joe Dundee's world's welterweight championship crown, is his own boss now.

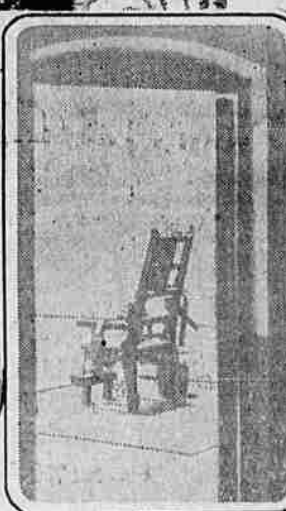
Baker's term in the army expired recently and yesterday his manager's contract became null and void.

Reports here have it that Jack Kearns was interested in taking the hard hitting Sammy under his managerial wing, but so far nothing material seems to have resulted. Baker is matched to fight Charley Long, negro 150 pounder who recently knocked out Bert Colima and took a decision over him in a re-match. Long is a formidable opponent but hardly figures to beat Baker.

REMUS IS DENIED
HOPE FOR LIBERTY

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

CINCINNATI, Jan. 6.—George Remus, the former Chicago lawyer who became "the king of bootleggers," was denied a writ of habeas corpus today and his hope of regaining his liberty after the murder of his wife turned to an appeal from the probate court order which found him insane and directed commitment to the state hospital for the criminal insane at Lima.



A sketch of Ruth Snyder, made from a photograph taken while she was fighting confidently in the courts, appears at the top. At the lower left is Mrs. Martha Place, electrocuted in New York state in 1899, and at the lower right, Mrs. Mary Farmer, put to death in 1909. Between the latter two is Sing Sing's "back there."

Syracuse, N. Y., has had no deaths from smallpox in 37 years. January was named after Janus, a Roman god.

The largest flower grows in the island of Sumatra, a Dutch possession in the East Indies. Its botanical name is Amorphophallus.

ATTENTION!

Farmer or Rural Home Owner

Only 10 days more we are making a special offer in a lighting system and cooking plant

We will install in your home a Complete Light and Cooking System at the extremely low price of \$268.50

F. O. B. Roseburg, Ore. which is about 1-2 of the usual price for the following equipment. By shipping direct from the factory to the Farmer, and doing away with salesman or agent's commissions, we are able to furnish you at above named price:



ONE 100-LIGHT GENERATOR
TWO TWO-LIGHT FIXTURES
SIX ONE-LIGHT FIXTURES
ONE S.A.D. IRON
ONE THREE-BURNER STOVE
ONE CAN CARBIDE
PIPE AND FITTINGS
INSTALLATION OF ABOVE ITEMS

Why use old methods of lighting when you can have modern lights and cooking conveniences installed complete in your home, lights turned on and generator charged for only \$268.50?

Warranted not to rust or corrode for 20 years. Will not freeze. Installed in the ground. A proven success for the past 22 years. Now built in Roseburg, Ore. Immediate delivery.

ECLIPSE LIGHT CO.
ROSEBURG, OREGON

DOUGLAS COUNTY
GROWERS RECEIVE
\$15,000 ON HOGS

Carload Being Shipped to
San Francisco Market
Each Week—Bring
Top Price.

Douglas county farmers during the past five weeks have received more than \$15,000 in payment for hogs shipped from Roseburg to San Francisco. Five carloads have been shipped out at weekly intervals to the San Francisco market, the fifth car being loaded out today by George Kohlhaugen, local butcher, who has been in charge of the shipments made from this city. The hogs have all been prime stock and have brought the top price in San Francisco. The market there has been at a high level and the farmers here have received the same price as is being paid in the Chicago market. The buying price here has been the same as paid on Portland markets with freight charges deducted.

While the hog industry has never been a major one in Douglas county, yet it is a constant source of revenue and farm experts have frequently recommended that more attention be given the raising of hogs in this locality. The recent shipments from this city prove that hog raising can be conducted very profitably and that the county can be greatly benefited by shipments at a time when there is little income from any other farm products.

While the sum of money represented by these shipments is not overly large, yet at the same time the placing of \$15,000 of outside money in circulation locally will unquestionably be of marked benefit.

ELIMINATION OF
DRIBBLE IN GAME
BEING FAVORED

(Associated Press Leased Wire)
URBANA, Ill., Jan. 6.—Elimination of the dribble in favor of a single bounce in basketball is advocated by Coach Craig Ruby of the University of Illinois. He favors the change for the general welfare of the game. "My belief in the necessity of a change is based on the situation in Illinois basketball, where the stalling attack is carried to an excess," he said. "On small high school floors the five man defense proves so strong that it causes stalling."

MURCHISON HAS
CHANCE FOR LIFE

(Associated Press Leased Wire)
DECATUR, Ill., Jan. 6.—Loren Murchison, the sprinter who has been in St. Mary's Hospital suffering from cerebral spinal meningitis, has a very good chance for recovery, it was announced today by his physician. Murchison will remain in the hospital for at least two weeks longer, his doctor said.

TANGENT RESIDENT
DEAD AT PORTLAND
BURIAL IN OAKLAND

Mrs. Minerva Hart, of Tangent for many years, died in Portland yesterday morning. The body will be taken to Oakland, her former home, for burial.

Mrs. Hart was born in Missouri in 1870 and came with her parents to Oregon when a small child. She is survived by the following children: Mrs. W. A. Slate of Tangent, Paul Hart of Albany, Miss Ruth Hart of Oakland, Mrs. Alice Thompson, Mrs. P. V. Rexford and Mrs. John Loring of Portland. Funeral services will be held at Oakland.—Albany Herald.

The Strait of Bab-el-Mandeb, connecting the Red Sea with the Gulf of Aden is called the Gate of Tears because there are so many shipwrecks there.

FATAL SHOOTING
CAUSED BY FALL

(Associated Press Leased Wire)
SILTCOOS, Ore., Jan. 6.—M. L. Kimmel accompanied the body of H. H. McDowell of the Mac-Marie lodge to Eugene on the noon train Monday, to have it prepared for shipment to Wisconsin, the place of his birth, where it will be received by his father, W. S. McDowell.

Mr. Kimmel, in stating further incidents of the tragic accident, says that both men were standing up in the boat and that he had just shot a duck and swung around as they flew over to get another shot and lost his balance just as he pulled the trigger, which caused the shot to enter Mr. McDowell's leg near the thigh, cutting both large veins and arteries.

Mr. Kimmel was thrown overboard when he lost his balance, losing his gun in the lake. Mr. Kimmel started to paddle to the Ada station as he was not familiar with the working of a Johnson motor, but three or four minutes later, according to Tr. Guy Strom's estimate of the time, Mr. McDowell died. The body was left there and Mr. Kimmel and Dr. Strom and several other men came to Westlake to report the tragedy. From there Mr. Kimmel went back to stay with the body until the proper authorities could be summoned to take charge of it.

SHASTA OFFICERS
SEEKING MURDERER

REDDING, Calif., Jan. 6.—Shasta county officers today were engaged in a manhunt, with John Meek, wanted in Klamath Falls for murder, as their object. Meek was believed to be in this locality.

Only two per cent of the population of Jamaica is white.

SKAGGS
SAFEMAN
STORES
Distribution Without Waste

Send Your Child to Safeway

Let Billy or Betty do the little shopping errands that crop up between regular shopping days. Sending them to Safeway is much safer than allowing them to go where they will have to wait on themselves or may receive indifferent attention. At Safeway Stores they will have the personal attention of the highly trained Safeway Man and you can depend upon their getting exactly what you sent them for. Learn to rely on the Safeway Man children save you and let your many steps.

CONSISTENT SAVINGS

OATMEAL	SHAKER SALT
This popular cereal is making new friends every day. Either quick cooking or regular.	This convenient package assures your salt running freely. A Safeway Saving.
Small size 15c	Plain 2 for 19c
Large size 39c	Iodized 2 for 25c
PANCAKE FLOUR	Bacon Backs
Big K—Extra quality—Try it.	Swift's lean loin backs. Small strips 8-10 lbs.
8 lb. bag 52c	Lb. 28c
Preserves	Dried Peas
Pure fruit preserves. Not a cheap jam.	Either whole green or split yellow. Fine for soups.
3 lb. jars 69c	3 lbs 35c
Toilet Tissue	Starch
Silko—An extra fine tissue. Large 1000-sheet rolls.	Amaizo Corn or Gloss. For cooking or laundry.
3 rolls 20c	3 pkgs. 20c

Seasonable Savings

Cabbage	Onions	Spinach
Local, Solid Heads	Solid Winter Stock	Fresh and Tender
Pound 2 1/2c	5 pounds 14c	2 pounds 19c
	50 pounds \$1.35	

Store No. 255

Roseburg

Phone 230