

# BECKER DIES IN ELECTRIC CHAIR

(Continued from Page One.)

ed for murder immediately after Becker. Becker had requested to be executed first.

## HISTORY OF THE CASE

### Becker's Fight to Save Life Extended Over Three Years

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]

NEW YORK, July 30.—Herman Rosenthal, the gambler for whose murder Charles Becker was sentenced to die in the electric chair, was shot to death by hired gunmen in the early morning of July 6, 1912, in front of the Hotel Metropole on Forty-third street, a few steps from Broadway. The murder was the swift culmination of sensational charges made a few days before by Rosenthal against Becker in which Rosenthal asserted that Becker then head of the Strong Arm squad of detectives, freely sold police protection and had accumulated thousands of dollars of graft money.

Rosenthal went further than that. He swore that Becker was his silent partner in a gambling enterprise that failed and that Becker, angered by losses where he had expected large profits, raided the Rosenthal establishment and drove Rosenthal out of business by stationing uniformed policemen on his premises day and night.

### Published Charges.

These charges were published and District Attorney Whitman began an investigation of them. He summoned Rosenthal to the Criminal Courts building and listened to his story. An appointment was made with Rosenthal for the next day. Before the time came, Rosenthal was murdered.

When the assassins had done their work they ran across the street, jumped into a grey automobile which was waiting at the curb and whirled away uptown. A bystander caught the license number of the car.

District Attorney Whitman, notified by telephone of the murder, reached the police station where Rosenthal's body lay before dawn. He aroused his detectives from their sleep and spread a dragnet over the city for the murder car. It was found before night, its driver, Louis Shapiro, and Louis Libbey, part owner, were arrested and Mr. Whitman asserted openly in an emphatic statement that the police had abetted the murder.

### Openly Suspected.

New York City, already interested in the charges of police corruption, responded to the news of the murder as if to a call to arms. Becker, who had been the chief target of Rosenthal's accusations, was openly suspected. He was relieved of his command of the Strong Arm squad and transferred to the Bronx. Jack Rose, his graft collector, walked into the Criminal Courts building the day after the murder and surrendered to the District Attorney, declaring he had nothing to fear. Harry Vallon and Bridgie Webber, gamblers and friends of Rose and Becker, were arrested as witnesses. The grand jury began its investigations.

### Rose Confesses.

Rose lay in prison twelve days without word from Becker, and, believing his chief had deserted him, confessed. Vallon and Webber corroborated his story. He told of his long association with Becker, of police corruption which existed as Rosenthal had charged, of thousands collected by Becker for police protection and, finally, of his commission by Becker to arrange to have Rosenthal killed by gunmen—a commission he executed.

That night, July 29, District Attorney Whitman summoned the Grand Jury by telephone and telegraph, laid his evidence before it and within two hours obtained the indictment of Becker on a charge of murder.

### Four Indicted.

Four East Side gangsters were indicted as the actual murderers. Rose had testified that these men were assigned by "Big Jack" Zelig, a gang leader who had been arrested by Becker's men on a trumped-up charge, to do the murder. They were to receive \$1000 and Zelig was to be released. Zelig's orders had been issued from the Tombs to the gunmen.

These gunmen, known in the streets of the East Side as "Gyp the Blood" Horowitz, "Lefty-Louis" Rosenberg, "Dago Frank" Cirofiel and "Whitey" Lewis, were rounded up one by one. The last two were arrested, "Gyp the Blood" and "Lefty-Louis," were not found till September, hiding in a Brooklyn flat. With them were found their young wives who, to divert suspicion, had dyed their light hair black.

### Schepps is Found

To give standing to the testimony of Becker's three accomplices who had turned informers, Rose, Web-

ber and Vallon, a corroborating witness who was not implicated was needed. Sam Schepps, a dapper little gambler who had fled the city, was the man who could do this. He was found at Hot Springs, Ark., brought back to New York and the People's case against Charles Becker was complete. It went to trial on October 7, 1912.

A verdict of guilty of first degree murder was returned at midnight, October 24, 1912, after the jury had deliberated seven hours and fifty-seven minutes. Becker was sentenced six days later to die in the electric chair during the week of December 9, 1912. Within less than a month the four gunmen were placed on trial as the actual slayers, found guilty and sent to the death house.

### Four Are Executed.

More than a year later, on February 24, 1914, the Court of Appeals decided that Becker should have a new trial. The gunmen's conviction was upheld and they paid the penalty with their lives on April 14, 1914. One of the number, "Dago Frank" confessed the guilt of his three associates but maintained his own innocence. His confession, made on the eve of the execution, became known the day they were put to death.

Becker was brought back to the Tombs. His second trial was begun May 6, 1914, and ended May 22, with a verdict of guilty. He was sentenced to die during the week of July 6, 1914. An appeal was filed but the conviction was upheld by the higher court in a decision handed down May 25, last, and the date of the execution was set for the week beginning July 12.

### Wife Was Loyal.

Throughout Becker's troubles his wife remained loyal to him and was his constant adviser. She labored apparently without tiring in his behalf, assisting his counsel in every possible way. She appeared to be crushed when the Court of Appeals upheld his second conviction, but soon turned her energies toward eleventh-hour work to save him. It was largely at her urging that he joined in the plan to ask Governor Whitman, his prosecutor, for clemency.

### Waiting Revenge

There was one other woman who, if reports are true, followed Becker's career through the courts as closely as his own wife did. This was Herman Rosenthal's widow. Soon after Becker's second conviction she disappeared. Not long ago she was found, broken in health and spirit, and living with an old-time friend. "I am living for only one thing," she was quoted as saying "to see the day that Becker pays the penalty."

## NORTH BEND NEWS

City Recorder Maybee has figured out that he will have to sign his name 2952 times on the coupons and bonds recently issued by the city of North Bend. The bond issue was to clear up about \$36,000 warranted indebtedness of the city.

R. B. Hazer says that \$58 per month has been pledged by business men to support a wharfinger for the dock for small boats. B. J. McNay was appointed for the place.

Henry Bergman in a letter to Edgar McDaniel says that Fred Hollister and his party averaged 174 miles per day in their auto trip from Coos Bay to San Diego.

Jerry Kinney of the Gorst and Kinney line has entered claim to the auto of John Vanburger which Milo Pierson recently attached for a \$300 bill. Kinney says he sold the auto to Vanburger and it is not paid for yet. He promises a lively legal scrap over it.

The North Bend city council will probably adopt the "White Wing" system of keeping the new paving clean. A push cart and man to keep it going is promised.

Chief of Police Anderson has gone to San Francisco to appear as a witness in the counterfeiting cases arising from the Allen gang which left here on the Barnacle, a small craft which proposed to make a long cruise of the coast and which asked for financial aid from the commercial bodies on the bay as an advertising proposition.

Paul Schillerstrom has gone to San Francisco to try and get a vessel to ply into the Sluslaw regularly to take out the lumber cut by the Point Terrace mill in which he is interested.

Gorst & King are figuring on opening a depot in the room formerly occupied by the Stein shoe store as headquarters for their Marshfield-North Bend auto line. They say that if the motor car is taken off the North Bend-Marshfield run, they will make a straight fare of ten cents between the two cities, furnish free telephone, etc., besides the public waiting room.

Capt. Bergman, former keeper of the Sluslaw lighthouse and father of Mrs. Fred Hollister is improving after a severe illness.

Misses Kate and Helen Mende, Ella Vels and Amy Isaacs will leave

soon for a trip to the San Francisco exposition.

Fred Johnson has finally secured a patent to his mining claim on South Inlet which John Herron and others contested.

Mrs. Clifford Gaines left yesterday in response to a message that her father was quite ill at Port Orford.

### PARTY RETURNS

Capt. Dunson and wife and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Harvey and daughter returned yesterday from their auto trip to the San Francisco exposi-

tion, Crater Lake, Grants Pass and other points.

Mrs. H. E. Connors, who was re-elected as teacher in the North Bend schools, has sent her resignation to the School Board with a statement that she does not expect to reside in North Bend next year. Her place makes the seventh vacancy in the North Bend teaching staff for next year.

### WILL RETURN HOME

A. B. Daly left this morning for Bandon where he will catch a steamer for San Francisco. He has practically disposed of his interests on Coos

Bay and will concentrate his efforts in California. He says he has a 34-acre orange orchard and other holdings at Monrovia, which will make him independent.

### TO CONCLUDE DETAILS

C. C. Going plans to leave Sunday with his father, A. C. Going, for Portland to conclude details in connection with the purchase of the Ferry estate property at Broadway and Anderson. They will erect a building, either brick or concrete there this fall as a future home for the Going & Harvey company.

### MANY TIES ON HAND

Joseph Fife, Jr., Says Company Is Piling Them Up

Joseph Fife, Jr., general manager of the Estabrook company, is in the city on business. Mr. Fife some time ago with business associates bought a majority interest in the Estabrook company and assumed the general management. Mr. Estabrook retiring from that position to look after other interests.

Mr. Fife makes frequent visits to Coos county to look after the business here and at Bandon and will

spend much of his time here. His home is being a member of the Coos Bay Chamber of Commerce and a mill at Eureka. Mr. Fife says he is piling up a large amount of business here and that the company will tie out of Coos county. Have your heads, etc., prepared for office.

# find "yours"

Get all the smoke-pleasure you pay for. Find the right cigarette—a SENSIBLE one that fits your own likes and dislikes.

## It may or may not be Fatima

—but this will help you find it.

Tastes differ—in fashions, foods and pretty girls. Also in cigarettes.

A cigarette that started out to please every man's taste would end up by pleasing none.

Most of us like our cigarette smoke deliciously cool and refreshing. The Mexican likes his hot and dry, with a nice little peppery sting in it.

Some men like a cigarette wholesomely, fragrantly mild. Others of us hunt for a cigarette almost as heavy as a black cigar.

Most of us want an "easy" cigarette—a SENSIBLE one, so that no matter how steadily or how many we smoke, we'll feel as fit as a fiddle. Other men, though, don't care about that. They smoke only a few—so they want a kick like a mule's in each puff.

All of us want our smoke "full-bodied"—it must satisfy that smoke-hunger. But the cigarette that just fills the bill for you may not do at all for your next-door neighbor.

flavor. But if you smoke quite often—if you would like to smoke whenever you feel like it and without any effect on the tongue or throat or any fear of a heavy or "heady" feeling afterwards—then you should choose some cigarette such as Fatima, a cigarette composed of all-pure tobaccos of considerable aroma, mellowed by being aged and carefully blended to produce a fragrant and wholesomely mild, yet "full-bodied," smoke. And the smoke must be noticeably COOL. For otherwise your tongue or your throat will soon signal you to stop smoking so often.

If you will ask any Fatima smoker, he will tell you that Fatimas never make him "feel mean"—no matter how many he smokes.

That is why Fatimas are considered the most sensible cigarette by such a large majority of smokers. And that is probably the main reason why hardly any Fatima smokers ever switch! They like a sensible cigarette—and one with a good, pure taste to it.

### But the Taste is up to You

All cigarettes are pure, but when it comes to the taste, nobody can help you choose. You simply have to decide for yourself.

Of course, Fatima's taste may not appeal to you. But most men who try Fatimas like the taste so well that they seek no further—otherwise Fatimas could never have won and held their enormous and growing leadership amounting to over one and a half BILLION cigarettes a year.

Somewhere—among all the brands on the market—is the one just-right cigarette for YOU!

Maybe it's the very one you have now in your pocket—but are you SURE? Maybe it's some entirely "different" cigarette—it may or may not be Fatima.

But "find it!" Until you do, you're cheating yourself out of a whole lot of smoke-pleasure. Also you're wasting some money.

### How to Find "yours"

To avoid blindly trying too many different cigarettes, ask yourself, first of all, this question:

"Just what do I like in a cigarette?"

If you smoke only a few every day, you may prefer a cigarette which is rather rich or heavy and "oily." Or you may like one which has a rather strong "oriental" taste with a pungency almost like perfume. Or you may want a cigarette with that noticeably "sweetish" Egyptian

### TWO TESTS FOR ANY CIGARETTE

The taste of the cigarette—according to a leading tobacco journal—is up to the smoker. But there are other qualities that you should look for in the cigarette that you are going to stick to for your steady smoke. Here are a couple of tests that may help the average smoker to choose more wisely between different kinds of cigarettes.

The first test is for coolness, which means more comfort to the throat and tongue. Light any cigarette. Draw in a cloud of smoke—a small, ordinary puff is not sufficient to make this test. Hold it in your mouth for a few seconds. Let it float against your tongue and throat. Now blow out the smoke. If the cigarette contains a high grade of mild tobacco leaves, combined in just the right proportion, it will always feel cool and smooth both to your throat and to your tongue.

On the other hand, if the proportions are not right and if the cigarette contains inferior grades of tobacco or hidden strands of rank, oily leaf, you will feel a nipping sting at the tip of your tongue or that "sandpaper tickle" in your throat.

Test number two—How do you feel after smoking all day?

If the tobaccos in the cigarette include a correct proportion of mild grades—and if all of the various grades have been properly mellowed as to bring out the best qualities and to neutralize any unpleasant qualities in each of the different types of tobaccos, you will be able to smoke practically whenever you feel like it through the day without feeling any effect from it. But with another cigarette in which the blend is less skillful, even though the tobaccos are of the highest grade, you will find along towards the end of the day that you are likely to have that feeling of having "smoked too much."

*Clip out these tests and try them on Fatima*

Liggett & Myers Tobacco Co.

Largest cigarette manufacturer in the U.S. as shown by Internal Revenue reports.

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FATIMA was the Only Cigarette Awarded the Grand Prize at the Panama Pacific International Exposition.