

SEVEN DIE IN ELECTRIC CHAIR AT OSSINING

All Death Records Broken for Official Executions—Five Die Protesting Innocence and One Faints and is Unconscious When Shocked to Death

Two State That "I Never Had No Chance—Wife Murderer Meets Death Calmly

OSSINING, N. Y.—Aug. 12.—All death records were broken here today when seven men, five of whom died crying their innocence, were electrocuted in the Sing Sing death chamber. One of the men fainted and was unconscious when shocked to death.

Who the Victims Were

The victims of the legal killing were John Collins, a negro, who murdered Policeman Michael Lynch of New York while drunk; Joseph Ferrone, who cut his wife's throat because she refused to lead a life of shame, and Angelo Guista, Lorenzo Call, Filippo Demarco, Salvatore Demarco and Vincenzo Cons, who participated in a series of robberies in the Croton Aqueduct section, culminating in the murder of Mrs. Mary Hall in her isolated home, near Croton Lake.

The officials and witnesses of the executions gathered at the prison before daylight and the chair was tested as soon as they entered the death chamber. Collins, the negro, entered smiling and muttering prayers. The Rev. Mr. Baumeyer, a Lutheran minister, accompanied the murderer to the chair and knelt, praying by its side while Collins' lips were still articulating petitions to God when the current flashed his soul into eternity.

"Never Had no Chance"

Call was next to die. Three priests accompanied him on his march to the chair. His step was firm and his face bloodless. As he sat in the chair he mumbled, "I never had no chance," and as the head strap was adjusted he shrieked that he was innocent and had had no fair trial. The current cut short his protestations.

Salvatore Demarco died smiling, praying and protesting his innocence. Three contacts were required to end his life.

Filippo Demarco was next. The sizzling of hair and the nauseating odor of burned flesh filled the room as the second contact was applied to his form which, bounding against the straps made them creak and groan under the force of his convulsion.

Angelo Guista, a mere boy, followed. His voice trembling with terror, he cried: "Jesus Christ, I hope—" but the lightning shock of the current ended his cry, and sent his soul out into the beyond with the petition still unsaid.

Killed While Unconscious

Vincenzo Cons, crying "I never had a chance," was then supported into the death chamber on the verge of collapse. When he saw the chair he fainted. In that condition he was forced into position and shocked to death while his intelligence was absent from the supine body. Three contacts were required to loose his spirit.

Joseph Ferrone, the wife slayer, was the last to die. He was known to be a desperate man and had boasted he would not die in the chair. The guards were ready for a last struggle, but Ferrone entered quietly, shouted "Good bye and good luck," walked firmly to the chair, kissed the crucifix and prayed silently as he died.

Official autopsies followed the executions, ending in due form the greatest number of judicial killings ever seen in Sing Sing in one day.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—President Taft announced this afternoon that he would commute to life imprisonment the death sentence of Mattie Loma, a Negress convicted of the murder here of her husband.

TAFT TO VETO BUDGET BILL TO SAVE COURT

Adjournment of Congress Will Be Indefinitely Delayed Unless Measure Can Be Passed Over Veto—President Standing Pat

Cummins Demands Action in Amendment Limiting President to One Term of Six Years

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—"Congress will adjourn next Saturday unless President Taft vetoes the budget bill," said House Leader Oscar Underwood today. "But if the president disapproves the budget bill, adjournment will be up in the air."

Underwood plans to call up the wool bill tomorrow and try to pass it over the presidential veto. It is generally believed this is impossible.

To Pass Over Veto

Congressman Fitzgerald of New York this afternoon told President Taft if he vetoes the budget bill the session will be prolonged until September and also warned the chief executive the bill would be passed over his veto.

President Taft, it is understood, is standing pat on his threat to veto the bill because it abolishes the commerce court.

By a vote of 37 to 21 the senate adopted today the substitute to the house provision in the post office appropriation bill extending federal aid to states for the improvement of highways.

The amendment creates a commission to investigate the feasibility of a comprehensive system of good roads. The house provision contemplated federal aid, with an annual appropriation of \$15,000,000.

Bourne's Plan Adopted

The plan of Senator Bourne for parcels post zones was adopted without discussion. It was substituted for the limited parcel post as proposed in the house bill.

In demanding action on his resolution to amend the constitution so as to fix the presidential term at six years, with a limit of one term, Senator Cummins of Iowa, today gave notice in the senate that he would insist on a vote on the measure before adjournment.

CHAIN COMPLETE AGAINST BECKER

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—"Keep the prisoner from outsiders at any cost."

This was the last word of District Attorney Whitman to his assistant, Robert Rubin and County Detective Robert Stewart before they departed for Hot Springs this afternoon to bring back Sam Schepps, wanted here for alleged implication in the murder of Gambler Herman Rosenthal before the Hotel Metropole.

District Attorney Whitman openly stated this afternoon that with the arrival of Schepps his chain of evidence against the police officer would be complete. Schepps, he said, would have nothing to say until he reached New York, when he would give a detailed statement concerning the plan to murder Rosenthal, the name of the gangsters who did the actual killing and the motive behind the slaying.

AMERICANS DEFEAT MEXICAN REBELS

EL PASO, Texas, Aug. 12.—Trapped by United States soldiers while trying to smuggle ammunition across the international boundary from Columbus, N. M., a band of rebels gave battle, and as a result, an American soldier was shot through the body and the hand of a Mexican torn from his arm. The above report received today by Colonel E. Z. Steever also stated that the troops captured about 50,000 round of ammunition, the Mexicans retreating in disorder.

HERMAN ROSENTHAL'S MURDER CHARGED TO POLICEMAN IN COURT.



LIEUTENANT BECKER AS HE APPEARED BEFORE JUDGE MULQUEEN

This photograph of Lieutenant Charles Becker, under arrest in New York charged with the murder of Herman Rosenthal, was taken when he appeared before Judge Mulqueen to withdraw his former plea of not guilty to permit motions for dismissal of the indictment as defective and for the inspection of the minutes of the Grand Jury. Robert Elder is one of his attorneys.

BOURNE'S INFLUENCE AIDS CRATER LAKE; WHERE IS HAWLEY?

The following is a copy of the Crater Lake item in the Sundry Civil Bill, this item having been inserted as an amendment at the request of Senator Bourne, after the bill passed the House:

"Crater Lake National Park, Oregon: For construction of a wagon road and necessary bridge through Crater Lake National Park, Oregon, together with a system of tanks and water supply pipes to provide for sprinkling, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the report of the War Department published as House Document 328, 62nd Congress, 2nd Session, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War, \$100,000.

The bill passed by the Senate contained this item.

It was stricken out in the house, and at Bourne's request reinserted by the senate conferees.

The War Department recommended \$100,000 a year for seven years and the appropriation is in the form of a continuing one.

BARBER SHOP TO BECOME A PARLOR

CHICAGO, Aug. 12.—"A parlor for external refreshments where massaging is practiced."

This is the lettering in signs for shop windows as adopted here today by the national convention of barbers. The delegates agreed that the term "barber shop" is undignified and not in keeping with the high plane of intelligence and expert service required of a "tonorial artist." The delegates will remain in session until Friday.

BALLINGER WANTS CANADA TO ANNEX U. S.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Aug. 12.—"When Champ Clark made his statement that the United States ought to annex Canada, I made one to the effect that Canada ought to annex the United States for, in these times of political turmoil, our country needs better government," yesterday at the Hotel Vancouver declared R. A. Ballinger, formerly United States secretary of the interior.

NO GIFTS FROM TRUSTS RECEIVED IN ILLINOIS CAMPAIGN

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—Testifying before the senate campaign contributions investigating committee here today, Congressman William B. McKinley of Illinois flatly declared that not a penny was received from corporations during the republican congressional campaign in that state in 1908.

"We had a rule," McKinley said, "that no contributions were to be accepted from trusts and this rule was faithfully obeyed."

Although McKinley said he had no complete record of the 1908 campaign fund, he estimated that about \$60,000 was raised. Of this amount, he said, he personally contributed "some five, six or seven thousand dollars."

McKinley estimated the total contributions in the republican congressional campaign in 1908 at \$75,000.

FINAL VOTE ON POSTAL BILL AT 4 P. M. TUESDAY

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—Agreement was reached today in the senate to take a final vote on the post office appropriation and the amending amendments at four o'clock tomorrow. Earlier in the day the senate had approved the Bourne parcel post plan and a substitute for the house plan of a commission to investigate federal co-operation with the states in good road building and also approved the McCumber amendment increasing the salaries of rural free delivery carriers.

Another amendment to the bill requires newspapers and periodicals to file semi-annually with the postmaster general and the postmaster at the city of publication a sworn statement showing the name of the editor, publishers, owners and security holders of the paper.

Another provision is that editorials and all other reading matter in the newspaper or periodical for the publication of which money or other consideration was accepted must be marked "advertisement."

Senator La Follette today urged that postal employees be permitted to unionize, and charged the postal officials with intimidating and discharging employees joining the unions. He charged that many replies by clerks to a circular he sent broadcast asking opinion and advice concerning unionizing had been opened and held up by those hostile to the inquiry.

Rita Sterwood will be the prima donna of "My Best Girl," of which Clifton Crawford will be the star.

FINAL ARGUMENTS BY PROSECUTION DARROW CASE

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Aug. 12.—Drawing comparison between Clarence S. Darrow, accused of jury bribing, and Lord Francis Bacon, the famous English statesman of the Elizabethan era, who pleaded guilty to bribery before the British House of Lords, Judas Iscariot and Benedict Arnold, assistant District Attorney Joseph W. Ford opened today a stirring arraignment of the accused attorney before the jury which will decide Darrow's fate.

Ford made a personal appeal to Juror F. E. Golding, and attempted to talk Golding out of the belief that the case against Darrow was a frame-up. When examined for jury duty, Golding admitted a suspicion that the case might be a frame-up.

WEST CONDEMNS OSSINING AFFAIR

SALEM, Ore., Aug. 12.—Condemning capital punishment as "idiotic," Governor West today after reading an account of the executions at Ossining, N. Y., made a strong plea for the substitution of life imprisonment for the death penalty. Governor West said:

"To me capital punishment seems idiotic. It was not very long ago in England that more than 200 crimes carried the death penalty. The man who robbed a rabbit warren was put to death. Rabbit stealing did not stop, however, and some one with a little horse sense secured the repeal of the law.

"Capital punishment does not deter crime for the reason that the man who commits murder never thinks or cares about the penalty at the time. Imprisonment for one's natural life is far more sensible punishment and will permit and secure a more prompt execution of our laws.

"One of the greatest objections I have to capital punishment is that as a rule only the poor are hanged. The rich can take every advantage of our antiquated system of criminal law and therefore seldom have their necks cracked."

LA FOLLETTE ACCUSES POSTAL DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—That officials of the post office department had filed his mail in an attempt to learn the result of an investigation he is making into conditions in the hospital service was the charge made here today by Senator La Follette. He showed the senate a bundle of letters he declared had been broken open before he received them.

PAYMASTER OF BLOOD MONEY UNDER ARREST

Schepps who Paid Gangsters for Rosenthals Murder is Caught at Hot Springs—May Confess to Secure Immunity—Between Two Fires

Letter Written Jack Rose is Found—Suspects Under Arrest Apprehensive of Confession

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Aug. 12.—Trembling with fear and rage over the action of Deputy Police Commissioner Dougherty in offering to send members of the New York Police force to take him back to New York, Sam Schepps, under arrest here for alleged complicity in the murder of Gambler Herman Rosenthal, this afternoon begged to be sent home by a detective from District Attorney Whitman's office, offering to waive extradition if this was done.

"Do not let them send the police," he begged. "I would never get back to New York alive if they come."

"If I squeal," Schepps told his guards, "I can't live in New York—they won't let me. And if I don't tell, God knows what will become of me."

Letter Makes Admission

Although Schepps is reported to have admitted that he paid the murderers of Rosenthal to "pull off the job," he refused to tell who gave him the money. District Attorney Whitman declares the money was given Schepps by Police Lieutenant Charles Becker, under indictment here for Rosenthal's murder.

Schepps was arrested in Hot Springs just as he was about to post a letter addressed to "Harry Smith, 133 Third Avenue, New York."

This letter read in part: "All I can say is that I am sorry it has turned out this way for you, dear old pal. I have read very little about the case. I paid \$1,000 to L. L., on 46th street, and a few others, which I do not dare mention. However, Jack, my name is Sam, and I don't go back on a pal such as you."

Suspects Apprehensive

"Bald Jack" Rose, "Bridgie" Webber and Harry Vallon were apprehensive when told today that Schepps had been captured and that a letter he had written to Rose had been confiscated with the one addressed to Smith. The letter to Rose, it is said, does not agree with the confessions of Rose, Webber and Vallon made to the district attorney.

District Attorney Whitman is confident that Schepps will talk and is jubilant over the arrest. Whitman unhesitatingly asserts that Lieutenant Becker paid over to Schepps the money which was distributed among the actual slayers of Rosenthal and he figures that with Schepps' testimony, the evidence against Becker was sufficient to send the police official to the electric chair.

LEADERS MADE GAINS IN STOCK MARKET

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—Today's opening stock market developed general strength and nearly all leaders made fractional gains. Canadian Pacific made a new high record and Louisville and Nashville was up three points. Southern roads were decidedly strong while the relative backwardness in Harriman's was partly attributed to pending Panama Canal legislation. American Tobacco was up nearly four points.

The market closed strong and active. Bonds were irregular.

ITALIANS AROUSED OVER ELECTROCUTION OF MEN

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—The Italian colony here is thoroughly aroused over the electrocution at Sing Sing today. It was freely asserted by a number of angry Italians that four of their countrymen electrocuted for the murder of Mrs. Hall were innocent.

PERHAM STARTS WORK ON BEAR CREEK BRIDGES

Following an Understanding With City Officials and Business Men Contractor Will Construct New Bridge and Move Old One

If Injunction Suit is Lost in Supreme Court City Will Be Asked to Veto Bonds for Payment of Contractor

Contractor Perham started work in earnest today on the new bridge over Bear creek on east Main street and will move the present structure to Jackson street as soon as possible. Supplies have been ordered and all possible speed will be made in the removal of the old structure and the erection of the new.

Contractor Perham decided to begin work at once on the bridge following a conference with a committee of the city council Saturday afternoon and after having interviewed a large number of local business men who stated that they would use their influence to have the city vote bonds for payment of the contractor in case the supreme court should decide adversely the injunction suit brought by Ashland parties, which checked work on the bridge.

Mr. Perham will undertake the work in such a manner as to complete the construction of the bridge as rapidly as possible. He has a crew of men preparing the Jackson street site for the old bridge and will move the present structure over Bear creek within the next few days.

Mr. Perham was awarded a contract by the county court in June for the erection of the new bridge over Bear creek in this city but an injunction suit brought by S. A. Carlton and Benton Bowers of Ashland was decided adversely to the county and was promptly appealed to the supreme court where it is now pending. Wishing to build the bridge Mr. Perham conferred with the city council and leading business men of Medford who stated they would use their influence to have the city vote bonds to pay for the bridge in case the supreme court decides adversely to the county.

JOHNSON REFUSES TO RESIGN OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Aug. 12.—Declaring emphatically that he would not resign his office, Governor Hiram Johnson is preparing today for the big mass meeting to be held here tonight at which he will be the chief speaker.

The twelve other members of the California delegation returning from the Chicago progressive convention declared here today they had consented to Governor Johnson's nomination to the vice presidency on the condition that he should not resign. The governor brings word that Roosevelt will campaign in 40 states, taking the stump in one part of the country while Johnson is speaking in another. Johnson's part in the campaign will take him into the Atlantic states.

WILSON TO TAKE PLATFORM LATER

SEA GIRT, N. J., Aug. 12. 12.—"I do not want to give 'horseshoe' opinion," was the answer given here today by Governor Woodrow Wilson, the democratic presidential nominee, when asked why it was that his speech of acceptance failed to comment on the plank for a single presidential term.

"I do not care to say anything on this topic now," added Wilson, "but later I shall make my position perfectly clear on all planks in the platform. A speech of acceptance need not necessarily embrace all platform subjects. I took for my initial utterance the topics which I believed were the most pressing."