

Forty-fifth Year. Daily—Tenth Year.

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NO. 111

BECKER DIES IN CHAIR; PROTESTS HIS INNOCENCE

Convicted Police Official Meets Death Calmly and Bravely—Dies to Protect Friends—in Final Statement Again Declares Innocence—Praises Wife—Three Shocks Needed.

SING SING PRISON, Ossining, N. Y., July 30.—Charles Becker was put to death in the electric chair here this morning for the killing of Herman Rosenthal, the New York gambler. The former New York police lieutenant retained his composure and protested his innocence to the last. He went to his death with a photograph of his wife pinned to his shirt over his heart. Three shocks were given before the prison physicians pronounced Becker dead at 5:35 o'clock.

Becker led the way to his own execution. The condemned man sat up all night on the edge of his cot, calmly talking to Deputy Warden Charles H. Johnson.

"I have got to face it," said Becker, "and I am going to meet it quietly and without trouble to any one."

Meets Death Calmly

The deputy warden left Becker about an hour before the time set for the execution and when the priests, Father W. E. Cashin, the prison priest, and Father Curry of New York, came to administer the last rites they found the man who instigated Herman Rosenthal's murder with his face resting on his hand gazing at the prison floor. The priests remained with him to the end.

It was shortly after 5 o'clock when the first witnesses for the execution began to assemble outside the prison walls. Quietly their names were checked by Deputy Warden Johnson, who directed them to take their places at a gateway that led directly to the execution chamber. Then the witnesses were led to the place of execution in a death house which had been built adjoining the old execution chamber, where the four gunmen were put to death over a year ago for killing Rosenthal. When the witnesses were seated, Deputy Warden Johnson nodded to the principal keeper, Fred Dornier, and they left the room through a small wooden door that led to the death cells beyond where Becker was praying with his spiritual advisers.

Denies His Guilt

Becker rose to his feet when he saw Johnson and took a crucifix from the hand of the prison priest. To Father Curry Becker gave his last message as he took his place at the head of the file of men that marched to the room of death. Becker's message was:

"I am not guilty by deed, or conspiracy, or in any other way of the death of Rosenthal. I am sacrificed to my friends. Bear this message to the world and my friends. Amen!"

The one time police officer heeled as he entered the execution room. It seemed to the witnesses as if he was started that the death chair was so near at hand. He looked quickly at the double row of witnesses, glanced at the floor, swept with his eyes the whitened walls of the room, and then, as if coming to himself, walked briskly over the rubber mat and seated himself in the electric chair. Behind Becker

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GERMAN CARDINAL PRAYS FOR VICTORY

BERLIN, July 30, by wireless to Sayville.—A despatch from Stuttgart to the Overseas News agency says that the Wurtemberg diet closed yesterday after passing the budget which was voted for by all the socialists except three members of a new faction.

The socialists declared that "inferior and political differences must disappear so long as the fatherland is threatened by overwhelmingly superior forces," and that "the supreme law in the country emphasized to the whole world the undeniable fact that the German people in this fearful struggle are united."

RUSSIANS PLAN TO SAVE ARMY BY LOSING CITY

News of Evacuation of Warsaw Hourly Expected—Problem Is to Move Russian Armies Intact—Germans Plan for Triumphant Entry With Emperor at Head of Army.

LONDON, July 30.—Warsaw, the third city of Russia and the goal for which the German armies in the east have been striving at since October, is at last in the throes of abandonment.

Germans in overwhelming numbers are at the gates of the Polish capital and despatches both from the city itself and from Petrograd say that further resistance would be unwise.

Loss is Discounted

Discounted not only through France and Great Britain, but in Russia itself, the fall of the city is expected hourly, and the problem now is to move the Russian armies intact, threatened as they are from the south by the Austro-Germans, and more seriously from the north, where the German forces are aiming at the railway from Warsaw to Petrograd. This latter menace, the British press admits, is imminent and the hope in the allied countries now is not for the safety of Warsaw, but for the continued cohesion of the Russian army.

The Warsaw postoffice already has been shifted to some point to the eastward, the populace has been warned to remain calm and presumably for days Russian troops have been stripping the city of everything of military value.

Triumphant Entry

German aviators are hovering over the city, and according to German advices, plans have been completed for their triumphant entrance of the German Emperor, accompanied by his consort.

With Warsaw captured, whether or not it proves a conquest of lasting strategic advantage, a great wave of enthusiasm will sweep over Germany and Austria-Hungary, and it is predicted here that the armies of the central powers will then seek to force a period of trench warfare in the east, meanwhile throwing a great weight of men and guns to the west, with the idea of resuming the battling towards Calais and perhaps toward Paris.

Cross the Vistula

The German official statement today claims that the troops of the army of General Woyrsch early in the morning of July 28 forced a crossing of the Vistula at several points to the north of the confluence of the Pilica and Koziencze (5 miles northwest of Sandomierz.) Fighting on the east bank is proceeding.

"This morning the Russians evacuated their positions along the entire line and now are only resisting to the north of Grubechow."

PAPER MAKERS' STRIKE SETTLED BY CONCILIATORS

NEW YORK, July 30.—Officials of the International Paper company announced today that John Lindragan, industrial superintendent of the company, has negotiated a new working agreement with the paper makers and pulp makers which embrace 95 per cent of the 6500 employees in the 31 mills operate dby that concern. The new agreement supercedes an old one which provided for arbitration of all disputes between the company and its employees.

Officials of the International Association of Machinists said the new agreement would have no effect on their demands for an 8-hour day.

Seven thousand employees in the mills of the Alexander Smith and Sons Carpet company of Yonkers were notified today of a ten per cent increase in wages.

WASHINGTON, July 30.—Federal conciliators today reported to the department of labor that the controversy between the International Paper company and employees had been settled by an agreement and that the lock-out of pattern makers in Bridgeport, Conn., had been amicably adjusted.

POLICEMAN BECKER, WHO IN DYING STATEMENT DECLARED HIS INNOCENCE.



The photograph of Charles Becker and Mrs. Becker was taken shortly after Becker had been sentenced to death. The inset photo is a dying statement Becker declared his purest, noblest woman that ever lived—Helen Becker.

INDICTMENTS IN EASTLAND CASE EXPECTED TODAY

Federal Officials Likely to Be Included—Whitewash by Government Feared—List of Dead and Missing Totals 1071—Mayor Threatens to "Start Something."

CHICAGO, July 30.—Indictments against persons directly or indirectly connected with the causes of the Eastland disaster, even federal officials, despite questions of jurisdiction, may be returned before night by the Cook county grand jury, State Attorney Hoyne intimated today. Meanwhile gossip about possible government "whitewash" of federal inspection service officials in the investigation by Secretary of Commerce Redfield caused Coroner Hoffman to request divers and inspectors to keep check on the government divers reported coming from Washington to investigate for the secretary.

Marshall Seizes Vessel

The federal grand jury expanded by Judge Landis today began its examination and, under orders from a United States district judge, a United States marshal seized the vessel.

Mayor Thompson announced today that he would revoke the license of any undertaker who overcharged the families of Eastland victims in funeral expenses.

Several such complaints have been received by the mayor and investigation is being made. The relief fund for the Eastland survivors today passed the \$300,000 mark. Identified dead are 833; unidentified, 2; list of missing, 236; total, 1071.

Mayor Thompson's Threat

Mayor Thompson, who is closely watching the inquiry into the Eastland disaster being conducted by Secretary Redfield said today:

"I don't want to criticize now, but if the results at the finish show that the investigation has been a farce I will start something. They will have a good deal of trouble proving to me that everything on this ship was a. o. k. and that she just turned over on her own account. You can't tell me that she was not known to be a dangerous vessel and that a great many sea-going men and government officials are learning for the first time now that she wasn't a stable and safe boat."

A plan to span the Chicago river at Clark street with an Eastland memorial bridge was approved by the city officials today.

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BECKER'S WIDOW TO EXPOSE METHODS USED BY ENEMIES

NEW YORK, July 30.—Returning from her last visit to the death house at Sing Sing prison where she had taken her farewell of her husband, Mrs. Charles Becker arrived at the Becker home in the Bronx at 2:40, p. m. today. She was accompanied by one of Becker's brothers, who half carried her into the house.

Mrs. Becker, according to her brother, John Lynch, was bearing up well today after the strain.

An undertaker was despatched today to Ossining to get the body of Charles Becker. The funeral, it was announced, will take place Monday. A solemn high requiem mass will be said at the Church of St. Nicholas of Tolentine by Rev. Nicholas J. Murray. Interment will be at Woodlawn cemetery.

A statement credited to Mrs. Becker was given out here shortly after her husband's death.

"I shall never rest," she was quoted as saying, "until I have exposed the methods which were used to convict my husband. Whether he was guilty or innocent, there was no justification for the means employed to convict him.

"I would rather lose all the other members of my family, as dear as they are to me, than lose Charlie. No one can take his place. In all of the ten years of our married life I never had occasion once to regret that I was his wife.

"Charlie was no angel. He made no pretense of being one. He was just an ordinary human being, and perhaps that is why I loved him so."

Dr. W. O. Stillman of Auburn, who assisted in the autopsy, said that Becker showed unusual resistance to the electric fluid, showing him to be an unusually powerful man.

SCANDAL FORCES RESIGNATION OF JAP CABINET

Count Okuma as Premier and Other Members Quit as Result of Bribery Charges Made Against Members as Result of Recent Election—Action Unpopular Because of War.

TOKIO, July 30.—The Japanese cabinet, headed by Count Okuma as premier, has tendered its resignation to Emperor Yoshihito. The action followed the resignation yesterday of Viscount Kanetake Oura, minister of the interior, following an investigation by the ministry of justice into bribery charges resulting from the parliamentary elections last March. Viscount Oura's resignation was sanctioned by the emperor after a report on the situation had been made to him by Count Okuma.

Several members and former members of the imperial diet are involved in the bribery investigation. K. Hayashida, who had been chief secretary of the lower house for 20 years, was arrested Wednesday in connection with the charge against Viscount Oura, who was alleged to have received a gift of \$5000 from a candidate for membership in the house.

Premier Okuma, believing he should hold himself responsible for the acts of the members of his cabinet, was the first to tender his resignation. The other ministers immediately decided to follow the example of their chief.

After receiving Count Okuma, the emperor summoned the elder statesmen for a conference. A cabinet change at this time is unpopular with the public because of the war.

CRATER LAKE'S GREATEST NEED TUNNEL—BRYAN

Commoner Charmed With Lake—Declares It Great Attraction—Volunteers to Use Influence With Congress in Securing Money for Tunnel and Highway Work.

"Crater Lake's greatest need is a tunnel through the rim-rock of the lake, about 50 feet above water line, so that visitors may reach the water's edge without the fearful climb now necessary," said Wm. J. Bryan upon his return from the lake Thursday.

Tunnel Advocated

"Mr. Steel has plans for a tunnel, as the precipitous sides, the heavy snowfall and the character of the rock make an elevator a difficult and unsafe problem. I heartily endorse his plan and when the time comes, will gladly go before the congressional committees and tell them of Crater Lake's needs. Having been there, I can talk intelligently, and you can depend upon me to use whatever influence I have to help Crater Lake, its tunnels, its roads and improvements.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed this trip and wish to express my appreciation for the courtesy shown Mrs. Bryan and myself by the Commercial club, Greater Medford club and citizens and want the good people of Medford to feel free to call upon me when I can be of service."

Both Mr. and Mrs. Bryan were delighted with what they saw on the trip and especially enamored of the giant forest trees and the Rogue river cascades, pronouncing the Rogue the most beautiful stream they had ever seen. The good roads delighted them especially the paved Pacific highway.

Enamored of Rogue

"Both Mr. and Mrs. Bryan are the most charming companions," said Judge Tou Velle, who accompanied them. "Their good nature under trying circumstances, is never failing. Both have an endless variety of stories and I never met more interesting and agreeable people."

The Bryans were met by A. S. Rosenbaum at Shasta Springs, who welcomed them on behalf of the club. At Ager they were met by W. V. Campbell, H. G. Walters, W. H. Canon, Judge Tou Velle and G. Putnam, as a traveling committee for the club and taken in automobiles furnished by Messrs Campbell and Walters to Klamath Falls, thence to Crater Lake. At Klamath Hot Springs, the party was waylaid by summer excursionists who after a waving of flags and firing of salutes, presented the Bryans with grape juice. At Klamath Falls an informal reception was tendered the Bryans at the White Pelican hotel.

At Crater Lake

The only disappointment of the trip was met at Crater Lake, where no

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CANADA LOWERS RECRUIT STANDARD

OTTAWA, July 30.—A new policy respecting recruits, it was announced today, has been adopted by the Canadian militia authorities. Hereafter men with poor teeth and other minor physical defects will not be rejected, but will be accepted and sent to dental and surgical depots for treatment, after which they will be trained and sent to Europe. Two inches have been taken off the size standard and men below size in chest measurement will be taken if the surgeons are of the opinion that training will give them the proper chest size.

It is estimated that 15,000 more men than have been enrolled would have gone from Canada if these regulations had been in force a year ago.

10,000 APPLAUD WM. J. BRYAN'S PLEA FOR PEACE

Commoner Addresses Record Crowd on Causeless War—Denounces Warfare and Jingoism and Pleads For World Wide Peace—Says American Must Remain Neutral.

Pleading for world peace and for machinery for the perpetuation of peace instead of war, vehemently arraigning the jingo press and the "bucket-of-blood" "hair-trigger patriots" who are attempting to plunge the United States into war, William Jennings Bryan, three presidential nominee and recently secretary of state, Thursday evening addressed the largest audience ever assembled in Jackson county from the band stand at the city park. The crowd was estimated at 10,000. A thousand automobiles by actual count, were assembled in the adjacent streets. A concert by the Medford band preceded the address.

Hospitality Praised

It was the Commoner's first speech in Medford he opened with a tribute of appreciation of the courtesy of the Medford Commercial club in enabling him to see Crater Lake and Medford, and for the hospitality shown him. He was introduced by President Gates of the Commercial club and members of the reception committee accompanied on the stand.

For an hour and a half Bryan held the interest of the great crowd. He did not employ many gestures and he was some what tired from his strenuous trip. Yet he could be plainly heard a block away. His manner of address was serious and dignified and spoke with intense earnestness as though expressing burning convictions. He attempted no flights of oratory and rarely permitted humor to slip in. Every second of his time was employed hurling indictments against war and America's participation in the European war, concluding vehemently:

"If there remains but one man to raise his voice against this needless carnage, I pray God he will give me strength to fight it to the last."

Bryan said he had chosen "The Causeless War" as the subject of his address.

Greatest of Wars

"The European war is the greatest the world has ever seen," said the speaker. "Over 21,000,000 soldiers are engaged. Think of it! Twenty-one million human beings who make it their daily duty to kill their fellow men. We have less than 21,000,000 voters in the United States. Estimates are that in the great war 2,000,000 already have been killed and 5,000,000 wounded. This is the awful toll of a war that has not lasted a year."

The Nebraskan pointed out that the war is not a race war, nor a religious war, nor a family war. He said:

"I believe that the cause of the European war is the belief still entertained by some, that might makes right."

"I want my country to register its protest against this false doctrine," he added, and the audience cheered.

"Some think that this war can continue until one side annihilates the other. Vain hope. You cannot annihilate great nations like those that are involved, and this butchery will become so sickening long before annihilation is secured that the war

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TWO AMERICANS KILLED IN HAITI

WASHINGTON, July 30.—Two Americans of the landing force from the cruiser Washington were killed at Port au Prince, according to a message from Admiral Cameron received today.

The men, members of a patrol, were shot from ambush by snipers last night, Admiral Caperton reported. The marines returned the fire and no further disturbances occurred during the night. The names of the killed were withheld at the navy department.