



REV. AND MRS. FLEMING NEWCOMB AND SONS

Woman Dies In Electric Chair For Poisoning Deaths Of Six

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP)—A plump, 50-year-old waitress who killed three daughters, her mother and two husbands with rat poison died in the electric chair early today.

She left behind a wish for her body to be turned over to a medical institution. She said she wanted it learned "why I committed the crimes I have committed."

Mrs. Rhonda Belle Martin died clutching a New Testament in her left hand.

Mrs. Martin was put to death for the poisoning of her fourth husband, Claude C. Martin, in 1951.

After her arrest in March 1956, she signed a statement admitting that she fed rat poison to two other husbands, three of her children and her mother.

Her fifth husband, Ronald Martin, survived the poisoning, but the other victims died. Ronald Martin is the son of the victim for whose killing the waitress paid with her life.

Prison officials yesterday found in Mrs. Martin's Bible a note she had written Oct. 14, 1956. It was turned over to authorities at Kilby Prison, where the electrocution was carried out.

The note said:

"At my death, whether it be a natural death or otherwise, I want my body to be given to some scientific institution to be used as they see fit, but especially to see if someone can find out why I committed the crimes I have committed."

"I can't understand it, for I had no reason whatsoever. There is definitely something wrong. Can't someone find it and save someone else the agony I have been through."

The condemned woman was strapped in the chair at 12:07 a.m. and received 2,200 volts of electricity three minutes later after one false start. When the switch was thrown the first time, it was

discovered the electrodes hadn't been plugged into the chair and the task had to be repeated.

Gov. James E. Folsom denied an appeal for clemency yesterday.

Besides Claude Martin, the woman admitted poisoning her second husband George Garrett in 1939. She also told of feeding rat poison to three daughters, 3-year-old Emogene Garrett in 1937;

Anna Carolyn Garrett, 6, in 1940; and Elyn Elizabeth Garrett, 11, in 1943. She also admitted that she killed her mother Mrs. Mary Frances Gibbon in 1944.

Her written statement said she had small insurance policies on the lives of all six victims. She was tried only for the death of Claude Martin.

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Korea Seeks Red Trade

PANMUNJOM, Korea (AP)—A North Korean campaign to resume trade relations with South Korea went to the Military Armistice Commission today. The Communists proposed the unsealing of a trade line to permit North-South trade.

The senior U.N. delegate, U.S. Maj. Gen. Homer L. Litzberg, rejected the proposal as no business of the commission. He said the truce group was concerned only with military matters.

Several times in recent days Pyongyang radio, official voice of the Reds, has suggested that it was time for the divided halves of Korea to resume normal trade.

Formerly the economies of the industrial North and the agricultural South complemented each other.

ANCIENT RELICS FOUND

REGGIO EMILIA, Italy (UP)—Workers digging the foundations for a new building have uncovered ancient coins and jewels of very high value, it was disclosed today. Archaeologists said the Byzantine gold coins dated back to the period between 476 and 486 a.d. and the rest of the treasure to the time of the barbaric invasions. They said the collector's value of the find would run into tens of thousands of dollars.

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Church Plans Family Night

The first "Family Night" at Hope Lutheran Church will be held Friday evening October 11, at 7:30 at the church, South Sixth Street and Homedale Road. The guest speaker will be Deaconess Marian Maurer from Philadelphia.

The evening will open with devotions to be conducted by Pastor H. Edward Hamme who will introduce the guest speaker. Refreshments will be served by the women of the church. A cordial invitation is extended to all the friends of the church.

All-Out Armament Project Called For By Democrats

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Democratic Advisory Council, expressing shock at Russia's being first with an earth satellite, called today for "an all-out national effort to regain our position in the armaments field."

The council said in a statement the Russian achievement is proof that the Eisenhower administration "has been leading the people to believe that we have a national security which in fact we are rapidly losing."

The Democratic statement came after Rep. Simpson (R-Okla.) said the Democrats are shedding "crocodile tears" over Russian successes in the satellite and missile fields.

In Albuquerque, N. M., Sen. Anderson (D-NM) said the Budget Bureau was instrumental in limiting development of U. S. missiles. He also said inter-service rivalry has hampered the American missile effort.

Anderson said he and Jackson warned Eisenhower two years ago that Russia was far ahead of the United States in developing missiles. The New Mexico Democrat said they wrote Eisenhower, urging (1) a separate budget for development of an intercontinental ballistic missile and (2) establishment of a strong central authority over the missile program. Their suggestions, he noted, were not adopted.

The Democratic Advisory Council statement was made public by the party's national committee, which said 29 of the council's members approved it by telephone. Four other members of the council could not be reached, the committee said.

Among those listed as approving the statement were former President Truman and Adlai E. Stevenson, the Democratic presidential candidate in 1952 and 1956.

The council said the Soviet launching shows that the Russians have made great strides toward an ICBM and that the Soviets are "determined to get absolute supremacy over us in the weapons of the future."

The Democratic group also said the Soviet test demonstrates that the Kremlin has given full support to its scientists and engineers, "while our government has not given anything like comparable support to our experts."

Street Fighting Decline Reported

NEW YORK (AP)—Mayor Robert F. Wagner says organized street fighting between city juvenile gangs "is getting to be a thing of the past."

Speaking yesterday on a filmed TV program, the mayor credited City Youth Board activities with helping to eliminate street gang warfare.

He said the board is maintaining contact with 60 of the city's 80-odd "fighting gangs" and that "in contrast with other gangs we haven't reached yet, not one of these 60 gangs had a rumble in 18 months."

The Youth Board is concentrating on areas with a high proportion of delinquency, Wagner said, "and it has a mechanism for locating families who need its help, whether they know it or not."

Church Visit Set By Pair

SPRAGUE RIVER — Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Antone, Molokai and Oaie Indians from the Muncie Reservation near London, Ontario, Canada, will be at the Sprague River Friends Church, October 13 through October 23. Services will be held nightly at 7:30.

Mr. Antone studied at the London Bible Institute and for some time was a pastor at the Fellowship Indian Baptist Church on his home reservation. After a few years of experience he joined the staff of the American Indian Crusade.

Mrs. Antone is a member of the Claud Indian family. She began singing with her family at the age of 6 years and since then has been heard in some of the largest churches, at youth rallies and Bible conferences in Canada and the United States. She has also appeared on radio and TV gospel programs.

Mr. and Mrs. Antone have traveled as an evangelistic team to their own people on more than 150 reservations throughout the United States, Alaska and Canada.

Missionary To Give Talk

Rev. Fleming Newcomb, a missionary to the field of Haiti, will be the speaker at the Bible Baptist Church on Wednesday, October 16, at 8 p.m.

Rev. Fleming Newcomb was born and raised in Killdeer, North Dakota, then moved to Portland. Following two years in the Army he attended the Powellhurst Bible Institute, Portland and Columbia Bible College, Columbia, South Carolina.

His experience includes four years teaching at the Powellhurst Bible Institute as well as pastoring a church at Manning, Oregon. The Newcombs have two children. In June 1957 the Newcombs were appointed as missionaries to the field of Haiti by the Conservative Baptist Home Mission Society whose headquarters are in Chicago, Illinois.

Pictures of the work in Haiti will be shown.

Musicians Okay Contract

NEW YORK (AP)—The New York Philharmonic and its musicians have reached a contract agreement after a dispute which caused cancellation of the season's first two concerts.

The Philharmonic Symphony Society and the American Federation of Musicians yesterday agreed on a two-year pact providing for wage increases for the 104 orchestra members and a longer annual season.

The new agreement calls for \$155 weekly this year and \$157.50 next season. Last season the musicians received \$145 a week.

The dispute caused concert cancellations last night and tonight. The orchestra starts rehearsing today for a concert in Carnegie Hall tomorrow night.

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