

## FINAL PREPARATIONS BEGUN FOR EXECUTION OF BECKER TOMORROW

Becker's Electrocuton for Instigating Murder of Rosenthal Set For 5:45 Tomorrow Morning.

POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER APPEAL VERY REMOTE

Third Trial Denied by Justice Ford — Becker Declares He Will "Die Like a Man"—Not Afraid.

New York, July 29.—Final preparations for the execution at Sing Sing prison early tomorrow morning of Charles Becker for instigating the murder of Herman Rosenthal, the New York gambler, were begun at the prison today, after the announcement last night of Justice Ford's decision denying Becker a third trial. The execution is set for 5:45 tomorrow.

There was much speculation as to whether Becker's counsel would attempt to make a further appeal which might act as a stay of execution or whether a further appeal is possible. One of Becker's attorneys said there was to be a meeting of his counsel early today to consider Justice Ford's decision and to decide what further they might do toward saving Becker from the chair.

Prospects Dark. Justice Ford had declared that the case was entirely in the hands of Governor Whitman and that clemency, if any were granted, must come from him. Governor Whitman has expressed his approval of the denial of a new trial, and said that if he had any doubt of Becker's guilt he would pardon him in a minute. District Attorney Perkins is quoted as saying that there can be no further appeal.

Not New Evidence. In commenting on his action in denying the appeal, Justice Ford said that none of the revelations made by Becker in his recent statements could be considered as new evidence, as they were known to Becker at the time of his first trial and should have been divulged then. "The power of the supreme court was so limited by law, he said, that he could not do otherwise under the circumstances than refuse to grant the appeal; and that in his opinion there was not enough competent evidence proffered to have changed the result had it been received during the trial."

"I Like a Man." To Deputy Warden Johnson, who notified Becker that a new trial had been denied, Becker said, "Well, I'll die like a man, anyway." To Father Cashin, the prison chaplain, Becker said, "There is no justice here, but I am confident I will get it in the next world. I know the truth will come out and that the world will know that Becker is not the murderer he is accused of being." "I do not fear death but I feel the stigma which this death attaches to the name of Becker, and I feel the distress and sorrow which it will cause my wife."

Prison officials planned today to take Becker from the death house and prepare him for execution by giving him the usual bath, shave and haircut and to exchange his clothing for the suit of black worn by the condemned when executed. Forward Becker will be placed in a cell close to the door giving access to the death chamber. He will be allowed to receive the last visits of relatives this afternoon. Mrs. Becker had left the prison last night before word of the justice's decision had been received and spent the night at their home here.

Will Receive Mrs. Becker. Albany, N. Y., July 29.—Governor Whitman will receive Mrs. Charles Becker in behalf of her husband today. The governor and Major Moore,

## Preparing Note Asking Payment for Leelanaw

Washington, July 29.—State department officials today were drafting a note to Germany asking for payment for the American steamer Leelanaw, torpedoed by a German submarine off the Orkney Islands Sunday

his military secretary left the city this morning in an automobile for Camp Whitman, near Fishkill, to review the state troops encamped there. Before leaving Governor Whitman requested an interview. He replied that he was compelled to leave this morning but would receive her on his return this evening at 6:30 o'clock. Governor Whitman had nothing to add to his brief statement of yesterday, saying that the denial of the Becker appeal by Justice Ford was the only step possible. In no quarter was it believed that a plea for mercy would change his attitude. The governor has stated that he is positive of Becker's guilt.

## FEDERAL COURT CONVENES MONDAY

Judge Boyd Expected to Arrive Monday Night—Important Cases Docketed.

The May adjourned term of the United States court for the western district of North Carolina will convene in Asheville on Monday, August 2. The court crier will open the court on that date but Judge James E. Boyd, of Greensboro, who will preside over the sessions at this term, is not expected to arrive until Monday night and no court business will be transacted until Tuesday. This term of the District court was called principally for the hearing of the second of the Gilbert-Hopkins cases involving the ownership of about 30,000 acres of timber lands in Cherokee county, but a number of cases on the criminal docket will be heard before this famous land suit is called for trial.

The case of the United States against Thomas McCoy of this city is set for preliminary hearing before Judge Boyd on Tuesday. The defendant is charged with being implicated in the frauds in the internal revenue service alleged to have been committed at Fort Smith, Ark., during the past several years and United States Attorney James Virgil Boulard of Fort Smith will be here to represent the interests of the government. The trial of J. Archer Elmore of Houston, Texas, is also on the docket for Tuesday. Elmore was indicted for fraudulent use of the mails in connection with sales of cotton sold by him to some firms in Greensboro. Twenty-five or thirty witnesses have been subpoenaed from Texas and it is stated that the cost in this case for transportation of witnesses alone will amount to \$3,000.

The case against J. Alexander Porter in which the defendant is charged with illicit distilling is scheduled to come before United States Commissioner Theodore D. Shelton on Tuesday. This case was called for trial before former Commissioner R. S. McCall several weeks ago and the hearing was continued until August 2. The hearing of the charges against Paul Haynes on the accusation of robbing the postoffice at Effers, Fla., will be heard tomorrow afternoon at 4 o'clock before Commissioner Shelton if the postmaster at Effers, who is the principal witness, arrives here in time.

## CARRANZA IS WILLING TO CONSIDER PEACE

Washington, July 29.—Encouraging reports have reached officials of the Washington administration recently, it was learned last night, as to peace prospects in Mexico. Intimations have been conveyed to administration officials that there are conditions acceptable to Carranza, under which joint peace deliberations of all factions could be arranged. From other military leaders, among them Villa, Zapata, Huerta and many more, it was made known from an authoritative source, there have come indications that another effort by the United States to institute a peace conference would not be fruitless. These reports, it is said, have resulted from an informal canvass of the situation that has been quietly in progress for several weeks.

## SITUATION IN EAST PUZZLING

Military Students Uncertain as to Status of Operations Between Bug and Vistula Rivers.

VAST MOVEMENT MAY HAVE REACHED CRISIS

Russians Claim to Have Repulsed Austro-Germans on Dneister — Comparative Quiet Elsewhere.

London, July 29.—Except from Sokal, Galicia, where the Russians claim by a counter attack to have thrown back the Austro-German forces across the Dneister river, little definite news has reached London from the eastern front. To the east of the Narow river the extent of the German advance from Rozan is marked by the capture of the village of Eoworowo, six miles from the river.

## DR. PORTER MAKES STRONG ADDRESS

Editor and Divine Delivers Inspiring Sermon Before Baptist Assembly.

Black Mountain, July 29.—One of the greatest addresses yet delivered at the Baptist assembly now in progress at Ridgecrest was heard Tuesday. The speaker was Dr. J. W. Porter, the editor of the Western Recorder and the pastor of the First Baptist church in Lexington, Ky.

The audience was one of the most attentive ever seen as every one seemed eager to drink in the words conveying the great thought of Dr. Porter. The song service began with the old familiar words "Stand Up For Jesus" in which all the audience joined with a good effect. Dr. Porter took his text from the third verse of Jude. The especial words to which he directed the attention of his hearers were, "Earnestly contend for the faith."

"The crying need of the day," said Dr. Porter, "is for men who have convictions and the courage to stand by them. We have no patience with the man who claims to believe something and does not. What we want is men who believe something and hold to that belief steadfastly. The great men in the history of the world are the ones who have had profound convictions. They may have had their idiosyncracies but they have tenaciously held to their convictions."

At this point the speaker disclaimed the belief that it made little difference to what church one belonged. "We might as well say that it made little difference what a man does so long as he believes right. One of the greatest joys of my life," said Dr. Porter, "is the strengthening of the convictions of the young men who are going into the ministry."

"The logic of conviction is contention. Contention," said the editor, "is the life of the world. The astronomer is forever contending with the aerial problems. The business man is forever contending for the business which makes him a success. The baby is always contending for the very breath which sustains it and finally grows into a grown up. Later he passes out of this world still contending for the breath of life. In addition to this spirit of contention one must have the courage to stand for the convictions."

"Dr. Porter illustrated the point he was establishing by referring to the experience of John Bunyan when he was in the Bedford jail. "Courage and contention always will win out. We must contend for the faith and the truth. The greatest trouble with all is the fact that we do not think enough. We should not go to sleep so much if we only persisted in thinking. Compromise never kills anything for the fact that Jesus Christ did not compromise on the cross when he was challenged by his enemies to save himself when he had saved so many others. "One of the greatest sins that one may be guilty of is that of popularity. We should preach the truth and when we do that we shall soon have enemies. Never until the truth is preached will the people ever embrace the truth. "We should earnestly contend for the faith because it has been delivered once for all. There is no new truth. God has put his seal upon it; the finality has been established. A craze for something new is sweeping all over Christendom. The effect of the address which Dr. Porter delivered was at once noticeable for so many surged forward to grasp the hand of the speaker and express their appreciation of the message which he had delivered.

## POLITICAL NEWS FROM RALEIGH

Thos. H. Calvert, Assistant Attorney-General Expected Soon to Announce For Bicket's Place.

MCCLEAN NOT OUT FOR GOVERNOR, HE INSISTS

Argument Against Bickett Shows He Is of Large Size—Credited With Prohibition and Starting Big War

(By W. T. Bost.) Raleigh, July 29.—North Carolina attorneys are looking daily for the announcement of Thomas H. Calvert, assistant attorney general, as a candidate for the attorney generalship which is incumbent, Thomas W. Bickett, relinquishes when the 1916 campaign settles the race for governor.

Mr. Calvert is a native Englishman but a Chathamite by adoption and the bar of that county has recently endorsed his candidacy for the office in which he has been assistant three years. Mr. Calvert has not said when he will send out his statement but expectant ones look for it daily. It is altogether probable that he will confine his campaign to the lawyers and rest his case with them. He will probably get his name out before Bailey, Doughton and Everett declare themselves and there is somehow a strong feeling here that neither Bailey nor Doughton is definitely in the race or out of it.

McLean Stops a Story. When Wilton McLean was here Tuesday evening he put a full period to a recent story that the Lumberton lawyer had reconsidered his announcement of withdrawal from the gubernatorial race. He stated that he had been quoted as saying that he had seen a letter from Mr. McLean seeking support for the nomination. About that time many McLean speeches were being received here. Of course it gave some anxiety to Bickett's friends, but not to Bickett who had one of the speeches and never doubted that the hard-headed Scotchman made up his mind fully when he gave out the Washington interview. Bickett guessed well. "I have never thought of such a thing since my announcement," Mr. McLean said to your correspondent. "I do not know how such a story could start unless it came from the writers of some of the letters which came to me asking me to reconsider. I did receive such letters and appreciated them, but once out I was always out. I do not do things that way and I am glad that you did not publish the rumor."

Bickett's Size All Right. Attorney General Bickett's Louisville friends have had to repel the suggestion that the state does not want a lawyer-governor and a talking artist, but a Bickett enemy in Franklin ascribes to Bickett the gubernatorial size. The Franklin records are said to have among them a very remarkable debate between Wiley Holmes and Dr. Adam Ball, Dickens characters in their midst. Mr. Holmes was a friend to Bickett. Doctor Ball appeared to have impressed the crowd more. "Gentlemen, you can't tell me anything about this General Bickett," he said. "The trouble with this country is that General Bickett is at the bottom of every sinking fund in the United States. And that ain't all. This same General Bickett has gone to Raleigh and made it — near impossible for a Christian gentleman to get a drink. And that ain't all. This General Bickett is back of the whole war business for it hadn't been for him there wouldn't have been a — German gun fired."

The Bickett boosters have sought luckily for the facts upon which Doctor Ball brought this amazing charge, stenographically reported in Franklin, against the Louisville official. Diabolism's hall of fame has Bickett written high by Doctor Ball. There is no understate about him. Until today the body of Max H. Jordan, who lost his life in the surf that drowned George S. Hollingsworth Sunday, July 25, had not been found.

The Raleigh young women and men who were with the bathers that day have returned. They can give little new on the accident, though they say both were drowned in the effort to save others. The condition of Miss Edith Willis, who came so near to drowning, is now satisfactory. Adjutant General L. W. Young returned this morning from the coast where he has been spending several days.

Dr. Rankin Makes Statement. Dr. W. S. Rankin, secretary to the state board of health declares that he has not yet issued any statement as to the cause of the Greensboro typhoid fever trouble, and that he has not done so because he has not satisfied himself yet.

Miss C. Vanderbilt Underwent Operation. Miss Cornelia Vanderbilt, the young daughter of Mrs. George W. Vanderbilt of Baltimore, underwent an operation at the Baltimore hospital this morning. It was stated at noon today that she was doing very nicely and that her condition was satisfactory.

## SIX ACCUSED IN EASTLAND CASE

### WILL REORGANIZE THE RALEIGH POSTOFFICE

To Abolish Office of Assistant and Few Salaries to Be Reduced.

(By Parker R. Anderson.) Washington, July 29.—At the request of Representative Pou, the post-office department Tuesday decided to reorganize the office force and to determine whether the government will make use of the Rogers-Drake building near the union station, which was built for the government's parcel post station.

The new plan will abolish the office of assistant postmaster and, according to report, the entire clerical force will be reorganized. Some will receive higher salaries, others will be reduced, and it is not at all improbable that several new clerks will be added to the present force. It is learned from a reliable source that there is not much chance of the government making any further use of the Rogers-Drake building. Recent investigations have convinced the officials here that Raleigh already has ample building space to take care of the mail matter for the next 10 years. There is a station at the depot and the new main office is well equipped to handle all other mail that comes to the state's capital, it is said. The regular force of inspectors that has been reorganizing the postoffice in the south was called to Lynchburg, where they will be for the next two weeks. At the request of Mr. Pou, the department decided to put a new force of inspectors in the field in order that the Raleigh office might have immediate attention.

### ARRANGEMENTS COMPLETE FOR HOT SPRINGS VISIT

Many Asheville People Will Be Guests of Popular Hotel Tonight.

At 9 o'clock this morning 105 Asheville business men had notified the local board of trade of their intention of going to Hot Springs this afternoon where they will be entertained at dinner by the management of the Hot Springs hotel. A large number of women will be members of the party and the visit is looked forward to with much pleasure. Two vestibule cars have been provided by the Southern Railway company for the accommodation of the Asheville delegation and special cars will be operated by the Asheville Power and Light company tonight when the party returns to the city.

### CERTAIN PROPERTY EXEMPT FROM TAX

Montgomery, Ala., July 29.—The lower house of the Alabama legislature has voted for an exemption from taxation for ten years on all capital invested in ship building, cotton mills, water power plants, and manufacturing of lime-nitrogen and on all increased value of property brought about by the planting of citrus fruits and Satsuma oranges.

### CHARGES OF MANSLAUGHTER RECOMMENDED AGAINST VARIOUS OFFICIALS IN CORONER'S JURY REPORT.

Charges of manslaughter recommended against various officials in coroner's jury report. PROBES OF FEDERAL AUTHORITIES BEGUN. Federal Grand Jury Convenes and U. S. Steamboat Inspection Service Opens Its Investigation.

### CHICAGO, JULY 29.—Governmental efforts to place the responsibility for the capsizing of the steamer Eastland in the Chicago river Saturday were under way today with the convening of the federal grand jury and the opening of the investigation by the steamboat inspection service under the direction of Secretary of Commerce Redfield.

United States District Attorney Charles F. line, with five assistants, and Hinton C. Clabaugh, chief of the bureau of investigation, at a conference, went into the evidence to be presented and selected the witnesses that will be called. One point that will be laid before the grand jury will be the competence of the crew, reports of investigators indicating that many of the members were unfamiliar with nautical work. Evidence to support the charge of negligence will also be presented.

### THE FIRST WITNESSES CALLED BEFORE THE STEAMBOAT INSPECTION INVESTIGATION WERE CAPTAIN WESTCOTT, SUPERINTENDENT OF THIS INSPECTION DISTRICT, AND INSPECTORS ECKLIFF AND RAID OF GRAND HAVEN, MICH.

The county grand jury which adjourned yesterday after a conference between Secretary Redfield and State Attorney Hoynes reconvened this morning after getting the report of the coroner's jury recommending that six men be held for prosecution. Charges of manslaughter were recommended against William H. Hull, general manager of the company owning the Eastland, Joseph N. Erickson, chief engineer of the boat, Walter K. Greenbaum, general manager of the Indiana Transportation company, which chartered the Eastland, and Robert Reid and Charles Eckloff, steamboat inspectors of Grand Haven.

The coroner's jury report declared the Eastland was "both improperly constructed, in the service employed and improperly loaded, operated and maintained and the parties named are responsible."

Investigation into the construction of the boat was recommended to "ascertain if there can be found any legal method by which those responsible for defective construction can be held accountable. State's Attorney Hoynes was expected to decide today how far the county grand jury can proceed in view of Secretary Redfield's representations, yesterday that the state lacked jurisdiction over federal inspectors located in another state.

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Mrs. Brewster Phillips gave a luncheon today for Mrs. R. E. Williams, the invited guests being a few intimate friends of Mrs. Williams.

**The Way to Start  
Something  
Is To Start**

There is nothing to be gained by delay—the more dollars you spend the more you will gain.

**BUY - IT - NOW  
BUY AT HOME**

This is the time of all times for the U. S. A. to make vast strides. Let's all get busy. Let your dollars be home earned home spent dollars. See business talk on page 4.