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NOTED TENOR DESPERATELY ILL FROM HEART ATTACK

Sacrament of Extreme Unction Administered at 1:25 O'Clock This Morning – Had Suffered From Attack of Pleurisy.

(By The Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—Oxygen today was being administered to Enrico Caruso, world famous tenor, who is waging a fight against death after last night having been stricken with a heart attack that caused his physician to fear he would succumb before dawn.

Shortly before 11 o'clock more oxygen tanks were taken to the singer's apartments in the Hotel Vanderbilt, where the tenor is lying surrounded by relatives and comrades in the Metropolitan Opera Company. A consultation of doctors has been called.

Shortly after 8:30 o'clock this morning it was announced at Caruso's apartment that he was "holding his own." He had rallied considerably, it was said, but his condition was still very serious.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—The condition of Enrico Caruso, tenor, who suffered a grave heart attack late last night, was reported to be slightly improved early today. Attending physicians admitted, however, that the famous singer was "desperately ill." He had been improving steadily from a severe attack of pleurisy and his relapse was entirely unexpected.

The sacrament of extreme unction was administered to him at 1:25 o'clock this morning by Rev. E. E. Molinelli, of the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Caruso, at intervals throughout the night and early morning hours, lapsed into semi-consciousness, but rallied slightly after ministrations of oxygen and heart stimulants.

Fully aware of his condition, Caruso directed the sending of a telegram to his son, Enrico, Jr., who is a student at Culver Military Academy, Culver, Ind. He then expressed to his wife a desire to see his friends and all the singers with whom he had been associated in the Metropolitan Opera Company, to tell them "goodbye."

Antonio Scotti, and his accompanist, M. Fucito, appeared early at the Caruso apartment in the Vanderbilt hotel and remained several hours. They were joined by Orville Harrold, Florence Easton, and others, members of the opera company, who returned late from Philadelphia, where they played last night. All were deeply affected. They reported Caruso in a cheerful mood.

Caruso was first stricken ill early in December, while singing in the Brooklyn Academy of Music. During a baffling blood vessel in his throat, he sang and his audience learned of his condition and protested against his effort to continue.

He was compelled, as a result of the occurrence, to cancel a Metropolitan a short time after and appeared on Christmas eve in Verdi's "La Juive." His illness in the role led to the belief that he had recovered. The audience at the Metropolitan that night heard what was most brilliant of the famous tenor's "Golden Voice" in recent years, critics and dilettanti. That was Caruso's last appearance.

Two days later he suffered an attack of pleurisy. This later became complicated, necessitating two operations. Caruso showed marked improvement several weeks later and left the apartment "that he was worling on his notes; his voice was improved and he expected to be able to return to the stage soon."

PLANT OF ILLINOIS NEWSPAPER DYNAMITED

(By The Associated Press.)

ROCK ISLAND, Ill., Feb. 16.—The plant of the Rock Island News, a nonpartisan weekly, was dynamited early today, but only slight damage was done to the building and machinery. The office is located in the residential quarter and windows in many nearby homes were broken. Dan Drost, editor, was asleep on the second floor of the building, but was uninjured.

Twelve years ago the plant of the News, then a daily, was wrecked by dynamite.

Drost several months ago was convicted of criminal libel in Davenport, Iowa, and sentenced to serve a year in jail. He is now at liberty on bond pending a retrial.

$80,000 FIRE

MARION, Ala., Feb. 16.—Fire of undetermined origin early today destroyed the King hotel and all the stores and offices in the structure, entailing a loss of approximately $80,000. S. A. Cecil, a guest in the hotel, sustained a broken leg by jumping from the fourth floor to a veranda roof.

COL. WATTERSON CELEBRATES 81ST BIRTHDAY TODAY

(By The Associated Press.)

GALVESTON, Tex., Feb. 16.—Colonel Henry Watterson, veteran newspaper editor, wintering here, celebrated his 81st birthday today. Among friends who are enjoying the day with him are Mr. and Mrs. Edward M. Flexner, of Louisville, Ky.

BODY OF AGED CHICAGO WOMAN FOUND BURIED IN HER OWN BACKYARD

Mrs. Nancy M. Chamberlain Died Last June—Body Was Buried Secretly.

(By The Associated Press.)

CHICAGO, Feb. 16.—The body of Mrs. Nancy M. Chamberlain, 91 years old, whose mysterious disappearance from the home of her daughter, and grandaughter of an artists colony, has been under investigation by the police, was found early today, buried in the back yard of the apartment on 57th street, where the family lived.

Two days of questioning by police brought from Mrs. Ruth Tuckerman, the aged woman's daughter, and Miss Marion Tuckerman, her granddaughter, only evasive answers. Both gave "Mother" as their reason for leaving.

Early today Mrs. Tuckerman reported that the aged woman died of natural causes June 1 last and had been buried in the back yard in a trench in which the body found on which the aged woman had carefully tended geranium plants.

Police put on their fighting boots, surrounded secretly by the police and exhumed some parts of the rear yard around the house but nothing was found except bones which doctors said were those of a dog.

Dire poverty caused the elder woman to leave the home secretly, Mrs. Tuckerman told reporters to Police Matron Mary Dolan. One letter she placed in the hands of the female matron, addressed to the grand jury, on which Mrs. Tuckerman admitted an mental and moral ability to testify.

"We had neither coffin nor burial permit," said Mrs. Tuckerman. "We covered the body and planted the geranium over the unpaid grave. Mother is not dead, we buried her. Mother and I were happy to see anything about us become so very long ago."

Evidence that the women had been seen in the neighborhood was found by the police in the form of letters, coupon books and stamps were scattered around in the yard. Letters addressed to Mrs. Tuckerman were found in the yard with a coupon book in which one cent had been left in full payment of a bill.

Mrs. Tuckerman told Rev. Clifford Wood, pastor of the church she attended, that her mother had come to the latter's home in Kansas City, Mo., and had expressed a desire to live with her daughter. Mrs. Tuckerman said she had obtained a job as a cook and had arranged for her mother to live with her.

Mrs. Tuckerman said she had left her mother in charge of her daughter, who was to care for the invalid while Mrs. Tuckerman was at work. The mother died, she said, and the daughter, who was in poor health herself, was unable to care for the body.