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DEATH TAKES DAME MELBA IN AUSTRALIA

Former Great Opera Star
Was 'Discoverer' of
Enrico Caruso.

CREATED MANY ROLES

Won First Great Success
in 'Romeo and Juliet'
in 1889.

(Picture on Page Two)

By United Press
MELBOURNE, Australia, Feb. 23.—Dame Nellie Melba, who in 1902 persuaded the London opera house to give Enrico Caruso a trial, died here today.

Death came to the opera star, one of the world's greatest sopranos, in her seventy-second year after an illness which befall her while in Cairo, Egypt, and for which she consulted specialists in Germany, Austria and France and England without success.

Homeward-bound to her native Australia, she became seriously ill aboard the liner *Cathay* Nov. 4 before the ship docked at Freemantle and doctors would not permit her to land.

When the *Cathay* touched Melbourne she was taken ashore at a hospital, and since that time had hovered between life and death.

Her death today marks the severance of a line between the musical work of today and the past two generations.

Coached by Verdi

Verdi coached her in the part of Gilda in "Rigoletto." She helped Puccini create the role of Mimi in "La Bohème."

She created roles in operas by Gounod, Mascagni, Leoncavallo, Saint-Saëns, Sambroise, Thomas and Massenet.

Among the celebrated singers with whom she was associated were Caruso and Jean and Edouard de Resz.

Sarah Bernhardt, Eleonora Duse and Ellen Terry were her coaches in acting.

Dame Nellie Melba was christened Helen Potter Mitchell. She was born in Melbourne May 19, 1869, the daughter of David Mitchell, a wealthy Scotch farmer. Her mother was of Spanish descent.

She spent her early years on her father's large estate at Cave Hill in the Gippsland district of Victoria.

Started on Stage at 6

Strenuous outdoor life was mixed with the study of piano, organ, violin and singing. She also learned painting and delighted in sketching the broad Australian landscapes.

At the age of 6 she made her first appearance on the stage, singing in a charity concert. Then she concentrated on piano work. Her staunch Presbyterian father objected to a stage career.

In 1882, she married Charles Nesbitt Frederick Armstrong, a Queensland sugar planter. A few years later they went to Europe in order that Mrs. Armstrong might perfect her voice.

Her first attempts to win fame were unsuccessful. Sir Arthur Sullivan heard her sing in London and said he might find a minor part for her in his new comic opera, "The Mikado." But Melba had no intentions of singing in comic operas.

Fought for Success

Melba made her first American tour in 1883, visiting most of the principal cities. Her greatest success in the United States was achieved in 1904-05, when she traveled 26,000 miles in 120 days, visiting from New York to California.

It was during one of these tours that she decided to copyright the name "Melba" which she had assumed just before her Brussels' debut in honor of her native city of Melbourne. She had become so famous that her name was being used in connection with all kinds of patented products.

Melba was the only singer who appeared for twenty consecutive seasons at Covent Garden, London, in the title role of "Lucia Di Lammermoor." The London critics treated her condescendingly.

The following year in "Romeo and Juliet" she achieved a success such as few artists ever before had known. She soon was offered contracts in Paris, Rome, St. Petersburg, Vienna and Berlin.

Copyrighted Her Name

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In the early years of the twentieth century she was known as the automaton of Covent Garden, for her word was considered law.

SCHWAB IS OPTIMISTIC

Veteran Steel Head Says Business Gradually Improving.

By United Press
NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—Business is steadily and gradually improving," Charles M. Schwab, chairman of the board of the Bethlehem Steel Company, said today when he returned from a two weeks' vacation in Cuba on the liner *Virginia*.

PROPOSE INCOME TAX FILING FEE

Senate Amendment to Bill Calls for \$2 Payment With Each State Return.

Every man and woman, over 21, in Indiana, with or without an income, would be required to file an income tax return, accompanied with a \$2 filing fee, under an amendment affixed to the personal income tax measure on second reading in the state senate today.

That such a provision would produce an added \$1,000,000 in state revenues was the claim of the amendment's author, Senator Anderson Ketchum (Dem., Bartholomew, Decatur, Franklin and Union.)

The amendment was one of four the senate drafted into the bill. A fifth was rejected and the bill remained on second reading when the session recessed at noon.

BRANDS OGDEN AS NEGLIGENT

Galloway Bill to Charge
Lake County Corruption
Not Prosecuted.

Charging Attorney-General James M. Ogdens with negligence in prosecuting alleged Lake county corruption in public office, Representative Fred S. Galloway (Dem., Marion) today prepared to ask the Indiana house to reprimand the attorney-general "for failure to perform his duty."

Galloway, in a lengthy resolution he had ready for introduction, asserted that state and Lake county funds have been plundered of \$137,824.29 through illegal award of contracts in the Calumet district and set forth reports of such juggling made by the state accounts board and turned over to Ogdens.

Between 1921 and 1930, Galloway charged, Lake county officials received excess charges and allowances and payment for services never performed.

Charges Are Specific

On one purchase of Lake county equipment, Galloway says the board of accounts report shows \$14,000 was paid out of the county funds when in reality the actual retail cost of the goods only was \$372.

Other items listed in the general charge against Ogdens and purportedly shown by the accounts board include:

That Benjamin H. Strong, former Lake county sheriff, received \$2,749.70 in excess of the amount allowed him for boarding prisoners, transporting them to institutions and for laundry.

That William C. Rose, former Lake county recorder, defrauded the county of \$12,500 for excess charges in copying records when no such service was performed.

That the Lake county commissioners allowed the Tuf-Tread Road Service Company \$31,817.34 in excess payment for road material.

Inspectors Are Listed

The other two amendments corrected typographical errors and made certain that the 3 per cent income tax applied to salaries between \$9,000 and \$10,000, a matter inadvertently not covered in the bill.

The senate last Friday amended the measure which originated in the house, to restore the rates and exemptions originally recommended by the state tax survey committee.

Doing this, the senate eliminated house amendments which had been drafted by Paul V. McNutt, dean of the Indiana law school, and so brought smaller incomes within the scope of the bill while reducing the maximum income tax rate from 6 to 4 per cent.

In the Bag'

By United Press

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—Newton T. Baker, returning today on the Britannia from a Mediterranean cruise, said he had "sixty-seven persons who are willing to vote for me for President."

He made the remark in reply to a newspaper man who promised to vote for Baker if he would run for President.

"That makes sixty-seven persons," said Baker, laughing.

PASTOR FLAYS 'IL DUCE'

Mussolini Said to Be Greatest Enemy of Democracy.

By United Press

DETROIT, Feb. 23.—Benito Mussolini, premier of Italy, was described as the world's greatest enemy of liberalism and democracy by Dr. M. S. Rice, pastor of the Metropolitan Methodist church, in his Sunday night sermon here.

The resolution asked that all of the charges be made a part of the house journal.

WOMAN SUED TUNNEY; NOW TRIES SUICIDE

Despondency Given as Reason for
Unsuccessful Attempt.

By United Press

DALLAS, Tex., Feb. 23.—Mrs. Katherine King, 38, who once sued James G. (Gene) Tunney, the boxer, for \$200,000 damages, charging breach of promise, was recovering today after an attempt to commit suicide by taking poison.

The resolution asked that all of the charges be made a part of the house journal.

WOMAN SUED TUNNEY; NOW TRIES SUICIDE

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By United Press

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—The former Lucy Cotton, musical comedy star and widow of Col. E. R. Thomas, millionaire sportsman and publisher, was married Feb. 5 to Nhardt Hann Jr., Wall street lawyer, it was disclosed today.

Former Stage Star Weds

By United Press

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—The former Lucy Cotton, musical comedy star and widow of Col. E. R. Thomas, millionaire sportsman and publisher, was married Feb. 5 to Nhardt Hann Jr., Wall street lawyer, it was disclosed today.

As a newspaperman it was my business to watch the exciting scene with the utmost attention; as a human being I was absorbed in watching it quite aside from professional difficulties.

Certainly history rarely has served up such an interesting and often bewildering spectacle.

One-sixth of the earth's habitable surface has been fenced off economically and culturally from the rest of the world.

It has been hermetically sealed—

like Russian windows in the winter—against all outside influences and turned into a colossal social laboratory.

Its 160,000,000 people, its vast natural resources, its national genius and accumulated traditions, every-

PROHIBITION IS 'PUT ON TRIAL' IN GIN DEATH

Virgil Kirkland Begins His
Fight for Life in Court
at Valparaiso.

SOCIETY IS BLAMED

Murder of High School Girl
at Drinking Party Is
Charged.

By Times Special

VALPARAISO, Ind., Feb. 23.—"Society, prohibition, and Virgil Kirkland," 20, of Gary, went on trial in Porter circuit court here today for the alleged murder of Miss Arlene Draves, 17-year-old Gary high school girl, on a gin party in Gary Nov. 29.

Only one stands formally accused. He is Kirkland, whose life the state will seek. Modern society and the "noble experiment" will be blamed for the crime by Barrett O'Hara, former Lieutenant-Governor of Illinois, counsel for the defense.

Unless such proof was submitted the \$2 fees would be retained in full by the state.

Under Ketchum's amendment, persons who paid the \$2 filing fee and whose income tax return showed, in consideration of exemption, that no income tax need be paid, would be given credit to the amount of their poll tax if satisfactory proof of its payment was submitted with the income tax return. Such a credit might, under the amendment, be deducted from the filing fee.

Unless such proof was submitted the \$2 fees would be retained in full by the state.

Vote Down Doggs Amendment

"This does not amount to a double poll tax," Ketchum argued. "Forty per cent of Indiana's voters do not pay poll tax. I believe there are possible 1,000,000 persons in Indiana sufficiently conscientious to make these income tax reports without expensive collection machinery."

The senate rejected the amendment offered by Senator William V. Doggs (Dem., Dubois, Perry and Spencer) which would have allowed as a deduction the amount of tax paid on real estate from which income was listed in the income tax return.

In cases where such taxes were in excess of the amount of income tax to be paid, no income tax would be collectable under Doggs' amendment, which was voted down.

Another adopted amendment, of which Ketchum was the author, brought salaries of superior, criminal, probate and juvenile judges and United States employees under the state income tax. The amendment, thus limited judgeship exemptions to constitutional offices.

House Moves Eliminated

The other two amendments corrected typographical errors and made certain that the 3 per cent income tax applied to salaries between \$9,000 and \$10,000, a matter inadvertently not covered in the bill.

Five Are Accused

Kirkland is one of five charged with attacking Miss Draves, and beating her, with fatal results. They attended a party in the home of David Thompson, at which a gallon of alcohol and at least an equal amount of wine is said to have been consumed.

The start of Kirkland's trial was delayed today by a technicality. In vening the case from Lake county courts, clerks sent to Valparaiso a certified copy of the indictment against Kirkland. It developed this morning that the original would have to be read in court. It was ordered from Crown Point and the opening of the case was set for 1:30 p.m. It is expected at least two days will be spent in selection of a jury, and the following days of the trial will see more than two score witnesses examined before the jury.

Done was the chief subject of conversation as the little group watched the last minutes of the life of Mrs. Schroeder tick away.

Done has been chatting for

change in temperature, lowest tonight about 38.

Entered as Second-Class Matter
at Post Office, Indianapolis, Ind.

TRIGGER WOMAN AND LOVER DIE IN ELECTRIC CHAIR FOR KILLING OF HIGHWAY OFFICER

Calm Courage Carries Irene Schroeder
Through to End; Walks Unassisted to
Doom; Spends Sunday Reading.

GUN GIRL IS FIRST TO BE EXECUTED

Dague Pays Penalty Eight Minutes Later;
Words of Twenty-Third Psalm Are Last

Heard by Pair Before Paying Penalty.

By JOSEPH S. WASNEY
United Press Staff Correspondent

WESTERN PENITENTIARY, ROCKVIEW, Pa., Feb. 23.—The brief criminal careers of Irene Schroeder and Glenn Dague ended in a bare, stark room today where they were electrocuted in the half-light of dawn.

The state of Pennsylvania claimed their lives for the murder of Corporal Brady Paul of the state highway patrol.

Promptly at 7 a.m. Mrs. Schroeder was led down the corridor from the death cell, passed through the green door to the execution room, and was electrocuted at 7:05 a.m.

Dague was executed eight minutes later.

It was the first time a woman ever had been electrocuted in Pennsylvania. Forty-two years ago a woman was hanged.

The deaths of Mrs. Schroeder and Dague came as the climax of a series of petty robberies in Pennsylvania that culminated in the shooting of Paul on a lonely road as the two were motoring back from robbing a grocery.

The calm courage that carried