



The Indianapolis Times

HOME

Cloudy tonight and Tuesday, probably rain; not much

change in temperature, lowest tonight about 38.

VOLUME 42—NUMBER 247

INDIANAPOLIS, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1931

Entered as Second-Class Matter at Postoffice, Indianapolis, Ind.

TWO CENTS Outside Marion County 3 Cents

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)

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 befell 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 Fremantle and doctors would not permit her to land.

When the Cathay touched Melbourne she was taken ashore to 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 Mimì in "La Bohème."

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

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

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

Dame Nellie Melba was christened Helen Porter Mitchell. She was born in Melbourne May 19, 1859, the daughter of David Mitchell, a wealthy Scotch farmer. Her mother was of Spanish descent.

She spent her first 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 recitals. 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 opera.

Fought for Success

Madame Marchesi, one of the most famous Paris singing instructors, heard Melba sing one song, then rushed out of the room and cried to her husband:

"Salvatore, Salvatore, I have found a new star."

It was on the night of Oct. 15, 1887, that she appeared at the Theatre de la Monnaie in Brussels in the part of Gilda, achieving only moderate success.

A year later she made her first appearance 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 even before had known. She soon was offered contracts in Paris, Rome, St. Petersburg, Vienna and Berlin.

Copyrighted Her Name

Melba made her first American tour in 1893, 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.

In the early years of the twentieth century she was known as the autocrat 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 senate recessed at noon.

BRANDS OGDEN AS NEGLIGENT

Galloway Bill to Charge Lake County Corruption Not Prosecuted.

Charging Attorney-General James M. Ogdin 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 held 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 Ogdin.

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 Ogdin and purported 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

Galloway charged further in his resolution that "it is alleged an effort has been made to allow those involved in the Lake county scandal to escape by the statute of limitations."

State oil inspectors listed by Galloway as owing the state varying amounts from \$200 to \$19,000 include J. Everett Jarrett, Arthur L. Rest, J. Sandy Young, John W. Davis, John J. Jones and Phil D. Trenary.

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.

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

Attendants at Baylor hospital said Mrs. Fogarty, who was admitted under the name of Mrs. Katherine King, told them she was despondent because of illness and financial difficulties.

Former Stage Star Weds

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 Nthames Hann Jr., Wall street lawyer, it was disclosed today.

Measure Provides for Change of Trial Judge.

Governor Harry G. Leslie today signed the bill providing for change of judge in indirect contempt cases. The measure was drafted and backed by Sigma Delta Chi, national journalistic fraternity.

thing and everybody have been cast into the crucibles by an immense unprecedented experiment—a word Communist dislike as applied to their revolution. It implies the possibility of failure and they do not admit such a possibility.

WHEN I arrived here in February, 1928, certain processes were only beginning which since then have gathered speed and startled the world with their audacity and relentlessness.

The revolution at that time had just passed through what Lenin called a "breathing spell." NEP, the period of the new economic policy, was a truce with the defeated past by a victorious but exhausted revolution. Private property retrieved some of its nationalized ground.

The old intelligentsia soothed itself with the belief of a peaceful transition of democratic government on American lines. A portion of the Communist vanguard itself drooped into the comfort of permanent communism.

Only in such terms can the drama of these years be comprehended. They witnessed the almost total extinction of NEP. Private industry receives less than 1% of 1% of the national income today.

Private trade lingers on in dank corners, struggling hopelessly for breath.

Even individual professional practice, in law, medicine, and the like, has virtually been stamped out.

Most remarkable of all, the stubbornly individualistic peasantry has been driven far on the road toward socialized farming.

The amazing five-year plan, compressing generations of industrial

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. Modesty society and the "noble experiment" will be blamed for the crime by Barrett O'Hara, former Lieutenant-Governor of Illinois, counsel for the youth.

Painted as Tragic Figure

"Virgil is a tragic figure of a gin-drenched jazz age," said O'Hara before court convened. "High school youths, drinking alcohol their elders do, can not be held responsible for individual acts of the industry and the prohibition laws are just as much on trial as the boy in this case."

The start of Kirkland's trial was delayed today by a technicality. In venue 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 delayed until 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. A special venire of fifty talesmen reported for jury selection this morning.

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.

Thompson, Don Barton, Harry Shirk and Leon Stanford, the others charged with the girl's murder, are in Lake county jail at Crown Point, and will be tried separately later.

Kirkland, a former football star in Gary high schools, is charged by the state with having taken Miss Draves to the party, and while drunk, with having attacked her on the porch of the Thompson home, where he took her for air.

Fall to Be Defense

Then, the state says, the others joined Kirkland and the girl in an auto, where each of the men assaulted her. At dawn they took her to the residence of Dr. R. O. Wharton, who told the boys she was dead. They fled, but were arrested next day. Each confessed. Gary authorities say, and later repudiated their confessions.

A coroner's jury found that Miss Draves died from a cerebral hemorrhage and shock. O. B. Thiel, Gary attorney, also defending Kirkland, has said he will introduce expert medical testimony to the effect that the girl's death was caused from a fall.

S. E. RAUH IN HOSPITAL

Business Man Is Recovering From Major Operation.

Samuel E. Raub, prominent Indianapolis business man, was recovering today from a major operation performed Sunday at Methodist hospital. He returned to Indianapolis Thursday after becoming ill while in Florida.

Hourly Temperatures

6 a. m. 39 10 a. m. 41
7 a. m. 39 11 a. m. 42
8 a. m. 39 12 (noon) ... 43
9 a. m. 40

CONTEMPT BILL SIGNED

Measure Provides for Change of Trial Judge.

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The amazing five-year plan, compressing generations of industrial

whose interests were doomed was met with merciless vigor.

The strain of the fight showed itself in a further centralization of the ruling party, which today is more rigid, more controlled from above downward than ever before.

It showed itself in further limitations of personal freedom, including censorship and police control, with periods when G. P. U. executions listed in the press attracted no more attention than weather reports.

Mass suffering and discontent were balanced by collective achievements against heavy odds.

In a word, the last three years were crowded with significant and dramatic episode. For any one obliged to observe and report these events from day to day there is danger of loss of perspective.

MY natural desire at the end of this time is to look back and try to see it whole.

Lives Paid for Crimes



Left—Above, Donnie Schroeder, son of Mrs. Irene Schroeder; lower, Glenn Dague. Right—Two poses of Mrs. Schroeder.

WHEELING, W. Va., Feb. 23.—Irene Schroeder's last message to her family—one of three sent by telegraph within the last remaining hours of her life—was one of peace and contentment.

"I am satisfied with things as they are now," she advised. "Love. Take care of papa, Irene."

News of her execution was taken to the family by John Crawford, her brother, who waited in the office of the Wheeling News until the United Press advised that Irene and Glenn Dague had been put to death.

Then he went to the home of Irene's sister where the family had waited through the night.

Four sisters of Mrs. Schroeder, nieces and nephews and a number of friends kept the watch at the home of one of the sisters here. The sisters are Mrs. Victor Schroeder, Mrs. Ruby Schroeder, Mrs. Mamie Baum and Mrs. Frank Muldoon. Donnie, five-year-old son of Irene, was not present.

Donnie was the chief subject of conversation as the little group watched the last minutes of the life of Mrs. Schroeder tick away. Donnie has been chatting for

days about "my Irene (as he calls his mother) goin' to the 'electric chair,' relatives said. They did not want him to have that picture of his mother in his mind.

"We told him Irene wasn't goin' to the electric chair, but was going to heaven to be with the Angels," Mrs. Muldoon said.

"From that time he has boasted of his mother who was to be an Angel in Heaven with white wings."

SCHROEDER'S WIFE TO ATTEND TRIAL

Children, Parents Also to Be With Mobile Man in Torch Case.

The drop of a gavel at 9:30 Tuesday morning in criminal court will set in motion the legal machinery to try Harold Herbert Schroeder, 35, of Mobile, Ala., for murder.

While prosecutors reviewed evidence intended to prove that Schroeder had murdered his wife, his children and parents will be with him during the trial.

Last minute preparations for the trial were being made today by Prosecutor Herbert Wilson and Floyd Mattice, chief deputy, who will represent the state.

Marshalling of scores of state's witnesses from distant points for instant call to the witness stand has occupied attentions of the state for the past two weeks.

The state will introduce evidence intended to prove that Schroeder either stabbed to death or shot the unidentified man before he set fire to his sedan. The first degree murder indictment against the Alabama man charges he killed the man by "burning, stabbing or methods unknown."

REFUSE PLEA FOR LIFE

Britisher Must Die for Murder, Appeals Court Rules.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—The court of criminal appeal today dismissed the appeal of Alfred Arthur Rouse, 36-year-old traveling salesman and beggar, who was sentenced to death after conviction of a charge of murder of an unidentified man.

Once more Elliott's hand strayed up to the switch, and at the signal, the current shot through Dague's body.

Once more a physician went through the formality of pronouncing death.

Although Mrs. Schroeder had contended to the last that she loved

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 Mrs. Schroeder and her lover, Dague, through the crimes they committed because they were dazzled with visions of wealth stayed with her in the last speeding moments of her life.

Unassisted, she walked through the green door and stood, eyes straight ahead, a dozen paces from death. Behind her came the Rev. T. F. Lauers, prison chaplain, and a matron.

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want," intoned Lauers.

No one else in the room—there were twelve witnesses—spoke.

Robert Elliott, official executioner who also electrocuted Ruth Snyder, edged closer to the panel where the switch was concealed.

Meets Death Bravely

Mrs. Schroeder, her blonde hair cropped close, took two paces forward.

"I make them to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters," came the chaplain's voice.

The 22-year-old woman faced the electric chair, unwavering, turned her head, adjusting her back. Her rayon dress rustled and a matron, eyes wet with tears, patted her hand.

Elliott awaited the signal.

"Yes though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me."

The executioner pulled the switch, Mrs. Schroeder's body lunged forward and the clipper on her right foot dropped to the floor.

Slept on Death Night

She was pronounced dead and the body was taken from the execution room.

Lauers, apparently shaken by the sight of seeing Mrs. Schroeder die, did not accompany Dague into the execution room.

The Rev. H. M. Teagarden, spiritual adviser to Mrs. Schroeder, walked to the death room with Dague.

The last words the 28-year-old condemned man heard were from the Twenty-third Psalm, and he stepped to the electric chair and settled himself into it.

Once more Elliott's hand strayed up to the switch, and at the signal, the current shot through Dague's body.

Once more a physician went through the formality of pronouncing death.

Although Mrs. Schroeder had contended to the last that she loved

Details of last letters of Irene Schroeder and Glenn Dague will be found on Page Two.

Dague, neither made an attempt to see the other before the execution. They were awakened at 5:20 for a breakfast of grapefruit, cereal, toast and coffee. Guards said the condemned prisoners had been asleep since 10:45 o'clock Sunday night.

Prisoners Boo Witnesses

As witnesses, matrons and ministers went through the main prison to the execution room, many of the 900 prisoners booed them. The party proceeded down the corridor to a point near the cells of Dague and Mrs. Schroeder.

Teagarden and Lauers sang two hymns—"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" and "O, What a Happy Day When Jesus Rolled the Stone Away."

Before Mrs. Schroeder was led through the corridor to the execution chamber, a screen was placed in front of Dague's cell.

He had worked through Sunday completing his autobiography and handed the last chapter to Teagarden, who did not reveal what disposal he would make of the manuscript.

Mrs. Schroeder spent Sunday reading as many comic strips in the newspapers as she could find. She told prison officials she did not care about the rest of the newspapers.

Joseph Crawford, father of Irene, and her brother, John Crawford, were permitted to see her for about forty minutes Sunday. It was their last visit.

No Tears, Hysterics

There were no tears nor hysterics during the interview. The Crawford family afterward stopped to say good-bye to Dague after they left Irene's cell.

Relatives will claim the bodies of the two Tuesday and take them to West Virginia, where Dague and Mrs. Schroeder began their criminal careers when they met by accident after he almost ran her down with his automobile.

Mrs. Schroeder leaves a 4-year-old son, Donnie, whose remark to a detective that "my mother killed a cop like you," helped convict her. She sent a telegram to her son Sunday.

4 KILLED IN EXPLOSION

Blast Occurs in Gasoline Still of Texas Refinery.

By United Press

PORT ARTHUR, Tex., Feb. 23.—Four persons were killed and nearly a score were injured in an explosion at the Gulf refinery shortly before midnight. The explosion occurred in a high pressure gasoline still.

DRY CLEANERS CONVEENE

Business Conditions of Past and Future Discussed.

Open forum with members of the Indiana Dry Cleaners' Association discussing business conditions the last year and future business outlook was held during the annual state meeting at the Lincoln today.

Make 'Em Over

Last year's clothes made new for this year. That's something that will interest almost every woman reader of The Times.

The first of a series of articles by Mrs. Annette Guth, sewing expert of the Home Making Center, New York City, appears on the Home Page of The Times today.

They'll show you how to transform old styles into new. It's a series that every woman should welcome. Read today's article and we know you won't miss the other four.