

Full Leased Wire Service of
the United Press Association

INDIANAPOLIS, THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1932

Entered as Second-Class Matter
at Postoffice, Indianapolis, Ind.**Hexeria**
Voodoo Symbol Carved
on Brow of Slain
Church Worker.

By United Press
PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Jan. 21.—A weird symbol of voodoos, carved in blood on the brow of a murdered Mennonite church worker, may change a fatal stabbing case into a crime of mysticism, another Pennsylvania "hex murder."

Evidence of "hexeria," a strange belief in signs to ward off the evil, was discovered about twelve hours after Norman R. Bechtel, 31, was found dying in a roadway, his heart encircled by stab wounds.

A careful examination of the body by Detective Captain Harry Heaney revealed the mark of "hexeria."

Two small crescents were cut into the flesh of the victim on each side of the forehead. A horizontal slit about an inch long was under each crescent. Then in the center of the forehead, extending in a vertical line from the hair line to the bridge of the nose was another cut.

Extending from this one diagonally up and across the forehead toward the crescents were two more straight cuts. Each incision was just deep enough to cause a blood flow.

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Such a contest was instituted by Ball soon after the election, when it was learned that Albert Vestal, Republican incumbent, had been re-elected by only nine votes.

Investigation by The Times revealed many mutilated and discarded ballots in one Delaware county precinct.

Circuit Judge L. A. Guthrie then called a night session of the court and ordered the mutilated ballots impounded, and the reopening of the envelopes containing the tally sheets.

Papers Forwarded

Ball then properly signed and forwarded the necessary papers to Washington for contesting of the election.

For some unknown reason, no further action was taken although the contest still is on file with the congressional committee on elections.

Attention was redirected to the situation at the recent Indiana delegation dinner in Washington when Speaker John Garner demanded to know why the fight was halted.

The Democratic state committee then sent a representative to Muncie to discuss the matter with Ball.

As a result of this, Chairman Peters today sent a letter to Ball saying:

**URGE BAL TO
CONTEST VOTE
FOR CONGRESS**

Democratic Leaders Want
Attorney to Question
Vestal Election.

FRAUD EVIDENCE CITED

Incumbent's Margin Only
Nine Ballots; Probe Plea
Is on File.

Claude C. Ball, Muncie attorney, was nosed out in the election for congressional representative from the old Eighth district in 1930 election by nine votes, was solicited today by R. Earl Peters, Democratic state chairman, to wage a contest for the seat.

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Cites Fraud Belief

"Democratic leaders in Washington exceedingly are anxious that this contest be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. There is a prevalent belief that frauds were committed in the reporting of the ballots cast in that election."

Peters advised Ball that under the federal law, a fund not to exceed \$2,000 would be available to the contestant.

Bennett, a member of the state budget committee, said that he would have several bills ready any time the legislature meets.

He would lift the tax from single stores entirely and start at \$50 on two or more and increase it in units of five. Now the tax runs from \$5 a store to \$25 on the larger chains.

Failure to have the assessments high enough is the cause of the failure of the present law to live up to expectation in the matter of producing revenues, Bennett said.

"Until a few weeks ago, we were under the impression that whatever evidence there was available indicating fraud had been procured and placed in the hands of the election committee in congress.

Evidence Not Presented

"On the occasion of my recent visit to Washington, I was advised that the evidence had not been presented, but that there still is an avenue through which we may attack the purported election of Vestal.

"I am informed that if the proper evidence is procured and presented and the house of representatives is convinced that the election of Vestal was clouded by fraud, a vacancy can be declared, and a special election ordered for the purpose of choosing a successor to him."

Peters in his letter also declared that any attorney Ball may select to aid him in the contest will be placed at his services by the state committee.

So great an interest has developed in the situation that Mayor George Dale of Muncie has announced his intention of going to Washington to confer with party leaders on the dead body to one that is living.

**SAVES WOMAN FROM
TRAIN, GIVEN MEDAL**

Pennsylvania Employee in Indiana
One of Five to Be Honored.

E. J. Ewing of Winamac, Logansport division station clerk for the Pennsylvania railroad, was one of five employees awarded company hero medals during 1931, it was announced today by R. V. Massey, vice-president in charge of personnel.

Ewing received the award for saving the life of Mrs. August Adam, who wandered on to the track in front of the station at Winamac. Ewing snatched her out of the path just as the train rushed past. The locomotive brushed Ewing's coat.

DELEGATES TO PARLEY

Moose Officials to Attend Two Sessions at Philadelphia

William A. Anderson, supreme councilman of the Loyal Order of Moose and secretary of Indiana Moose Lodge No. 17, will attend the midwinter conference of the order and the legion conclave at the Bellview-Stratford, Philadelphia, Friday and Saturday.

En route, he will be a guest at a testimonial meeting in Pittsburgh in memory of Joseph G. Armstrong, past supreme dictator.

Old Store to Close

LA PORTE, Ind., Jan. 21.—The Krieler Clothing Company, which has operated a store here sixty-three years, announces its closing. The store was founded by Mathew Krieler Sr., grandfather of the present owner, Elmer Krieler.

PRINCETON, Ind., Jan. 21.—A hog butcher at the farm of J. M. Austin, six miles southwest of here, is believed to have carried a large emblem pin imbedded in its body. Mrs. Austin lost the pin several weeks ago. While cooking the feet of the hog she noticed the pin in the broth.

Hog Carried Lodge Pin

By United Press

PEKING, China, Jan. 21.—Bands holding James Baker, demanded \$50,000 gold today for his release.

American Vice-Consul Edmund Clubb, aboard the gunboat Oahu, sent to rescue Baker, negotiated with representatives of his captors.

Baker and six of his Chinese crew were seized on the Yangtze river and are held at Pailochi, twenty miles west of Hankow.

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MILWAUKEE, Jan. 21.—The twenty-five-year

mortgage that Walter Esau held on the brain of John G. Schmidt, 70, inventor, had been rescinded today.

Judge Charles L. Aarons ruled an agreement made by Esau to pay Schmidt \$200 a month to produce a chemical compound under certain conditions amounted to a "mortgage on the inventor's brain."

Schmidt had agreed to turn out an acid-

America's Children, Hope of the Nation, Periled by Depression's Barren Cupboards

They are the men and women of tomorrow—the hope of America. They look to us.

In our keeping lies their future. Some day they must carry the burdens of our nation. Will they enter manhood and womanhood strong and

virile and well equipped for the great task that lies ahead—or will they face life with the handicap due to improper or insufficient nutrition and care during childhood?

Can we betray their childish trust, their simple faith?

**VEHLING FEE
PLEA REFUSED**

Commissioners Decline to

Pay \$25 Claim.

Policy of not allowing claims for fees on alleged unnecessary autopsies performed under direction of Coroner Fred W. Vehling was adopted today by county commissioners.

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DEMAND HEAVY RANSOM

Chinese Bandits Seek \$50,000 for American's Release.

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THEY TELL ME

BY BEN STERN.

HARD shell conservative Hoosier Democrats who, through their very standpoints, have for years gradually grown to think as Republicans are having the shock of their political lives.

For suddenly, without a word of warning, Indiana has elected a congressman who happens to be a Jeffersonian in the real sense of the word.

The political throwback is Eugene Crowe of Bedford, old Third district congressman, elected in 1930.

Without a word of warning, Indiana who long has been an independent political thinker, expounded his "heresies" at a dinner in his home town. However, they were not given wide publicity until, upon motion of his colleague, Congressman Arthur Greenwood of the Second district, they were printed in the Congressional Record.

And what is there in this political philosophy which Crowe enunciated to shock the Hoosiers?

Nothing but the following:

He joins with Senator Norris (Rep., Neb.), and Governor Roosevelt of New York, and a score or more of other progressives in believing that the "whole game has been among the poor and humble people of Illinois."

Senators Glenn (Rep., Ill.) speaking in support of Wilkerson's appointment to be judge of the Seventh circuit, said:

"His whole attitude has been one of kindness for the humble classes.

All through northern Illinois, it is understood he is the man best suited for this job. There is no politics in it."