



The Indianapolis Times

Unsettled tonight and tomorrow; showers this afternoon or tonight; slightly cooler tonight.

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HOME
EDITION

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YOUNG MOTHER PUT TO DEATH AT SING SING

Frail Woman Unflinching as
State Exacts Penalty
for Slaying.

2 MEN ALSO EXECUTED

Gov. Lehman Is 'Distressed,'
but Finds No Grounds
for Reprieve.

By United Press
SING SING PRISON, OSSINING,
N. Y., Aug. 10.—A frail 29-year-old
woman said good-bye to her canary,
walked steadily down a corridor
and permitted herself to be strapped
into a chair. A moment later the
state of New York fulfilled its grisly
function of exacting a life for a
life, except that last night it ex-
acted three lives for one.

Ladies were first in the death
house in all social and official
functions. After Mrs. Anna Antonio
died the two men she hired to
murder her husband followed her
into eternity.

Warden Lewis E. Lawes went
from the death chamber to his of-
fice, and into an empty telephone
said:

"It's all over."

The telephone line led into the
executive mansion at Albany, 125
miles up the river. Governor Her-
bert H. Lehman said, "Thank you,"
and went off to bed, satisfied that
he had performed his duty to the
state of New York as he saw it.

Issues Formal Statement

Until the very last minute Gov-
ernor Lehman waited at the tele-
phone on the possibility something
might happen to justify a new re-
rieve to his official conscience. He
had wrestled with that official
conscience because to him it was "dis-
tressing" for the state to execute
a woman who also happened to be
the mother of three children.

The law made no distinction be-
tween sexes, he said in a formal
statement. Therefore, he, as an
officer of the state, could not make
the distinction of commuting her
sentence to life for no other rea-
son than her sex.

Only twelve hours before she
died, Mrs. Antonio was hysterical,
as her time approached and it
was evident even to her that
there was no hope, her composure
had returned and she died
dying.

The deference man always shows
woman was given Mrs. Antonio
even to the moment death got her.
Her chair mates were dressed for
the execution during the afternoon
and locked into cells. She was per-
mitted the run of the death house
corridor and not until 9 p. m. did
the prison barber present himself
to shave the crown of her head for
the electrode.

Distressed by Bald Spot

Several weeks ago, he performed
the same task. After he finished,
Governor Lehman gave her a
reprieve and she was so distressed by
the shaved spot that she kept her
head covered with a towel for days.

When the shave was finished, mat-
rons bound her breasts in a brass-
iere and dressed her in a blue dress
with white collar and gave her a
stocking for her right leg. The
doctor had to remain bare for the
electrode, they explained.

By the time they finished, Father
John J. McCaffery, prison chap-
lain, was waiting to give spiritual
consolation. Soon afterward he
walked with her into the chapel-
like execution chamber where pews
were filled with official witnesses.

The priest prayed while the
straps were tightened. The woman's
face was composed, her eyes fo-
cussed on the wall above the wit-
nesses' heads. The death mask was
adjusted. The wine of the gen-
erator broke in on the prayer and
the priest left the room to fetch
the next victim. At 11:15 p. m.,
Robert M. Elliott, executioner, sig-
naled that he had turned off the
current. Dr. Charles C. Sweet,
prison physician, applied his steth-
oscope, saying in a hollow voice:

"I pronounce this woman dead."

Second Jolt Needed

Only then did the keepers, stand-
ing like statues around the walls
with hands locked tightly behind
their backs, open their eyes.

Samuel Feraci, one of the paid
killers, was next. He sat down in
the chair and smiled.

"I want to thank you, gentlemen,"
he said to the witnesses. "I go to
die, but I am innocent. That is all
I can say. I wish you good luck—
all of you—all your life."

The period of his sentence was
provided by the generator. Father
McCaffery left to bring the next.
Sweet stepped forward, found a
flitter of life and signaled Elliott for
another jolt. The generator hummed
for another minute. This time Dr.
Sweet said:

"I declare this man dead," he said.

In the third row of spectators
there was a flutter of excitement.
One of the official witnesses had
fainted.

Father McCaffery returned with
Vincent Saetta. He smiled, but had
nothing to say. One jolt was enough
for him and at 11:31 p. m., Dr.
Sweet, for the third and final time,
said:

"I declare this man dead."

Mrs. Antonio spent the conscious
moments of her last day thinking
about her canary and her children.
She thought of her 7-year-old
daughter Marie, who was celebra-
ting a birthday. She had sent Marie
a dress she made in the death
house.

Hourly Temperatures

6 a. m. 76 10 a. m. 84
7 a. m. 76 11 a. m. 86
8 a. m. 77 12 (noon) 87
9 a. m. 83 1 p. m. 90

THANKS, MR. PRESIDENT

Roosevelt Helps State Boy to Health



Noah Rush, 17, in his bed at Robert Long hospital, where, through the intercession of President Roosevelt, he is being aided to regain his health.

ROOSEVELT IN CAPITAL AGAIN

President in Best Health,
Ready to Tackle
New Problems.

By United Press

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10.—President Roosevelt returned to Washington today, buoyant in health and ready to tackle the problems facing his administration.

A small, but enthusiastic crowd cheered the President as he was swept out of the station yards in a White House motor car at the end of his 10,000-mile, seven weeks' vacation trip.

The President appeared to be in the best health he has enjoyed during his administration. He arranged a conference for 3 p. m. with Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau Jr., who was one of the three cabinet officers to meet the train.

Secretary of State Cordell Hull and Commerce Secretary Daniel C. Roper were at the yards when the President's train pulled in a few minutes before noon.

Anna Roosevelt Dall, who obtained a Nevada divorce from the President's absence, met him and rode back to the White House with him.

McNutt Disappointed

By United Press

GARY, Ind., Aug. 10.—Governor Paul V. McNutt stood with the group that watched President Roosevelt's special train pass through the Gary railway station yesterday.

His grammar school graduation diploma was awarded to him in bed.

Two years ago, a fall from a bicycle resulted in injury to his shinbone and loss of the use of his left leg.

Radio and the mystery stories with astig detectives always "getting their man" were his diversions abroad.

President Roosevelt, in a radio address, told of the Warm Springs foundation for crippled children. Noah listened. Noah's mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rush, heard the address.

The parents wondered if something could not be done for their son.

NOAH acted. He wrote a letter to the President, telling him of his illness. A secretary replied that the matter had been referred to the proper authorities. A few days later two women investigators visited his home. They heard Noah's story of his ill health. Hospitalization at Robert W. Long hospital followed.

In the ward room where Noah lives are other patients reading letters from sweethearts, wives or lovers in fictional romances.

Noah's never had a romance. He's spent his puppy-love days in bed.

"Just gone two or three times with the girls. Maybe once in a while to a movie show. But you just wait when I get out. Guess I'll get me a sweetheart then, like the rest of the boys," he assures you.

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Noah's dream girl his left-arm

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