

## ALL OF THE EVIDENCE HAS BEEN AGAINST BECKER

Former Police Lieutenant Has Been Hard Hit During His Second Trial for Murder.

DEFENSE IS VERY WEAK

Pressure is Brought to Get Becker to go on Stand and Tell His Own Story.

[By Fred J. Wilson, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

NEW YORK, May 19.—That Chas. Becker, apparently netted hard and fast by the state's case, charging him with procuring the murder of Herman Rosenthal, will be forced to the stand in a last effort to clear himself, was believed certain when the defense opened today. Becker, it was said, is impressed with the fact that his life is in dire peril and is willing to brave the attack of District Attorney Whitman.

He is opposed by Martin T. Manton, his chief counsel. Manton professes to believe that the state has failed to make out a case. Becker, his wife and Hartford T. Marshall, of his counsel, however, are said to have fought long last night in conference with Manton, urging that Becker tell his story.

Before court opened today, it was believed that Jack Reich, alias Jack Sullivan, "king of the newsboys," who lifted Rosenthal's dying form after the gunman's bullets struck, would be the first witness.

Nearly thirty other witnesses are on the defense list. They will probably take up about three days of the court's time.

Hard hit by the terrific blows of the prosecution witnesses as developed by District Attorney Whitman, the defense today faced the necessity of combatting the following main evidence given against Becker: By Bald Jack Rose—that he was Becker's partner, graft collector and stool pigeon and that he was forced by Becker after the Harlem murder conspiracy to hire the four gunmen who slew Rosenthal.

By Brigie Weber and Harry Vallon in corroboration of Rose.

By Mrs. Lillie Rosenberg, widow of the executed gunman, that Rose told her husband Becker wanted Rosenthal slain; by Lefty Louie's dying statement that Becker was respon-

sible for Rosenthal's death.

By Charles H. Plitt, Jr., Becker's former friend and press agent, that Becker hinted at the murder of Rosenthal the day before it was committed.

By James Marshall, a negro boy, that Becker was present at the Harlem murder conference.

By George Dougherty, former deputy police commissioner, that Becker after the murder, hid the secret of Rose's hiding place, thus showing his complicity in the gunman's crime.

The outstanding feature of the case when the defense began was that not one successful attack has been made by the defense on the story of Rosenthal's assassination.

Change of Tactics.

NEW YORK, May 19.—That neither Charles Becker nor his wife will take the stand to deny that Becker forced the murder of Gambler Rosenthal was the declaration of Becker's chief counsel, Martin T. Manton, today. Manton said this was "final," but that was doubted. The defense has changed its tactics often. One change came today, when after his positive declaration a few days ago that he would make no opening address, Manton switched and began just such a statement.

As soon as Justice Seabury mounted the bench, Manton moved that the charge against Becker be dismissed, and, denied this, immediately began a lengthy statement to the jury denying Becker's guilt.

Among thirty witnesses whom it was announced will be called by the defense will be Warden Clancy and Father Cashin, of Sing Sing prison, former District Attorney Jerome members of Becker's strong arm squad, several reporters and Sheriff Hardburger, who took Becker to the death house.

Ripping at the lips of Becker, District Attorney Whitman today smashed flat the story told by Jacob Reich, alias Jack Sullivan, Becker's witness. His thick lips reeking profanity, his tale foul with the slime of New York's underworld, Sullivan for more than two hours told of an alleged plot by "Bald Jack" Rose, "Brigie" Webber and Harry Vallon to saddle on Becker's shoulders the killing of Rosenthal.

"You say you talked with Rose about the gunman after Rose told me they killed Rosenthal?" was Whitman's first question on cross examination.

"Yes," was Sullivan's reply after he had twisted and squirmed so that the question had to be repeated four times.

"Don't you know one gunman was

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## UNEASY LIES THE HEAD OF ANY MEXICAN IN CAPITAL WHO WEARS A SILK HAT

Huerta May Order Him Killed or the Public May Rise up Against Him.

ALL OFFICIALS IN DANGER

Dr. Urrutia, Who Acted as Dictator's Executioner, Says Many Were Executed.

[By Wm. G. Shepherd, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

VERA CRUZ, May 19.—"I didn't keep count of them."  
This was the reply of Dr. Aureliano Urrutia, refugee from the wrath of General Huerta, when asked today how many men had been put to death in Mexico City in the last twelve months.

The removal of countless Mexicans of high and low degree during the rule of Victoriano Huerta was calmly discussed by Urrutia, once minister of the interior, and credited with being Huerta's secret executioner.

He admitted that many were sum-

marily killed, but denied all personal responsibility.

The former minister spoke bitterly, mindful of the deep resentment still manifested against him by the Mexicans of Vera Cruz. Even as he talked in the Hotel Diligencia, crowds could be seen in the plaza outside, but American marines kept them moving. Urrutia fled to the American lines, he said, to save himself and family. He is under the protection of General Funston.

"Were many killed secretly?" he was asked.

"Yes, but I don't know how many," was the cautious reply.

"Is it true Dominguez, the senator who arose in his seat and criticized Huerta, saying that criticism was his last will and testament, was killed?"

"Yes, he was killed."

"Is it true that he was taken to your sanitarium before he was shot and his tongue cut out by Huerta's orders?"

"That is a lie," answered Urrutia.

"That was started against me by jealous cabinet members."

"Were not you minister of Gobernacion and responsible for execution when Huerta ordered them?"

"Yes," he replied, "but I only followed orders."

"How was Dominguez killed?"

"Taken out and shot, I suppose, as was usually done."

"How many were killed?"

"I do not know."

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## THE STATE SITS UPON A VOLCANO

And Should Eruption Come, a Tale of Horror Will Have to Be Chronicled.

LINDSEY TELLS STORY

Judge Says That the People Have Not Heard of the Barbarism of the Ludlow Battle.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

CHICAGO, May 19.—"Colorado is sitting on a volcano. Withdraw the federal troops and there will be war—a war of reprisal so terrible that one shudders to contemplate it."

This was the statement of Judge Ben B. Lindsey, of Denver, Colo., who arrived here today enroute to Washington with a party of Colorado women. With him were Mrs. Lee Chapman, representing the Colorado women's relief committee and the survivors of the battle of Ludlow, Mrs. Pearl Jolly, Mrs. Beatrice and Mrs. Thomas and her two small children.

"We are going to beg the president not to withdraw the regulars, continued Judge Lindsey who said he represented only the law abiding citizens of Colorado.

"My own interest is a neutral one. I want law and order and I have been asked by the citizens of Denver to help us get it in our state."

Judge Lindsey characterized the horrors of Ludlow as unbelievable. He said that events which followed the attack on the miners' tent colony at Ludlow by the state militia, were only "equalled in stories of the sacking of Rome, the pillage of Carthage and the inhumanities of the Balkan wars."

"The true story of what took place is too horrible to print," said Judge Lindsey. "We can only suggest it and fill in the outlines with the direct testimony of these women who suffered. As one instance of what took place—and I have affidavits to back this up—a father went to the militia camp for his little boy, who was missing. He was saluted with the child's corpse. The head had been shot off and the body half burned. A soldier threw it to him over a tent, and said: 'Here, take the thing.'"

"Mothers who went to the rescue of their babies were shot down and brutally mutilated. Children only a few years old, were killed. The handwork of barbarians in the most unholy days of the vandals and Goths could not have been more cruel than what took place at Ludlow."

While here today the party went to the Hull house, where the industrial strife in Colorado was related in detail to Miss Jane Addams and a group of social workers. Judge Lindsey and the others will leave late today for Washington. Mrs. Lindsey suffering from nervous prostration, said to be due to the high altitude, was removed from the train on a stretcher. She was taken immediately to the Presbyterian hospital. If physicians there advised it, she will continue the trip to Washington when the party leaves late this afternoon. Otherwise it is planned, she will remain here until her husband's return.

## MUCH MONEY FOUND IN THE RESIDENCE

Two Old Women Turned on the Gas and Died in Each Others Arms.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

CHICAGO, May 19.—To solve, if possible, the mysterious circumstances surrounding the asphyxiation of two aged and wealthy women, living alone—Mrs. Emily Backus, 77, and her sister, Miss Mariette Wright, 73—a coroner's inquest was held. The death of the aged sisters was not discovered until the arrival of Frank Croston, a cousin and business agent, from Rochester, N. Y.

In response to an urgent telegram from Mrs. Backus, Croston hurried to Chicago. Upon his arrival he was unable to gain entrance to the old brown stone residence at 3055 Washington and called the police. Battering down a door, they discovered an open gas jet, and the women, clasped in each others arms, dead in bed.

Under the sink in the kitchen tied up in a rag and marked with the name of Miss Wright, was \$16,000 in currency. A bundle containing \$14,000 in bills was found in a bureau drawer. Each of the women is said to have left \$100,000 in property.

## DEATH RATE IN CITIES

Memphis is the Unhealthiest While Seattle Takes Prize as the Good Health Town.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

WASHINGTON, May 19.—The United States is in better health than it ever was and its inhabitants are living longer, according to figures for 1913, given out today by the census bureau. Washington was the healthiest city, with a death rate of 8.5 per thousand, and North Carolina had the highest mortality rate, 16.8. Memphis, Tenn., was apparently the unhealthiest city. Its death rate was 20.8. Seattle was the prize good health town with a rate of only 8.4. New York City showed the biggest death rate reduction in five years with a 24.7 per cent drop in that period.

The death rate for the nation in 1913 was 14.1 per thousand, a reduction of one in eight compared with the average of ten years ago.

Following was the 1913 death rate in various large cities:

City	Per 1,000
Los Angeles, Calif.	15.0
Oakland, Calif.	12.5
San Francisco	15.9
Denver	13.7
Chicago	15.1
Indianapolis	15.7
Baltimore	18.5
Boston	16.4
Detroit	17.3
Grand Rapids, Mich.	13.3
Minneapolis	11.6
St. Paul	11.0
Kansas City	14.8
St. Louis	14.9
Omaha, Neb.	13.9
Buffalo, N. Y.	15.8
New York City	14.3
Cincinnati	16.9
Cleveland, Ohio	14.2
Columbus, Ohio	15.3
Dayton, Ohio	12.0
Toledo, Ohio	16.2
Portland, Ore.	9.5
Philadelphia	15.5
Pittsburgh	14.8
Scranton	14.8
Memphis, Tenn.	20.8
Seattle	8.4
Spokane	8.9
Milwaukee	17.9

Danger from Forest Fires.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]  
DULUTH, Minn., May 19.—Anxiety is being caused here today by conditions in the north woods, where it is feared forest fires may break out. Several incipient blazes have been reported between Duluth and Two Harbors and settlers are doing their best to prevent them spreading. Conditions are reported very similar to those prevailing just before fires destroyed Chisholm and Beaudette a few years ago. Special precautions to prevent disasters are being taken.

## THE WEATHER

For Keokuk and vicinity: Mostly cloudy tonight and Wednesday. Probably showers. Mild temperature.

For Illinois: Fair tonight. Increasing cloudiness Wednesday. Mild temperature.

For Iowa and Missouri: Mostly cloudy tonight and Wednesday, with probably showers. Mild temperature.

Weather Conditions.

With the eastern field of high pressure moving slowly to the Atlantic coast, the weather remains fair from the Mississippi valley eastward.

Between the Rockies and the Mississippi valley, the weather is more or less cloudy, and there have been scattered showers or thunderstorms, which have extended to Kansas City and Omaha.

The temperature is mild in all districts.

Conditions indicate mostly cloudy weather, and probably showers, with mild temperature for this section tonight and Wednesday.

Daily River Bulletin.

Station	Stage	Height	Change	W'th'r
St. Paul	.....	14	1.4	-0.4 Pt. Cl'dy
La Crosse	.....	12	5.0	-0.3 Pt. Cl'dy
Davenport	.....	13	9.3	-0.3 Cl'dy
Davenport	.....	15	7.3	-0.7 Cl'dy
Keokuk	.....	14	8.1	-0.1 Cl'dy
St. Louis	.....	30	13.6	-0.2 Clear

River Forecast.

The river will fall from Davenport to Keokuk during the next forty-eight hours.

Local Observations.

May 18 7 p. m.—30.29 74 S Clear  
19 7 a. m.—30.26 62 SE Cl'dy

River above low water of 1864, 8.1.

Change in 24 hours, fall 1 tenth.

Mean temperature 18th, 64.

Lowest temperature, 51.

Highest temperature, 78.

Lowest temperature last night, 59.

FRED Z. GOSEWISZ, Observer.

## NOTE IN BOTTLE STIRS POLICEMEN

Girl Wrote That She Was Being Held Captive for Immoral Purposes.

SEARCHING FOR HER

Des Moines Diamond Robbery Falls Flat When Woman Files Replevin Suit for Them.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

DES MOINES, Iowa, May 19.—Auto loaded with police are speeding about the country side near Valley Junction near here today hunting for the writer of the following letter:

"I am held captive by some foreigners for immoral purposes two or three miles west of Valley Junction.

"Kate Moberly."

The letter was turned over to the police today by Rex Reynolds, 15, who says he found it floating in a bottle in the Raccoon river below Valley Junction.

Great Diamond Robbery!

DES MOINES, Iowa, May 19.—Des Moines' \$3,400 diamond robbery shrank badly today when Mrs. Louise McGregor, the alleged victim, swore out a replevin to recover the gems, now said to be worth \$500 from Frank Weatherly, a chauffeur, and former friend. Weatherly is in jail and the police threaten to turn him over to federal officers on a charge of importing Miss Pearl Merrill to Des Moines from Omaha for immoral purposes. Police say Weatherly and Mrs. McGregor quarreled over the girl and that the "diamond robbery" case grew out of this affair.

## ROOSEVELT TO BE AT HOME TONIGHT

Colonel is Expected to Land at Oyster Bay at Six O'clock This Evening.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

NEW YORK, May 19.—Over at Oyster Bay today, the townspeople were polishing an antique cannon and flinging flags to the breeze—for T. Roosevelt was due to arrive home late this afternoon. The cannon will bark twenty-one times and Oyster Bayans will cheer when their most distinguished fellow citizen lands at his private pier, opposite Sagamore Hill, after braving the perils of South American jungles.

Nobody, either in Oyster Bay or New York, was quite sure today how the colonel intended to get from the steamer Aidan to his home. His family have made arrangements for a private tug and their plans apparently contemplate his transfer at Quarantine and shift to Sagamore Hill without any public reception. These arrangements were taken in some quarters to lend confirmation to stories that the colonel had not completely recovered from the illness which prostrated him immediately after his party emerged from the wilds of Brazil.

That he was very ill then, was stated today by Captain Alexander of the Booth line Dunstan, which vessel carried the colonel from Manaus to Para. He said Roosevelt had to be carried aboard ship on a stretcher, but improved rapidly with rest and full rations.

At the offices of the Booth line it was said that the Aidan was due at Quarantine at 4:00 o'clock. This would bring the colonel to Oyster Bay at about 6:00 o'clock.

## FIFTY FIREMEN FELL FROM FUMES

Blaze in Tall Building Was Furd to Handle on Account of the Gas.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

NEW YORK, May 19.—Six hours of desperate fighting in which fifty firemen dropped unconscious and one was severely injured, were required to control a fire here in a block on Greenwich street which was still blazing fiercely after daylight today.

Chemicals stored in the five upper stories of the building, occupied by the Atlantic Can company, generated fumes of muriatic and hydro-chloric acid. These swept over the fire fighters and men dropped like flies. A dozen physicians resuscitated the unconscious ones as fast as they were borne out of the structure.

—Read The Daily Gate City, 10c per week.

## MEDIATORS WILL ARGUE WHILE VILLA IS SHOOTING

Peace Commission Goes to Niagara Falls to Talk Over the Mexican Question.

ONSLAUGHT AT SALTILLO

Consul Silliman's Fate is Worrying High Officials and May Lead to Trouble.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]

WASHINGTON, May 19.—Interest in the Mexican situation shifted to Niagara Falls, Ont., today. The American commissioners to the mediation conferences left here early today. They expressed hope that their mission would succeed.

One thing was certain in the minds of Lemar and Lehman—that there would be no long delay. They believed it would be possible to determine within a week, whether there was hope of ultimate success. Information given them by President Wilson was that the mediators were in sympathy with the general contentions of the United States and would very probably use their influence to have the Huerta representatives grant a concession so vital.

Meanwhile his attitude continued defiant. There will be no compliance with Huerta. The administration is not considering Carranza at this time. The fate of Consul Silliman at Saltillo is wearing on the nerves of certain high officials. These do not accept the optimistic views of Secretary Bryan. The secretary has taken at their face value, the promises made by the Brazilian minister in Mexico City that Silliman is safe, but held back because railroad communication between Saltillo and the capital is interrupted.

Information reaching the war department from the Texas border, but withheld under order, is that the contrary is the case and that trains have passed between the two cities since an ultimatum in the Silliman case was served by Bryan on Huerta. Even Bryan has candidly admitted that an outrage to Silliman, a classmate of President Wilson's would cause a wave of indignation from the country that would force the hand of the government. Unless something unforeseen de-

## MELLEN RESUMES HIS STORY OF FINANCIAL JUGGLING BY NEW HAVEN RAILROAD

Former President of Road, Loaded With New Chapters in the Interesting Tale.

THE POWER OF MONEY

Innocent Investors in Stock May be Repaid if Looters Can be Forced to Disgorge.

[By John Edwin Nevin, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, May 19.—The trail of the Tammany Tiger through the jungle of finance was followed today by the interstate commerce commission. Chas. S. Mellen resumed the witness stand in the inquiry into the secret operations of the New Haven railway during the ten years he was its head. He brought with him his own records of the distribution of the New Haven's "pet," the "yellow dog fund."

He intimated that he had no favorites to protect; that he intended to tell just how it was the New Haven was able to take worthless fran-

chises in West Chester county, New York, and transform into paying systems, merely because certain political leaders "became reasonable."

While West Chester was the initial object of today's hearing, Mellen was under promise to do far more. His story, which is expected to continue through the present week, will carry his hearers into the capitol in Boston, Hartford and Providence. Mellen plans to tell how he got authority for the various consolidations which marked the development of the New Haven into a monopoly, controlling practically all avenue of transportation throughout New England. That money passed in many of these transactions, either in the form of cash or due bills has already been admitted at former hearings. Never yet, however, has the whole picture of sordid "high finance" been painted by a man who knew, as Mellen knows.

The interstate commerce commission was hopeful that as a result of his complete story it could recommend to congress remedial legislation that would end for all time this brand of finance.

Since last Thursday, Mellen has been getting ready for his task. He has delved through an accumulation of documents in his New England homes and offices. From them he has completed the details of Billard company transactions; the "gobbling" of the Boston and Maine, various trolley systems and the numerous links in what is now the New Haven sys-

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