



Beulah Binford's Reported Appearance in Richmond On the Eve of Execution Worries the Beatties, Who Fear Scene

YOUNG WIFE MURDERER DIES IN CHAIR TODAY

Execution Planned To Take Place Early This Morning

NO CONFESSION YET BY CONDEMNED MAN

Spends Last Day Quietly, Comforted By Ministers and Members of Family

Richmond, Va., Nov. 23.—Beulah Binford, the seventeen-year-old girl for love of whom Henry Clay Beattie, Jr., is alleged to have killed his wife, was reported to have returned to Richmond today. Denial was made by the police that this was so, but several persons were said to have recognized her on the street.

It is reported the Beattie family was afraid the girl would make a scene at the simple funeral which will follow young Beattie's electrocution. Search for her is being made despite a press dispatch from New York quoting her employers as saying that she had no intention of visiting Richmond.

His Last Day of Life. Beattie awakened at the usual time this morning, on what, by law, was the last day of his life. To-morrow shortly after daybreak he will surrender himself in the death chair in explanation of the murder of his young wife. He slept, but tossed restlessly, as though bad dreams had been his companions throughout the long night. There were no signs of a breaking down this morning, the prisoner dressing with the same fastidious care that he has taken ever since he entered the State penitentiary and the death cell.

Rev. John J. Fix put in an appearance early and probably will remain with Beattie during the night. The elder Beattie, Douglas Beattie, brother of the convicted man, and the attorneys who defended him in the trial that ended in his conviction of murder joined the minister soon afterward.

Neither Beattie's attorney nor his relatives believe he will confess before his life is taken. His spiritual advisers are of another opinion. They entertain the hope, amounting almost to conviction, that he will do so.

Consideration for Father. "If he is guilty, I feel reasonably certain he will acknowledge all," said Rev. Dr. Fix. "To go to his death with a lie on his lips would be sacrilege, and Beattie is at peace with his Maker."

The fact remains, however, that through all the ordeal attending his trial and conviction young Beattie has sought in every way to spare his aged father as much as possible. The elder Beattie is said still to believe in the innocence of his son. It is a question whether the condemned man does not consider that he owes it to his father, to whom he has brought so much pain and so much disgrace, to go to his death with sealed lips. It is doubted by many that new-found religion will outweigh the prisoner's sense of that consideration he believes is due his father and prompt a confession.

Faithful Unto Death. While a not unnatural sympathy is very generally extended to a prisoner robbed of life in the full flush of manhood, yet the real solicitude of the public is felt for the father, who has suffered for a sin committed by another, and whose heart is broken in the winter of life. For the past several days the elder Mr. Beattie has been the recipient of innumerable communications from all sections of the country expressing sorrow and attempting to convey hope to his crushed spirit. Every letter is opened by him with trembling fingers, but the messages are all the same, and in place of hope convey miseration.

When the aged father visits the steel cage in which his son is passing the few hours now left of existence to him on earth, the contrast between the two figures is striking. The eyes of the elder man are dull and lustreless and his countenance has taken on the color of parchment. But in the gloom of the prisoner's case

Chronological History of the Case of Henry Clay Beattie, Jr., Who is Under Sentence to Die Today in the Electric Chair in the Virginia State Prison 1911

July 18.—While returning to Richmond in a motor car driven by her husband, Mrs. Henry Clay Beattie, Jr., was shot and instantly killed. The shooting occurred on the Midlothian turnpike, five miles from Richmond. Mrs. Beattie was 23 years old and had been married only one year. After the tragedy the husband returned to the home of "Tom" Owen, an uncle of his wife, with the body of Mrs. Beattie, saying she had been shot by a tall-bearded man, whom they encountered on the road.

July 20.—At the coroner's inquest, Paul Beattie, second cousin of Henry Clay Beattie, Jr., confessed that he had purchased a shotgun for Henry and subsequently three cartridges, and had delivered them to his cousin a day or two before the murder. The same gun was picked up on the road, where it was said to have been jolted out of the auto the morning after the shooting and identified by the husband as the one he had taken out of the hands of the strange man in the struggle following the tragedy.

July 22.—Arrest of Henry Clay Beattie, Jr. Indictment of Beattie, based on the testimony of his cousin and on evidence showing that he had been attentive to Beulah Binford, a girl of seventeen, for three or four years, and that their relations had been resumed after Beattie's marriage to Miss Louise Owen of Dover, Del., and even after the birth of their child, which was three weeks old at the time of its mother's death.

Aug. 24.—Commencement of the trial. Prosecution introduced evidence to show that Beattie had taken the gun bought for him by Paul and secreted it along the Midlothian pike, at the scene of the murder, and had there induced his wife to get out of the automobile and shot her. Paul Beattie testified that Henry, several days after the murder, had confessed to him that he had shot his wife, saying: "I'm sorry that I did it. I wouldn't do it again for \$1,000,000. The defense bent every effort to break down the testimony of Paul Beattie, whom they described as a "moral weakling," and tried to ascribe Paul's testimony to a desire to escape from the "ugly fix" he was in. However, Paul's testimony was substantiated in its important features by other witnesses.

Sept. 4.—Henry Clay Beattie, Jr., took the stand in his own behalf and on cross-examination held to his previous statements in regard to his wife being shot by a strange man who held them up on the road.

Sept. 8.—The jury in the case recorded a unanimous verdict of "guilty." This verdict was believed to have been influenced not only by the strong direct evidence of Beattie's guilt, but also by the testimony of his relations with his "affinity," the Binford girl, which was supposed to have furnished the motive for the crime. This young woman, scarcely more than a child, met Henry Clay Beattie, Jr., when she was but thirteen years old and two years later gave birth to a child alleged to have been his son.

Sept. 9.—Walter A. Watson, the trial judge, sentenced Beattie to die on Nov. 24.

Nov. 13.—The Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia denied the petition for a writ of error.

Nov. 15.—The young wife murderer's last hope of escaping the electric chair was wiped away when Governor Mann declined to interfere with the sentence and issued a signed statement in which he stated that he had followed the case with the closest attention and declared his belief that Beattie had had a fair trial and merited the punishment imposed upon him by the jury and court.

BINFORD'S MANAGER WIRES CONTRADICTION

Declares "Other Woman" Has No Intention of Returning

New York, Nov. 23.—Beulah Binford is in New York and has no intention of visiting Richmond, according to a statement made today by her employers. Her connection with the Beattie case is closed, they said, and she has made no recent comment upon the outcome, nor will she make any, notwithstanding reports to the effect that she declared Beattie would die for a crime he did not commit.

The shadows are not sufficient to hide the strength of youth, and the eyes of the doomed youth are said to have taken on a feverish and unnatural light, which burns through the darkness. In recent days the young Beattie has been sparing of speech and he and his father content themselves with the sympathetic communion of silence.

To Sleep Near Wife's Grave.

The twelve men nominated to constitute the jury before which Henry Clay Beattie, Jr., will expiate his crime tomorrow morning have been summoned to arrive at the penitentiary a little before 7 o'clock on the final day, when they will be ushered very quickly, in single file, to the death chamber under guard. When the curtain has fallen on the tragic end of the drama of crime, the body of the victim will be removed silently from the mortuary room in the basement of the prison to the Beattie burial section in Maury cemetery, South Richmond.

Here, in the presence of the immediate family of the dead man, and a few friends, the body will be lowered into a grave by the side of that occupied by the wife of the prisoner. And here, Henry Clay Beattie, Jr., will lie in eternal slumber, probably locking in silent breast a secret, which, to many, is as yet unsolved.

RAILROAD OFFICIALS START INVESTIGATION

Defective Rails Found At Two Places On Division, Is Report

Damaged rails found at two points on this division of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad recently have caused officials of the company to suspect that efforts are being made to wreck trains. Little information could be obtained first hand last night from any person connected with the company, but it is understood that an investigation is now being made which may lead to an arrest today.

Several days ago three rails were found to have been tampered with near Folly Mills, just south of Staunton, it is said. When, yesterday afternoon, another rail was found damaged at a point one mile south of Verona the suspicions of local officials of the road were aroused, is the report, and following an exchange of messages between this place and Winchester an investigation was begun. Just how far this proceeded last night could not be learned.

All sorts of rumor were afloat last night from which it was impossible to gain anything tangible. It was said that the condition of the defective rail discovered yesterday was such as to indicate that some explosive had been used, but this report could not be confirmed.

Extra significance attaches to the finding of the bad rails in view of the wreck on the Southern near Woodstock the first part of the week. This smashup was caused by a defective rail.

Installs New Plant.

William Snyder, of the firm of Snyder & Sheets, has just completed the installation of an electric light plant for the Knightly Milling company at Ft. Defiance. The lights were turned on Wednesday night, making the mill as bright as day. This addition makes the plant up-to-date in every respect, as it can now be operated night and day.

COURT BALKS PLAN OF LABOR LEADERS

Cannot Escape Charge By Pleading Statute Of Limitation

BLOW FOR COMBERS AND HIS ASSOCIATES

Opinion of Full Bench is Delivered by Justice Wright in District Court

Washington, Nov. 23.—Judge Daniel Thew Wright, voicing the opinion of the District Supreme Court in general terms, today overruled motions of Samuel Gompers, John Mitchell and Frank Morrison, officers of the American Federation of Labor, to dismiss contempt proceedings against them on the ground of the application of the statute of limitations.

He held that contempt of court is not a crime, and, can, therefore, not be subject to the statute of limitations. He gives the counsel representing the labor leaders three days in which to reach an agreement with the committee previously appointed as to a suitable person to be named commissioner to take testimony as to the contempt alleged.

"There being no faith and merit in any part of the motion it must be overruled," said Justice Wright. Of the parts of the labor leaders' motion urging the dismissal of the contempt proceedings he directed that they "be put aside, for they seem at best frivolous and insincere."

Continuing the opinion says: "Of the fallacy that alleged contemptors are contending with judges cannot too soon unload their minds for if charges of contempt are true, the contest is against the supremacy of the law. The duty and concern of judges is only this: That for and in the name of the people the supremacy of the law shall be maintained."

The opinion was read by Justice Wright, with his five associates sitting in general session. The court room was crowded to its utmost capacity.

WASHINGTON AND LEE TO MEET V. P. L. HERE

Washington & Lee University has announced its basketball schedule, which shows games with big schools, including Virginia and Georgetown. Virginia polytechnic Institute does not appear on the schedule, but it is learned that a game with the Blacksburg quint will probably be played in Staunton on or about February 12. The team will start on its northern trip on February 16 and will make the most extended tour ever taken by a team representing Washington & Lee. Two games will be played in New York city.

SHOT FOR \$2,500 REWARD

Turkey Had Price on Head of Colorado Mine Foreman

Denver, Col., Nov. 23.—That S. O. Zo Federoss, foreman of the Adams mine, near Frederick, Co., was shot to death last Saturday night in the door of his cabin by an unknown assassin to obtain a reward of \$2,500 from the Turkish government was indicated today by the translation of a number of papers found among the dead man's effects. According to these papers a price had been placed by the porte on Zo Federoss' head because of his activity against Turkey when he served as a military officer with the Maceonians.

McCARTER WILL FACE TRIAL NEXT TUESDAY

The case of E. L. McCarter, the tinner, formerly employed by Mr. Chas. Tanner, of this city, indicted in Roanoke for the malicious shooting of J. W. Simmons, Friday, October 6, has been continued until next Tuesday. McCarter was to have been tried in the corporation court on Wednesday, November 22.

Having been unable to make arrangements to furnish the required bail, McCarter has remained in jail at Roanoke since the shooting. His brother went to Roanoke to assist him, but in view of the fact that his property is located in another State, a cash bail was required. Halston & Willis are his attorneys.

Train Drops Through Bridge Sixty Passengers Believed to Have Perished in Disaster

Structure in France, Weakened by Recent Floods, Breaks Down Under Weight of Cars--Ten Bodies Recovered

Saumur, France, Nov. 23.—Sixty passengers, it is estimated, lost their lives through the plunging of a train into the river Thouet this morning, owing to the breakdown of a railroad bridge on the State railroad at Montreuil-Bellay, in the department of the Maine-et-Loire. The train, which had started from Angers, was traveling to Poitiers. It contained about 100 passengers. While it was crossing the bridge over the Thouet the structure, which had been greatly weakened by recent floods, broke down, crashing with the whole of the cars into the swollen stream.

Try to Catch Trees. Many of the passengers who succeeded in getting out of the cars through the windows tried to save themselves by clinging desperately to the tops of trees which showed above the surface of the water. In most cases, however, they were quickly washed away by the rushing current.

REVOLVER SHOTS IN BRAXTON'S "AVENUE"

Rocks Thrown Also in Nice Little Neighborhood Scrap

Braxton's Alley furnished a shooting scrape last night in which no one was hurt and as a result of which the man shot at was locked up on a warrant sworn out by the shooter charging disorderly conduct. The principals in the affair are George Nichols, a colored drayman who lives in the house with a "Mrs. Body, and Ernest Smith, also colored, who drives a milk wagon at the Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind, and much information of a private nature was divulged.

As the result of certain things said about his wife, who cooks for Mrs. Arista Hoge, Smith ceased conversational relations with Nichols, who lives in the adjoining house. Nichols, it seems, precipitated the row by going over to Smith's gate last night about dark and asking him why he had quit speaking to him. From this point on the two negroes versions are so different that what really happened is hard to tell. Not being able to settle their differences by soft speech, Nichols, it is claimed, threw a rock into Smith's house, whereupon Smith drew his pistol and shot, he says into the ground and Nichols says past him into Judge Holt's stable. Nichols also denied having invited Smith to come out and "cake walk" with him or having thrown a rock into his house.

Chief of Police Lipscomb listened to the disputants last night and sent an officer again to the scene to learn what he could of the case. Vance Johnson, who was upstairs in Smith's house, said he heard two stones strike the porch. "Mrs" Mady was out calling.

Perhaps Justice Glasgow will be able to unravel the mass of conflicting testimony this morning.

HE SCORES HOBBLE SKIRT

Tight-Fitting Garments Cause Tuberculosis, Says Official

Chicago, Nov. 23.—The hobble and tube skirts and other tight fitting garments are given as cause for tuberculosis by Health Commissioner Herman Spalding. Loose fitting clothes are, he declares, proper for maintaining health and happiness. Dr. Spalding recommends that sizes larger than those you have been accustomed to, if they have been tight fitting.

If you have been wearing a tight-fitting hobble or tube skirt, he recommends that you forget the styles and order a hoop skirt.

Another recommendation is that when you walk along the street shrug your shoulders and allow the cold air to circulate beneath your clothing. If you would have health you must give the skin air just as you would the lungs.

Miss Katherine Holt went to Washington yesterday.

All the boats in the locality had been carried off by the inundation, so that it was impossible for people of the neighborhood to assist much in the work of rescue. No exact information is yet available as to the number of victims, or as to those rescued, but it is believed that between fifty and sixty have been drowned.

Ten Bodies Found. Ten corpses have been recovered at various points of the river. Three of the cars were submerged, but the roof of a fourth car is still visible above the surface. Eleven persons, including some children, are still clinging to this, and during the afternoon, thousands of people lined the banks watching them, but impotent to render aid.

Several small boats made ineffectual attempts at rescue, but the crews ran perilous risks, and the boats were nearly swamped on several occasions.

ROOSEVELT BITTERLY DENOUNCES LYNCH LAW

Makes Strong Plea For Equality Of Justice For Both Races

New York, Nov. 23.—Declaring that lynch law is a national crime, whether perpetrated in the North or the South, former President Roosevelt in the current issue of The Outlook today pleads for equality of justice for negroes and whites. At the same time, he deplores the slowness of justice in the belief that this may be largely responsible for many of the cases of summary vengeance.

In an editorial headed "Lynching and the Miscarriage of Justice," Colonel Roosevelt exonerates the South from sole responsibility for this stigma upon the United States and reluctantly admits that the lynch spirit is growing. The crime against womanhood, which has inspired so many lynchings, especially in Southern States, and especially in cases where negroes have figured as the assassin, the writer puts even before murder in the grade of felonies. He advocates making such crimes capital and urges that death sentences be imposed upon all found guilty of such offenses.

The following are some of the striking excerpts from the editorial: "The repeated race riots and lynchings that have occurred in the United States in the last decade or so must have convinced the least observant that neither race feeling nor the tendency to lynching is in any sense peculiar to the South.

"Lynch law is in itself a dreadful thing, but the manifestations that accompany it when the cause is due to race hatred are peculiarly horrible. "When men grow accustomed to lynch men for one crime, they speedily begin to lynch them for other crimes.

"Dreadful though it is for the mob spirit to be aroused in a community by such a crime (attacks on women), it would be even a worse calamity if the community did not feel the fury of indignation which produces the mob spirit. There is no question whatever that there are serious breakdowns in the administration of justice in America, breakdowns for which we are all more or less responsible—the people as a whole, the legislatures, the lawyers and the courts. Slowness in deciding cases and readiness to admit appeals, legal technicalities, the irritating delay in getting the machinery of the law in motion and the utterly improper attention paid by the courts to the sharpness of lawyers in invoking technicalities—all these result in frequent miscarriages of justice.

Says Best Is Worst. Cleveland, Nov. 23.—"When a woman tries matrimony with a man she has known only two months, the best she can expect is the worst of it," said Judge Estep, in granting a divorce resulting from a hasty marriage.

Misses Mary and Betty Miller, Lizzie Atkinson, May Young and Harriet Echols attended the wedding at Norfolk last night of Miss Alice Kelly and Mr. Taylor.

FREE AFTER BEING TRIED FIVE TIMES

Now Famous Buckingham County Murder Remains Mystery

MEN WERE ACCUSED OF KILLING STUARTS

Twice Convicted of Murder Trial is Now Declared to Be Innocent

Richmond, Va., Nov. 23.—Edward Jones and Richard Perkins, colored, and Dallas Wright, white, convicted in Buckingham county of the murder and robbery of the Stewart brothers, in April, 1909, and burning the home of the Stewarts to hide the evidences of crime, are not guilty.

The atrocious crime goes unavenged, a dark, deep mystery. The jury that tried the remarkable case in the hustings court of Richmond, so decided today.

The cases were removed to this city for trial in Judge Witt's court, after the supreme court had ordered a new trial for Jones and Perkins. The trial of Jones began Tuesday, it having been determined that the men should be tried separately. The evidence was heard after the lawyers had presented the case. But there was no argument. Commonwealth's Attorney Folkes forestalled that immediately after the jury answered the roll call this morning.

Addressing Judge Witt and the jury, Mr. Folkes said: "I have studied this case carefully and I have weighed the evidence carefully. I feel it my duty to say that no case has been made out."

Reach Verdict Quickly. The jury was then directed by Judge Witt to retire for deliberation. The twelve men marched into the jury-room. The door was hardly closed after them when it was reopened and they marched back again. "Gentlemen of the jury have you agreed upon a verdict?" Clerk Walter Christian asked.

In reply, the foreman read the lines he had scribbled on the back of the indictment: "We the jury, find the prisoner not guilty."

An expansive smile overspread the dusky countenance of Edwin Jones. Attorney John L. Lee, of counsel for Jones, was immediately upon his feet.

"I take it," he said, "that the case against Richard Perkins will now be nolle prossed."

"That is my intention," said Commonwealth's Attorney Folkes. "Now, if it pleases the court," pursued Mr. Lee, "I would like to call attention to the case of Dallas Wright. Wright has been convicted and is in the Henrico county jail under sentence of death. As I understand it, the governor is waiting to hear from the cases now before this court to determine whether he shall grant a pardon to Dallas Wright. I would like to have some statement from this court to present to the governor."

"The case of Dallas Wright was never removed to this court," said Judge Witt. "He is within the jurisdiction of the Henrico circuit court, being in the Henrico county jail.

"If the evidence against him is the same as in the Jones case, however, I can say that if he were in this court the same action would be taken as in the case of Jones. Remember, I am assuming that the evidence is the same."

Perkins, who was in the city jail awaiting trial at the conclusion of the Jones case, was ordered released from custody.

If Governor Mann takes the action anticipated, Dallas Wright will be released.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hassett returned home yesterday, having spent their honeymoon in the South.

WEATHER Rain Friday probably followed by clearing weather and colder in the afternoon. Saturday fair and colder, brisk south shifting to northwest winds. Temperatures 8 a. m. 38 12 m. 49 2 p. m. 47 6 p. m. 44