

SNOWDEN GOES TO DEATH WITH A SONG ON HIS LIPS

CONVICTED MURDERER OF LOTTIE MAY BRANDON EXPIATES CRIME ON GALLOWS SHORTLY AFTER SUNRISE THIS MORNING

ASCENDS THE SCAFFOLD SINGING AND PRAYING

Execution Takes Place With City Almost Under Martial Law By Heavy Guard

Singing until within an instant of the time when his body shot through the trap of the scaffold this morning and with no outward show of emotion, John Snowden satisfied the demand of the law with his life for that of Mrs. Lottie May Brandon. He never wavered for a minute in his protestations of innocence and left a signed statement declaring repeatedly that he was not guilty.

Snowden took his place on the trap at 5:54 o'clock and plunged to his death as the hands of the clock pointed at 5:56 o'clock.

After the body had shot through the trap there was only a slight tremor noticed and he was pronounced dead at 7:21 o'clock by Dr. J. A. Murphy. Death was pronounced due to strangulation. The body was cut down at 7:25 o'clock and within three minutes had been placed in a casket and was on its way to the home of Mrs. Edouine Innes, a sister of the deceased.

Accepts Seafoam Singing

Snowden walked unaided from the death cell through the long corridors of the jail with his faithful band of singers and spiritual adviser, Rev. Holt. The singing band chanted, "I am a child of the King," and the strong, robust voice of Snowden rang out above them all. At the steps of the scaffold the little band of singers passed and Snowden walked up singing.

After he had taken his place on the trap he continued to sing, even while the noise was admitted about his neck by Chief Deputy Sheriff Gratton Boone. As he was about to draw the hood of his shroud over his head and face Snowden's voice died completely out. His lips formed the words of the song and he did his best to keep in harmony with the singing band within the jail door but no sound came from his mouth.

Execution Was Prompt

The execution was performed with promptness and dispatch. Within a minute and a half from the time he appeared at the foot of the scaffold he

his legs together and the nose and ears were plucked over his head and neck. No sound came from the shroud covered his features (then the shroud was flung to Sheriff Joseph H. Bellis and he pulled the lever, snapping the trap. Holt Prayed To Him.

Snowden declared he was afraid to die when he parted with the sheriff and expressed the wish that he might meet him in heaven. Asked if he had anything to say to newspaper reporters and correspondents early this morning he said he had given a statement to Georgia Boston, one of his special friends, to be given out after his death. He declined to speak with the newspaper men.

Georgia Boston said later that she had prepared the statement for Snowden and that he had signed it. It differs in but few respects from a statement issued some time ago by the condemned man in that it was an emphatic protestation of innocence of the crime for which he was hanged.

Expected To Be In Heaven

Snowden's last night did not differ in any way from any other of his life since he had been incarcerated. He received a farewell visit from his sister in the afternoon and they said their goodbyes without apparent emotion. Later to Sheriff Bellis, Snowden said, "Tomorrow afternoon at this time I'll be sitting in heaven."

He ate a hearty supper and his band of singers together with Rev. Holt remained with him until nearly 10 o'clock. Within twenty minutes after he had departed, Edward H. Hugg, the death watch, reported that Snowden was sleeping soundly and did not awake until about 4 o'clock when he lighted a cigaret and returned to his cot. The cold stamp of the cigaret was still in his lips when he was pronounced dead by a doctor on the scaffold of the singers and his spiritual adviser.

Sang And Prayed to Last

Their early morning songs floated through the crowded corridors of the jail and the stentorian voice of Snowden could be easily distinguished. The praying and singing continued uninterrupted until the sheriff entered the death cell to say that his time on earth had come.

There was no hitch and no outbreak of any kind.

Probably in all the history of Maryland no such elaborate arrangements have ever been formulated to guarantee the keeping of order for such an

SNOWDEN'S STATEMENT

John Snowden dictated and signed the following statement on the eve of his execution: Annapolis, Md., Feb. 27, 1919.

"I have been imprisoned one year and six months and now I am about to shake hands with thee and welcome eternity, for in a few hours from now I shall step out of time into eternity to pay the penalty of a crime that I am not guilty of. I have been telling the truth ever since I was first arrested, but they tried to make me a liar. But God knows that I am telling the truth, and after I have been hung I am asking the authorities to continue to search for the murderer of that lady, for I am not guilty of the crime and if Gabriel should blow the trumpet to wake the dead she would come forth and tell you so. I will tell you all again I have never seen the lady to know her. I have never been to her home. Though I have answered, if it would have proved to the world that I was innocent, I would have willingly gone through that awful degree again. I wish that I could have opened my heart to show you how pure and clean my heart is.

"I want to thank Mr. Brady, my attorney, for coming to see me. I believe he done what he could for me. I shook his hand and told him to meet me in heaven and when I saw him drop his head I told him to look up and not down.

"I want to thank Lawyer Pondleton and all the rest of them that were interested in my case. I want to thank the ladies and gentlemen of this city and everywhere, for the steps they have taken in my case, and Mr. and Mrs. Murray for their untiring effort to save my life. I have offered up a prayer for you all and God will forgive my enemies for "They know not what they do."

"I want to thank Mr. Bellis, the sheriff, for the interest that he has taken in me; Mr. Weolton, Mr. Smith and family, and all the authorities. I want them to meet me in heaven for I am going there, to die no more.

"I want to thank the editors of all the papers for what they have done and everybody that have spent their time and money to help me. My spiritual advisers, Rev. B. S. Holt and Mrs. Georgia Boston, Mrs. A. Dennis and Mr. Young, my day watch, Mr. G. Best and others

FASHIONABLY DRESSED WOMEN MORBID AS MEN

Stylishly Attired Ladies Ask Permission To See Colored Man Executed This Morning

PERMISSION NOT GIVEN

The arrival of two fashionably gowned and handsome women, accompanied by male escorts, at the doors of the county jail long before the first streaks of dawn had appeared in the sky and seeking admission to witness the execution of John Snowden proved the only unfordward incident of the long night vigil of the guards.

"We want to see the hanging," spoke one of the young women. The quartet was told emphatically that no women would be permitted to see the execution under any circumstances. They argued loud and long but finally took their place beside a large automobile parked just opposite the jail and there they remained until after Snowden had been put to death.

It is believed the women came from Baltimore. They were attired in costly furs but despite their reasonable dress were chilled through long before the execution.

So far as could be learned the women and their escorts were the only ones who applied for admission that did not carry permits signed by the sheriff.

LOCAL DEALER HAS NEW LINE OF AUTOS

Having tramped out with a new line of various makes, C. R. Winterston, local dealer in automobiles, trucks, etc., is displaying at his garage on West Street, the Westcott, the Hudson Essex, Overland and Vile pleasure cars, besides a number of trucks to which he invites inspection in another column of this paper.

Mr. Winterston also announces he has on hand "automobile accessories of all kinds, and is ready to handle repairs having expert repairing facilities and workmen at his garage 24 and 30 West street.

MACHINE GUN COMPANY GUARD-IN CHARGE OF MILLIONAIRE OFFICER

Baltimore Company, Which Established Semi-Martial Law, Commanded By Lieut. Robt. Garrett

First Lieutenant Robert Garrett, who arrived here yesterday in command of the machine-gun company

Ascribed Scaffold Singing

Snowden walked unassisted from the death cell through the long corridors of the jail with his faithful band of singers and spiritual adviser, Rev. Holt. The singing band chanted, "I am a child of the King," and the strong, robust voice of Snowden rang out above them all. At the steps of the scaffold the little band of singers passed and Snowden walked up singing.

After he had taken his place in the trap he continued to sing, even while the noose was adjusted about his neck by Chief Deputy Sheriff Griffin Boone. As he was about to draw the hood of his shroud over his head and face Snowden's voice died completely out. His lips formed the words of the song and he did his best to keep in harmony with the singing band within the jail door but no sound came from his mouth.

Execution Was Prompt

The execution was performed with promptness and dispatch. Within a minute and a half from the time he appeared at the foot of the scaffold he had been dropped through the trap. Snowden stood unwavering while Deputy Sheriff William Lee strapped

He ate a hearty supper and his band of singers together with Rev. Holt remained with him until nearly 10 o'clock. Within twenty minutes after they had departed, Edward H. Hugg, the death watch, reported that Snowden was sleeping soundly and did not awake until about 4 o'clock when he lighted a cigaret and returned to his cot. The cold stump of the cigaret was still in his lips when he was awakened about 4 o'clock by the return of the singers and his spiritual adviser.

Sang And Prayed to Last

Their early morning songs floated through the crowded corridors of the jail and the stentorian voice of Snowden could be easily distinguished. The praying and singing continued uninterrupted until the sheriff entered the death cell to say that his time on earth had come.

There was no hitch and no outbreak of any kind.

Probably in all the history of Maryland no such elaborate arrangements have ever been formulated to guarantee the keeping of order for such an affair. The city was practically under martial law from 9 o'clock in the evening on and will continue to be

(Continued On Page Three)

"I want to thank Lawyer Fendleton and all the rest of them that were interested in my case. I want to thank the business men of the town and all the ladies and gentlemen of this city, and everywhere, for the steps they have taken in my case, and Mr. and Mrs. Murray for their untiring effort to save my life. I have offered up a prayer for you all, and ask God to forgive my enemies for 'They know not what they do.'"

"I want to thank Mr. Dells, the sheriff, for the interest that he has taken in me; Mr. Weeton, Mr. Smith and family, and all the authorities. I want them to meet me in heaven for I am going there, to die no more.

"I want to thank the editors of all the papers for what they have done and everybody that have spent their time and money to help me. My spiritual advisers, Rev. B. E. Holt and Mrs. Georgia Boston, Mrs. A. Dennis and Mr. Young; my day watch, Mr. G. Basil and others who visit me and brought words of cheer to a dying man, and through their songs and prayer my soul was made alive and I am leaving on the everlasting Arm of Jesus for I knew that Jesus died for all mankind.

"I could not leave this world with a lie in my mouth.
"JOHN SNOWDEN."

DANCE!

Given by the
Water Witch Hook and
Ladder Company
Monday, March 3, 1919

YOUR
Income Tax

MRS. MURRAY'S LETTER TO SNOWDEN

Mrs. Ella Rush Murray has informed the authorities of the connection of her husband with the crime with which he was charged. She has been among those who have sought to prove his innocence, and she has written a farewell letter which he received Thursday and which he prized most highly up to the hour of going to the scaffold. Following is a copy of the original letter:

"Dear Snowden:

"The reason I have not tried to come to see you is because I have been so busy working for you. I have worked all day until far into the night for two weeks. I would have worked for you long had, if your lawyer had not asked me not to do so until the case went through the Court of Appeals. I came back as soon as I heard how things were ending. I shall ask the sheriff for a permit to come to see you tomorrow. If I do not come it will only be because I am not allowed to do so.

"I am sure you know how hard I have worked for you, and Mr. Murray also. The truth will come out in the end, and all the good element know that you are innocent.

"Please, please forgive me if you can for the part I have played in bringing this dreadful thing upon you. It is a heart-breaking thought to me when I was only trying to do what I thought was my duty, by taking that story to the authorities.

"Forgive me if you can, and know that I shall pray God to help you, as I hope you will say a prayer for one who truly tried to save you.

February 26, 1919.

"ELLA RUSH MURRAY."

SNOWDEN GOES TO HIS DEATH WITH A SONG ON LIPS

(Continued From Page One.)

carefully guarded until after Snowden's funeral which will be held Sunday from the Mount Moriah M. E. church.

Extraordinary Precautions Taken

Commanded by Major Charles K. Duce of the Second Maryland state regiment two companies of infantry arrived during the afternoon from Baltimore and were quartered in the Bladen street armory. They were later re-enforced by the arrival of a machine gun company under command of First Lieut. Robert Garrett, also from Baltimore. Company M. of Annapolis, was also under arms and assisted in the work of guarding the approaches to the jail.

At 9 o'clock last night a special car arrived from Baltimore bringing 42 traffic policemen in charge of Marshal Robert D. Carter. Sergeants Charles Zimmerman and Henry Wickes assumed charge of the policemen and scattered them at different points throughout the city.

Machine Guns in Readiness

The machine gun company hurriedly set up two Lewis machine guns in the front windows of the jail. With the arrival of the policeman approaches to the jail were guarded by squads of officers and militia. All loiterers were warned to move on. There were very few people on the streets and these soon wended their way homeward.

Throughout the night the jail was closely guarded inside and out and the guard was changed several times. The weather was raw and the militia-men and policemen suffered from the cold after mounting guard for long periods.

City Detectives Robert T. Porter and Peter B. Bradley watched the entrance to the governor's mansion throughout the night while a strong guard was thrown completely around the enclosure. No one was allowed to enter without stating their business.

The governor remained up until after midnight conversing with officers of the national guard and newspaper men. He went over the details of the tragedy and dwelt on the most telling points in the evidence which served to fasten the crime on Snowden's shoulders.

Crowd Witnesses Execution

Long before daylight those to whom passes had been issued began to clamor at the doors of the jail for admission. The pass of every applicant was closely scrutinized and before Snowden had awakened the first floor of the jail was crowded to overflowing.

Not until just before the trap was released were the yard gates opened and all who had passes rushed through. The scaffold had been care-

ST. JOHN'S HONOR ROLL FOR FEBRUARY

President Hall of St. John's College has given out the following standing of students who are on the honor roll for the month ending February 1919.

Senior Class—C. C. Moore, 4.53; C. W. Glhaus, 4.34; J. C. Brenninger, 4.26; D. R. Newcomer, 4.25; H. P. Recher, 4.25; J. M. Rowling, Jr., 4.24; W. H. Slade, 4.21; H. E. Fankhanel, 4.17; W. D. Wolff, 4.12; G. F. Wohl-gemuth, 4.06; E. M. Curtis, 4.05.

Junior Class—R. S. Hyscn, 4.41; F. J. Lloyd, Jr., 4.40; T. P. Thompson, 4.34; B. C. Fooks, 4.28; J. H. Johnson, 4.24; R. E. Coughlan, 4.20; H. A. Kinnhart, 4.19; P. M. Cassen, 4.11; R. F. Hall, 4.07.

Sophomore Class—E. I. Blaine, 4.80; W. P. Maddox, 4.35; J. H. Street, 4.23; C. W. Fitzgerald, 4.20; Walter Rosett, 4.19; C. E. Cockey, 4.14; E. A. Snader, 4.13; E. R. Custis, 4.12; G. E. Reed, 4.03; E. C. Hall, 4.00.

Freshman Class—E. R. Brewer, 4.46; W. W. Fuller, 4.39; F. G. Madara, 4.37; R. B. Payne, 4.32; N. D. Miller, 4.31; A. V. P. Smith, 4.31; W. H. White, 4.29; J. C. Stahorn, 4.26; Philip Beigel, 4.21; J. B. Cushman, 4.21; T. M. Johns, 4.21; Donald Purdy, 4.18; G. W. Cordry, 4.15; Lloyd O. Lumpkin, 4.13; W. G. Tottenham, 4.03.

Pre-Medical Class, First Year—W. F. Johnson, 4.54; H. W. Fancher, Jr., 4.48; R. Rodriguez, 4.39; F. R. Everett, 4.33; R. A. Finnell, 4.32; L. W. Hecht, 4.30; W. L. Krieger, 4.10; W. E. Knotts, 4.09; H. A. Mills, 4.09; A. L. Anderson, 4.08.

Second Year—E. J. Pyger, 4.55; B. M. Lewitt, 4.36; J. E. Trovinger, 4.33.

Special Students—R. D. Cole, 4.04; S. D. Kolb, 4.05.

Sub-Freshman Class—T. B. Klackring, 4.58; H. D. Goldsborough, 4.34; W. C. Purnell, 4.28; C. F. Winslow, 4.28; A. M. Crawford, 4.21; R. L. Henry, 4.17; C. T. Clark, 4.01.

Special Students—J. H. Livingston, 4.46; J. F. Laying, Jr., 4.12.

LOOKS TO "FLU" EPIDEMIC NEXT YEAR

Recurrence next winter of the influenza epidemic which caused thousands of deaths in all parts of the country during the past five months has been predicted by Rear Admiral W. C. Braintead, surgeon-general of the navy, in a letter to Representative Fess, of Ohio, urging that an appropriation be made by congress for research work to determine the cause of the disease and its cure.

An appropriation of \$250,000 for the study of diseases is carried in the Sunday Civil appropriation bill, now before the house, but Admiral Braintead said this would not be sufficient to undertake the research work on the necessary large scale. He recommended a special appropriation to be divided between the public health service, the surgeon-general of the navy

SNOWDEN GOES TO HIS DEATH WITH A SONG ON LIPS

(Continued From Page One.)

carefully guarded until after Snowden's funeral which will be held Sunday from the Mount Moriah M. E. church.

Extraordinary Precautions Taken

Commanded by Major Charles K. Duce of the Second Maryland state regiment, two companies of infantry arrived during the afternoon from Baltimore and were quartered in the Bladen street armory. They were later re-enforced by the arrival of a machine gun company under command of First Lieut. Robert Garrett, also from Baltimore. Company M. of Annapolis, was also under arms and assisted in the work of guarding the approaches to the jail.

At 9 o'clock last night a special car arrived from Baltimore bringing 43 traffic policemen in charge of Marshal Robert D. Carter. Sergeants Charles Zimmerman and Henry Wickes assumed charge of the policemen and scattered them at different points throughout the city.

Machine Guns in Readiness

The machine gun company hurriedly set up two Lewis machine guns in the front windows of the jail. With the arrival of the policeman approaches to the jail were guarded by squads of officers and militia. All loiterers were warned to move on. There were very few people on the streets and these soon wended their way homeward.

Throughout the night the jail was closely guarded inside and out and the guard was changed several times. The weather was raw and the militia-men and policemen suffered from the cold after mounting guard for long periods.

City Detectives Robert T. Porter and Peter H. Bradley watched the entrance to the governor's mansion throughout the night while a strong guard was thrown completely around the enclosure. No one was allowed to enter without stating their business.

The governor remained up until after midnight conversing with officers of the national guard and newspaper men. He went over the details of the tragedy and dwelt on the most telling points in the evidence which served to fasten the crime on Snowden's shoulders.

Crowd Witnesses Execution

Long before daylight those to whom passes had been issued began to clamor at the doors of the jail for admission. The pass of every applicant was closely scrutinized and before Snowden had awakened the first floor of the jail was crowded to overflowing.

Not until just before the trap was released were the yard gates opened and all who had passes rushed through. The scaffold had been carefully screened by boards and it was impossible for persons to witness the execution from trees and housetops or other points outside the jail yard.

It was not until the body had been cut down and the casket containing it had left the jail yard that the throng finally turned away from the ghastly gallows and solemnly filed out of the yard.