

FACING PRISON, MAN JUMPS, DIES

John Herger, 54 years old, former livestock superintendent for a Seattle packing house, plunged to his death last night from the 12th Avenue South bridge over Dearborn Street rather than face imprisonment for first-degree perjury.

Herger and his wife, Ruby, 41, each were granted interlocutory decrees of divorce last November, after a trial in which Herger testified he had given false testimony at a previous hearing.

As an outgrowth of his own statement, Herger was charged with first-degree perjury. He later pleaded not guilty and the case was set for trial last January 13.

Two days before the trial was to open, Herger changed his plea from not guilty to guilty before Superior Judge Chester A. Batchelor. Sentence was deferred to allow Herger to recuperate his health at a Columbia River hot springs resort.

Herger still was at liberty under \$1,000 bond when he made his death leap last night. He was liberated at least three hours before making his plunge, police learned.

Passerby Report to Police
The man's actions first were noticed about 6 o'clock by a passerby who reported to police headquarters that a man on the bridge "looks like he might be thinking of jumping."

Police Sgt. Ted Ahner and Patrolman Lee I. Newton went to the bridge, where they talked to Herger several minutes. They said Herger told them he was waiting for his son, who was to meet him there.

"He was getting cold and impatient," Newton reported. "He told us, 'I wish he'd hurry up and get here.'"

Policemen Leave
The policemen were satisfied with Herger's story and drove away. About 8 o'clock several witnesses saw him climb over the railing and leap to the sidewalk below.

Deputy Coroners Sherman McLaughlin and R. A. Lawe said Herger's family thought Herger had returned to the hot springs last Sunday, and were surprised to learn he had returned to Seattle.

Herger had been an employee of the Frye Packing Company more than 30 years. He was a life member of Seattle Aerie No. 1, Eagles.

Surviving are three daughters, Lydia, Ella and Emma; Herger and a son, Arthur Herger, all of Seattle.

The body is at the Georgetown Undertaking Company.

Flying Godiva Is Divorced
LAS VEGAS, Nev., March 26.—Bernadine Lewis King, nationally known as Flying Godiva because she used to take nude sun baths in her plane, was divorced yesterday by Martin Daniel King, 3rd, of Los Angeles. He charged cruelty.

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Woman Cabbie Defies Union, Says She'll Drive Tomorrow

Mrs. Erma Lorraine Hawke, first Seattle woman since the First World War to hold a license to drive a taxicab, tossed a defiant "I'd like to see them stop me!" at the Taxicab Drivers' Union today and predicted that by tomorrow she would be behind the wheel of a cab.

Mrs. Hawke yesterday had her license (cost, \$5.50), her uniform (cost, \$19.50), and her initiation fee for the union (cost, \$35), and was ready to work for the Diamond Cab Company, whose owner said he has two idle cabs because of a shortage of drivers.

But the union said "No!" John Steiner, business agent of the union, said women applicants for membership, "for the time being, at least," would be turned down.

Moral Issue, Says Beck
Dave Beck, head of the Teamsters' Union, said he believed enough men drivers were obtainable, commented that a moral issue was involved and warned that taxicab drivers have been murdered, beaten and robbed by criminals.

"There's a meeting of taxicab owners tomorrow and I'm willing to bet I'll be driving a cab," said Mrs. Hawke.

"Beck says taxicab driving isn't a woman's work, and I'd like to ask him about the women who are doing riveting and welding and performing other jobs in defense plants. He doesn't realize this is wartime."

"Then he mentions a 'moral issue.' Well, we women drivers won't be working at night and I'd like to know who goes to speaker-casies in the daytime. What does he want me to do—go to work in a tavern?"

"There's 25 cabs laid up in the city now because they can't get drivers."

Mrs. Hawke is the wife of a taxicab driver.

2nd Woman Driver Bitter
Miss Gwen Page, another woman recommended by the Seattle Taxicab Owners' Association for a job, but who has not taken a civil-service examination, was bitter about the controversy.

"Why is it Mr. Fish (E. B. Fish, counsel for the association), hired all the women and told them to go to work if there was going to be trouble with the union?" said Miss Page.

"He gave us to understand all of us would get jobs. It seems to me he should have looked into what the union reaction would be and let us know what we would have to contend with."

"Union initiation and dues will run pretty close to \$80 even before we start driving. We had no warning about this."

Miss Page said she and other would-be drivers would wait until Fish and the union "thrash this out" before investing in licenses and uniforms.

'Anything to Stop Women'
Beck said the teamsters will "do anything" to keep women from driving cabs, commenting:

"We haven't got anything against women—there are thousands and thousands of women in Teamsters' unions, but we believe there is no place for them driving cabs."

"I think we have plenty of drivers among our men. If there aren't enough, we can transfer them from non-defense driving jobs into taxicab work. There's a moral issue in this. Our men have been killed, beaten and robbed. If that happened to a woman the taxicab industry would suffer a blow from which it might never recover."

Fish said there is a shortage of cab drivers.

E. B. Fish, counsel for the Seattle Taxicab Owners' Association, likewise said there is a shortage of cab drivers.

"At a recent industry-wide meeting of taxicab owners," Fish said, "complaints were made that the type of drivers recently admitted to the union were not satisfactory and, in some instances, no drivers were obtainable at all."

Called for Women
"We put in a call for women drivers and the response was so great that we had to retract the call."

"Dave Beck, head of the Teamsters' Union, is complaining a moral issue is involved and the women would drive at night. We do not intend that any of the women should drive at night."

COOPERATION ON SUGAR PRAISED

People throughout the country are cooperating with rationing programs because they realize that personal sacrifices are demanded by the war effort, Floris Nagelvoort, state rationing administrator, said today after his return from an emergency meeting of rationing executives in Chicago.

"When people understand the rationing rules, and the reasons for them, there is no question about compliance," declared Nagelvoort.

"Washington's rationing program ranks with that of any other state in efficiency and the members of our 125 boards, who donate their time, can be assured that they are doing a vital job which is heartily appreciated by the nation's leaders."

Nagelvoort expects to receive further details on sugar rationing within a few days. Consumer and commercial registration for sugar coupon cards will take place in May.

Seattle Firm Upheld In Accident Suit

OLYMPIA, March 26.—(UP)—The Supreme Court today set aside a \$30,229 damage verdict given John Bradley for injuries received in an auto wreck in Snohomish County involving a car owned by S. L. Savidge, Inc. of Seattle.

The company had sent a salesman, Allen Lacy, to Ruby Dam to repossess a car and instructed him to take along a credit man to drive back the vehicle. Lacy, instead, took a friend, Paul P. Parker. Driving back, the car driven by Parker rammed Bradley's automobile, injuring Bradley seriously.

The Supreme Court said Parker was not acting as an agent of the company at the time and thus Bradley could not collect from it. The decision was 5 to 4.

War Teaches Saving Habit, Students Told

Because of the war, today's college generation is learning "habits of conservation and economy" that will stay with them for life, Dr. Mabelle Babcock Blake told University of Washington students today.

Dr. Blake is adviser to the consumer programs for schools and colleges for the Office of Price Administration. She and associates have visited 100 colleges and universities since September.

ITO ON TRIAL AS JAPANESE AGENT

When Kenji Ito, American-born Japanese attorney, went on trial today on charges of acting as an agent of Japan, he found himself facing the judge who had admitted him to practice in United States District Court, and being prosecuted by the man who had vouched for him at that time.

It was admitted to practice in the court in 1936, just after his graduation from the University of Washington Law School.

The judge who admitted him was John C. Bowen, on the bench at today's trial, and the witness who signed his petition for admission to practice was Gerald Shucklin, chief assistant United States attorney, who is handling the government's case against Ito.

The case is the first of its type in Seattle since start of the Second World War.

Ito, who was a member of the University of Washington debating team which made a tour of the world in 1936, is charged in 25 counts of acting as an agent for Japan without having notified the State Department. All counts are alike except for the dates on which the government charges the offenses occurred. He has pleaded not guilty.

If convicted of all counts, Ito could be sentenced to 250 years in prison, each count providing for a maximum sentence of ten years, according to Shucklin.

Samuel B. Bassett and George H. Crandell are counsel for the Japanese.

Civic Forum Discussion
The Seattle Civic Forum will conduct a panel discussion on the subject, "Unemployment After the War" at its luncheon meeting tomorrow at Meves Cafeteria. Edwin S. Eves will preside.

F. R. Sikorski in Final Meet WASHINGTON, March 26.—(UP)—Paying a second and final call on President Roosevelt, Poland's prime minister, Gen. Wladyslaw Sikorski, indicated today that the question of the post-war boundaries of Poland was discussed.

Sikorski asserted that, in today's conference with the President and at another earlier in the week, there was "perfect harmony in all matters pertaining not only to the general questions of the war, but also in all matters pertaining to Poland."

England's Dumb Friends League collected 152,000 stray cats in a year.

4,800 IS IDAHO QUOTA FOR W. P. A.

BOISE, Idaho, March 26.—(UP)—Idaho's W. P. A. quota for April yesterday was set at 4,800, a reduction of 1,400 from March, but Administrator Dean W. Miller predicted agricultural work would absorb those dropped from the rolls.

During March the W. P. A. placed many workers in private employment, Miller stated.

Clubs to Hear Leach
J. Harvey Leach, power company advertising director, will speak at the interclub meeting of the Seattle and Everett Rotary Clubs tomorrow noon at the Elks' Temple in Everett. He will speak on "Cooperation for Victory."

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