

THE POST-DEMOCRAT

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FRANK BARCLAY SPRINGS THIS TRUCK STORY

A FIGHT FOR FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

(Literary Digest, August 14)

Every citizen of the United States, declares the Washington News, is potentially affected by the issues involved in the case of George R. Dale, editor of the Muncie Post-Democrat, who was cited for contempt of court and sentenced to jail because he criticized, in one of his editorials, a court and a grand jury. "Freedom of speech and the right of trial by jury, two of the most vital guaranties ever attained in the world-old battle against arbitrary power, are again being threatened by the courts," maintains this Scripps-Howard daily. Furthermore, we are told, "when these two precious heritages clash with the judges, the judges win." "Insidious and highly dangerous doctrines," adds the Cleveland Press, "are being inched into the law books: That a court can do no wrong; that truth is no defense; that it is a court's right to act as both judge and jury in any case involving criticism of that court." If the "truth is no defense" doctrine stands up, points out the Cleveland paper, as the Indiana Supreme Court holds, "it means simply this: That no matter how autocratic or corrupt a court may become, it must not be criticized unless the critic is ready to go to jail."

George R. Dale, says Robert T. Small in a Consolidated Press dispatch from the Iowa city, "belongs to a dying race—the old-time weekly newspaper editor. He is redolent of printer's ink, and he thinks more of the newspaper as an agency of reform than as an agency for producing wealth." The phase of the Dale case that brought it to the attention of the entire country, explains Mr. Small, was the decision of the Indiana Supreme Court that "truth is no defense where contempt of court is charged. That is why the case is being appealed to the United States supreme court so that a ruling may be had, once for all." It is the contention of the Muncie editor that his present troubles are the outcome of his four-year fight against the Ku Klux Klan of Indiana. According to a Muncie dispatch to the New York World:

"Dale launched The Post-Democrat here in 1921, after a close study of conditions in Muncie had convinced him that it was the most iniquitous town south of Chicago, that it was decadent politically and that the Ku Klux Klan not only controlled the city, but held most of the important offices, not only in the municipality but in the county as well. In 1922 he had gathered sufficient facts for his campaign and launched his attack.

"He openly charged that the police were fostering crime, that criminals were protected in Muncie, that women driven from other cities were permitted to resume their trade openly in the city, that the Klansmen had full control, and that gamblers shared their profits with the city officials.

"When it was apparent that Dale intended to hold his ground, the merchants who advertised in The Post-Democrat were seen by Klansmen. Many of them were threatened that if they continued to advertise in the paper 'something would happen.' Many withdrew their ads and the income of the paper decreased. In five years Dale lost \$15,000 in cash, his home, and the controlling interest in his newspaper.

"Dale's life was threatened. When he started to carry a revolver for his own protection he was arrested for carrying concealed weapons, and was convicted by a Klan jury. On a framed-up liquor charge, Dale was next arrested and indicted. He openly charged in his newspaper that the liquor charge was a frame-up; that it was plot concocted by the Ku Klux Klan, and that the Judge, Prosecutor, Sheriff, Grand Jury, Jury Commissioners, and Police Department were members of that organization.

"He was taken into court, charged with contempt by Judge Dearth, who fined him \$500 and sentenced him to ninety days' imprisonment. Before leaving the bar, Dale reiterated his charge and offered to prove that every word he had published was the truth. Judge Dearth immediately imposed a second fine of \$500 and another 90 days' imprisonment.

"The Supreme Court of Indiana, while upholding the first contempt conviction, set aside the second."

According to a statement by Mr. Dale in The Fourth Estate, of New York City:

"My fight is not now, nor has it been, waged primarily against the Ku Klux Klan. Single-handed, The Post-Democrat has devoted its energies to the purification of one of the most corrupt municipalities in the United States. It just happened that the most flagrant offenders stood high in the councils of the Klan and arrayed the membership of that organization against me.

"The extent of that opposition will perhaps be appreciated when you consider that it controls the entire State, from the Governor down, and that the Court is governed by the tenets of that organization, rather than by the law of the land. The solidity of the Klan influence in Delaware county is attested by the fact that The Post-Democrat carries not a line of advertising except for an occasional 'legal' obtained from the State Highway Commission, and a few of the local officials who are free from Klan control."

Newspaper editors throughout the country are subscribing to a fund to fight what appears to the New York Evening World to be "outrageous persecution." For, as its morning namesake remarks, "the right of the press to print the whole truth in the public interest should not be jeopardized because of the inability of an editor to raise a little money." As the Helena Independent explains:

"It may be news to many people, but there are few States which give definite legal authority for the imposition of contempt penalties. The judges merely have invested themselves with such authority, in most cases. This usurpation of authority by the American judiciary is not a minor issue and never will be settled until it is settled right. If the judges do not reform themselves voluntarily, it is only a question of time until the general citizenship will undertake the job. For judges have no more right to set up laws of their own than have people in other walks of life.

"If a judge can, without the slightest sanction of law, sentence an individual to jail for discussing a court case or criticizing a court decision, he would have exactly the same warrant of law for sentencing an individual to jail because he did not like some of his wife's relations or because he did not like the cut of his necktie."

These are also the sentiments of the Chicago Tribune, Brooklyn Eagle, El Paso Times and other papers.

On the other hand, Judge Dearth, in a statement to a Chicago Herald-Examiner staff correspondent, declares that Dale "belittled the dignity of this court, and the law must take its course." Continues Judge Dearth:

"Dale attacked the Court while his case was pending. I have no personal feeling about the matter. What he said about me as an individual does not concern me at all, but what he said about me as a judicial officer and about the court as a court of law interests me tremendously. In that he sought to undermine the very foundation of our Government, holding up its judiciary to contempt and interfering with the course of justice."

Our Three Humorists

Attending the regular Tuesday and Friday sessions of the city board of works has become a popular indoor sport in Muncie.

At each session of this justly celebrated trio of statesmen, the seats in the room are all filled and occasionally standing room is at a premium.

It must not be supposed, however, that these outpourings of our sterling citizenship are particular evidences of the popularity of the three gentlemen who sit in state and look as near like a supreme court as it would be possible for Harry Hoffman, Lon Thornburg and Cliff Cranor to look.

The majority of those who attend voted for Hampton and are therefore directly responsible for the creation of the Hoffman board of works.

They ought to be proud of their handiwork, but about the best that can be got out of them is a woof, long, loud, tearful and lamentationous.

Woofing does not seem to get them anywhere. Streets, alleys, sidewalks, curb and gutter and sewers must be built, whether the people want them or not.

The three favored administration contractors, to whom all contracts are let at the highest bids, need the money. They buy their materials from the Magic City Supply company, which is managed by a brother of Harry Hoffman, president of the board of works. If they don't get the work brother cannot sell cement and gravel and other supplies.

If the favored contractors do not get the jobs brother wouldn't get the business and the price of cement could not be shot up to \$2.80 a barrel, which is sixty cents a barrel higher than it is sold for in Anderson.

Now this may all be interesting, and conceivably profitable, to some people, but not to the homefolks who hustle city hallward to register their kicks every time the board of works meets.

And, we mean to say, they kick. Some of them positively knock. But does it get them anywhere? It does not. The board is what one might term hard boiled. The teeming multitude assembled twice a week in the board of works quarters were voters last fall. Now they are producers. Their expostulations are in vain.

They squawk and get a sidewalk they don't want. They roar in anguished expostulation and are forced to pay for a sewer that they don't need. They let out a yelp and are yoked up to a street assessment they can't pay. They orate as Socrates never orated, they remonstrate as no man ever remonstrated, but their indignant expostulations fall upon deaf ears.

They are merely property owners, who clutter up the landscape. They are useful on election day and tax-paying day, but beyond that they are allowed to have no voice in affairs of state. What right has a mere taxpayer to set up his judgment against that of an important piece of municipal furniture like Harry Hoffman?

If Harry and Lon and Cliff declare it to be so, it is so, and that's that. Tuesday two batches of sidewalk were run off to the highest bidder. One of the contracts was let at an excess price of ten cents a foot. The other at twenty cents a foot higher than the next low bid. The "contractor" is J. E. Bell, who quit driving a truck for a member of the board of works to go to contracting, a new business for him.

The audience groaned. Property owners paying for the first job will be gipped out of six dollars on each sixty foot lot, and those paying for the second contract twelve dollars per sixty foot lot.

The august board of works laughs heartily at the moans of the gipped. Working on the board of works would become monotonous were it not for these semi-weekly entertainments.

One of the members declared to the editor of the Post-Democrat Tuesday that it was a great experience for him. We will add to that that it is also a great experience for the people who have to pay.

More public work is in progress and in contemplation than ever before in the history of Muncie, and the people were never so hard up, regardless of what Coolidge says about the prosperity of the nation.

There seems to be no limit to the enthusiasm of the board in its program of street, alley, sidewalk and sewer building. Five times as much work is under way as was put through last year. The mere taxpayers are trying to stop it. They are even organizing and employing attorneys in their attempt to flag the three humorists who give them the haw haw every time they are stung.

The people were promised a business administration. They got it. Now they are sorry they spoke. Mayor Hampton is too busy breaking in his new red wheeled sport Packard to listen to kicks. The Post-Democrat is going to get this much satisfaction out of it. We told you so.

Councilman Makes Statement in Monday Night Caucus That Board of Works is Charged with Buying Truck of One of Its Own Members—Junk Heap Valued at \$3.00, Purchased by City for \$2,600 New Truck of Same Model Offered for \$2,200—Investigation Will be Made.

It becomes the duty of the Post-Democrat to call public attention to a matter which is deserving of a thorough and searching investigation.

We will merely give the facts as they have been presented to us and as they appear on the record. If there can be any justification of what appears on the face of it to be an outrageous graft, we trust that it will be forthcoming.

Monday night in a council caucus Councilman Frank Barclay publicly stated that it had come to his ears that the board of works had purchased a second hand truck, which had been used for four years, and was practically worn out when purchased, of Cliff Cranor, the democratic member of the board.

Harry Hoffman and Lon Thornburg, members of the board of works, were present at the caucus. Both denied vehemently that the board had purchased a truck of Mr. Cranor. But here are the facts, as they appear on the records:

\$2,600 For Junk Pile

On April 24, O. J. Williams filed with the city clerk Claim No. 950 for \$2,600 for a three-ton truck. The record shows that the claim was paid on April 30, the endorsement of Mayor John Hampton appearing on the back of the claim.

The record in the office of the secretary of state discloses that the truck purchased by the city belonged to Cliff Cranor. That it was a Wabash Service truck, title No. 444,160, motor No. 101,582A, serial No. 12109, model H. V., and was sold to Mr. Cranor by the Service Truck Company of Wabash, Ind. in 1922.

At last accounts the title had not been transferred to the city, but the record at Indianapolis shows that early in August, three months after the truck had been purchased by the city, the transfer of the title was made to O. J. Williams by Mr. Cranor. The record in the office of the secretary of state gives "The Cranor Coal Company" as the Muncie address of O. J. Williams.

It is stated that a man named Oliver Williams is in the employ of the Cranor Coal company.

Tuesday morning, following the inquiry made in the council meeting the night before by Councilman Barclay, the Post-Democrat interviewed Lon Thornburg at length.

Bought It In An Alley

Mr. Thornburg, who is one of the three members of the board of works that bought the truck, declares that he does not know who Williams is. He said further that it was bought at private sale without advertising for bids.

"We needed a truck bad. We went out and looked at the truck. It was standing in an alley and it looked like a good truck so we bought it," said Mr. Thornburg.

"Wasn't \$2,600 a pretty high price to pay for a second hand truck that had been used for four years, and is admittedly in a bad state of repair?" was asked.

"Oh, I think the price was all right," he replied. "A new truck of the same kind would have cost us \$4,600."

We next interviewed the Delaware Trucking company, which has the local agency for the Wabash Service truck. "I know all

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The Kind They Pick

A woman victim of the Dolling swindle this week brought suit against Ollie Baldwin, a former agent of the swindlers, and E. E. Botkin, local attorney, whom she claims in acting as administrator of an estate which netted her fifteen hundred dollars, helped steer into the clutches of Baldwin, who separated her neatly from the fifteen hundred.

Mr. Baldwin was chosen by the county commissioners to succeed Uncle John Lupton as county weights and measures inspector after Uncle John became city controller under Hampton.

Baldwin was out of employment after the Dollings bubble blew up and being a faithful cog in the machine, he had to be taken care of, notwithstanding the fact that he helped gip widows and orphans galore by the Dollings swindle route.

It is the duty of Mr. Baldwin to visit merchants and inspect their scales and measuring devices to make sure that they do not cheat their customers.

Having sold worthless stocks to people all over Delaware county he was exactly the right man, of course, to be placed on guard to make other people be honest.

But the republican machine here has no sense of humor. Baldwin always votes "right," he has served many times on juries since Dearth became judge, and there's nothing wrong with, whatever, from the machine republican standpoint.

It was nothing to Billy Williams how many people had been swindled. Sentiment does not enter into the calculations of the machinists.

Herb Smith is another glaring example of the type of public official selected by the machine for important offices. Herb is district revenue collector, placed on the job to compel people to pay federal taxes, yet at the time of his appointment he had a record of successfully evading the payment of his own personal taxes for a period of twenty years.

The machine places its flunkies in the appointive jobs and the people humbly take their medicine. Jim Watson and Albert Vestal, who are directly responsible for such misfits as Billy Williams and Herb Smith in the federal service are up for reelection. The way to get rid of the misfits is to get rid of Watson and Vestal.

Baptist Assembly Opens at Franklin

Franklin, Ind., Aug. 20.—A "get-acquainted" program was inaugurated at the fourteenth annual Baptist assembly which opened here last evening with approximately one hundred fifty persons from all parts of the state registered. The session will last for ten days.

Fifteen members of the assembly faculty were ready to start classroom work Tuesday morning. Dr. F. G. Kenny, dean of the assembly, emphasized an invitation to members of other denominations to take advantage of the assembly courses, saying that credit for the work would be transferred to their denominations.

Probe Gas Prices

Washington, Aug. 20.—The government's investigation of the price of gasoline—chief grief of motorists—has been under way secretly for nearly two months. The federal trade commission in its monthly report of progress divulged this information without disclosing how its inquiry was being carried forward.

The investigation is endeavoring to learn whether the advances in prices are due to restraints of trade or conditions of ownership or control preventing effective competition and to the profits of the principal companies in this industry."

APPEAL FOR RELIEF FROM GRASSHOPPERS

Indianapolis, Aug. 20.—Grass-

hopper pests which have devastated flower gardens, lawns and shrubberies in various parts of the state have caused harassed residents to swamp the office of the state entomologist with calls, according to Frank N. Wallace, entomologist.

Mr. Wallace said yesterday a bran mash, consisting of five pounds of bran, with one pint of black-strap molasses, one ground lemon or orange and an ounce of paris green is the best remedy for combating the pests. This mixture, with just enough water to make the mash stiff, sown on the grass in the evening where the grasshoppers feed, will attract and kill them. The orange or lemon placed in the mash has a peculiar attraction for the grasshoppers and the poison quickly kills them. It should also be placed on any adjoining vacant lots where the pests are common.

THE POST-DEMOCRAT

A Democratic weekly newspaper representing the Democrats of Muncie, Delaware County and the 8th Congressional District. The only Democratic Newspaper in Delaware County.

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Office 306 East Jackson Street—Opposite Public Library. Phone 2540
GEORGE R. DALE, Owner and Publisher.

Muncie, Indiana, Thursday, August 19, 1926

Trade Union Paper Speaks

Newspapers are coming to the aid of George R. Dale, Muncie editor, who is facing jail for contempt of court. The State Supreme Court has ruled in his case that "truth is no defense" in any criticism of a court, and that courts have an inherent right to punish for contempt; that legislatures are powerless to deprive courts of this prerogative and that an aggrieved Judge may discover and interpret for himself the meaning of words written or spoken. This rule places the judiciary beyond popular control and makes it the censor of free press.

Editor Dale was given no opportunity to prove his charges or to attempt to prove them, so the truth or falsity of his statements was not passed upon. The fight to be taken to the United States Supreme Court will involve the whole theory of a written criticism of a court constituting the criminal offense of contempt.

The Muncie editor was before County Judge Clarence W. Dearth on six criminal proceedings. On one occasion the jurist made this profound observation to the editor: "If you don't like Muncie why don't you go to Russia?" While the editor is preparing his appeal to the United States Supreme Court, he is also preparing to impeach Judge Dearth before the Indiana legislature.—Trade Union News.

Socialist Paper On Contempt

George R. Dale, 59-year-old fighting editor of The Post-Democrat of Muncie, Ind., was sentenced to the state penal farm for 90 days and fined \$500 for contempt of court by a pro-Klan district judge. The supreme court of Indiana has confirmed this sentence in a decision that strikes squarely at the freedom of the press that even the reactionary Chicago Tribune has taken up the fight in Dale's behalf.

The supreme court of Indiana has ruled that "the truth is no defense" in case of the criticism of a court; in other words: A PERSON MAY NOT TELL EVEN THE TRUTH REGARDING A COURT DECISION ABOUT HIMSELF OR HIS PAPER, IF THE TRUTH REFLECTS IN ANY WAY ON THE COURT OR THE DECISION.

This decision involves in a new and dangerous interpretation, according to high legal authority, the whole fundamental, constitutional question of free speech and the freedom of the press. IF IT IS ALLOWED TO BECOME A PRECEDENT, THE TRUTH WILL NO LONGER SERVE AS A DEFENSE AGAINST THE TYRANNY OF THE COURTS. THE COURTS WILL BE HIGHER THAN THE TRUTH. THE COURTS CAN GAG AND SUPPRESS THE TRUTH IN ALL CASES INVOLVING THEIR AUTHORITY AND "DIGNITY."

The story of Dale is significant in its revelation of the danger to liberty of lawless, violent and extra-legal organization taking part in politics.

If you've got an old car, of the vintage of '14, that is all ready for the junk pile, have it appraised by the board of works and sell it to the city. If you're in right you ought to get a better price for it than for a new car.

Another of Judge Dearth's liquor cases, that of the late Mary Wrench, was reversed this week in the supreme court. This is the third case within the past few months in which the appellants died with erroneous convictions hanging over their heads. Those who have lived to receive word of reversals are legion. Judge Dearth charges Sheriff McAuley with "inefficiency." Speaking as an expert witness on the question of inefficiency, what would Judge Dearth testify to in regard to a judge who has been reversed as many times as he has?

Wilbur Ryman is still plugging along in behalf of Alpha Holaday. Last week Wilbur caused Holaday to pay Dave Wedmore \$360 of the \$500 which Wedmore claims Holaday separated him from. Dave is one of the three witnesses who testified before the grand jury. The way to get your money back is to throw a scare into the swindlers.

The little old republican machine is in almost as bad a state of repair as the truck the board of works bought. Billy says he will try to get the durned thing together again, but to an unofficial observer it looks hopeless.

After the experiences of the people of Muncie and Delaware county for the past few years is any one crazy enough to believe that the people will walk up to the polls next November and vote the same old crowd back in? If the people have no more sense than that they ought to be robbed.

This has been a great week in Muncie. Nobody knew what it was all about, but the excitement was intense. The Star said fifty thousand visitors would be here. If they came it was late at night when everybody was asleep. A few things will have to be done here before outsiders enthuse over Muncie. It is up to the business men themselves to take a hand in the cleanup. Muncie will die a natural death unless a real civic spirit is shown. Speaking as the grafters and Muncie will begin to grow and not before.

Locate Western Headquarters of G. O. P. in Chicago

Chicago, Aug. 19.—Senate and congressional campaigns confronting the Republican party this fall in Western states were surveyed yesterday by the joint congressional campaign committee and a western headquarters was established here.

From the Chicago headquarters, the committee will lend aid to Republican candidates for the national House and Senate in all states west of Ohio, while Ohio and states east of it will have the attention of the committee's eastern headquarters in New York.

The campaign season will be an extraordinarily busy one for the committee. Senator Lawrence C. Phillips of Colorado, chairman of the Senate campaign committee, declared, because thirty-four senators will be elected in thirty-two states, and twenty-seven of the Senate seats at stake are now held

by Republicans and must be retained if Republican control of the upper House is not to be menaced.

Blames Crime On Prohibition

Chicago, Aug. 19.—Prohibition was blamed as the font from which murder, bribery and gang war terrorism have sprung to produce an "almost hopeless situation in Chicago," in dealing with gang murders in a statement last night by Morgan Collins, chief of police. He added that while the police department tried to prevent all murders, society was hurt least when a gangster was killed. Prohibition, he said, is virtually impossible of enforcement here partly because reputable citizens who will not stoop to bootlegging, yet will patronize gangster bootleggers, thus causing the illicit liquor dealers to weld strong organizations into which they bring many hitherto honest citizens as aids.

NARRATIVE OF EVENTS WHICH LED TO CONTEMPT PROCEEDINGS

(By Geo. R. Dale, Editor Post-Democrat)

On the night of March 24, 1922, the klan made its first demonstration in Muncie when a gang of black masked men attacked me and my eighteen year old son. The disguised ruffians jumped from an enclosed car on a public street within two blocks of the court house.

Another automobile containing four black hooded men drove up and stopped across the street. The muzzle of a .38 revolver was thrust into the pit of my stomach and I was ordered to throw up my hands.

One of the gangsters enamed my son with a revolver and ordered him also to "stick 'em up."

"Get in the car, and be quick about it," ordered my assailant. I wrenched the gun out of his hand and shot him. As I fired another of the group blackjacked me. My son put up a fight and was badly beaten over the head with the butt of a gun. He ran and his assailant shot at him, but missed.

The wounded klansman was thrown into the car and the aids beat a retreat. Although it is practically certain that the wounded klansman did not survive, sufficient evidence has not been obtained to make a public statement as to the identity of the victim of his own folly.

Klan Control.

The police department and practically all the county and city officials belonged to the klan. Three police officers who did not belong, made an honest effort to solve the mystery. When they found that the automobile belonged to the "kleagle" of the klan, they were dismissed from the force.

If I had loathed and despised the klan before, this incident served to intensify my opposition. I was raised a Presbyterian, therefore the klannish mind failed to understand my position.

I made it as plain to them as I could, in every issue of my newspaper, and you may well understand that I did not say it with flowers. The truth hurt, so the conspirators lanned to get me.

My newspaper was boycotted, anonymous threats by letter and telephone were made daily, and abominable lies put in circulation. Then the red eyed law was invoked to make my ruin certain.

First I was arrested for carrying a revolver which the chief of police himself had authorized me to carry after the night of the assault. Then a klan grand jury indicted me on a liquor charge of the flimsiest nature, the frameup being so apparent that the charge was eventually dismissed without trial.

When the indictment was returned my newspaper handled the judge, grand jury, prosecutor, sheriff, jury commissioners and police force without gloves. I had a kick coming and used my only weapon of defense, my newspaper.

But The Judge Belonged.

But the klan had me at a disadvantage. The circuit judge belonged. I had spoken plainly about this gentlemen at various times. I maintained and still hold to the opinion that the klan and the bench cannot mix. Events in Muncie have justified this belief.

After the election of Judge Dearth, and the appointment of klan jury commissioners, only those who belonged to the klan were drawn for jury service. Although many Catholics and Jews reside in Delaware county, not one has ever been drawn for jury service in this klan-ridden community.

One negro preacher was drawn on the first jury impanelled after Judge Dearth was elected to the bench in the fall of 1922. From that time on the color line has been strictly observed. Although there are over two thousand negro voters in Muncie none has been permitted to sit on juries, save the one mentioned.

Judge Dearth is a republican and it happened that the colored preacher was the one dishonorable exception of his race in Muncie who came out openly in the campaign and espoused the cause of a Ku Klux candidate for judge. How his name alone, of all the negroes of Muncie, found its way in the jury box and how it came to be drawn for Judge Dearth's first jury, is a mystery left for the reader to solve.

The selection of this one solitary negro for jury service was thereafter used frequently as a basis of hypocritical propaganda that the klan and the court were not allied since a colored man had served on the very first jury called after Dearth became judge.

The Case of Brother Gibson.

A few months later Judge Dearth himself, while in the act of sentencing me for contempt, bitterly attacked the editorial charging klan influence in the court, declaring in rebuttal that Rev. Gibson, a colored minister of the gospel, and a man of the very highest type of his race, had served on the first jury.

Shortly thereafter this colored renegade, whose wife had just died, ran away with a married woman of his congregation, leaving five small children dependent upon charity, and has not since been heard of.

And, you may well believe, this particular colored brother, who had spoiled a good story by going astray, is no longer pointed out as Exhibit A when the charge is reiterated that Catholics, Jews and negroes are verboten in the Delaware circuit court.

Probably at that period I was the most unpopular individual in Muncie. I had a few friends who stuck, and believed in me, and were not afraid to tell the world. But mass ignorance, the greatest menace to free institutions, prevailed, and the thoughtless, who had been herded into the Ku Klux Klan like sheep, believed everything they were told about me and my newspaper.

When I was cited for contempt, the charge being based upon the editorial charging my liquor violation indictment to be a klan frame-up, joy and jubilation reigned in the "klavern." At last an alien undesirable, who had boldly and impudently defied the authority of the invisible empire, was to be punished for daring to speak the truth!

The ministerial association, the chamber of commerce and the city council, shivering and cowering under the threatening lash of the bull whip of the imperial wizard, passed resolutions expressing the fullest confidence in the integrity of the public officials whom I had censured, and on the morning of my "trial" the court room was crowded to the guards with men and women of the klan who had been invited, by telephone, the day before, to be present at the crucifixion!

Hostile Demonstration.

Sitting there, in that atmosphere of hatred and hostility, with no lawyer to represent me, and with but few friends in the court room, I believed then, and I believe now, that if there had been a leader there of sufficient courage to start a riot, I would have been torn limb from limb.

As it was one woman deputy clerk of the court, declared audibly, "They ought to take him out and hang him," a sentiment which met with considerable favor in her immediate vicinity.

This woman was later made a deputy in Judge Dearth's juvenile court, and has since been named as co-respondent in a divorce suit, now pending, in which the brother of the prosecuting attorney is defendant.

With a sympathetic audience before him that morning Judge Dearth took occasion to inflict a verbal tongue lashing upon a defendant who was there without counsel, and who was threatened with an immediate jail sentence when he sought personally to remonstrate against the unfair and unsportsmanlike demonstration.

I had asked for a change of venue and it was denied. I had filed a verified answer asserting the truth of the editorial. I offered to prove by affidavit and oral evidence every sentence and paragraph of the offending editorial.

The judge refused to surrender jurisdiction, limited my defense to the answer itself and refused to permit me to justify myself and purge of contempt by submitting truth of the allegations contained in the publication.

Prosecutor Took a Hand.

The prosecuting attorney, a creature of the klan, delivered a stump speech filled with vituperation and abuse and the mob cheered him. Waving a copy of my newspaper in the air he shouted: "Any citizen of Muncie who contributes a dime to the support of this slander sheet should be banished from the community!", and the applause which followed was not interrupted by the court.

If there was ever such a demonstration made in a supposed court of justice in the republic I am unaware of it at this time. After the prosecutor had concluded his tirade the judge took up the hammer where he had left off.

"It is none of your business, Mr. Dale," said the judge, "if the judge, the prosecutor, the sheriff, the grand jury and the jury commissioners belong to the Ku Klux Klan. It is none of your business nor is it anybody else's business. If you don't like it in Muncie why don't you go to Russia," pronouncing it "Rooshy."

Then he passed sentence, committing me to the state penal farm for ninety days and fining me five hundred dollars. I was taken to jail at once and on the third day was released under \$2,500 bond, signed by friends.

The next day I was re-arrested. My offer to prove had incensed the judge. He held my answer to be direct contempt of his court and gave me ninety days more and another five hundred dollar fine. After being held in jail eight days I was transferred to the state penal farm.

Down On The Farm.

Meanwhile attorneys had been employed and after spending three days on the state penal farm, where I was required to work in a tile ditch, I was let to bail by the state supreme court.

While I was on the penal farm the grand jury was hastily convened again and I was indicted for criminal libel, and upon my return home was again arrested on a bench warrant and gave bond. I came home with a close hair cut, leaving behind me my finger and thumb prints and Bertillon measurements.

The charge of criminal libel was based upon an article in the Post-Democrat, published long before, charging the distributor of the "Fiery Cross," a klan publication, with being a "one hundred percent draft dodger."

This case finally came to trial before Judge Victor Simmons, of Hartford City, who held me to trial in the Delaware circuit court, in the face of an affidavit declaring I could not get a fair trial in that county, reinforced by a hundred supporting affidavits signed by responsible citizens.

Judge Simmons is a member of the Ku Klux Klan, the records of that organization showing him to be the "klokard" of the Hartford City "klavern." I was forced to go to trial before a packed jury composed of klansmen and klanswomen, convicted, given five months on the penal farm and fined five hundred dollars. We proved at the trial that the complaining witness was all that we had called him, but a mere matter of truthful evidence is never considered by a klan jury when the head goblin of the klan turns thumbs down.

"I Am The Law."

D. C. Stephenson, the grand dragon of the Indiana klan, was then "the law" in Indiana. I know it to be a fact that he was the law in Muncie. I can prove it. He is now serving a life sentence in Michigan City prison for the murder of a woman, but for three years his slightest wish was the law in Muncie. He ordered my ruin and it was all but accomplished.

Stephenson told me so himself, after he had been fired out of the klan, and begged my forgiveness, asserting that he did not know at the time that his Muncie tools were such a "rotten bunch."

The libel case was appealed to the state supreme court three years ago, but has not yet been decided. The concealed weapon case, my first arrest, was venued to Randolph county, where Judge Alonzo Bales, a respected jurist, dismissed it without trial.

The court docket at Winchester, the county seat of Randolph county, bears this inscription: "State of Indiana vs. George R. Dale, carrying concealed weapons. Cause dismissed, defendant discharged."

I came home feeling pretty cocky. I had actually won a case, at a time when my experiences almost justified the belief that courts were all crooked, the law a dismal farce and the telling of plain truths the unpardonable sin.

Imagine my surprise, and not to say amusement, when as I left the postoffice in Muncie the following morning, I met a deputy sheriff who again arrested me on the same identical charge of which I had been acquitted the day before.

They Did It Twice.

What! You say they can't prosecute you twice for the same offense? I was like the fellow in jail. They couldn't put him in jail for that, but nevertheless he was there.

As I was signing my bond in the county clerk's office, the prosecuting attorney came in. "What are you trying to do, Van?" I inquired; "trying to make it the best two out of three?"

"You thought you was putting it over on us, taking it out of the county and getting out of it," he replied, "but this time we will try it here and you will be stuck. They did and I was."

The original arrest in the gun case was made in November, 1922. The final chapter was written in December, 1925, when, for the second time I went to trial on a charge which had been dismissed in Randolph county over a year before.

ber, 1922. The final chapter was written in December, 1925, when, for the second time I went to trial on a charge which had been dismissed in Randolph county over a year before.

Although it had been adjudicated that I could not get a fair trial in that particular case in Delaware county, I was forced to go to trial again, before another packed klan jury, in the Delaware circuit court.

A sister-in-law of Judge Dearth was a member of the regular jury panel. Her husband is the secretary of the klan. She swore she was not prejudiced against me and that she could give me a fair trial. I had to use one my precious peremptory challenges to get rid of her.

But land alive! It was a waste of time to unseat jurors. The sheriff, a klansman, was on the job to see that all vacancies were properly filled. The longer they came the worse they were. A niece of Judge Dearth's sat on the jury. She qualified for service by swearing she was the owner of real estate. The law requires that the names of the jurors must be taken from the tax duplicates. The name of the judge's niece does not appear on the tax duplicate nor it there any record of her owning real estate in Delaware county.

The Judge's Relations.

I did not know of her relationship of Judge Dearth until after the trial. But it would have made no difference. When jurors are chosen in Delaware county to try me, no mistakes are made. I was fined ninety dollars. They could have made it five hundred. I feel that I owe that jury \$410. A motion for a new trial has never been acted upon.

One of the jurors was a young man named Raymond Warner. After the trial I published an analysis of the jury and mentioned that Warner had been mixed up in an automobile stealing scrape, and had been in liquor deals and that his wife had divorced him for drunkenness.

Three weeks ago the young man caused my arrest on a criminal libel charge. It had taken his seven months to get mad. As The Fourth Estate aptly says in discussing this latest libel case, "an honest man would not wait seven months to defend an attack on his integrity."

The real cause of the latest arrest, was that I had charged the deputy prosecutor, a klansman, with protecting a notorious criminal. Instead of prosecuting me on his own account, he prudently let George do it.

The Indiana supreme court affirmed the first contempt case and reversed the other. In sustaining Judge Dearth in the first case, the higher court held that even if the editorial was true, it would be no defense.

The editorial charges that the indictment against me was a klan frame-up, but if the opinion of the state supreme court stands up, that the truth is no defense, then I must go to prison for ninety days and pay a five hundred dollar fine for criticizing the acts of a grand jury and other instrumentalities of the court that make no denial of the charge that the indictment was maliciously framed up. In other words, "we did frame you but you had no right to tell it."

Wide Interest in Case.

This case is being carried to the supreme court of the United States. Every newspaper of any consequence in America is taking a deep interest in it. The Literary Digest devotes a page to it in its August 14 issue.

If the supreme court of the United States upholds the Indiana dictum, "it means simply this," says the Cleveland Press: "That no matter how autocratic or corrupt a court may become, it must not be criticized unless the critic is ready to go to jail."

The Chicago Tribune was the first of the great newspapers to call attention to the case, closely followed by the Hearst papers, Chicago News, the N. E. A., the Scripps-Howard, the Consolidated Press, the Inland Press Association and the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

Leading in the fight in the east are such great newspapers as the New York World, the Brooklyn Eagle, the Baltimore Sun and the Washington News. The World was instrumental in concentrating the energies of the American Society of Newspaper Editors and in helping raise defense funds.

Emmet Cavanaugh, prominent Chicago business man, is heading a movement to raise funds in Chicago to aid in the defense. William V. Rooker, of Indianapolis, a constitutional lawyer of national emience, has been retained, and other leading members of the American bar will be associated with him in this great fight for a free press and freedom of speech and opinion.

My personal funds and credit have been exhausted in this four year struggle against judicial tyranny and unfair and un-American discrimination, but the battle will have been worthwhile if in the end it is written that the things our forefathers fought for, free speech and trial by jury, are to be assured forever in this great republic.

GLADWAY, 80-ACRE PLAYGROUND, BRINGS ORIENT TO THE SESQUI



A smile is the same in all languages, and Germany, Roumania, Egypt and the Orient are next door neighbors in the Gladway, the 80-acre playground which is the entertainment center of the Sesqui-Centennial now in progress in Philadelphia in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Stepping into "Through the Orient" the visitor is transported to the underside of the world, gathered up in the mystery, the magnificence of the Orient. Treasure Island, five acres of paradise for youngsters, has every trick swing, giant slide, loop-the-loop and shoot-the-chutes dear to the heart of boys and girls. The Rhineland of the Middle Ages comes to life in The Newburg Market, showing the life and customs of medieval Germany.

A Roumanian Village, with its quaint houses, its market place, its gay shawls and petticoats, shows the matter of fact American a world almost entirely unknown to him.

The Streets of Cairo, revivifying the exotic splendor of Egypt and the Queen of the Nile, faithfully reproduces that ancient city.

And a very modern dance pavilion, gay with very modern jazz music, brings the visitor back to 1926.

While the Gladway has been designed for entertainment, each building and feature has carefully and faithfully carried out the period which it represents, which makes this new type of midway an education, as well as an entertainment feature.

Although originally designed as temporary, most of the structures have been built of materials which will make them permanent. More than 50,000 feet of celotex has been used in the construction of the Gladway. This manufactured lumber, made out of the fibres of sugar cane, was used not only for its structural value, but also because it provides insulation, keeping the building cool in summer and warm in winter. Its artistic natural color and texture lends itself to painting or staining to give it the effect of old-world building materials, mellowed and softened in hue by the ages. The wonderfully colorful decorations have been put directly on celotex, and it has none of the garish glare of the old time midway of the street carnival type.

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS OF TAX LEVIES.

In the matter of determining the tax rates for certain purposes by Hamilton Township, Delaware County, Indiana, before the Township Advisory Board.	
Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of Hamilton Township, Delaware County, Indiana, that the proper legal officers of said municipality at their regular meeting place on the 7th day of September, 1926, will consider the following budget:	
Township Fund.	
Salary of trustee	\$ 720.00
Office rent	90.00
Trustee's expense	150.00
Records and advertising	150.00
Public ditches (assessments)	100.00
Pay of advisory board	30.00
Examination of records	15.00
General (miscellaneous)	450.00
Total township fund	1,705.00
Road fund.	
Labor	3,000.00
Road tools and machines	50.00
Total road fund	3,050.00

PROPOSED LEVIES.

Name of Fund	Levy on Polls	Levy on Property	Amt. to be raised
Township	.05	.13	\$ 1,705.00
Road	.75	.52	4,200.00
Special School	.25	.50	15,000.00
Tuition	.05	.08	2,850.00
Bond	.05	.08	2,850.00
Total	\$1.00	\$1.23	\$3,855.00

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF TAXES COLLECTED AND TO BE COLLECTED.

Shows Amounts Collected Last Three Years—

Collected, 1924	\$42,891.00
Collected, 1925	41,891.00
Collected, 1926	40,891.00
To be collected, 1927	39,855.00

Taxpayers appearing shall have a right to be heard thereon. After the tax levies have been determined, ten or more taxpayers, feeling themselves aggrieved by such levies, may appeal to the State Board of Tax Commissioners for further and final action thereon by filing a petition therefor with the county auditor not later than the fourth Monday of September, and the state board will fix a date of hearing in this county.

Dated August 6, 1926.

DUMONT LOTZ, Trustee.

NOTICE TO ROAD CONTRACTORS.

State of Indiana, Delaware County.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Commissioners of said county at their office in the Court House at the City of Muncie, in Delaware County, State of Indiana, will receive sealed proposals for the improvement of a certain highway, fifty-six hundred eighty-four feet (5,684) in length, in Harrison Township, said county and state, by grading, draining and paving with gravel as set out in the specifications, plans and profile now on file in the office of the Auditor of said county, by and under the laws of the State of Indiana. Said sealed proposals will be opened and the contract awarded for said improvement on Saturday, September 11, 1926. Bids or proposals will be received up to ten (10:00) o'clock A. M. on said date.

The said road to be improved is located in Harrison Township, Delaware County, Indiana, and is to be known as the John D. Lee et al. road when so improved.

Bids will be for the completion of the said improvement in accordance with the plans, profiles and specifications in the office of the Auditor of said county, and shall include all labor and materials for said work in no case will extra compensation be allowed for any additional work alleged to have been done by the contractor or contractors to whom is awarded the contract. The estimated cost of said improvement is \$4,166.50.

Each bid shall be accompanied by personal or surety bond, in a sum equal to double the amount of the bid filed for the work bid on, to be approved by the Board of Commissioners of said County. Said bond shall be conditioned for the faithful performance of the work. The sureties, if personal, shall be resident freeholders of the State of Indiana, one of whom shall be a resident of Delaware County.

Said bond shall be for the benefit of any person, persons or corporations who shall suffer any loss or damage by reason of any such bidder failing or neglecting to enter into a contract to perform such work awarded by the said Board of Commissioners, or to carry out the same in any particular or to pay for any labor or materials which may have been furnished to any

FRANK BARCLAY

(Continued from Page One.)

about that truck," said Mr. Oliver, the manager. "The city paid \$1,250 for it and was badly yanked. We wanted to sell a new truck of the same kind to the city and would have taken \$2,200 for it."

When informed that the city had paid \$2,600 for the worn out truck, instead of \$1,250, Mr. Oliver could scarcely believe it, but asked that the Post-Democrat refrain from making any accusations against Mr. Oliver, whom he declared to be an honest man.

Mr. Oliver stated that he was a stockholder in the Roberts Hotel company, of which Thornburg is manager. "He ought to resign from that bunch before they get him in trouble," said he.

Asked what the truck was really worth, Mr. Oliver declared that as a reliable proposition the truck should have been properly classified as junk and that it was only worth what could be derived from it in the way of sale of undamaged parts.

"We bought a much better truck of the same model and capacity a short time ago for \$350," said Mr. Oliver. "I would say that the truck bought by the city would be worth anywhere between \$300 and \$500, depending upon the availability of the machine as a whole, or its salable parts, to the purchaser."

New One Priced At \$2,200

So the city paid \$2,600 for a worn out truck that had been used four years and was ready for the junk heap, when it could have bought a brand new truck of the same kind for \$2,200, and, unless some reasonable explanation is offered, the purchase was made, indirectly, by the board of works, of one of its own members.

It is known that the city has had trouble with the truck from the day of its purchase. It has been out of commission a great part of the time and a second hand motor was purchased for it two weeks ago at Indianapolis at another additional cost of \$400. The old motor has strangely disappeared.

It is just such alleged transactions as this that sours all off, and puts the people to wondering what will be next.

If, as the facts would seem to warrant, this deal was put over not for the purpose of adding a useful piece of machinery to the equipment of the street department, but merely to extract \$2,600 from the pockets of the taxpayers and transfer the money to the pockets of a bunch of conspirators, it had to be done with the full consent, knowledge and approbation of every member of the board of works and the mayor who approved the claim.

Get Rid of 'Em.

The first thing to be done, of

Band Tax Law's Daddy



Major George W. Landers, Jr., "Father of the Band Tax Laws," whose efforts have been instrumental in making taxation in support of municipal bands and orchestras legal in twenty six states, according to a survey of the Conn Music Center.

K. OF P. DECIDES TO PAY \$50,000 FOR EXTENSION

Chicago, Ill., Aug. 18.—The Supreme Lodge of the Knights of Pythias in the final session, Monday, of its thirty-fourth biennial convention appropriated \$50,000 for extension work. Under the administration of Richard S. Witte of Milwaukee, Wis., the new supreme chancellor, and Alva Lumpkin of Columbia, S. C., the new supreme keeper of records and seal, it was indicated, an organization will be created to "sell Pythianism."

The Pythians have lost more than a hundred thousand members during the last four years, and the publicity campaign was devised to bring back the old members and interest new ones.

A further step toward preparing new material for Pythianism was seen in the recognition of the Princes of Syracuse as junior subsidiary along the lines of recognition of the Order of DeMolay by the Masons.

Bluffton Makes Rule Regarding Stunt Aviators

Bluffton, Ind., Aug. 19.—No airplane will be piloted over Bluffton at an elevation of less than 1,000 feet and no aviator shall indulge in fancy flying, loop the loop, nose dives, or tail spins or other maneuvers other than "straight" flying.

The above edict is set out in an ordinance enacted Tuesday night by the city council, and the penalty for violations, as fixed by the ordinance, is \$100 upon conviction of any infraction of the new city statute.

Councilmen stated that the ordinance was enacted to curb daredevil flyers who have indulged in stunt flying over the city, including swoops from the sky that brought them down almost to the roofs of buildings in the business section. Councilmen expressed fears that, eventually, unless stunt flying is curbed, there will be a spill that will endanger persons in the city.

The police department is expected to seek some expert advice from the city solons as to the ways and means of enforcing the ordinance. Chief Marion Garton says that he has no air pilots on the force.

Al Smith Objects To Another Term

Buffalo, N. Y., Aug. 16.—Governor Alfred E. Smith, who was a guest here at an informal dinner given by Norman E. Mack, Democratic national committee chairman, Saturday night, spoke frankly about his political future, it became known yesterday.

Several of the prominent local Democrats present urged the Governor to run again for Governor as a stepping stone to a presidential nomination.

"The work of Governor is more than I feel I ought to be called upon to continue," the Governor said. "I do not want to do it for the next two years."

"Give me a little personal consideration. There is a scriptural saying about a man gaining the whole world and losing his own soul. What good would it do me to be nominated for the presidency and have my health shattered so that I wouldn't be able to carry on the duties of the office if elected."

LETTER ON DEBT BY CLEMENCEAU STIRS CONGRESS

Possible Rejection of Settlement Is Discussed as Anger Grows.

Washington, Aug. 14.—As indignation over the Clemenceau attack on American spread through congressional ranks today, fear grew in official circles that the impetuous impugning of the motives of this country may pave the way for rejection of the French debt settlement by the Senate.

Nothing in the storm of criticism of America that has swept over the Atlantic from Europe has aroused members of Congress like the letter of the French war premier to President Coolidge. It is certain to be used as one of the chief weapons of the opponents of the French debt settlement.

While the administration continued its silence on the letter, it was indicated that it only served to bear out the conviction of leaders and Congress that approving the debt accord might prove fatal.

Better Terms Impossible.

In view of the situation in France where it is believed that debt settlement is being made a political football, it is doubtful if the United States could obtain a better settlement than the one negotiated. At the same time, it was pointed out that it was certain that France could never hope to get any better terms from this government. For that reason official Washington deeply regrets the incident.

Senator Kenneth McKellar of Tennessee, who fought every debt settlement, today joined with Senator Borah and Senator Ernest in denouncing the Clemenceau letter as "full of misstatements and inaccuracies."

National Swine Show Meets At Peoria, Sept. 13-18

Chicago, Ill., Aug. 14.—A veritable "Who's Who" of American hogdom will be gathered together when the National Swine Show celebrates its eleventh anniversary at Peoria, Ill., September 13 to 18. This is the largest and most important show for both large quantity and fine quality this year will be fully realized, according to Miss G. A. Fossett, Secretary of the National Swine Growers Association and the show, with offices in Chicago.

The secretary announced that the first entry, a herd of eight Spot Poland Chinas, has just been received and that she expects all entries recorded well before the closing date, which is set for September 6 at midnight.

Secretary Fossett called attention to the recent ruling of the Board of Tax Appeals in Washington, which stated that expenses incurred in exhibiting animals at state fairs and other exhibitions as a means of advertising the business of the taxpayer, constitutes proper deduction from income for taxation purposes.

COOLIDGE SILENT ON HIS PROGRAM FOR FARM RELIEF

Reported Action Among Banks to Release Tied-Up Securities

Paul Smiths, N. Y., Aug. 18.—Frank B. Kellogg is expected to continue in office as secretary of state and President Coolidge. A published report that Mr. Kellogg planned to resign soon, not only brought a direct denial from the secretary himself, at the summer White House yesterday, but a statement on behalf of the President that the report was unfounded and he would regret very much to have the premier of his Cabinet resign.

While President Coolidge is understood to be devoting close attention to tentative plans for aiding the agricultural industry by obtaining a greater co-ordination of the agencies that extend credit to the farmers, little light has been thrown upon the program he has in mind.

BLISTER BEETLES HIT GARDEN CROPS

Pests Hard To Conquer; Control Method Given by Purdue

Reports are being received by the Purdue Agricultural Experiment station relative to the black and striped elongate beetles which are so abundant in many sections of Indiana. They are defoliating potatoes, tomatoes, chard, and in fact almost every kind of garden plant including flowers. Some of these plants are fast being saved.

These beetles are very active and are most difficult to poison, according to Professor J. J. Davis, head of the Entomology Department of the Purdue University Agricultural Experiment Station. Probably the best control is a spray of one pound of Paris green to 100 gallons of water with two pounds of hydrated lime. Care must be used in applying this spray, especially to tender plants, on account of the soluble arsenic sometimes present in Paris green which may burn some foliage. Another control which has given good results is dusting calcium arsenic on the plants. This to be used pure or else diluted with four parts by weight of hydrated lime or flour. The liquid spray should be applied as a fine misty spray and the dust as a light cloud of dust so as to reach all parts of the plant.

The blister beetles are especially interesting, according to Professor Davis, because they are beneficial in the immature stage and consequently blister beetles are usually abundant following an abundance the year or two before, of grasshoppers.

Beer Baron Of Chicago To Face Trial As Slayer

Gary, Ind., Aug. 18.—Guarded by fifteen heavily armed officers under the command of Sheriff Be. Strong, Frank McElrath, notorious Chicago beer baron, was returned from Crown Point from the Cook county jail in Chicago, yesterday afternoon, to face charges of murdering Thaddeus Fancher, former county attorney, in a roadhouse near Crown Point two years ago last May.

McElrath was assigned to cell No. 10 in "murderers' row."

The bandit's return followed a ruling by Judge John McGoorty in the Chicago Criminal court that he should be returned to Lake county for the murder trial.

Wife of Governor Writes Speeches

Madison, Wis., Aug. 16.—Modern politics, which became a partnership proposition in Texas through the ascendancy of the Fergusons, is following the same pattern in Wisconsin where the Blaines, who now occupy the gubernatorial mansion, are campaigning the state in behalf of "Pa." Blaine's candidacy for the Republican nomination for the United States senate.

The Wisconsin progressives, however, are putting what might be called reverse English on Fergusonism. John J. Blaine is the office holder and the nominal candidate while Mrs. Blaine writes his speeches and helps guide him through the political woods. In Texas Governor "Ma" Ferguson holds office while her husband "Farmer Jim" does the official advising.

MAZER DENIES HE KILLED MELLETT. STUDER SILENT

Alleged Canton Vice Lord Shouts 'It's a Lie'—Implicates Partner

Buffalo, N. Y., Aug. 18.—Patrolman Streitenberger said last night that he was prepared to give testimony that will be a complete alibi for Louis Mazer, charged with the murder of Don R. Mellett, Canton (O.) publisher. Streitenberger is attending a fraternal convention here. Mazer he declared, was with him from midnight until nearly 1 o'clock on July 16, and at no time during that hour was within twenty blocks of the scene of the murder.

WISH HARMLESS BUT POWERFUL ALCOHOL 'SPIKE'

Prohibition Officials Put New Denaturant Up to Federal Chemists.

Washington, Aug. 14.—Something stronger than gasoline—just what has not been determined—is to be put in industrial alcohol in an effort to outwit the resourceful bootlegger. Prohibition officials have reached this decision and passed on to government chemists the problem of finding an effective denaturing process. Whatever is used, it was predicted probably will smell bad and make the alcohol taste bad, but will be "harmless."

After a conference with Frank Dow, acting chief of the prohibition forces and James M. Moran, chief chemist of the prohibition unit, Acting Secretary of the Treasury Winston admitted that gasoline and other ingredients, put in industrial alcohol to render it unfit for beverage use, had not proved sufficient deterrents to crafty bootleggers, and that a new denaturing substance must be found.

WITNESS DEPICTS DEATH OVARREL

W. J. O'Rourke States Trio Resembling Halls, Mrs. Mills Was Involved

Somerville, N. J., Aug. 18.—Testimony tending to prove that Mrs. Frances Stevens Hall quarreled with her husband, the Rev. Edward W. Hall, and Mrs. Eleanor Mills just before the latter two were slain, was given in court yesterday.

This dramatic turn was supplied by William J. O'Rourke, contractor, one of the principal witnesses at the hearing which is to determine whether "Willie" Stevens and Henry Carpenter, charged with the double murder, shall be released on bond pending grand jury action. Stevens is the simple-minded brother of Mrs. Hall, who is also charged with the killings. Carpenter, a Wall street broker, is her cousin.

O'Rourke said that as he passed by the old Phillips farm, where the murders took place, he saw "one woman who resembled Mrs. Hall, upbraiding another woman who resembled Mrs. Mills. Standing by was a man who looked to Mrs. like Dr. Hall."

He said that he had often seen Hall on the farm at night with women other than his wife.

His intimation that Hall's wife and sweetheart had a quarrel a few minutes before the slaying and near the scene tends to contradict Mrs. Hall's statement that she did not know her husband and Mrs. Mills were carrying on a clandestine love affair.

BID ON MARKERS FOR STATE ROADS

Eight Firms in Competition—Designations to Conform With Federal Plans

Indianapolis, Aug. 18.—Bids on metal markers for all Indiana state highways, to conform with the federal plans for numbering Federal roads identically through all the states, was opened Monday by the state highway commission. Bids were on 40,000 metal signs and 25,000 metal posts. The cost of the entire lot has been estimated at \$30,000, of which about \$18,000 will be for signs and \$12,000 for the posts. No decision was reached Monday and the contract was not awarded.

According to A. H. Hinkle, chief engineer, the road markers will have a white background, with black numerals and letters. Warning signs will be of yellow with numerals and letters in black.

Remember Highways.

The signs will be placed next fall and their use will entail a complete renumbering of all highways of the state so that the ten Federal highways will conform in number to the numbers in other states. The National highway, designated by the state as road No. 8, will be No. 40, under the Federal plan. The present highway from Vincennes to Lawrenceburg is to be No. 50 under the new plan.

Chicago Has War On Motor Morons

Chicago, Aug. 16.—With the city in the throes of a summer epidemic of sex offenses the Chicago police department has dropped everything else for a campaign to exterminate the so-called "motor morons" who have attacked 15 young girls here within the last week.

Chief of Police Morgan A. Collins, says that never in the history of his administration have the streets of the city held such dangerous for girls. He has taken personal charge of the campaign and all reports of attacks are being bulletined into his office so that he can detail special squads to run down the attackers.

Plans To Stop Rum Smuggling

New York, Aug. 14.—Immediate organization of a "bureau of foreign control in the prohibition department to direct the practical application of the prohibition agreements between this country and foreign nations was announced Wednesday by Brig. Gen. Lincoln C. Andrews. It is even possible, he acknowledged, that the work of this new bureau may entail sending prohibition men to foreign ports. Gen. Andrews, who returned last night after reaching an agreement with English statesmen on the liquor smuggling situation, spent this afternoon at the University club in conference with United States Attorney Buckner and an assistant. Later he was scheduled to see Maj. Chester P. Mills, local administrator, before leaving for Washington.

Cleveland, O., Aug. 18.—Lewis Mazer, alleged Canton vice-lord, charged with the murder of Don R. Mellett, Canton publisher, through out hours of grilling yesterday, shouted defiance at his inquisitors. He stoutly denies any connection with the crime.

Several times during the day Mazer was reported on the verge of a breakdown. Upon one occasion he wept. His erstwhile business companion, Carl Studer, called "Crown Prince of the Jungles" in Canton, was tight-lipped, declaring: "I'll lie in this cell until I rot before I make any confession."

STUMP REVIEWS G. O. P. VOTE BUY

Democrats Complain of State Administration and Vote of Senators

Marion, Ind., Aug. 18.—Albert Stump, Democratic candidate for United States senator, pledged himself here last night to vote against the seating of William Vare, of Pennsylvania, and of Frank Smith, of Illinois, should they be elected to the United States senate.

Mr. Stump addressed a district conference of Eleventh district Democrats at the court house here. "You will recall that Senator Reed introduced a resolution to investigate the expenditure of money in primaries. You will recall the startling disclosures of that investigation, disclosures which shocked the conscience of America. Official admissions of witness as revealed that some \$3,000,000 was spent in the Pennsylvania primary merely to obtain the nomination. Senator Reed, who conducted the investigation, declared in a public address after the investigation that he was morally certain that not half the money spent in that primary was disclosed by the investigation."

"In Illinois Senator Caraway declared that information reaching him indicated that over \$3,000,000 was spent in the primary there. Senator Reed's investigation disclosed enormous sums. And he was balked in pushing the probe for the refusal of the real admitted donors to give the total amounts contributed by them."

"Yet Senator Watson and Senator Robinson both voted against the consideration of the resolution which made possible this investigation, this shedding of light into dark places in America's politics. It was a shameful undertaking to say how significant it is that they voted against this nation. It is enough to say that the resolution was considered and adopted although without the aid of Indiana's senators."

Scientist Doubts Strawberries Can Grow on Bushes

Indianapolis, Aug. 19.—"What? Everbearing strawberries growing on bushes?" "Each tree is guaranteed to live and bear annually for one hundred years. Maybe, perhaps..."

But Frank N. Wallace, state entomologist, is skeptical he said yesterday, of claims he heard are being made by certain nursery agents working in the state. He started an investigation, promising that the agents' licenses will be revoked if they are making such declarations.

The latest is strawberries, according to the report, are pictured as being bushes that bear fruit high above the ground so that berries do not get dirty.

The peach trees, sure to thrive one hundred years, are said to be raised from seeds, never failing to start their long production grind after the second year.

"Now how do those agents know the trees will live to be one hundred years old? Even the agent can't live as long as his guarantee lasts?"

Indiana's Surplus School Teachers

Indianapolis, Aug. 19.—A surplus of teachers exists in Indiana at the present time, according to R. T. Blackwell, deputy state superintendent of public instruction.

Mr. Blackwell has charge of a "ree service" maintained by the state department to help place teachers who are out of positions or who have just passed the required examination to permit their engaging in the work.

There are approximately one thousand applications for openings in the elementary and high school departments of schools located in various parts of the state, Mr. Blackwell said. Principals having vacancies are accustomed to notifying the state board telling of their needs and asking the names of persons on file.

Says City Gunman Is a Tame Coward

Chicago, Aug. 14.—Doused, spurred and sombered, a two-gun citizen of the wild west, a man who rode with Teddy Roosevelt's famous Rough Riders and once served as sheriff of the toughest county in New Mexico, sat in the polished surroundings of a "loop" hotel here and declared that the modern city gunman is an overrated, tenderfoot and a coward.

George W. Armijo, who came to Chicago for the broncho-busting rodeo, in Soldiers field, after visiting a number of other cities with so-called "crime waves," has seen all kinds of criminals and believes that the New York and Chicago gangster is "the weakest sister of the lot."

WISH HARMLESS BUT POWERFUL ALCOHOL 'SPIKE'

Prohibition Officials Put New Denaturant Up to Federal Chemists.

Washington, Aug. 14.—Something stronger than gasoline—just what has not been determined—is to be put in industrial alcohol in an effort to outwit the resourceful bootlegger. Prohibition officials have reached this decision and passed on to government chemists the problem of finding an effective denaturing process. Whatever is used, it was predicted probably will smell bad and make the alcohol taste bad, but will be "harmless."

After a conference with Frank Dow, acting chief of the prohibition forces and James M. Moran, chief chemist of the prohibition unit, Acting Secretary of the Treasury Winston admitted that gasoline and other ingredients, put in industrial alcohol to render it unfit for beverage use, had not proved sufficient deterrents to crafty bootleggers, and that a new denaturing substance must be found.

STUMP REVIEWS G. O. P. VOTE BUY

Democrats Complain of State Administration and Vote of Senators

Marion, Ind., Aug. 18.—Albert Stump, Democratic candidate for United States senator, pledged himself here last night to vote against the seating of William Vare, of Pennsylvania, and of Frank Smith, of Illinois, should they be elected to the United States senate.

Mr. Stump addressed a district conference of Eleventh district Democrats at the court house here. "You will recall that Senator Reed introduced a resolution to investigate the expenditure of money in primaries. You will recall the startling disclosures of that investigation, disclosures which shocked the conscience of America. Official admissions of witness as revealed that some \$3,000,000 was spent in the Pennsylvania primary merely to obtain the nomination. Senator Reed, who conducted the investigation, declared in a public address after the investigation that he was morally certain that not half the money spent in that primary was disclosed by the investigation."

"In Illinois Senator Caraway declared that information reaching him indicated that over \$3,000,000 was spent in the primary there. Senator Reed's investigation disclosed enormous sums. And he was balked in pushing the probe for the refusal of the real admitted donors to give the total amounts contributed by them."

"Yet Senator Watson and Senator Robinson both voted against the consideration of the resolution which made possible this investigation, this shedding of light into dark places in America's politics. It was a shameful undertaking to say how significant it is that they voted against this nation. It is enough to say that the resolution was considered and adopted although without the aid of Indiana's senators."

Scientist Doubts Strawberries Can Grow on Bushes

Indianapolis, Aug. 19.—"What? Everbearing strawberries growing on bushes?" "Each tree is guaranteed to live and bear annually for one hundred years. Maybe, perhaps..."

But Frank N. Wallace, state entomologist, is skeptical he said yesterday, of claims he heard are being made by certain nursery agents working in the state. He started an investigation, promising that the agents' licenses will be revoked if they are making such declarations.

The latest is strawberries, according to the report, are pictured as being bushes that bear fruit high above the ground so that berries do not get dirty.

The peach trees, sure to thrive one hundred years, are said to be raised from seeds, never failing to start their long production grind after the second year.

"Now how do those agents know the trees will live to be one hundred years old? Even the agent can't live as long as his guarantee lasts?"

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HARTFORD CITY WOMAN SUFFERS BROKEN JAW

Hartford City, Aug. 18.—Mrs. Fred Lemon suffered fractures of the jaw and nose, and a lacerated eye, yesterday, when the crank of an automobile she was cranking struck her in the eye. It is not known whether the eyesight will be affected.

Arrest Mills Lake Manager for Giving A Charity Ball

Winchester, Ind., Aug. 16.—J. Semens, manager of the Mills Lake amusement park, was arrested last night for the second time on a charge of pursuing his regular vocation on Sunday. The offense was the staging of a charity ball, advertised to be for the benefit of the Salvation Army. No tickets were sold. A donation was taken.

Semens was released under \$200 bond pending his arraignment in Circuit court, September 15. At present there is a similar charge against Semens in this court. Sheriff Daly of Winchester, made the arrest.

Mennonites To Hold CONFERENCE AT BERNE

Decatur, Aug. 18.—The twenty-fourth session of the general conference of the Mennonite church, which comprises the middle, western, Pacific, eastern and Canadian district conferences, will be held in Bern, from August 22 to 25, inclusive. Approximately 500 delegates and representatives are expected to attend the conference, in addition to about 1,000 other visitors.

The sessions of the conference will be held in the First Mennonite church of Berne. Several committees are at work on arrangements for the conference, which will be the largest gathering of its kind ever held in Berne.

HIGH SPOTS

(Publisher's Auxiliary)

The recent assassination of Don Mellett, the Canton, Ohio, editor has occasioned a great deal of editorial comment throughout the country and has brought up again the question of whether or not it is worth while to be a "fighting editor." Under the head of "Of Course, They're Fools for Not Letting George Do It, but What Would Happen if Nobody Cared?" John Starzl of the Le Mars (Iowa) Globe-Post comments on the question as follows:

The daily papers just now are carrying headlines on the murder of a young editor, who incidentally leaves a widow and four children. The editor had been making things hot for the gangsters, political and otherwise, at Canton, Ohio. Despite the usual public and official indifference, this newspaper had broken up vice, dope and booze rings and sent several criminals to jail. A few nights ago, coming home from some social affair he was ambushed near his home and killed instantly by two bullets in his brain. The crime will probably go unpunished.

In New Mexico a former Iowan, Carl Magee, broke up one of the most vicious political gangs in the history of the United States. Magee has been assaulted, shot at, beaten up and tried for murder. He is still on the job and is still fighting. Some day an assassin's bullet will get him, but he isn't leaving for safer climes. Foolish, perhaps, but somehow editors of this stamp cannot be frightened away.

In Indiana an editor has been imprisoned for contempt, and persecuted in many ways because he would not truckle to an arrogant judge of a minor court. It would be a lot easier to give in to the judge's silly whims, but the editor fought from start to finish, finally establishing the rights of the press. It cost him a lot of money, the loss of time, and endless unpleasantness, but it earned for him the right to be called a real newspaper man.

In none of the three instances mentioned have the fighting editors received any reward or appreciation for their work. Often they were denounced by the very public for whose benefit they were struggling. They were called trouble-makers, destroyers of harmony. They were blamed for their failures. They received little credit for their successes. The financial rewards were, and will always be, less than the same effort would bring in almost any other line of endeavor. Yet they, and hundreds more like them, continue in their thorny path because they are so constituted that they cannot bear to see justice defeated. They cannot bear to see the weak oppressed by the strong. They cannot stand idly by and see the rich advantaged to the detriment of the poor. Then, when the smoke of battle has cleared away, they do not expect and do not receive any reward for their work. The friends they make are not as valuable to them financially as the friends they could have made by keeping still. Perhaps, in a momentary accession of bitterness, they resolve that henceforth they will look out for themselves first. They may resolve to throw in their lot with the intelligent, cynical minority that always tends to batten off the torpid mass of the people. A week passes. A new abuse shows its head. Forgotten are the sensible resolutions. The fighting editor is at it again.

Hail to the fighting editor! He may be a fool, but he is the surest bulwark of liberty, of honesty, of justice that this country has. He is the only knight errant left in the world. He is ready at any moment to battle for the right, without reward, without thanks. There is nothing Quixotic about him. The evils he fights are real evils. He does not charge wildly, but plans his campaigns shrewdly. Single-handed, he is a match for enemies a hundred times as great as he in numbers and money. This would be a sad world if it were not for its fighting editors.

Under the head of "A Martyr for the Cause of Right," the Silver Creek (N. Y.) Times, published by L. H. Braman and W. J. Slack, comments as follows:

The entire nation has been shocked by the wanton killing of Don R. Mellett, youthful crusading editor of the Canton (Ohio) Daily News. Officials and citizens agree that the murder was a thrust at the very vitals of law and order.

Like a captain leading his forces in battle, Mr. Mellett has fallen a martyr to a system which in too many places in this country is getting a strangle hold on the government. Vice runs rampant in hundreds of cities and towns in America. Nearly every day we read that public officials, charged with the enforcement of all laws, have been arrested and exposed for grafting or laxity in office.

Corruption in public office should not be tolerated. Don Mellett, a born fighter, stood alone for weeks in his battle to rid the city of Canton of drug peddlers, gamblers and gunmen. A brave and courageous editor, shot down, the victim of cowards who were afraid to fight him fairly.

Now—too late to save Don Mellett's life—Canton rises in indignation. Canton realizes forcibly now what Mellett was fighting for and why he was fighting.

The Mellett murder is strong proof that good citizens, in all cities, should rally to the active support of newspaper editors and officials who have the courage to defy the powers of evil. Crusading editors usually have the mere approval of the better element of the communities, but not much active, virile, efficient encouragement and assistance. Indifference on the part of the citizenry only serves to help the vice rings.

DECLARES PRICES WILL SET YIELD

Department of Agriculture Economists Made Prediction After Food Survey

Washington, Aug. 16.—After studying the question of the nation's future food supply, Department of Agriculture economists declared Saturday that it appears safe to predict that developments in coming decades with regard to acre yields will depend, as in the past, to a great extent on the prices of agricultural products. The average yield per acre of

corn has increased 18 per cent since 1885, wheat 17 per cent, oats 14 per cent and potatoes 39 per cent, the economists found in their analysis of yields. During the last four decades the combined acreage of corn, wheat, oats and potatoes has been expanded about 52 per cent, whereas the total production of those crops increased 72 per cent. Rising values of food products normally, the economists declared, would result in increasing intensification and a higher level of soil productivity through the wider use of better cultivation methods, development of suitable rotations, including the growth of legumes, more efficient use of crop residues and animal manures, greater use of commercial fertilizers and the more common use of selected seed.

TAXPAYERS TO SCRUTINIZE ALL YEARLY BUDGETS

Associations In States Not Satisfied With Condition of Affairs

Indianapolis, Aug. 17.—Letters are being sent out by the Indiana Taxpayers' Association to county units of the organization, farmers' organizations, committees and taxpayers generally, calling attention to the necessity for close scrutiny of the estimates of county and township expenses for next year. Only by rigid economy in making up the local budgets, it is pointed out, can reductions in tax levies be brought about.

Tax reduction in national and state affairs is emphasized and cited as examples of what the local communities can do. The predictions are made that the rate for state purposes will be reduced from three to four cents, Indiana now being out of debt. A three cent reduction would be 10 to 23 per cent decrease from the existing rate of 28 cents. Another important matter to which attention is being called by Harry Messer, secretary of the Indiana Taxpayers' Association, is the increase in gasoline fund fees for distribution to the counties.

"It was the intention of the legislature, in providing for the distribution of the gasoline money," Mr. Messer explained, "to have local road levies reduced as gasoline funds increase. Any other management of the problem would result in double taxation. The distribution of gasoline funds to the counties for road purposes, was far in excess of the estimated total for this year. The collections now are running one-eighth higher than last year. This means more money in the road funds and consequently less will need to be raised by local taxation. The township and county budgets will be ready for consideration throughout the state in a short time. The taxpayers ought to examine every item and insist that all unnecessary expenditures be eliminated. They should pay strict attention to the road levies, with the gasoline receipts in mind, because every levy should be less considering the enormous amount that is coming in from the gasoline revenues. The taxpayers have the right to demand a review of any budget to which they may have reason to object and only by exercising this right, is there any hope for lower taxes."

Indiana is said to be the center of the industry. Here Yellowley intends to set the pace for similar campaigns throughout the country. Here are some of the highlights of what the "ace" says he has discovered: That many dealers and manufacturers employ "go-getter" salesmen who demonstrate and install the small beer or whisky plants much after the fashion set by the washing machine salesmen. That customers are instructed in the art of making and bottling their product, a part of the "service" including printed recipes for the various drinks. That many of the more wary dealers add the last against selling stills by delivering them "knocked down" like mail order garages and small cottages, as the law does not apply to individual parts of stills.

Lays Ederle Swim To Weather Freak

London, Aug. 17.—Continuing the discussion of Gertrude Ederle's famous channel swim, the Westminster Gazette publishes a statement from an unnamed member of the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club of Dover to the effect that Miss Ederle's success was due to an accident of the weather.

He explains that when Miss Ederle entered the water the ebb tide was on the wane and within forty-five minutes had died altogether. Then followed seven hours of food tide during which the drift was all in her favor and, far from any counter-effect of wind, a strong southwest wind blew all day, assisting her still further.

When the ebb tide set in again, the southwest wind increased in force to such an extent as to take all the strength out of the tide.

"That is the reason why, in my opinion," says the writer, "she kept so near to a direct course, crossing in thirty miles, whereas others had to swim fifty."

Find "Coffin" of Kitchner Empty

London, Aug. 17.—The British nation yesterday found itself the victim of a hoax of a particularly unpleasant character, when the investigation of the home office revealed yesterday that the coffin brought from Norway to the accompaniment of much newspaper publicity and purported to contain the body of the late British field marshal, Lord Kitchener, was empty.

Frank Power, a British newspaper man, was responsible for the story that he had found Kitchener's body in Norway, which he brought to London and delivered at the Waterloo station. Officials from the Home office and Coroner Oddie were present when the case was opened yesterday morning with great secrecy.

Theaters of Mexico Suffer in Boycott

City of Mexico, Aug. 16.—The League for the Defense of Religious Liberty has issued a bulletin asserting that the attendance at some of the moving picture houses in the City of Mexico has been reduced from 50 to 75 per cent because of the economic boycott in protest against the new religious regulations. The people are urged to continue their abstention from theaters and not to make avoidable expenditures.

BEER MAKING IN HOME IS DOOMED

Yellowly Moves To Curb Manufacture of Malt And Kitchen Stills

Chicago, Aug. 17.—The traffic in malt, crockery, stills and other accessories of the home brewer and kitchen distiller has created a new class of American millionaires, according to Ed Yellowley, federal prohibition administrator, who is in charge of enforcement in the hard-drinking Chicago area.

New fortunes are being founded every day in this country which now embraces many of the niceties of other and more legitimate enterprises, Yellowley has learned as a result of a special investigation on which he hopes to base wholesale prosecutions among the local dealers.

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DOUGHBOY STILL THE MAIN DEFENSE

Major General Harbord, Retired, Points to Effectiveness of Infantry

INDIANAPOLIS.—The war department general staff as far back as the winter of 1922, agreed that the doughboy or foot soldier will continue to remain the "main body" of the national defense, according to Major-General J. G. Harbord, U. S. A., retired, twice chief of staff of the A. E. F. General Harbord revealed that fact in an article in the August issue of the American Legion Monthly, out now. The article is in answer to what the author terms "so much loose thinking and loose reasoning on the subject of national defense." He said the navy has the same opinion regarding the importance of the doughboy.

The general staff reached two conclusions after an exhaustive study of modern scientific developments in warfare, General Harbord said. They are as follows:

"(1) That man remains the fundamental instrument in battle, and as such cannot be replaced by any imaginable instrument short of one more perfect than the human body, including the mind.

"(2) That man is the bulk—meaning the greater portion of armed forces—fights with greatest freedom of action and with greater efficiency when on foot, not on horseback, in a tank, in an airplane, in a fixed fortification, etc.; that to achieve decisive action he is best armed with the rifle and bayonet; that man is rendered least vulnerable when merely clothed against the weather and armored by his own ability, with steel helmet."

Duggan Completes Buenos Aires Trip

Buenos Aires, Aug. 14.—Bernado Duggan, Argentine sportsman who began a flight from New York to Buenos Aires on May 24, arrived at his destination at 3:53 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Arriving from Montevideo, the fliers completed a trip which carried them about 15,000 kilometers (9,376 miles) in actual flying distance. Their flying time was 114 hours.

SHIELDS OF ALL NATIONS LEAD FIVE-MILE TRAIL TO THE SESQUI

Through the "Way of Shields," through the old world into the new, go the visitors who join in the 150th birthday celebration of our nation, the Sesqui-Centennial Exposition now in progress at Philadelphia.



For five miles, from the intersection of Chestnut and Broad Streets, through the city, through the Navy Yard Reservation, to the gateway of the exposition, Broad Street is lined on either side by the shields of the nations of the world. More than a thousand shields, each 3 1/2 feet high, representing every nation in both hemispheres, mark a gala trail of the brilliant, flashing color through the city.

SUSPECT TAKEN TO CLEVELAND, O. FOR INDICTMENT

Mellett Slayer Believed Caught At Cleveland; Name Withheld

Cleveland, O., Aug. 17.—A murder warrant naming a man believed to be the actual slayer of Don R. Mellett, Canton publisher, probably will be issued within the next twenty-four hours as an outgrowth of the Federal investigation here. This announcement followed a conference late yesterday between District Attorney A. E. Bernstein, his assistant, Miles E. Evans; Joseph R. Roach, special investigator from Chicago, and H. C. Pontius, attorney for the Canton Daily News, of which Mellett was publisher.

The man to be named in the warrant was arrested in Canton yesterday afternoon and was started immediately for Cleveland, where he arrived last night.

Conspiracy Charge. Louis Maser and Karl Studer, Canton underworld figures, who were taken into custody yesterday later were charged with conspiracy to violate the national prohibition law. Their arrest resulted from the Federal inquiry into vice conditions at Canton.

The murder suspect, it was reported in Canton last night, is the owner of a revolver of Spanish make said to have been used by one of the assassins, and his automobile has been identified as the one in which Steve Kascholk, former, and McDermott were driven to the Mellett home for a survey of the premises a few days before the murder.

Turned Over to Roach. This information, obtained by Detective Slater, was turned over to Roach. It corresponded with other information that Roach had, including an affidavit from a member of the Canton underworld who told his story to Federal investigators.

Revokes Ban on Adair Activity

Indianapolis, Aug. 17.—The suspension of the license of the Adair Realty and Trust Company of Atlanta, Ga., to sell securities in Indiana, in effect since June 15, was lifted yesterday by Frederick E. Schortemeier, secretary of state. His action was taken in a lengthy decision, holding among other things that sound values have been found in everything ever offered for sale by the company in this state, and that there was no bad faith on the part of the Indiana Chamber of Commerce in filing the petitions which caused the license to be suspended.

The practice of citizens of Indiana in making charges against commercial firms without being willing to appear as witnesses in the case was roundly criticized by Mr. Schortemeier.

American Killed As Giant Airship Founders in Fog

London, Aug. 19.—A giant French cross-channel airplane, carrying thirteen passengers, seven of them Americans, became lost in the fog which enveloped the English coast yesterday and crashed to earth near Folkestone. An American passenger is reported to have been killed, nine seriously injured and three slightly injured. One of the other reported injured may have been killed. Both pilot and mechanic were severely injured. The plane was flying from Paris to the London air station in Croydon.

Robert Blainey of Boston, Mass., was the American passenger killed, the Daily Mail says.

Miss Elizabeth Bennett and Miss Salden, two of the American passengers, are being treated at the Sandgate hospital, according to the Daily Mail's advices. They suffered cuts in the face and arms, as well as other injuries. (Neither of these names appeared on the passenger list as reported from Paris.)

PETERS WANTS FACTS CONCERNING STATE BALANCE

Democratic State Chairman If There Is a Surplus Taxes Could Be Lowered

Marion, Ind., Aug. 17.—Again challenging Governor Jackson and his party leaders to tell the facts about the alleged balance in the state treasury, R. Earl Peters, Democratic state chairman, in an address here today, declared that if any such balance really existed the state tax levy could have been reduced ten cents in 1925.

"There would then have remained, after such a reduction had been made," Mr. Peters added, "some \$30,000,000 more than ever was collected in any one year of any Democratic administration in the state's history."

Mr. Peters was addressing a conference of Eleventh district Democrats at the courthouse here. "Republican leaders who have been boasting about the payment of the state debt," Mr. Peters continued, "steadfastly refuse to confide in the taxpayers of Indiana all of the facts with reference to state finances."

"The Jackson administration collected in the year 1925 from all sources approximately \$53,000,000. The largest amount ever collected in any one year of Democratic administration was approximately \$8,600,000. The Democratic party challenges Republican leaders to point to any one act of economy whereby it was possible to pay the debt or accumulate the \$16,000,000 they claim to have in the treasury."

"We challenge them to tell the public whether that \$16,000,000 is a surplus or whether at the time the governor's statement was made the disbursement of practically every dollar of this was not contemplated either by appropriation or expenditure."

Mr. Peters referred to Governor Jackson's promise of a three cent reduction in the state tax levy, approximately \$1,500,000, for next year. "After I challenged him to tell the truth about state finances, the governor hastens to add that maybe he can give a reduction of four cents. The Democratic party very strongly suspects that maybe he can. It proposes to press this matter further, to the end that the people of the state may be relieved of the tremendous burden of taxation now imposed upon them."

Radio Jobbers and Dealers to Meet

Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 17.—Radio jobbers and dealers in the Central States territory will hold their annual Indianapolis convention on Wednesday, October 27, in accordance with plans perfected by the radio distributors and manufacturers of Indianapolis, at a trade meeting held at the Hotel Severin, under the auspices of the Broadcast Listeners Association of Indianapolis, during the week of October 25 to 30, under the direction of the Indianapolis Radio Exposition Corporation.

Plans for the one day session of radio jobbers and dealers during show week, contemplate discussions and addresses on topics of importance to the trade by men of national prominence in the fields of distribution, sales and manufacture. The business sessions will be held during the day in the exposition building, ending with a "good fellowship" banquet in the evening to be addressed by men of authoritative utterance in the radio industry, and attended by show exhibitors and other radio manufacturers, jobbers and dealers.

Dempsey Denied Boxing License

New York, Aug. 18.—Jack Dempsey's application for a license to fight Gene Tunney here Sept. 16, yesterday, was denied by the state license committee until he has complied with the state athletic commission's order that he meet the Negro, Harry Wills first.

The license committee's resolution follows: "The license committee will not further consider the application of Jack Dempsey for a license until he has complied with the resolution and orders of the New York State Athletic commission and license committee issued to him declaring Harry Wills his logical opponent."

Indiana is one of nine states of the Union imposing a tax of 3 cents per gallon on gasoline, as a means of providing funds for the construction of highways. The gasoline tax imposed by forty-four states and the District of Columbia ranges from one cent per gallon in Rhode Island and Texas to five cents in Kentucky and South Carolina. Twenty-one states and the District of Columbia impose a two cent tax.

The Spenders

The city council met Monday night to go over the budget for the ensuing year. The various departments had submitted their estimates of expenditure and the sum total showed a demand for an amount \$111,000 in excess of the requirements for the present year.

It was generally agreed at the council caucus that the amount asked was all out of proportion to the actual needs of the city and there will probably be a slash.

Citizens, generally, will agree that something should be done to curb the saturnalia of useless expenditures. The immense increase asked does not square up with the promise of Mayor John Hampton while he was begging for votes that if elected he would conduct a business administration and reduce taxes.

The first thing the new administration did was to load every department with useless employees. Additional policemen and firemen created an extra expense of \$35,000 a year. The city barns were used as a retreat for broken down politicians who wanted to be annexed to the city pay car. The mayor was given an ornament in the way of a private secretary, something that a real mayor of Muncie had never asked for before.

A son of County Commissioner Andy Jackson is holding down a job in the city hall garage at \$150 a month. The Lord only knows what he is there for, but he is always on hand when the city pay checks are handed around.

The Samples have all been taken care of at the expense of the taxpayers and the wife of Police Commissioner Retz is taking down another \$150 a month, having been appointed by her husband to a newly created job as policewoman. What she does to earn her salary has not been made apparent.

Mayor Hampton has figured out a plan whereby everybody can have jobs, the budget increased over one hundred thousand dollars and the rate of taxation still be reduced.

His plan is as simple as shooting fish in a barrel. "All we need to do," says the mayor, "is to increase property valuations to the point that the total will be enough to give us all the money we want at a lower rate than we have now."

In other words if the rate on property valued at \$1,000 is three cents, producing a tax revenue of thirty dollars a year, raise the valuation to \$2,000, cut the rate to two cents and the yearly revenue will amount to forty dollars, which is ten dollars in excess of the revenue from a three cent rate.

It is all very simple. Strangely nobody ever thought of it before. It gave the mayor the headache to figure it out. He may have the idea patented, but matters of state and finance must necessarily wait for a few days until the mayor's new red, green, blue and yellow Sport Packard is broken in.

The editor of the Post-Democrat took a ride with the mayor in that new car the other day. It created a public scandal. "Dale has sold out to the gang," was the verdict of some of the horrified elect who had never heard of Caesar's wife, above reproach. "Hampton has quit us cold," went down the line in the Billy Williams camp. These fears may be quieted. John is still true to Billy and the Post-Democrat still stands as ready and willing to send Hampton to the penitentiary as Hampton was to railroad us to the penal farm via the packed jury route.

New Plans Made In License War

Evansville, Ind., Aug. 18.—A conference here yesterday between Frederick Schortemeier, secretary of state, and local business men, resulted in a three-fold plan which is designed to bring a settlement of the controversy provoked by Kentucky's enforcement of its law requiring a Kentucky license on all commercial vehicles operating in that state.

Remove Alleged Body of Kitchner

London, Aug. 16.—The Kitcheners mystery had a new development yesterday, when Scotland Yard officers moved the case alleged to contain the body of the British field marshal from the undertaker's where it had been deposited, to a local mortuary. There it will remain intact until tomorrow morning when the matter will be reported officially to the coroner, who will decide whether to call for an inquest.

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