

# DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT

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## DELAY IN TRIAL OF STEPHENSON IS THREATENED

Attorney Demands That Edward Prater Be Tried At Noblesville Oct. 12

### IN JAIL LONGER

Stephenson's Counsel Plans To Demand His Trial Start As Planned

(United Press Service)

Indianapolis, Oct. 3.—Delay in the trial of D. C. Stephenson, former klan leader, and his aides, Earl Klenck and Earl Gentry, on murder charges at Noblesville, was threatened today when Frank Baker, attorney, demanded that his client, Edward Prater, be tried on murder charges at Noblesville, Oct. 12, the date set for the Stephenson trial.

"My client has been in jail since Jan. 8, much longer than Stephenson, and should be tried first," Baker said in a letter to Judge Hines of circuit court at Noblesville.

Eph Inman, chief defense counsel for Stephenson, said that he will insist the Stephenson trial start Oct. 12, as has been decided.

Prosecutor Remy said it made no difference whether Prater or Stephenson and his aides would go to trial first.

Meanwhile Judge Hines, the only man who can settle the issue, is at Bloomington for the week-end to attend a football game.

Pan-American Highway Congress Opens Sunday

Buenos Aires, Oct. 3—American delegates to the Pan-American highway congress arrived today in a special train, provided by the Argentine government from Mendoza. They were accompanied by delegates from Peru, Chile, Venezuela, Colombia and Cuba.

Chairman Rice of the Americans reported the "finest receptions" throughout the journey. In an interview with the Argentine press he emphasized that the Americans had not come as teachers, but in the hope of inspiring mutual profit from the conference, which is purely technical.

The sessions open tomorrow.

## ROY COMER IN JAIL AT KOKOMO

Suspect In Harmon Robbery, Near Wren, O., Now Faces Three Charges

Roy Comer, who was one of the suspects arrested several months ago in connection with the robbery of Mr. and Mrs. John Harmon, of near Wren, Ohio, and who was later freed, has been arrested at Kokomo charged with forgery, burglary and jail breaking. He is being closely guarded in the jail.

Comer, alias Roy Joyce, a former Fort Wayne man, was arrested Thursday night. A 45-caliber revolver, a quantity of nitroglycerin and fuses and caps were found in his possession. The Kokomo police are attempting to trace the ownership of an automobile which the prisoner was driving when arrested.

At the same time special agents of the American Railway Express company are investigating Comer's activities. The express company's agents aided in placing the trap into which Comer was ensnared after a two months' search.

Authorities have expressed the belief that Comer will be identified with a series of robberies in Indiana, including the railway station at Newberry, a grocery at Trinity Springs, and a bank, a store and two elevators at Elina.

Comer is wanted at Kokomo on a charge of forgery. An express money order, said to have been one stolen from Newberry, was passed at a Kokomo bank by Comer last August, according to allegations. He is known to have broken jail at Marion and Indianapolis, where he was held for vehicle taking six months ago and since that time has one about the state issuing fraudulent money orders under the name of "Raymond Moore," according to police.

### Studebaker Funeral Is Changed To Sunday

A change has been made in the arrangements for the funeral of David E. Studebaker, prominent local citizen, who died at the St. Joseph hospital in Fort Wayne Thursday night. The funeral will be held from the residence east of the city at 2:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon instead of Monday afternoon, as originally planned. The Rev. Somerville Light, pastor of the First Methodist church of this city, will have charge of the services. Burial will be made in the Decatur cemetery.

### CODIFICATION OF LAW URGED

#### Inter-parliamentary Union Deals With International Court Of Justice

Washington, Oct. 3.—(United Press)

Having thrust aside a resolution for American participation in the league of nations, the inter-parliamentary union of forty nations proceeded with matters for perfecting the international court of justice.

A report was presented by Elihu Root, noted international lawyer, urging that immediate steps be taken to codify international law.

"The time has come when there should be no further delay in the necessary preparations for a general international conference which shall make more definite and certain and comprehensive the body of law by which international conduct is to be ruled," Root said.

Root did not say whether a codification conference should be called by President Coolidge, or the matter should be handled by the committee already designated by the league of nations for more preliminary work.

### WILBUR SCORES CRITICS OF NAVY

#### Secretary Declares Navy Is Keeping Pace With Progress In Aviation

Quincy, Mass., Oct. 3.—(United Press)—Secretary of the Navy Wilbur, in an address at the launching of the airplane carrier Lexington here today, scored critics of the navy who have condemned it as "hide-bound with conservatism," and cited construction of the Lexington as evidence of the navy's keeping pace with progress.

At the ceremony, Real Admiral William A. Moffett, chief of the navy bureau of aeronautics, reiterated his opposition to separation of naval aviation from complete naval control.

Declaring that the Lexington is more than a ship; it is a monument to faith, to hope and to progress," Wilbur said:

"Every blow of the hammer used in her construction gives vocal protest to the unthinking declaration that the American navy is hide-bound with conservatism and immovably anchored by barnacles encrusted chains to things of the past.

"This monument is a witness-bearing silent testimony to the belief of the men and officers of the American navy in the use of aircraft for national defense."

### WILL ATTEND LEGION MEET

#### Frank Shumacher To Represent Local Post At Convention In Omaha

Frank "Shucks" Shumacher, of this city, left today for Omaha, Nebraska, to attend the national convention of the American Legion, as alternate delegate from this district. Mr. Shumacher will meet the rest of the Indiana delegation at Chicago tonight and the special American Legion train will start from Chicago at midnight tonight for Omaha.

The annual session will last several days and an interesting program has been arranged by the Nebraska war veterans. "Shucks," has attended most of the national conventions since the founding of the world war organization, and his position as alternate has been awarded him for his interest shown in the organization.

### BICYCLE BANDIT RANSACKS HOMES NORTH OF CITY

#### Three Suits of Clothes, Gold Watch And Money Stolen Friday

#### THIEF IS SEEN

#### Charles Johnson And Lawrence Heckman Houses Robbed; Search Made

A bicycle bandit was at work in the rural community north of Decatur Friday, according to reports received by Sheriff John Baker. Two houses were robbed and others likely would have been looted had not the occupants been at home when the thief passed.

Two suits of men's clothing and more than \$9 in cash were stolen at the Charles Johnson home, while one suit of clothes and a gold watch were stolen at the Lawrence Heckman residence. Several persons saw the thief and a good description was furnished to the officers, but so far no trace of the man has been found.

#### Seen On State Road

From information furnished the sheriff, it appears that the thief rode his bicycle south on the state road, which is under construction, shortly before the noon hour. He was seen to pass the William Rodenbeck residence just before noon. At that time he had a basket on the front of his bicycle and there was a bundle in the basket. No one was at home at the Heckman home, the family having gone to Fort Wayne. The thief entered the Heckman residence and ransacked the entire house. Only the suit of clothes, which was valued at \$60, and the gold watch, which was almost new, were missed, however.

#### Stopped At Elting Home

After ransacking the Heckman house, the thief evidently rode south on the state road as far as Monmouth. He also passed the Henry Elting home, which is a short distance off the state road. He stopped at the Elting home and walked toward the kitchen door. Just before he reached the door, he saw members of the family in the kitchen and he stopped and turned toward the well. A son of Mr. Elting went out to the well, also, and the man said he thought he would stop and get a drink. Mr. Elting talked to the man, who was a youth about 18 or 19 years old, for some time, before he left.

At Monmouth, the thief evidently turned east to the first road and then rode north to the Johnson home, which is the first house north of the cross roads. The Johnson family was away from home and the thief ransacked the entire house, taking two suits of clothes that belonged to the Johnsons.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR)

### COURT MARTIAL HOLDS INTEREST

#### Col. Mitchell Ordered To Report To Inspector General Of Army Monday

By William J. McEvoy,  
(U. P. Staff Correspondent)

Washington, Oct. 3—(United Press)—With the president's air board in recess over the week-end, the impending court martial proceedings against Colonel William Mitchell on charges of insubordination, became the center of official attention today.

Mitchell has been ordered to report to the inspector general of the army Monday when he will be served with a copy of the war department's charges. At that time he will be given an opportunity to answer, somewhat in the nature of a prisoner pleading to an indictment.

Mitchell may reply orally at once or he may ask for several days' time to obtain counsel and prepare a written answer.

When the answer is filed, Acting Secretary of War Davis will issue the formal order for the court-martial, if President Coolidge decides upon one.

Davis is acting in this case for the president, who is one of the few persons empowered to call such a trial.

High war department officials show no sign of relenting and it is believed almost a certainty that Mitchell will be tried in Washington soon. One official estimated the court would begin its sittings within three weeks.

### THAW'S MAGNET



CAROL CUMMINGS

### JUDGING IN CALF CLUB IS HELD AT BERNE

#### Twenty-eight Members Of Club Display Their Animals Today

#### 450 PERSONS PRESENT

#### Each Member Of Club Gets Free Trip To Dairy Show At Indianapolis

Berne, Oct. 3—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Attended by about 450 people, the judging contest in the Adams county Junior Calf club was held in the Lehman Grove, south of here, this morning.

Mr. A. E. Ganon, of the dairy department, Purdue University, acted as judge and the boy and girl members of the clubs were present with their calves. About 28 of the 30 members attended the meeting and the judging of the cattle, consisting of Holsteins, Jerseys and Guernseys, was one of great interest.

At noon a chicken dinner was served and an hour or two of good fellowship enjoyed by the many present. The winners in the contest, two from each township, will be announced Monday. County Agent L. M. Busche, who has acted as chairman of the event, will assist in compiling the reports necessary in making the awards and it is thought that by Monday the list of winners in each township can be announced.

#### To Be Given Trips

W. A. Klepper, of the Cloverleaf Creamery Company of Decatur, announced that his company will give a free trip to Indianapolis on October 13, to each of the club members, where they would be given the opportunity to attend the National Dairy Exposition. A special bus will carry the boys and girls to Indianapolis, which also include parking space for automobiles.

This is the first time in the history of the association that the National Show has been brought to Indiana, and thousands of visitors from all parts in the country will attend.

Many farmers and those interested in dairying in this county are planning to attend the exposition, and W. A. Klepper, of the Cloverleaf Creamery, invites them to call at his office and secure a free ticket, which will admit them to the grounds.

Besides farmers who will attend, the winners in the junior calf clubs in this county will receive free trip to the exposition, as the guests of the Decatur Industrial Association and the Cloverleaf Creameries.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO)

#### Woman Files Suit For Divorce In Two Courts At Same Time

Evansville, Ind., Oct. 3.—(United Press)—Filing suit for divorce in two courts at the same time here, Katherine Louise Mith, carrying her child, declared that she was "very anxious" to become divorced from her husband.

Members of the American commission said they hoped to reach an agreement early enough to "attend the world series here" which opens Friday. The commissioners were optimistic over the outcome of the meeting.

#### Secretary Of War Weeks Arrives In Washington

#### Bulletin

Washington, Oct. 3—(United Press)—Secretary of War Weeks arrived in Washington today for the first time since he left here last June 19. He held a conference with President Coolidge at the white house at lunch. The conference gave rise once more to reports that the resignation of the war secretary, long held to be only a matter of time, was soon to be announced.

Now therefore

I, Huber M. DeVoss, mayor of the City of Decatur, Indiana, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby certify and proclaim that the week of October 5, 1925, shall be set aside in said City of Decatur, Indiana, for a proper observance of Fire Prevention Week in every city of the Union and the City of Decatur shall do her part as a progressive and modern community.

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Mitchell may reply orally at once or he may ask for several days' time to obtain counsel and prepare a written answer.

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HUBER M. DE VOSS,

Mayor of the City of Decatur.

(Seal)

Mostly unsettled tonight and Sunday. Probably showers or thunderstorms. Not much change in temperature.

### Member Of S-51 Crew Once Lived In Marion

Marion, Ind., Oct. 3.—(United Press)—One of the men on the sunken submarine S-51, is a former Marion boy, Harry Elser, who lived here until he enlisted in the Navy nine years ago. It was learned today.

Cecil Wilson, schoolmate and life long friend of Elser said that the young man was to have a furlough soon, and probably would have visited in Marion. His parents now live near Columbus, Ohio, while Elser lived in Marion and worked in the Marion Gray Iron Foundry, but enlisted in the navy at 17.

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