

# DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT

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## DEFENSE RESTS IN STEPHENSON CASE

### MAKE SLASH OF \$100,000,000 IN NUISANCE TAXES

Ways And Means Committee Reduces Levy On Autos, Tobacco, Shows

### VARIED INDUSTRIAL LEVIES ARE SLASHED

(U. P. Staff Correspondent)

Washington, Nov. 10.—Eliminating and slashing nuisance taxes, the house ways and means committee today wrote into the new tax bill a \$100,000,000 reduction on automobiles, tobacco, alcohol and varied industrial levies.

The present rates on automobiles were cut \$70,537,000; cigars, twelve million dollars, and alcohol four million dollars.

The committee eliminated entirely \$7,800,000 on automobile trucks and the \$22,737,000 annual levy on tires and accessories.

The present rate of 5 per cent on pleasure cars was cut to three per cent, with an estimated annual loss of revenue of \$40,000,000.

The committee decided to remove theater admission taxes entirely on the legitimate drama opera and instructive musical entertainment, retaining the present tax on musical shows, movies, circuses, baseball, prize fights and vaudeville.

The repeal was made subject to working out of a suitable agreement between theatrical showmen and the treasury department on a provision which draws the fine line of distinction between educational and non-educational shows.

### Farmers Declare War On Flocks Of Blackbirds

Warsaw, Ind., Nov. 10.—Farmers in this community have declared war on great flocks of blackbirds which have caused thousands of dollars damage in the corn fields near here.

### Anti-Saloon League Is Pledged To Enforcement

Chicago, Nov. 10.—(United Press)—The Anti-Saloon League of America was pledged today to a five year program for the effective enforcement of the eighteenth amendment and Volstead law, depending upon the highest executive power in the land to aid its cause.

The league closed its national "crisis convention" last night by adopting resolutions, chief of which was a demand that Secretary of Treasury Mellon "manifest equal concern and exert as great effort to affect the enforcement of the prohibition law as he manifests and exerts to secure the collection of the income and other taxes."

The resolution, brought to the convention from the executive committee, was greeted with thunderous applause and was adopted without a dissenting vote.

### CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK AT LIBRARY

Pupils And Teachers Visit Library Each Afternoon; New Books Here

Children's Book Week is being observed by the Decatur Public Library this week. A large number of new books for children have been received recently, including several jubilee books. Children's Book Week has been observed annually during the month of November since 1919.

A schedule has been arranged at the local library, whereby teachers of the different grades in the schools and their pupils visit the library and help them to cooperate in the program of the church and to recognize and discharge their obligations and responsibilities to all people. The Sunday school superintendents hope that each church will have 100 and in the schools next week. Pupils of the higher grades and the high and sons on Tuesday evening, November 17. Individual programs will be published later.

### Boy Takes Life Easy While Dog Digs Potatoes

Hope, Ind., Nov. 10.—Clark Romine, 14, residing near here, has a new way of digging sweet potatoes.

Recently the lad's father instructed him to dig the potatoes and later in the day returned to find the boy sitting beside a row while his dog dug the soft ground.

All the boy did was pick up the potatoes, place them in a basket and carry them to the house.

### CREAMERY OFFICE IN NEW LOCATION

### Temporary Offices Established In American Security Company Building

Temporary offices of the Cloverleaf Creameries, Inc., have been located in the American Security Company building, on Monroe street, first door west of the postoffice. The offices of the company will be maintained in the new location until the remodeling work is completed at the plant on Winchester street. All business matters will be transacted at the new offices on Monroe street and those having business with the company are asked to take note of the change.

Work on the remodeling of the creamery building started this week C. N. Christen and company of this city have the general contract. An addition will be built at the rear of the building and a second story added to part of the old building. New machinery will also be installed in the plant, making it one of the most modern and efficient creamery plants in the middle-west.

Italian And American Debt Commissions To Resume Parley Today

Washington, Nov. 10.—(United Press)—Sub-committees of the American and Italian debt commission will resume their negotiations at 3 p. m. today in an effort to reach a mutual understanding that will lead to funding of Italy's \$2,138,000,000 war debt. Both sides continued optimistic and predictions were made that a settlement would be reached.

### FATHER AND SON WEEK IS PLANNED

### Sunday Schools Of Community Plan Observance; Banquet Tuesday Night

Each Sunday school of the city and in the surrounding community is carrying out the plans to observe the annual Father and Son week. The different Sunday school superintendents agreed to close this special week on next Tuesday evening, with a banquet for the boys. Each church will entertain its own organization. The Sunday school superintendents, with their pastors, are working out an impressive program.

The annual observance of Father and Son week is for the following three purposes:

1. To help fathers to have a deeper respect for their sons and an appreciative and sympathetic fellowship with them.

2. To help sons to have a deeper respect and appreciation for their fathers and the home life.

3. To lead both fathers and sons to experience Christian fellowship in the home and in the community, and to help them to cooperate in the program of the church and to recognize and discharge their obligations and responsibilities to all people.

The Sunday school superintendents hope that each church will have 100 and in the schools next week. Pupils of the higher grades and the high and sons on Tuesday evening, November 17. Individual programs will be published later.

### COL. MITCHELL SUBMITS PROOF

### Flying Colonel Continues to Weave His Web Of Proof In Court-martial

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

Washington, Nov. 10.—(United Press)—Colonel William Mitchell today continued to weave his web of proof that the war and navy departments have mismanaged the nation's air defenses.

From Capt. Robert Oldy's, war plans division of the air service, Mitchell hoped further to substantiate his charge that the war department has permitted the air force to fall below its required peace time strength, both in personnel and equipment.

Captain Oldy's took the stand upon the convening of the court and submitted records showing the strength of overseas air garrisons which he had been requested to bring. These showed garrisons as follows:

Hawaii—Officers, 85; enlisted men, 930.

Panama—Officers, 58; enlisted men, 658.

Philippines—Officers, 57; enlisted men, 621.

Representative Reid, attorney for

Mitchell, questioned him about the secret Lassiter report, which proposed a ten-year program of air service expansion. Although approved by Secretary of War Weeks, the program

was never put into effect.

Students Of Purdue To Celebrate Armistice Day

Lafayette, Ind., Nov. 10.—The students of Purdue University, and the citizens of Lafayette and West Lafayette tomorrow will take part in a gigantic Armistice Day celebration in the Ross-Ade stadium at Purdue University.

Dean Paul McNutt, of Indiana University, will be the principal speaker and will review the military units of the school.

### THIRD SPECIAL VENIRE CALLED

### Attorneys Have Difficulty In Picking Jury For Trial Of "One Arm" Wolfe

Muncie, Ind., Nov. 10.—(United Press)—Examination of members of the third special venire was started in the Delaware county court this afternoon in an attempt to select a jury for the trial of Charles "One Arm" Wolfe, with complicity in the murder of Ben Hance and his wife, last August.

The second special venire was exhausted at 10:30 o'clock this morning and court adjourned until afternoon, with the 50 men, comprising the third venire, rounded up.

Ten men had been tentatively accepted by attorneys for the state and the defense when the forced adjournment was taken. It is doubtful, however, if more than six of these men will be in the jury box when the panel is finally completed.

Sixty-six men have been examined and excused in the efforts to obtain a jury. The attorneys in the case is to find men who have not formed opinions as to the guilt or innocence of Wolfe by reading the newspapers.

### Pythians Investigating Sites For State Home

W. A. Lower, chairman of the location committee of the Knights of Pythias for the selection of a site to build the proposed state Pythian home, is visiting the cities where sites and other inducements have been offered. The selection of a site will take place sometime during the early part of December and the Knights of Pythias will erect a home, to cost at least \$200,000. Ten cities in Indiana have made liberal offers for the securing of the home.

### Prosecutor In Stephenson Case Has Black Eye

Noblesville, Ind., Nov. 10.—(United Press)—Ralph Kane, assistant prosecutor in the Stephenson trial, who nearly came to blows with Ralph Rigdon, a defense witness, at Monday's session, appeared in court today with a black eye.

Kane said he stumbled on the stairs to the basement of his home and hit eye on a timber.

Prosecutor Remy said he took Kane home in his auto and that Kane didn't have a "shiner" when he left him.

### REHEARSALS STARTED

Cast For Elks Musical Revue, "Cheer Up," Scheduled For Each Afternoon And Evening.

Rehearsals for the big musical revue, "Cheer Up," to be staged by the Elks lodge, next Tuesday and Wednesday nights November 17 and 18, started last night and from now on until the nights of the production, rehearsals will be held each afternoon and evening. Groups of school children will practice each afternoon immediately after school is dismissed. Other groups, consisting of high school pupils and adults, will hold their rehearsals at night. The cast, which numbers about 150 local persons, has been selected, with the possible exception of a few characters.

Window cards, advertising the production, have been placed in many downtown stores and the ticket sale will be started tomorrow. The proceeds from the show will be used for the Elks Christmas charity fund.

### WARN AGAINST CLOSING SCHOOLS

Dr. King Says Epidemics Can Be Controlled Easier In School Than Out

Indianapolis, Nov. 10.—Declaring that the closing of schools, except in cases of extreme emergency is more dangerous than leaving them open, Dr. William King, secretary of the state board of health, today issued a statement regarding the handling of epidemics of contagious diseases.

"Whenever an outbreak of diphtheria, scarlet fever, or other communicable disease occurs in any school community there is usually a demand upon the health officers to close the schools," Dr. King said. "The people who make this demand are of course sincere in believing that the closing of the school is a measure of protection."

"They do not consider the fact that with the school's closed, children are permitted to gather together and play on the streets without supervision of any kind and that this increases the chances of infection."

"The schools should not be closed by health officers except in cases of great emergency and such emergencies will seldom arise if the parents and health officers work together."

Dr. King pointed out that it is much easier to control a contagious disease, and much cheaper if the children are permitted to remain in school under medical supervision.

"There is nothing mysterious about diphtheria or scarlet fever that calls for the burning of 'incense' in the buildings to propitiate the wrath of some mysterious gods of disease," Dr. King said. Neither are school buildings, school teachers or school children special objects of the disease's wrath."

The points to be observed in pre-

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### To Give Card Party And Dance Tonight

A card party and dance will be given in the Knights of Columbus hall this evening. Card playing will begin at 8 o'clock. The public is invited to attend.

### Weather

Indiana: Partly overcast tonight and Wednesday. Warmer tonight and cold for the annexation of the suburb.

### CLAIM VICTORY FOR DR. BLAZER

Attorneys Believe They Have Proven Physician A "Guiltless Murderer"

Littleton, Col., Nov. 10.—(United Press)—Defense attorneys believe they have proven Dr. Harold E. Blazer a "guiltless murderer," and that he will be freed of the charge of poisoning his invalid daughter.

"There is no question but that the jury has been affected and that its sympathies are almost wholly with the old, broken country physician who devoted his life to the care of his invalid daughter," said Lewis De Riggis Mowry, chief of defense counsel, shortly before noon today.

When court was called for the fifth day's session, Cyril Norred, a photographer who took pictures of Blazer's slashed throat in the hospital, was called to identify photographs that had been exhibited in the trial.

Dr. Howell T. Pershing, alienist, followed Norred to the stand and was qualified as an expert. He is expected to be the last witness for the defense.

Blazer appeared none the worse this morning for the ordeal on the stand yesterday. He entertained himself with another batch of mail that has been pouring into him from all parts of the country, offering sympathy and calculating to stimulate his courage.

His daughter Frances Bishop sat with him for a short time before court opened and cheered him with affectionate words.

Practically all totals have been compiled by Mr. Kleine and deputy, Miss Anna Smith, and the tax receipt book credited with the payments. The rush during the last few days of taxpaying time was a heavy one and it kept everyone busy taking care of the tax.

It is thought that the total taxes for this year, payable in 1925, will be less than a year ago for the reason that the valuation in the county is less and several of the rates were reduced over those of a year ago.

### ELKS MEMORIAL WILL BE PUBLIC

Annual Service To Be Held In Lodge Home On Sunday Afternoon, Dec. 6

Plans were completed last night for the annual Memorial services of the Decatur lodge of the B. P. O. Elks, to be held at the Elks home Sunday afternoon, December 6. The program, which will be published later, will last about an hour.

Respect will be paid on December 6, by all Elks lodges to the deceased members of the organization with similar meetings. Two short addresses by prominent Decatur Elks and special music will compose the program here, together with the memorial ritual.

The service in this city will be public and Decatur citizens are cordially invited to attend. The program will be held in the lodge room of the new Elks home. Herman Yager is chairman of the committee in charge and is assisted by J. T. Merriman, Harry Frizinger, Dick Heller, F. E. France, M. J. Mylott and D. M. Hensley.

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### Connorsville Planning To Organize A Boys' Band

Connorsville, Ind., Nov. 10.—Steps are being taken here for the organization of a boys' band.

The organization will be sponsored by the local civic organizations and plans will be perfected at a meeting to be held November 16.

Indianapolis Not To Annex Beach Grove

Indianapolis, Ind., Nov. 10.—The town of Beech Grove will not be annexed to Indianapolis. It was announced today.

The city council by a unanimous vote killed the ordinance which proposed to annex the suburb.

### JURY COSTS IN Stephenson Case Mounting Rapidly

Noblesville, Ind., Nov. 10.—(United Press)—One of these days Hamilton county will hand its neighboring county of Marion a staggering bill for jury service.

The jury costs in the Stephenson trial have already broken all records for Hamilton county. When court opened today the jury bill amounted to \$2,202.80.

This includes payment of the 228 men who were examined, but were not accepted for duty.

### DEFENDANTS NOT CALLED TO TESTIFY

Final Thrust at State's Medical Testimony Is Made By Defense Counsel

### PROMISED SENSATIONS FAIL TO MATERIALIZE

UNITED PRESS SERVICE

Noblesville, Ind., Nov. 10.—With a final thrust at the state's medical testimony, the defense rested its case shortly before noon today in the trial of D. C. Stephenson, Earl Klenck and Earl Gentry, charged with murdering Madge Oberholtzer.

The defense attorneys completed their presentation of evidence without calling Stephenson or either of his henchmen to the stand.

The announcement of Eph Inman, head of the defense battery of attorneys, came after a morning of dry medical testimony offered by physicians called to testify for Stephenson.

Inman seemed satisfied that he had established his theory that the girl's death was a case of suicide following a drunken party.