

## THE WEATHER

Fair tonight and Thursday. Little temperature change. Lowest tonight 30 to 35

VOL. XXXIII.

Published at Indianapolis, Ind., Daily Except Sunday. Entered as Second Class Matter, July 25, 1914, at Postoffice, Indianapolis, Ind., under act March 3, 1879.

INDIANAPOLIS, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1920.

Subscription Rates: (By Carrier, Week, Indianapolis, 10c; Elsewhere, 12c. (By Mail, 60c Per Month; \$6.00 Per Year.

NO. 175.

## AUSTRIA TAKES HER PLACE AS MEMBER OF WORLD LEAGUE

Unanimously Admitted by Vote of Assembly Committee—Reply to Wilson on Armenian Mediation Being Drafted.

### U. S. ASKED TO SIT IN ON ARMAMENTS

GENEVA, Dec. 1.—The League of Nations committee on applications for membership today voted unanimously to admit Austria to the league. Austria thus becomes the first member among the former enemies of the allies.

### LEAGUE DRAFTS REPLY TO WILSON

GENEVA, Dec. 1.—President Wilson's communication to the League of Nations accepting the invitation to serve as mediator between the Turks and Armenians was received today and the council immediately began to draft a reply. President Wilson made it clear that his efforts could only be personal as he is not authorized to use American military forces for intervention. Brazil and Spain already have pledged President Wilson their support.

The council has adopted the military armament of the League of Nations to send a representative to discuss disarmament without committing the United States to the league.

### WANTS ON NEXT MOVE OF LEAGUE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—President Wilson is only waiting for the assembly of the League of Nations to indicate to whom he shall address his offer of mediation, to take the next step in his effort to settle the disputes between Turkey and Armenia.

### WILSON MESSAGE IS ALMOST READY

Taxation Expected to Play Big Part in Communication.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—President Wilson has nearly completed his forthcoming message to Congress—in all probability the last lengthy communication he will make to that body.

As has been his custom with former important communications, the President has pecked out the major part of his message on the dilapidated typewriter which has turned out many of his history-making documents in the last four years. It was still undetermined today whether the President will attempt to deliver his message in person. His condition, it was said, is so much improved that it will be possible for him to take the daily train Monday if he so desires, although some of his closest confidants have advised against it.

Secretary of State Colby has been almost a daily visitor to the White House, postponing his departure for South America several times so that he might be at the President's call.

One problem which it is considered certain will be taken up at length in the President's message is that of taxation. It is expected in Washington that he will make some concrete suggestions for relief measures, at least for a more equitable distribution of the burden. It is also believed that he will urge the repeal of the excess profits tax.

### Goodrich of Lake Fame Sells Out

CHICAGO, Dec. 1.—Ownership of the Goodrich Transit Company, oldest and largest steamship company operating on the Great Lakes, today passed from Albert W. Goodrich and H. W. Thorp and associates. The new organization is reported to have paid \$1,000,000 to Goodrich for his interests.

### Harding on Last Lap of Vacation Journey

ABOARD THE S. S. PASTORES, Dec. 1. (By Wireless).—President-elect Harding was on the last lap of his vacation journey today. The Pastores, after the few hours' stop in Jamaica yesterday will make no further stops before reaching Norfolk.

Cordial greetings were given Harding by Governor Proby and other British officials on his arrival at Kingston. The city was decorated with intertwined American and British flags, after a luncheon with the governor, the party was taken on a sixty-five-mile automobile ride. The picturesque scenery along the flanks of the Blue mountains apparently gave the President-elect a new enjoyment. Native women trailing along the perfect roads, shyly waving greetings to the tourists speeding by.

### Will Calls for Home for Elderly Persons

Under the will of the late James Proctor, former Indianapolis merchant, a home for elderly men and women is to be established with part of his \$50,000 estate.

The will provides that the institution shall be a real home and that the couples admitted should be given two rooms and also a little garden tract.

It provides that aged couples be encouraged to maintain their own homes by giving them supplies from the storehouse of the institution.

It is especially stated in the will that no Roman Catholics or Hebrews be admitted to the home because these faiths have adequate homes for the aged. He stipulated that people of Scottish birth be given preference.

The will provides that large bequests be made to institutions in Scotland.

### Thief Slays Officer

DENVER, Dec. 1.—Police Officer Roy Downing, 27, was shot and instantly killed today by a burglar who had been discovered ransacking a fashionable park Hill residence. Downing's pistol failed to explode when he attempted to fire at the robber, who escaped without securing any loot.

### WEATHER

Forecast for Indianapolis and vicinity for the twenty-four hours ending 7 p. m., Dec. 2: Fair tonight and Thursday; not much change in temperature; lowest tonight 30 to 35.

## ATTORNEYS PRY INTO GEORGIA'S 'MURDER CABAL'

State's Investigation of Death of Millionaire Peach King Shrouded in Mystery.

### 'WHOLE STORY' PROMISED

MACON, Ga., Dec. 1.—Secrecy today shrouded the State's investigation of the alleged "murder cabal" which resulted in the death by poisoning, June 1, of Fred B. Shepard, millionaire peach king. Authorities indicated they believed a venal Georgia plot existed to poison Shepard and seize his estate. The plot, which included the use of poison, was believed to have been slipped into the drinks of whiskey he was accustomed to take in the evening. Then the alleged conspirators, detectives will endeavor to prove, watched him sicken and die.

Four persons are under arrest today: Mrs. Pauline Elmer, wife of Shepard at the time of his death; her sister, Mrs. Elmer; her son by another marriage, Ernest Hopson; and Mrs. Annie E. Cutts.

All those involved are well-to-do southern farmers with estates and handsome homes of their own.

HOPE TO GET LINE ON STATE'S EVIDENCE.

Attorneys for the prisoners hope to get some idea of the prosecution's evidence, Dec. 7, when arguments will be heard in court.

Dr. P. Eugene Elmer, husband of Mrs. Elmer, one of the prisoners, returned to his home in Jacksonville today. At the proper time, he will lay bare the "whole sordid story."

"It is a dirty and sordid story, but my wife has no connection with it," he said.

"They" referring to the family of Mrs. George N. Crandall, the dead fruit grower's sister—"are fighting to hold the possessions in California. They care nothing for the pitance in Georgia, but are afraid they will lose everything else."

ESTATE VALUED AT \$250,000.

The Shepard estate has been variously estimated as worth between \$200,000 and \$250,000, located in fifteen different States.

This estate was the goal of the murder cabal, detectives state.

Indications today were that Garrett's evidence centered around the gathering of the Shepard family and friends at Elbridge Cutt's home in Abbeville, Ga., May 17, when John S. Hopson, Mrs. Elmer's son, was mysteriously shot.

Statements made by Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Turner and J. J. Patterson of Abbeville were to the effect that the "murder plot" was perfected in detail at this meeting, it is alleged.

The generally accepted solution as to how poison was given to Shepard is that it was placed in a bottle of whiskey. Mrs. Shepard is alleged to have taken several drinks before being stricken.

### GARDENERS ASK IMPROVED ROADS

Do Not Agree With Program of Farm Federation.

Inquiry into the motives behind the petition of the Marion County Federation of Farmers, asking that the Marion county commissioners refrain from making any new road improvement contracts within a period of the next two years, or until such time as road material is cheaper in price, was under way today.

E. P. Peeples of the Marion County Gardeners' Association, appeared before President Lewis George of the commissioners' court and asked the commissioners to improve the road by making it better surface road.

Mr. George called the attention of Mr. Peeples to the resolution of the farmers' federation. Mr. Peeples said he was contented the gardeners were asking for better roads, but he was not in favor of new road improvement contracts be made next year. Mr. Peeples invited the commissioners to inspect the condition of the Blue road. He said many (Continued on Page Ten.)

### France and Vatican Resume Relations

PARIS, Dec. 1.—Resumption of diplomatic relations with the Vatican was hailed jubilantly today by the Catholic press. Other papers refrained from comment except to say that the action was a foregone conclusion.

There was lively speculation as to who will be the first ambassador to the Vatican since relations were broken off in 1918.

Charles Jonart, minister to the Hague, a prominent Catholic and an authority on Vatican affairs, was mentioned as the probable choice. Charles Jonart was another name put forward.

### Two Steel Officials Facing Fraud Counts

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 1.—The Federal grand jury today voted an indictment against Herbert Dupuy, former president and chairman of the board of directors of the Crucible Steel Company of America, and George A. Turville, former vice president and secretary-treasurer of the company, charging them with conspiracy to defraud the United States Government out of excess profits taxes.

The Government claims its loss amounts to several millions of dollars.

### Gen. Obregon Inaugurated Mexico's President; Many Americans at Ceremonies

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 1.—General Alvaro Obregon was inaugurated president of Mexico today, succeeding Provisional President Adolfo de la Huerta. The ceremonies began at midnight.

A large number of Americans, including the governors of three States, witnessed the ceremonies. There are more Americans in the capital today than at any time within the last ten years.

The city is in gala attire with flags and bunting. Business was suspended to give every one a holiday. There was a big display of fireworks beginning before midnight and the principal streets and buildings were illuminated.

Several receptions and balls were given for prominent visitors and Mexican officials.

General Calles, former minister of war, was the chief of the new cabinet. Senor de la Huerta consented to accept the post of minister of the treasury.

### RUMORS OF NEW MEXICAN PLOT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Coincident with the inauguration of President Al-

## Divorce Greater Calamity Than Death, Judge States

Thornton Gives Results of His Observations After Long Period on Superior Bench.

(Editor's Note.—Judge W. W. Thornton of Superior Court, Room 1, has prepared a series of three articles for the Times showing the causes of the divorce and pointing the way for couples to avoid falling into the web of domestic unhappiness. Judge Thornton's articles are illuminating, as his opinions are based on his long experience on the bench. More than fifteen hundred new divorce cases have been filed in the local courts this year.)

By JUDGE W. W. THORNTON  
Of Superior Court, Room 1.

You have asked me the legal definition of a divorce. Speaking in a general way, it is the dissolution of the matrimonial bonds existing between husband and wife. If there never was a marriage there could be no divorce, even though the presumed husband and presumed wife maintain toward each other the apparent relation of husband and wife. If the marriage was a voidable one—that is a marriage under proper proceedings a court would declare void—yet a divorce would make it legal from the time it was entered into. A divorce is not a declaration of the court that the marriage was illegal, but the severing of matrimonial bonds created by a valid marriage.

A divorce is a greater calamity to the offending husband than the loss to him of his wife by death; for the wife to him is dead and he is branded by the decree of the court in bringing the offense upon his own head.

There are many underlying causes causing divorces.

My observations from the hundreds of divorce cases I have tried, is that early marriages are a potent factor in bringing applications for divorce. Such marriages are almost universally hastily entered into under the influence of momentary infatuation and not from any deep-seated love for each other. Soon the gloss and glamour is stripped away by the rough experiences of everyday life, and there is nothing longer to hold the young couple together.

Many young people have the notion that if they cannot get along agreeably with their spouses they can and will get a divorce on application to the court. I recall once a young negro woman who came into my court office and asked me for a divorce. She thought she could get it for the asking.

The marriage of elderly men to young women is another source of divorces; and the husband is young and the wife elderly (which does not often occur) the marriage is generally disastrous.

There is no question that there is (Continued on Page Three.)

## JOHN DAMPIER DENIES BUYING STOLEN AUTOS

Admits Purchase of Car, Saying He Thought Owner Sanctioned Sale.

The case of John Dampier, former dry bar keeper, charged with receiving stolen automobiles, is scheduled to go to the jury in the Marion County Criminal Court late this afternoon. Deputy Prosecutor William Evans began the first argument for the State when court convened this afternoon. He was to follow by attorneys for the defendant.

Prosecutor Charles Adams was to make the final argument for the State.

Dampier took the witness stand in his own defense prior to the noon adjournment. He denied that he had arranged with Ralph McGuire to steal eight Ford's, but admitted that he purchased one car from McGuire for \$175 under the impression that an unidentified man with McGuire was the owner of the car. He stated that he has purchased several second hand cars, but denied that he had knowledge that the cars were stolen property.

Mrs. Dampier, wife of the defendant, attempted to refute the evidence of McGuire that she saw a Ford car at her home, which had been delivered during the night. McGuire had previously testified that he delivered a stolen Ford car to her home.

The defense contends that the State cannot prove that Dampier had knowledge that the cars were stolen property. The State relies on the testimony of McGuire that he had an understanding with Dampier to receive \$75 for every car he stole and delivered to Dampier, to get a conviction.

## SAYS THERE'LL BE NO LOWER PRICES

State Implement Dealers in Session Here.

In an address before the fourth annual convention of the Indiana Implement Dealers' Association at the Claypool Hotel today, George P. Wagner, president of the association, predicted there would be no drop in the price of farming implements.

Besides Mr. Wagner's address, T. H. McGee, secretary-treasurer, gave his annual report.

In his address Mr. Wagner said that the products of the farmer have depreciated in price, and that this was a result of the high cost of his supplies and labor.

He said that because of the lowering of the prices in merchandise it is natural that the farmer will expect lower prices in implements, but that with the higher quotation of pig-iron, steel bars, coke and coal, as compared with a year ago, and the advance in freight rates, "we can not expect lower prices on implements."

In his report, Mr. McGee said the farm equipment dealers of Indiana have very generally taken on the sale of tractors and power farm machinery, and, because of the high cost of the larger dealers are now successfully handling tractors and tractor equipment.

The city club, under the leadership of Mr. J. W. Moline, Ill., on "The Present Outlook for the Implement Industry," and by Professor G. W. McGee of Ohio University, on "The Field of Agricultural Engineering and Its Relation to the Tractor and Implement Industry."

The convention will adjourn Friday.

## Donnelly's Original Bond Divided by 10

In view of the order of Judge Walter Pittet of the City Court that no professional bondsmen shall operate in connection with his court, the release of John Donnelly, who is charged with being a gambler and with vagrancy on a \$500 bond, is creating a considerable comment around police headquarters.

The bond was originally fixed at \$5,000, the police believing Donnelly was wanted in Pittsburgh, but in some way it was reduced to \$500. Then it was signed by Henry Rothchild, a tailor, 433 Massachusetts avenue.

Donnelly, formerly was a diamond ring in which attorneys and bondsmen took considerable interest. He no longer wears the ring.

Two bondsmen recently signed by Rothchild in Criminal Court brought the attention of Judge Collins to his activities.

## Do It Now!

Christmas shopping will be much more pleasant and enjoyable for the person who does his or her shopping early instead of delaying until a few days before Christmas, Indianapolis retail merchants point out.

"Shattered nerves," as a result of delay, were more or less common in former days when the rule, rather than the exception, as it is today, was to wait until the last minute to purchase Christmas articles.

"The best way to avoid 'shattered nerves' is to Christmas shop now instead of delaying," one merchant points out.

"Do your Christmas shopping now" is the advice of merchants.

## OBREGON STRONGEST MAN IN MEXICO

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.—Alvaro Obregon, who today became president of Mexico, is believed by the majority of Mexicans to be the strongest, most capable leader in the republic. He represents Mexico's greatest hope in her struggle to recover from the chaos into which she has been plunged by ten years of revolution.

(Continued on Page Four.)

## CAR CO. SHOWS LOSS OF \$6,900 IN RENTAL DEAL

Pays \$12,500 for Freight House Sub-Let to Traction Line for \$5,600.

### TODD DEFENDS ACTION

Based on their procedure on the ruling of the Public Service Commission that it is hearing evidence on what the service rendered interurban companies by the Indianapolis Street Railway Company, the Indianapolis Street Railway Company is worth and not on how much revenue the interurban companies derive from the benefits enjoyed, attorneys and other representatives of the local car company and of interurban companies continued to present evidence to the commission today. The hearing is the one in which the street railway company is asking for permission to charge 2 cents for transfer and for a readjustment of interurban charges.

It developed in the course of testimony by Robert I. Todd, president of the Indianapolis Street Railway Company and of the Terre Haute, Indianapolis & Eastern Traction Company, that the local car company is sustaining an annual loss in the rental of the freight terminal on Kentucky avenue because of a peculiar arrangement with the Terre Haute company.

The Terre Haute, Indianapolis & Eastern Traction Company owns the common stock of the car company which holds the property, the testimony showed. At the same time the street railway company, bound by contract to provide freight terminal facilities, rents the freight house for \$12,500 a year, and then rents it to the Terre Haute, Indianapolis & Eastern Traction Company for approximately \$5,600 a year, the latter amount varying according to the number of cars using the terminal.

DEPENDENT ON PASSENGER BUSINESS TO EVEN IT.

In reply to a question from Commissioner Lewis as to how he justified such a procedure, Mr. Todd explained that the street railway company was required to furnish freight facilities for all interurban companies under a contract covering both freight and passenger service.

"The contract as a whole was considered very fair," Mr. Todd said, "but the freight business has never paid its way from the standpoint of the city commission. The passenger business has always been a profitable one."

"The Kentucky avenue property was purchased for a general freight house for the car company. The reason it was financed in the manner described was that this was the only way in which securities could be sold."

Mr. Todd explained that the freight house, which represents an investment of something more than \$200,000, is the beginning of a project which was to call for an investment of \$600,000 and which would take care of all freight traffic. He said he believed that if the property is (Continued on Page Two.)

## 2 AWAIT HEARING BY COMMISSIONER

Trafalgar Bank Cashier and Muncie Doctor Arrested.

Gay Russell, 37, arrested in Elwood by Deputy United States Marshal John Gavin, and Dr. Xene Y. Smith, arrested in Muncie by Deputy Marshal Frank S. Rema, are in the Marion County Jail awaiting hearings before a United States commissioner.

Russell was arrested on a commissioner's warrant in which he is charged with the embezzlement of \$4,000.00 from the Farmers National Bank at Trafalgar, Ind., and Dr. Smith is charged with violating the Volstead act. Frederick Van Nuy, district attorney, stated that Smith is alleged to have had liquor in his possession and offered some of it for sale.

Russell was the cashier of the Farmers' National Bank at Trafalgar, Ind., until June, when he is said to have been discharged. He took money from the bank in various amounts during a period of nine months previous, according to evidence which the district attorney says he has.

The defections were covered by false entries for a time, it is alleged.

Russell is married and has one child. He was working in an Elwood factory when arrested.

Dr. Smith was at one time a police commissioner in Muncie. The district attorney said he is thought to be very close to the alleged whiskey ring, which is under federal investigation.

## Street Car Lines Waive 7-Cent Fare

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 1.—The Minneapolis Street Railway Company today waived its right to charge a 7-cent fare, beginning Dec. 15.

The city council, last August, authorized an increase to 6 cents from 5 cents, and to raise to 7 cents on Dec. 15.

"Because we have been unable to put on the number of cars contemplated we believe we should not ask car riders of the city to pay the 7-cent fare," said the company's letter.

## Ft. Wayne Paper Co. Hit by \$75,000 Fire

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES.

VINCENNES, Ind., Dec. 1.—The Ft. Wayne Paper Company sustained a loss of \$75,000 here today when 200,000 bales of straw and a shed in which it was stored were burned. The value of the straw was placed at \$60,000 and the warehouse at \$15,000. Six hundred thousand bales of straw were stored in the warehouse, but most of it was saved.

## Says Board of Works Favors Repair Shop

Discussing the recommendation of the local representative of the National Board of Fire Underwriters that the Indianapolis fire department have a fully equipped repair shop in a building of its own, George Lemus, president of the board of public works, stated today that the board favors starting construction of the municipal garage and repair shop units of the proposed program.

The board of public works met early next spring. The fire department repair shop would be situated in the general city repair shop building.

Some time ago the board announced that it intends to start work on the construction of the street cleaning and ash hauling department barn this spring as the first unit of the municipal yards, Lemus, in adding the garage and repair shop units to the proposed program, said he favors making the necessary bond issue large enough to pay for the construction of the three units instead of the barn alone, as was originally contemplated.

## CITY BOUGHT MORE FIRE EQUIPMENT THAN NECESSARY

Expenditure of \$75,000 of Indianapolis Taxpayers' Money Called Needless and Not Desirable by Underwriters' Board.

### 'CUT DOWN STATIONS, NOT BUILD 'EM'

That the city of Indianapolis recently purchased eight combination pumers, one aerial truck and three service wagons for the fire department that were not regarded either as necessary or desirable by the National Board of Fire Underwriters, was disclosed yesterday at a meeting of the board of safety.

That as a result of this expenditure of more than \$75,000 of the taxpayers' money, a situation has arisen in which the city will have such a large amount of fire equipment that it cannot be fully manned and hence will not entitle the city to a reclassification for insurance, was indicated by the underwriters' representative.

That instead of the establishment of two new engine houses in Indianapolis the underwriters recommend the abandonment of three houses as unnecessary, also has been disclosed.

The board of public safety, in its recent purchase of \$300,000 worth of equipment to complete the motorization of the fire department, did not follow the recommendations of the local representative of the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

This procedure, it is said, might jeopardize the position of the city in the national board's classification in which lower insurance rates than the city is said to be entitled to are enjoyed if the apparatus which the underwriters' representative considers unnecessary is placed in operation.

This was brought out late Tuesday at a conference of E. R. Townsend, traveling representative of the national board, and E. M. Sellers, manager of the Indiana Inspection Bureau, with Felix M. McWhorter and Henry L. Dittmer of the board of public safety. The underwriters discussed with the board a set of thirty-nine recommendations for the local fire department, compiled by Mr. Sellers in October and sent to the board Nov. 14, but never made public until Tuesday.

In these recommendations, it is asserted, the city's rating will suffer if the additional equipment over the amount considered necessary by the underwriters is placed in service for the reason that some companies will have to be undermanned in order that the surplus apparatus may be manned. It is better to have a few companies well manned than to have a larger number partly manned, the underwriters stated.

Instead of adding two firehouses to the present quota, as the board of safety contemplates, the underwriters would abandon three of the stations now in use because they will not be needed with the department motorized. These stations are No. 6, in Washington street near West street; No. 16, at Arsenal avenue and Eighteenth streets, and No. 31, in Maryland near Meridian street.

The underwriters' official recommendation is to the effect that the department (Continued on Page Five.)

## To Face Grand Jury

Carl Ittenbach, 2205 North Alabama street, superintendent of the Henshaw Stone Company, is shown in the picture as he stepped from the City Court room today, where he was bound over to the grand jury on a charge of manslaughter, growing out of the collapse of the Elmmerich Manual Training High School annex, which resulted in the death of two men.

Carl Ittenbach, 2205 North Alabama street, superintendent of the Henshaw Stone Company, is shown in the picture as he stepped from the City Court room today, where he was bound over to the grand jury on a charge of manslaughter, growing out of the collapse of the Elmmerich Manual Training High School annex, which resulted in the death of two men.

## MUTE, HIT BY CAR, SERIOUSLY HURT

Workman's Skull Fractured on I. & C. Traction Line.

Louis A. Sims, 18, son of William A. Sims, 1330 North Haugh street, was probably fatally injured at 11:15 o'clock today, when he was struck by an inbound Indianapolis & Cincinnati traction car at Fenton, five miles east of Indianapolis.

Sims, who is deaf and dumb, was shoveling gravel on the interurban tracks and failed to hear the car, although repeated warnings are said to have been sounded.

The boy sustained a fractured skull. Dr. Samuel McLaughlin, 5217 East Washington street, who was a passenger on the car, gave Sims first aid treatment. He was brought to Indianapolis on the car and was taken to the City Hospital, where his condition is said to be serious.

Sims was employed by the traction line and was helping to rebalt the road bed when injured.

Motorman Philip S. Troner and Conductor H. H. Corey were in charge of the interurban car.

## ALL BOUND OVER TO GRAND JURY

School Collapse Case Passes to New Investigation.

Carl Ittenbach, Marion West and David Carroll, named in Coroner Paul Robinson's verdict as being responsible for the fatal collapse of the new Elmmerich Manual Training High School annex building, waived examination when arraigned in City Court today on charges of manslaughter, and were bound over