

# The Indianapolis Times

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INDIANAPOLIS, THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 1928

HOME

## DEPEW, MAN WHO WHIPPED OLD AGE, DIES

Lived Out Better Portion of 94th Year; Expected to Reach 100.

### STRICKEN IN FIVE DAYS

Veteran Rail and Political Leader Is Victim of Pneumonia.

By EARL JOHNSON  
United Press Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK, April 5.—Chauncey Mitchell Depew, who lived out the better portion of his 94th year without growing old, died of pneumonia today after an illness of only five days.

The chairman of the New York Central railroad and most famous of all American after-dinner speakers, returned from Florida only a week and a half ago in the best of health and spirits. Detraining in New York on a raw March day he contracted a cold and physicians advised him to go to bed.

Monday it was announced Depew had a slight cold, but that it was not serious. Tuesday he seemed to be much improved. Wednesday his condition was said to be unchanged. Wednesday night doctors said his condition had changed to bronchial pneumonia, but at 7 o'clock said they did not believe his condition was alarming.

His condition gradually became weaker and at 4 a.m. members of the family were called to the bedside.

Within an hour Depew was dead.

Optimistic Toward Life

Mrs. Depew; a son, Chauncey M. Depew, Jr., and a niece, Miss Ann Paulding, were at the bedside when Depew died.

He had been in semi-consciousness throughout the night, doctors said.

Chauncey Depew and his optimistic views towards life had become one of the nation's institutions.

He would have been 94, April 24. He was looking forward eagerly to April 23 when he would again meet paper men—an annual occasion that gave him now famous version how to attain longevity.

Do everything and anything you want, but do it in moderation. In this way you ease yourself mentally and do not hurt yourself physically.

He looked forward to attaining an age of 100.

Member of Old Family

Depew was born at Peekskill, N.Y., in 1834, at a homestead that had been in possession of the family 200 years. On his father's side he was of Huguenot stock and his mother was a descendant of Roger Sherman, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

He entered Yale when he was 18 and he graduated with the class of 1856. Immediately he entered politics. It was the first year the newly formed Republican party entered a candidate for the presidency.

In the meantime, Depew studied law and in 1853 was admitted to the bar.

It was during a series of speeches for Abraham Lincoln in 1860 that Depew's ability as a humorist first became noticed.

He was elected to the New York State Assembly in 1862 and in 1863 secretary of State. Offered an ambassadorship to Japan, he declined in order to consider Commodore Vanderbilt's offer to be counsel for the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad.

Became Railroad President

In 1872, he backed Horace Greeley for Lieutenant Governor of New York. Greeley was badly defeated. Roscoe Conkling and Thomas C. Platt shortly afterwards resigned as United States Senators from New York and Depew became a candidate to succeed Platt. A deadlock for several months was not broken until Depew withdrew.

In 1899, the State Assembly elected Depew a Senator for six years and did the same again in 1904.

Depew, in the meantime, was rising in the railroad world. In 1882, he was elected second vice president of the New York Central railroad, in 1885 he assumed the presidency. He served until 1898 when he became chairman of the board.

Had Happy Marriage

Probably the highest point in Depew's political life came in 1888 when Depew was a contender for Republican presidential nomination. He finally withdrew to support Harrison.

Marriage to Chauncey Depew was something wonderful. He had been married since 1871. He once said:

"Many young people regard marriage as a joke; they enter upon it without understanding of the adjustments that must be made."

"Gentlemen, go back to the simple life of a country village of ninety-three years ago. I left such a village when I was 30 years old."

There had not been a divorce in his village of 2,500 persons in years and years. I think that if a divorce had been obtained, the principals would have been boycotted.

"For all this talk of divorce, there has been a tremendous increase in the happiness of home life."

## WHITE AND MEURER NAMED TO COUNCIL AT SPECIAL PARLEY

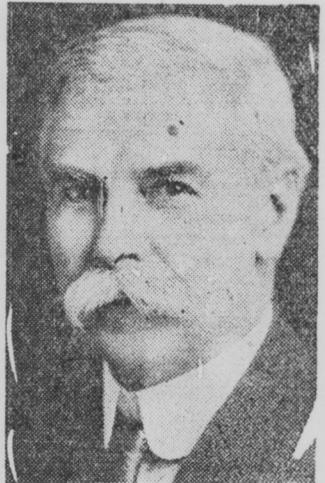
Republican and Democrat Are Selected as Successors to Moore and Dorsett; Ferguson Resigns Post.

Remnants of the shattered city council this afternoon elected successors to two indicted councilmen, considering only those candidates endorsed by the joint civic organization committee. Those elected:

John F. White, 1545 Lexington Ave., Democrat, president of the Indianapolis Federation of Civic Clubs, to succeed Boynton J. Moore, Republican, who was convicted of bribery in Criminal Court two weeks ago and resigned, representing the Sixth district.

Albert F. Meurer, 4846 E. Tenth St., Republican, manager of the East Side Company, a real estate concern, to succeed Walter R. Dorsett, Republican, indicted but not tried, who resigned as representative of the First district.

### Councilman



John F. White

## HOUSE FLOOD FIGURES CLASH

New Bill of \$325,000,000

Estimated as Fair.

By United Press

WASHINGTON, April 5.—Widely varying estimates of cost for the Mississippi flood control project were given to the House Rules Committee who have studied the problem since last November.

Chairman Reed of the Flood Committee said the \$225,000,000 provided in the new Jones-Reed bill was a "very fair figure," while Representative Fear (Rep.), Wisconsin, estimated ultimate expenditures, at \$1,000,000,000. Representative Cox (Rep.), Georgia, said the project would cost \$750,000,000 and perhaps a billion.

The flood committee members urged early consideration by the House.

The rules committee will announce its decision later. It is expected to grant right of way to the flood bill for the last of next week.

Chairman Reed urged the bill as the best compromise possible, but criticised adoption of the engineering plan drafted by Maj. Gen. Edgar J. Adair, Army engineer chief. He said he favors leaving the plan to the board provided under the measure because of the magnitude of flood control.

Representative Kopp (Rep.), Iowa, favored the bill because it adopts a plan and because it places responsibility directly under the President.

Albertson, Georgia, changed his vote to Meurer and Meurer was

urged to make recommendations. Councilman Austin H. Todd then nominated the six approved candidates.

On the one ballot for Moore's successor the vote was: Albertson, 2; Raub, 2; Ferguson, 2; and Bartholomew, 2; for White. Albertson, Raub and Negley for Meurer, and Bartholomew for Ferguson.

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Albertson, Raub and Bartholomew

each got one vote.

Both Will Serve

Both of the newly elected councilmen have signified they would serve. City Clerk William A. Boyce, Jr., started immediately to notify them, so they could take the oath.

The indicated councilmen have indicated they are resigning in relay in the hope of getting the new district.

Both will serve. Both he, Ira M. Holmes, president of the county election board, and James E. Deery, Democrat, member, oppose the new precinct lines and may make a test suit by refusing to accept filings on the new boundary.

Coffin faction Republicans contend the move was to aid the Democrat crowd, and is merely "gerry-mandering."

CARMEL MAN INJURED BY HIT-RUN DRIVER

Thrown to Pavement as He Gets Out of Auto.

Albert Ritchie, 33, of Carmel, Ind., was struck and thrown to the pavement by a hit-and-run driver as he dismounted from his automobile in front of the Stutz plant, where he is employed, today.

At city hospital he was reported to have suffered injuries to his left shoulder and was badly bruised. He gave police a description of the car, a large blur roadster.

Albert Huffer, 70, of 23 S. Alabama St., is recovering today from injuries received late Wednesday when he stepped into the path of a car driven by Joseph S. Sennett, 3822 N. Illinois St. The accident occurred in the 800 block on Washington St.

Admits Forsaking Trade to Steal \$75 Diamond Ring.

Earl E. Robertson is a paperhanger by trade, but he forgot his vocation for a few minutes when he was hanging paper in Mrs. Amanda McReady's home, 3870 Broadway, last month.

Robertson admitted to police he took a \$75 diamond ring from a table.

## STORMS TEAR PATH OF RUIN IN SOUTHWEST

Cloudbursts and Tornadoes Whip Vast Area; Dozen Towns Hit.

### FOUR ARE KNOWN DEAD

Hundreds Are Homeless in Shawnee, Okla., After Violent Storm.

Immediately after the elections, both of which were on the first ballot, Councilman Millard W. Ferguson, Democrat, also under bribery indictment, submitted his resignation. It was unanimously and immediately accepted.

Calls Special Meeting

President Otis E. Bartholomew, another indicated councilman, who has not resigned, called a special meeting for Monday noon to elect a successor to Ferguson.

William H. Book, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce civic affairs department, announced he immediately would call the joint civic committee together again to recommend candidates to succeed Ferguson.

This joint committee, comprising representatives of the Chamber, the City Manager League and the Board of Trade, had recommended, besides White and Meurer, four other men, all of whom were nominated before the council voted today.

**Others Recommended**

The other candidates are: Ellsworth E. Heller, 1423 Pleasant St., Republican; George D. Thornton, Republican, 75 N. Audubon Rd.; Ernest C. Ropkey, Democrat, 22 N. Audubon Rd., and Edward Dirks, Republican, 60 N. Kenmore Rd.

Only about twenty-five spectators attended. Councilman O. Ray Albertson attended his first meeting since he turned State's evidence in the Moore trial.

The meeting began at noon.

**Cox Gives List**

Linton A. Cox, Board of Trade representative on the joint civic committee, presented the committee's list.

The committee has expected three vacancies and would like opportunity to make other recommendations when other vacancies occur.

Cox said: Harold Wad, representing the Chamber of Commerce; Sol Schless, representing the City Manager League, and Book, Chamber of Commerce civic affairs secretary, also were present.

Although it had been reported that a petition urging J. Edward Burk, Southeastern Civic League official, for the Sixth district vacancy would be presented, no one spoke when Bartholomew asked if any other organizations or citizens desired to make recommendations. Council then recessed.

**Raub Moves for Action**

At 12:10 council reconvened and Councilman Edward B. Raub moved that nominations be restricted to the list recommended by the joint civic committee. Albertson seconded the motion and council approved. Raub and Councilman Robert E. Springsteen, both Democrats, are the only councilmen not involved in any way in the bribery scandal.

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**MRS. VIC DONAHEY HURT**

Injured in Collision.

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**WINKLER ENTERS RACE**

Chief Seeks Nomination for Sheriff on G. O. P. Ticket.

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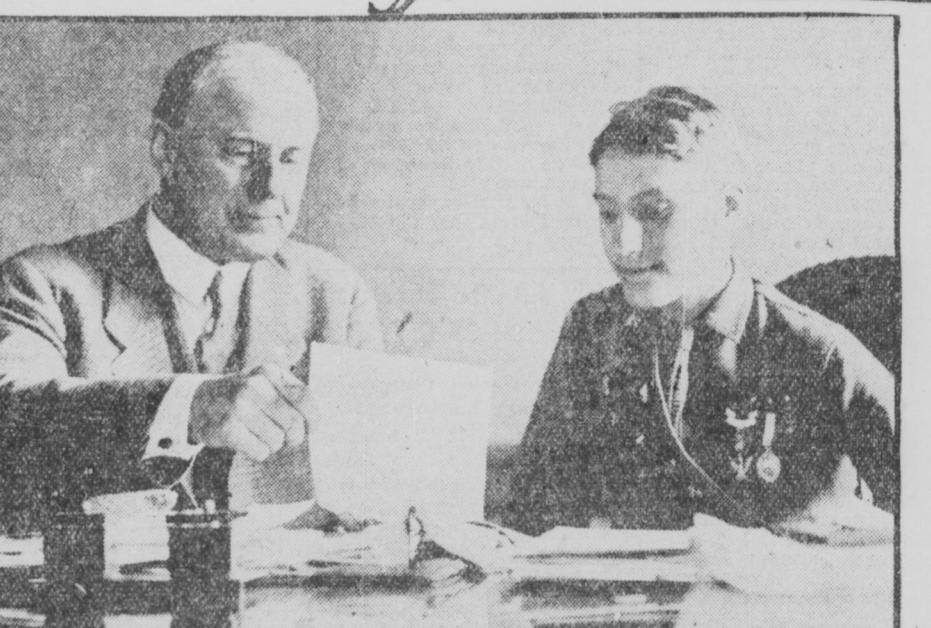
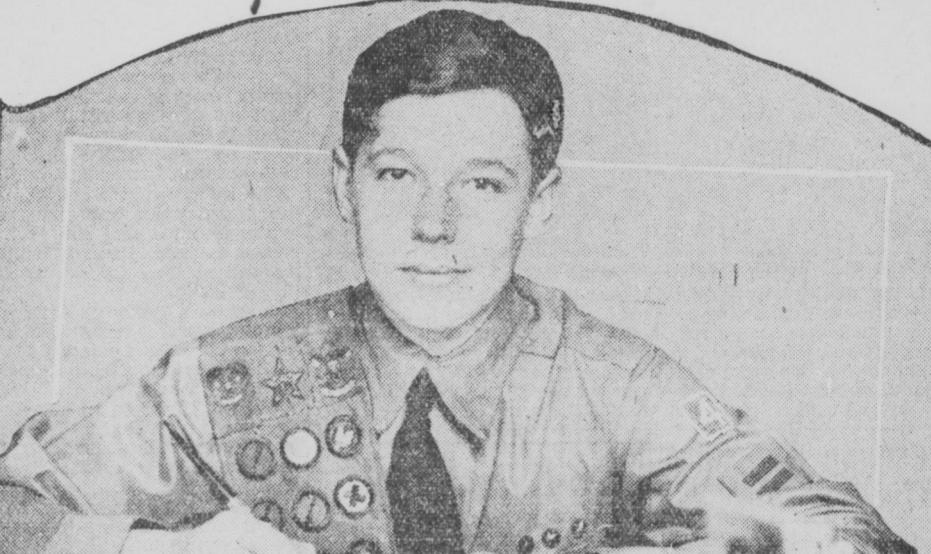
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Shower and somewhat cool weather north portion Friday.

Entered as Second-Class Matter  
at Postoffice, Indianapolis

TWO CENTS Outside Marion  
County 3 Cents

## Scouts Replace Governmental Heads



Above, Eagle Scout John Kitchen, 1704 N. Talbott St., as he sat in the Governor's chair for an hour Wednesday. Below, Eagle Scout Robert Russell, 40