

Death of 'Polecat Editor' Closes Colorful Career

Charles L. Blanton Famous for Likes
And Dislikes; Was Friend of Truman

SIKESTON, Mo., Jan. 9 (UP)—Charles B. Blanton, the "polecat editor" of the Sikeston Standard, died last night of a heart ailment at the age of 84.

He had been ill for several days.

Mr. Blanton's death closed one of the most colorful careers in the history of weekly newspaper journalism. He was famous as a man of violent likes and dislikes who expressed his opinions bluntly and plainly in his editorials without sparing the feelings of his friends or his foes.

He also was known for his sudden changes of opinion. Once he was awarded an honorary colonel's commission by Gov. Lloyd C. Stark in recognition of his political support he had given the governor in his paper.

Shortly afterwards the two had a falling out over patronage matters. Ever afterwards the Standard carefully omitted the capital letters whenever it mentioned Gov. Stark's name.

"I ask no one to agree with me and don't care whether they do or not," Mr. Blanton said. He made that his motto and lived up to it. The title of "polecat editor" was

for 20 years. He was with the Government Printing Office for four years and then spent 16 years with the Treasury Department.

He bought the Standard in 1913. He is survived by his widow and five children.

A son, Harry C. Blanton, formerly a district attorney at St. Louis, now has a law office in Sikeston.

A daughter, Mrs. Catherine Roberts of Washington, D. C., was secretary of the late Sen. Taft-Harrison of Missouri.

Another son, J. Ben Blanton, lives in Kansas "City." Mrs. Blanton's brother, Jack, is editor of the Monroeville district attorney at St. Louis.

Butler University Adds 2 to Faculty

Butler University today announced the appointment of two new faculty members to the university's evening division.

Francis O. Reisinger, a fellow in the School of Religion, has been appointed as an instructor in the religion department of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Dyson W. Cox has been named to the faculty of the College of Education and will give instruction in a three-hour undergraduate or graduate course, "Improving Instruction in Social Education."

Mr. Reisinger was graduated from Butler where he received his bachelor of divinity degree, master's degree and master of science degree. He will teach a three-hour undergraduate course in "The Old

Leopold May Abdicate

BRUSSELS, Jan. 9 (UP)—Belgium's curious monarchial tangle appeared near possible solution today with reports that King Leopold, now living in self-imposed exile in Switzerland, might agree to abdicate in favor of his 17-year-old son.

Tampering Charged in Train Wreck

Find Pin Holding Switch Lever Battered

New York Central Railroad officials today said the wreck of a speeding, northbound passenger train at Jonesboro, Ind., last night was intentional.

State police and railroad detectives are investigating in hopes that clues might lead to a suspect who tampered with a switch.

T. W. English, superintendent, said the tampering obviously was the work of a person familiar with the mechanics of a switch.

"The pin holding the switch lever in place had been broken and the lock battered and twisted. Then the switch was thrown open," he said.

"Either a sledge hammer or a heavy bar must have been used, although no such instruments have been found in the vicinity," Mr. English said. "It would require either a grown boy or a man to do the job."

Three crewmen and one passenger received minor injuries in the derailment of the three-car train. The engine toppled on its side while the baggage, mail and passenger cars remained upright. Twenty passengers were on the coach.

Injured were C. R. Cornell, engineer, Wabash; Earl Whinery, fireman, Converse; J. H. West, express messenger, Indianapolis, and A. J. Humpke, passenger, Anderson.

Burch Continues To Hold Pay of 5

Other Legislators Get Salaries Jan. 15

State Auditor A. V. Burch said today he was withholding more than \$23,000 in wages from five state officials he said were "dual office holders." All five of the men have sued Mr. Burch to recover their salaries.

Mr. Burch said all of Indiana's General Assembly members—except the five who hold other state posts—would receive their regular, quarterly salary payment of \$300 on Jan. 15.

Mr. Burch has refused to pay, since last March, five legislators headed by State Rep. Glen R. Sienker (R. Monticello), who is also a Public Service Commission counselor. Mr. Burch said he was withholding some \$5500 from Mr. Sienker.

The other legislators, the positions they hold, and the amounts which Mr. Burch said he had not paid them were: Sen. Clyde R. Black (R. Logansport), secretary of the Indiana Flood Control and Water Resources Commission, \$637; Rep. E. C. Weller (R. Deale), director of the PSC's motor vehicle department, \$4143; Rep. Beecher Conrad (R. Petersburg), State Board of Barber Examiners, \$2474, and Rep. Charles T. Miser (R. Garrett), superintendent of maintenance, State Highway Commission, \$4764.

Taft Still Fights For Social Laws

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9 (UP)—Sen. Robert A. Taft (R. O.) was still fighting today for a Republican program of social legislation in the face of continuing silence from House Republican leaders.

Mr. Taft asserted that the Republican-controlled Congress would proceed with its own social welfare program as a substitute for President Truman's.

He gave the pledge last night in a radio speech making a general indictment of the administration "Santa Claus" program submitted to Congress by Mr. Truman.

He said the President's program generally would add up to "national bankruptcy" and that the "10-year Truman plan would leave about as much freedom in this country as Stalin's five-year plan has left in Russia."

Mr. Taft, a presidential aspirant and his party's Senate spokesman on domestic policy, has been pressing for months for the inclusion of social legislation in the Republican legislative program this year.

His colleagues believe the Senate will approve the Taft program but they do not know whether the House will agree. House leaders have said little about it. A decision on how far they will go probably will await an agreement between House and Senate leaders.

Housewife's Dirge: 'Up, Up Goes HCL'

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9 (UP)—The Labor Department saw no end today to the steady climb in living costs.

It issued one report saying retail prices of major living essentials were higher last November than at any time in history.

In a companion report—this one indicating future trend of retail prices—the department said average wholesale prices for some 900 basic commodities rose to a new post-war peak in the week ended Jan. 3, the ninth consecutive weekly increase.

"This probably means new highs for the cost of living," a department spokesman said.

Using the 1935-39 average as a base, the department said retail food prices had increased 102.7 per cent up to Nov. 15; wearing apparel, 90.2 per cent; rents, 15.2 per cent; fuel, 26.9 per cent; house furnishings, 88.9 per cent; and miscellaneous items 48 per cent.

Alabama Governor Lifts News Ban on Radio Stations

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Jan. 9 (UP)—Newsmen from Alabama radio stations were back on the approved list for Gov. James E. Folsom's press conferences today, but reporters from the state's daily newspapers were still barred.

Gov. Folsom removed the ban from radio reporters yesterday in a letter to the Alabama Capitol Correspondents' Association. He said their inclusion in the ban had been "inadvertent."

But the feud between the Governor and daily newspaper reporters was still far from settled and Gov. Folsom's executive secretary, O. H. Finney Jr., said the ban would probably be continued "for some time."

The Governor's ban against attendance at his semi-weekly conferences does not extend to reporters for the major wire services or for the state's weekly newspapers.

Gov. Folsom told the Capitol Correspondents' Association that he had set up the ban simply to exclude "political agents" from receiving the privileges of working newsmen.

He offered to accept the decision of the correspondents' association on which individuals are "political agents" and which are newspaper reporters.

But that offer was met by the immediate resignations from the association of Vice President Burns Bennett, of the United Press, and President Rex Thomas of the Associated Press.

They said they did not want the responsibility of deciding who could attend the Governor's press conferences.

The Governor said his ban was brought about by the action of a reporter who he charged delivered an advance copy of one of the Governor's radio speeches to members of a group opposing his (the "ov-

Caught on Bridge, Man, 70, Loses Life

JOLIET, Ill., Jan. 9 (UP)—Alex Ferbezar, 70, was trapped on an opening drawbridge yesterday and fell 35 feet to his death on the concrete approach.

Harvey Green, 65, bridge tender, said he raised the bridge to permit a string of barges to pass down the Illinois deep waterway. He said that because of a "blind spot" he was unable to see Mr. Ferbezar from his tower.

Mr. Ferbezar grabbed the hand rail when the bridge started up, but was unable to hold on, witnesses said.

error's stand against a so-called "self-starter" amendment" that would allow the legislature to call itself into session.

The amendment was defeated decisively by popular vote earlier this week.

Prices Slashed Again

AS BISHOP-KAYE GOES ...

ALLOUT

IN A JANUARY CLEARANCE

That will make Fashion-Value History

FRIDAY NIGHT 'TIL 9
AND SATURDAY 9 TO 6

Beautiful 100% Wool	Were	NOW
SUITS	\$29.95	\$7.50
	\$49.95	\$17.50
	\$69.95	\$34.50

All-Wool Untrimmed	Were	NOW
COATS	\$35.00	\$16
	\$49.00	\$23
	\$65.00	\$32

Lavishly Fur Trimmed	Were	NOW
COATS	\$59.00	\$27
	\$89.00	\$44
	\$109.00	\$64

TAX FREE

1 1/2

Hundreds of Garments

Reduced-

AND MORE

MOUTONS

NOW \$78

GUARANTEED FOR THREE YEARS

MUSKRATS

NOW \$178

KIDSKINS

NOW \$88

TRADE IN YOUR OLD FUR COAT

Liberal Allowance If You Trade Now!

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Jura, Inc. 2ND FLOOR—7 N. MERIDIAN ST.

ALL Furs Plus Tax

RICHARD L. KAYE, Ex-Savoyman, Manager

Block's

DOWNSTAIRS STORE

Open Monday Through
Saturday 9:30 to 5:00

Regularly 3.95

WHITE OXFORD CLOTH SHIRTS

with button down collars

2.98

A fine quality yarn oxford cloth, snow white, beautifully tailored and sanforized! With genuine pearl buttons and low band collar! Regularly 3.95... January sale priced! Sizes 14 to 17!



JANUARY EVENTS.

Fresh New
January Shipment!

BLAZER STRIPED BROADCLOTH PAJAMAS

3.95

Sizes A to D

Notch collar coat or middy models in smooth-washing and ironing broadcloths... every garment cut full for top sleeping comfort! Fast-dyed colorful blazer striped patterns!



NEW SHIPMENT! MEN'S WOVEN FABRIC SHORTS

With Gripper Fasteners

95c

No more button bother with these shorts... the three-gripper yoke front takes care of that! Well-tailored and roomily cut of sanforized-shrunk woven stripes shirting! Full panel seat! Men's sizes 32 to 44!

MEN'S FULL COMBED COTTON YARN ATHLETIC SHIRTS,
white, sizes 36 to 46..... 59c

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Much in Demand! Men's Banner Wrap Rayon Anklets

at only

50c

Choice of vertical striped or neat clocked patterns with ELASTIC TOPS THAT STAY UP! Navy, brown, wine or blue! Men's sizes 10 to 12!

Men's Furnishings, Downstairs



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