

Partly cloudy tonight and Friday; somewhat higher temperature in north-west and north-central portions.

Current Comment

This Is Iron Hand.

Yesterday the Mussolini cabinet in Italy issued an order giving permission to prefects to take any action, deemed necessary for the safety and internal peace of the country, whether or not statutes exist for the authorization of the measures adopted.

Newspapers that have been expressing opposition to the government have been so thoroughly muzzled that, in order to maintain publication, they have resorted to fantastic methods.

New Office Building.

Announcement that the Merchants National bank will proceed at once with the construction of a twelve-story office building on its property at Second avenue and Third street will occasion even more pleasure than surprise in business circles here.

On The Move.

That Americans are on the move was demonstrated in Chicago yesterday when the Association of Commerce in that city reported the presence of three hundred thousand visitors from all over the world.

Memorial Coliseum.

The Board of Education has announced its willingness to defer plans for the construction of two badly needed senior high schools if the community decides that a coliseum and municipal building are desirable at this time.

Beck Promoted?

Today it is reported that James M. Beck, solicitor general of the United States, a man who has given a lifetime to the government's legal service, will be appointed to the cabinet to succeed Attorney General Stone.

YANKEE LOSES HIS WIFE.

PARIS, Jan. 8.—(By International News).—Mrs. "Ted" Coy, wife of the noted American former football player, was granted a divorce today by the Seine Tribunal.

MILLIONS CUT FROM STATE BUDGET

Local Bank To Build Home

MERCHANTS TO BE HOUSED IN BIG STRUCTURE. 12 Story Modern Office Building To Go Up At Second Ave., Third St.

PROPOSED NEW BANK BUILDING



The illustration shows the proposed home of the Merchants National bank, which will be erected on the site of the Kimball building, Second avenue at Third street.

(CEDAR RAPIDS NEWS)

Cedar Rapids is to have a new 12 story, \$1,000,000 bank and office building to be erected at once by the Merchants National bank on the site of the Kimball building, Second avenue and Third street.

Plans for the new building, the biggest project in local building in years, were announced today by officials of the bank, who said the Weary and Alford company of Chicago has been retained to prepare the detailed plans for the structure.

The building will be the best in modern construction, the exterior will be of Indiana limestone in Italian Renaissance style with a tower 160 feet above the sidewalk. The ground floor will be 7 1/2 by 140 feet. The masonry will be strictly fireproof, the skeleton to be of structural steel with concrete, supported on reinforced concrete caissons extending to the rock.

Tentative plans call for the banking room to be two stories in height, the entire building to be situated on the corner of Second and Third streets. The building space, exclusive of that required for mechanical equipment will be used by the bank.

The first floor will be devoted to officers' rooms, conference rooms, the bond and trust department, commercial and savings departments and commercial bookkeeping. The second floor will be done in the basement, where the safe deposit department 24 by 60 feet, the package and trunk storage department and the safe deposit department will be situated. The ultimate capacity of the safe deposit section will be 9,000 boxes. The vault will incorporate all the latest burglar proof construction with walls at least four inches thick, reinforced by protective material.

All Outside Offices.

Every office in the building will be an outside room, equipped with large windows of rolled steel, glazed with plate glass. The space will be subdivided to suit the individual needs of the tenants and in this connection it is planned to make special provision for occupancy of certain floors by members of the legal and medical professions. If there is sufficient demand one or two floors will be set aside for rental to doctors and dentists, these rooms being fitted with special equipment and facilities for those professions.

Three Elevators In Building.

Three high speed electric passenger elevators capable of 600 feet a minute will be installed. The mechanical equipment will also include three boilers arranged for burning coal and gas and for heating and ventilating plant for the complete ventilation of the banking premises. For this purpose air will be taken from the top of the building and filtered through a cyclone separator and a water filter before being drawn to the basement. It will be washed and tempered before being forced through the ventilating system. A circulating drinking water system will be furnished for the entire building and water for domestic purposes will be softened and filtered.

Rooms for the medical and dental professions will be fitted with hot and cold running water, gas and compressed air and there will be toilet facilities on every floor in addition to the women's rest room in the safe deposit department, where also there will be ample booths and public rooms.

Corridors in the building will be finished in marble and the corridors will be covered with marble. The doors and trim will be of American walnut and the interior glass will be of a special type.

Vault Bandit Proof.

A large space in the plans has been set aside for the bank's transit department, rest rooms, locker rooms and lockers for men and women employees.

In construction of the safe deposit department, the bank has decided on a massive circular door, eighty-four inches in diameter and twenty-four inches thick.

Nebraska Pastor May Die As Result Sleeping Sickness

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Jan. 8.—(By Associated Press)—After suffering from sleeping sickness for two weeks, the Rev. W. Nielsen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Nielsen, this city, was taken to Jennie Edmundson hospital here.

N. W. Mail Car Again Is Looted

CHICAGO, Jan. 8.—(By Associated Press).—Reports that a mail car was entered and robbed Tuesday night in the Chicago and North Western railway way could not be confirmed today. Rumors in the federal building were to the effect that parcel post matter valued at less than \$500 had been stolen from a Chicago and North Western office and the railway officials denied any knowledge of such a theft.

Vanderlip Goes On Bond Of Means, He Tells U. S. Court

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—(By International News).—Gaston B. Means, former federal agent under \$10,000 bond on a charge of conspiracy to obstruct justice, sprang a sensation at his trial before Federal Judge Walter Lindly today by revealing that Frank A. Vanderlip, international banker had furnished bond for him.

Dry Enforcement Probe In Secret

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—(By Associated Press)—Under the leadership of Senator Watson, republican, Indiana, administration forces succeeded today in having the opening of the state liquor control unit behind closed doors.

Schrader Gun Is Found In Vacant Lot

(CEDAR RAPIDS NEWS) The revolver with which Armstrong "Jack" Schrader shot himself, according to the verdict of the coroner's jury, or was murdered, according to the theory of County Attorney W. J. Barngrover, was found today noon encased in the ice and snow about midway between where Schrader's body lay and the east sidewalk in South Thirty-second street.

Churchill Optimistic.

The twentieth inter-allied conference is better than most of its predecessors, although thus far it has accomplished nothing more than the preliminary amicable.

MEISER IN "BROKE"

Meliser talked bitterly to several at the station of the way he had been treated in the whole affair and deplored the fact that his three children are in the possession of Mrs. Givens. Meliser told the police that when the court costs were deducted the actual amount to be paid for the children which he said she helped contract.

Only Woman In Iowa Ordered To Pay Former Husband Alimony, Seeks Marital Happiness Second Time.

(CEDAR RAPIDS NEWS) "Off with the old; on with the new." Mrs. Frank Meliser, proprietor of the Globe hotel, who won considerable publicity by riding her bicycle through the streets of Cedar Rapids following a divorce trial last October, has taken unto herself a new spouse.

SMITH LETS INJUNCTION.

DES MOINES, Jan. 8.—(By Associated Press).—As a further precaution against the opening of the machines in Polk county pending the Brookhart-Steck case in Washington, which is being placed by Daniel F. Steck, democratic opponent of Senator Brookhart in the seventh district court here, an injunction similar to that issued against County Auditor C. W. Rhoades, the action was on an amendment to the original action and the restraining order will prevent the opening of the machines by any but the authorities concerned with the contest.

Iowa Woman Dies In Coasting Crash

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—(By Associated Press).—Mrs. Myrtle Dickerson, 35, was so badly injured in a coasting accident last night at Rubio, 15 miles southwest of here, that she died half an hour later. She was flung from the sled and crushed when her sled ran into a ditch. She leaves her husband and three children.

FRENCH DEBT NOTE SPURNED BY UNCLE SAM

American Debt Funding Committee Not To Consider Clementel Terms.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—(By International News).—The shallowness of France's recent "proposals" for settling her \$4,000,000 war debt was emphasized here today by an official announcement that no meeting of the American debt funding committee will be called to consider the terms proposed in the Clementel proposal.

LOGAN IN CONFAB.

PARIS, Jan. 8.—(By Associated Press).—The British chancellor of the exchequer, Winston Churchill, and James A. Logan, Jr., American minister to France, met today for a conference on the inter-allied financial conference, had another talk today. Afterward it was reported that their negotiations, seeking to iron out the Anglo-American differences over the United States' claim for payment of her occupational army costs and war damages, were proceeding normally.

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LOWER TAXES LOOM IN NEXT TWO YEARS

DES MOINES, Jan. 8.—(By Associated Press).—A state budget for the ensuing two-year period, \$4,000,000 less than the amount expended during the present biennium, will be submitted to the state legislature, E. J. Hogue, director of the budget, announced today. The budget report was completed today when workings of the state colleges were finally approved.

STECK FILES HIS CONTEST PAPERS TODAY

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Charging numerous irregularities and errors in the Iowa election, which if corrected would show Dan F. Steck having a majority of not less than 5,000 over Brookhart, the Ottumwa candidate formally filed his contest for Brookhart's seat with the senate today. The contest papers, which were filed by Attorney James M. Parsons, of Des Moines, Steck's counsel, charges the following irregularities:

Alleges Many Irregularities In Count Gave Brookhart The Election.

Special to The Gazette. "Many ballots" marked and cast for Steck were wholly rejected and thrown out and not counted by many election boards on the unlawful and fraudulent pretext that they were not cast and properly marked for the contestant, whereas they were in fact legally marked and cast as votes for Steck.

STECK BALLOTS REJECTED

"That many ballots in many precincts, duly marked and cast for Steck were rejected by the respective election boards and not counted at all."

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