

Current Comment

We Give Offense.

The United States has suggested to nine nations the advisability of the completion of debt funding arrangements by which they eventually can liquidate their war obligations to the taxpayers of this country.

France, Italy, Belgium, Roumania, Greece, Czechoslovakia, Jugoslavia, Estonia, and Latvia have been invited to give early consideration to their borrowings from Uncle Sam. The total of their obligations is seven billion one hundred and one millions, a considerable sum, even in the United States, where it was originally produced for European utilization.

Washington's suggestion has not fallen on receptive ears in some quarters. The French press, according to Paris dispatches, charges that the United States really is working for the interests of Germany when such a request is made. We will not permit France to exhort what she thinks is due her from Germany, they say, but we put the knife to the throat of France to exact what we think is due us from her. One paper, the Journal des Debats, while criticizing us, gives us some credit, however, as follows:

"It is indecent to commercialize sentimental reasons for a reduction by putting up soldiers' corpses to balance the scales against American dollars. Our dead who defended France and America fell in the cause of humanity. Our sacrifices were useless if it were not for the allies, particularly the United States, who determined the victory. What a peculiar way of thanking the people who saved us, by saying, 'We owe you nothing. It is we who saved you!'"

Job For A "Dick."

This is a suggestion to the department of public safety that it assign one of its several plain clothes investigators to the job of finding the imbecile or criminal who has poisoned many dogs in the neighborhood of First avenue, at the eastern city limits.

Owners of animals that have been poisoned have raised a considerable sum which they offer as a reward for the arrest and conviction of the person who is an added incentive to the police department, but it should not be necessary. The poisoning has covered a considerable period of time, too much time. It is not impossible to detect and punish such criminals as this one.

Fools Do Drive.

"As the situation is at present," said the Chicago Tribune in a recent editorial, "any fool can drive a car, and most of them do. Almost any adolescent can drive a car, and a great many of them do. With the exception of the drivers of vehicles for hire, they take no examinations and need no licenses. The result is chaotic, and the 'hands of death' point to 230 fatal tragedies due to automobiles in Cook county this year."

The motor traffic situation in Chicago is demoralized and demoralizing, no doubt of that, but Chicago is not the only center that suffers such circumstances. Cedar Rapids, in its smaller way, is similarly afflicted. Crazy drivers abound here, too. They may be seen at almost any well traveled thoroughfare at almost any hour. Only fool's luck saves most of them from the household, where most of them should be.

What To Do?

She was a little, modestly attired woman of about sixty. "She wanted to see the writer of this column, so that she might add her mite in denial of the assertion of the federal prohibition agent for this district that Cedar Rapids is dry as compared to other Iowa centers."

"It's not true," she said, "and the prohibition agent knows it. If he just will go up and down the alleys in certain districts here, he will find the proof he needs. I tried to get him to do something about the places where my man gets his liquor. Before prohibition he was all right. He took a drink now and then, but he didn't drink. Now he's drunk most of the time. We're about ruined. When they say 'Cedar Rapids is bone-dry' I can't still."

The Gas Snoops.

The state of Iowa is being made ridiculous by the activities of a group of speculators, some of whom are spending their time and the public money in Illinois cities just across the river from this commonwealth, checking up on Iowans who fill the automobile gasoline tanks at stations where they are not compelled to pay the Iowa tax on that commodity.

It is hard to believe reports that some of these "agents" actually arrested motorists from this state and attempted to prevent them from purchasing gasoline in Illinois, but the fact that they are in Illinois at all is sufficient to make a Iowa blush. One of the alleged agents today is represented by an army of snipers who are forever sticking their wrinkled noses into other people's business. We have enough of that sort of thing now without raising another platoon of snipers who will make their living by making money from the Iowa public while they make that same money by their ham-and-egg methods of watching the gasol-

ASK DEATH FOR W. D. SHEPHERD

Monticello Man Ends His Life

GIRL'S DEATH CAUSE OF ACT; FRIENDS THINK

Corydon Girl Ends Her Life By Jumping From Window At Iowa City.

(LONG DISTANCE PHONE.) MONTICELLO, May 18.—Brooding over the suicide of an Anamosa girl is believed to have led to the tragedy here yesterday when William Sanford, 35, drank carbolic acid. On his return to the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mead Sanford, from a store where he purchased the morning papers, Sanford is supposed to have swallowed the poison, just before he entered the house. He staggered through the door and collapsed. His parents at first were unable to make him talk, but finally he whispered the words, "carbolic acid." Sanford was taken to the hospital where he died a short time later.

Members of his family say that he took a great deal of the Anamosa case in which Loretta Weaver, 17-year-old girl, ended her life because of a scolding for staying out late at night with a youth with whom she had been intimate by her husband. Sanford was employed by the Milwaukee railroad. He is not known to have had any trouble which would have led to the tragedy. His parents do not know where he obtained the poison, nor do they know whether he premeditated the suicide or drank the acid on the spur of the moment.

WOMAN JUMPS TO DEATH.

At 7:30 a. m. today a woman jumped from the sixth story of the University hospital. She landed on her head, crushing her skull and probably breaking her neck. Mrs. Brown was brought to the hospital eleven days ago and last Thursday she underwent an operation from which she apparently was recovering. She suffered great pain and this is believed to have temporarily deranged her. There will be no inquest. Mrs. Brown is survived by her husband, and her foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Stroud of Corydon.

A few minutes before the tragedy occurred a nurse entered the room and gave Mrs. Brown a glass of water. Several minutes later the alarm was given by patients who saw her body hurle past ward windows.

Her husband, who has been with her, is unable to give any motive for her action.

Do They Deserve A Memorial?

With a notable record as an aviator, Lieut. Leo Kiburz, fell a victim of the flu after having been wounded in an aerial battle with German aviators over the front lines in France. He recovered from the wound, but in the fall of 1918 became ill and died in London Nov. 24 of that year. Kiburz was one of the first Cedar Rapids men in the European conflict, having enlisted in January, 1915, with the Canadian army. Later he became a member of the Royal British Flying corps and distinguished himself with it in many engagements. He was the son of Mrs. Kate Kiburz, 356 South Sixteenth street.

The memorial election is June 1.

Kenyon Makes Plea For Preparedness, Condemns Bigotry

FORT DODGE, May 18.—(AP)—Judge W. S. Kenyon, for Fort Dodge, members of the United States circuit court of appeals, made a plea for preparedness as a knight of Columbus banquet here last night. He said he had no sympathy with that sentiment in this country which was opposed to preparedness for self protection.

"We must have the nucleus for a strong army, strong navy and strong air force," he declared.

Judge Kenyon condemned religious bigotry, saying intolerance was "weak, cowardly and stupid. No one hundred per cent American ever had to wrap his face in a pillow case. Those who do so are not three per cent American."



LEO KIBURZ.

Demoted Balloon Race Pilots May Not Lose Honors

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., May 18.—(AP)—Maj. A. B. Lambert, St. Louis, referee of the National Elimination balloon race, which started here May 1, has notified Carl H. Wolfley, manager of the event, that it will be acceptable to him to allow Captain H. B. Honeywell, second place, and Herbert V. Thaden, fourth place, to retain their honors.

The contest committee for the local contest committee for delaying the start of the race, by failure to fill their balloons when ordered.

Capt. Honeywell, piloting the St. Joseph Optimist, and Herbert V. Thaden, pilot of the Detroit, finished second and fourth, respectively, but were "demoted" on place for alleged infraction of the rules. Honeywell has declined third place and has said he will not be a member of the international team.

The contest committee was to meet today to consider Maj. Lambert's proposal.

Catholic Women Meet At Dubuque

DUBUQUE, May 18.—(AP)—More than 500 delegates are attending the biennial state convention of the Catholic Daughters of America which opened here this morning. A. H. Honeywell, second place, and Herbert V. Thaden, fourth place, were present.

The contest committee for the local contest committee for delaying the start of the race, by failure to fill their balloons when ordered.

Capt. Honeywell, piloting the St. Joseph Optimist, and Herbert V. Thaden, pilot of the Detroit, finished second and fourth, respectively, but were "demoted" on place for alleged infraction of the rules. Honeywell has declined third place and has said he will not be a member of the international team.

The contest committee was to meet today to consider Maj. Lambert's proposal.

Pershing Boosted For Senate Place

MISSOURI GOVERNOR URGED TO NAME GENERAL AS SUCCESSOR TO S. P. SPENCER WHO DIED SATURDAY.

BULLETIN.

MACON, Mo., May 18.—(AP)—Citizens of Macon, General Pershing's home town, announced they would send a telegram to Gov. Baker today urging him to name the general to succeed Selon P. Spencer as United States senator from Missouri, who died Saturday.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—(US)—Selection of Gen. John J. Pershing to succeed to the senate seat left vacant by the sudden death Saturday night of Selon P. Spencer of Missouri will be strongly urged on Gov. Baker of that state, it developed here today.

Prominent republicans from Missouri came to Washington some weeks ago with the proposal that the general become a candidate for the senate and even sought the aid of President Coolidge.

At that time, it was certain that Senator Spencer would be a candidate again in 1926 and, in view of his services, party leaders did not feel warranted in getting behind the Pershing movement.

An Opportune Moment.

With the senator's death, in the opinion of the general's friends, the time has come to put forward the hero of the American expeditionary forces as the republican candidate to fill the vacancy.

Senator Spencer's death is generally regarded here as having strengthened republican prospects for keeping the senatorial seat from Missouri. The senator had aroused some conflict within the party, and it was feared that, although he was certain to receive the nomination, he would be defeated by a strong democratic candidate.

With Gen. Pershing as their candidate, it now is claimed, the republicans ought to be able to carry Missouri in 1926 and so retain a much-needed vote in the senate. Although the general always has been careful to avoid political controversies, party leaders are reasonably sure that he would support a republican administration.

Has Just Taken Job.

The situation with reference to the general's candidacy is somewhat complicated by the fact that he has just accepted appointment by President Coolidge as the American member of the plebiscitary commission to settle the Tacna-Arica controversy between Peru and Chile.

If appointed to fill the Spencer vacancy he might have to give up his present post. On the other hand, if Gov. Baker should appoint somebody else that person undoubtedly would seek nomination and election and thus injure the general's prospects.

COLISEUM AN ASSET FOR THE ENTIRE TOWN

Would Mean Entertaining Many Big Conventions From Time To Time.

(CEDAR RAPIDS NEWS.)

If President Coolidge came to Cedar Rapids today, where would he speak?

There is no building in Cedar Rapids suitable for the entertainment of such a distinguished visitor.

There is no auditorium or hall large enough to hold even a portion of the crowd that would flock to listen to him.

There is no structure of which the city would be proud, and to which it would be glad to take the President of the United States to address the masses.

If Cedar Rapids should have the opportunity to entertain a big state or national convention, as it has had the opportunity in the past, to what building would it refer the committee as a suitable place to hold the convention sessions?

To bring the situation even closer home, exhibitions and exhibits of a local nature, concerts, large community gatherings and many other events are limited by the size and facilities of existing structures available for such purposes.

The loss of these things, inability to properly present distinguished visitors, lack of convention facilities, are some of the reasons why Cedar Rapids is not a more important city than it is.

Items on what it will cost Cedar Rapids not to have a memorial coliseum and city hall, construction of which on the island, the voters of the city are being urged to approve at a special election June 1.

Then there are other costs, if the building is not erected. There is the lack of a community center and the development of the island as a civic center. There will be the necessity in a few years of constructing a new city hall anyway, to replace the old furniture store on the island that has housed the city government for many years. And there will be the fact that Cedar Rapids does not have a permanent memorial to its heroic dead of three wars—the men who gave their lives for their country.

The construction of a combined memorial coliseum and city hall will be a matter of good business for the community as a whole and for the individual citizen, for each one is in reality a stockholder in the city government.

A Great Commercial Asset.

A coliseum is regarded as the city's greatest commercial asset. Through conventions and expositions, it will bring to the city thousands of dollars each year. It will stimulate the business life of the city. It will help the merchant, the laborer, the tradesman, the barber, the restaurateur, the professional man, in fact everyone who lives in Cedar Rapids. For the more people brought to Cedar Rapids in a year, the more business there will be for all.

A coliseum, such as it is proposed

(Continued on Page Ten)

General Counsel For Vets Bureau In Frazier Trial

BULLETIN.

MINNEAPOLIS, May 18.—(AP)—Arthur Lopez-Frazier again collapsed on the witness stand in U.S. district court today.

After less than half an hour of cross-examination, he broke into the most violent attack of coughing he has had in court so far and was led, stumbling and gasping for breath, from the court room.

MINNEAPOLIS, May 18.—(AP)—Maj. William Wolf Smith, of Washington, general counsel for the U. S. Veterans' bureau, came here today to assist the government in its defense in the Arthur Lopez-Frazier trial, in which the latter claims he is Arthur Frazier, World war veteran and seeks disability aid. Veterans bureau and war department records, the government contends, show that Frazier is dead and that these departments maintain that Lopez-Frazier is Arthur Lopez, a Mexican. Trial of the case was resumed today after a recess since Friday.

Maj. Smith left Washington Saturday night after a conference with bureau officials during which various angles of the strange case were discussed. In the meantime, the health of Lopez-Frazier was causing his friends much concern. The mystery man is suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis and spent the week-end resting in a local hospital. His condition was aggravated late last week when he became unconscious while on the witness stand and again when he was seized with a coughing spell during his testimony.

ON TRIAL



WILLIAM D. SHEPHERD

Darrow Compares Bryan (William) To Emperor Nero

NEW YORK, May 18.—(AP)—Clarence Darrow, Chicago lawyer, who is to oppose William Jennings Bryan in a Tennessee evolution trial, came out today with a few opinions about the Commonweal. "Nero and Bryan were linked by Darrow as men who had no common sense," he said. "Darrow's opposition enhanced the trial, and great doctrines." "Offers of Darrow and Dudley Field Malone of New York to assist in the defense of Bryan, have been accepted," Mr. Darrow is to assist in the prosecution.

"Nero," he said, "tried to kill Christianity with persecution and law. Bryan would block enlightenment with law. Nero failed as will Bryan. More persons are studying evolution in Tennessee now than before the law was passed just as Nero's acts made Christians."

"One may be sure of his ideas, but if he is intelligent he knows there is room for doubt and debate and he welcomes both. Mr. Bryan would block because of 'views.' He was brought up on certain beliefs which he has never questioned, or argued which he ought to be enlightened to the end that he might be wrong. That is lack of intelligence. Had Mr. Bryan's ideas of what a man may do toward free thinking existed throughout history, we would still be hanging and burning witches and punishing persons who thought the earth round."

Mr. Darrow said he and Mr. Malone were willing to pay all the expenses of the Tennessee trial "in order that day may triumph over night."

"Any man of ordinary intelligence could topple Bryan in such a fight," he continued. "The Tennessee lawyers are good. They will not need help."

BOOTLEGGER GOES TO PEN.

SHENANDOAH, May 18.—(AP)—After pleading guilty to his third offense, Alex Eldon, one of twenty men and women caught in a Page county raid on alleged bootleggers, was sentenced to three years in Fort Madison prison today by Judge Earl Peters.

100 VENIREMEN ARE CALLED TO PICK JURY FROM

Wife Meets Accused In Court With A Kiss; Fauman Is Chief Witness.

BULLETIN.

CRIMINAL COURT BUILDING

CHICAGO, May 18.—Three jurors to hear the evidence against William D. Shepherd, charged with murder for the death of his ward, William Nelson McClintock, had been accepted by the state when court recessed for lunch shortly after noon today.

They were Frank Silver, insurance man; Stephen Shupen, machine foreman, and Herman Burke, garage man and motor car salesman. A score had been rejected for various reasons, predominant among which was aversion to the death penalty. Shepherd, convicted previously of the slaying of a child, is the wide-spread belief given it and unwilling to be convicted on circumstantial evidence.

CHICAGO, May 18.—(AP)—William Darling Shepherd went on trial today charged with the murder of his millionaire foster-son, William Nelson McClintock. The prosecution indicated that it would ask the death penalty.

Charles C. Fauman, head of a school of sciences, who was indicted with Shepherd and confessed that he instructed the latter in the administration of typhoid germs, supplied him with cultures, believing that Shepherd planned to kill young "Billy" was granted a separate trial, and conceding that he and attorney Robert E. Crowe, Fauman, who said Shepherd had promised him a reward of \$100,000, which Fauman said he expected to receive if he had obtained "Billy's" death.

When brought into the courtroom, Shepherd showed lack of pressing but his wife, who had been with him, hurried forward and kissed her husband. She had intended to sit behind him but instead was given a seat across the aisle.

From three doors in the courtroom, the lawyer rather than one charged with crime. He inquired whether the trial would be conducted speedily and Judge J. Thomas J. Lynch "would be punctual."

Estimates of court attaches as to the time which would be required to obtain the twelve jurors ranged from three days to a week.

A special panel of 100 veniremen had been summoned in addition to a regular panel of sixty-five men, were called first to the jury box.

The first two veniremen examined for possible jury service were excused by the state after they had said they had conscience scruples against imposition of capital punishment.

Hammill Names Holden To State Road Commission

DES MOINES, May 18.—(AP)—Gov. Hammill today announced a recess appointment of James W. Holden of Scranton, as a member of the highway commission. The appointment will be effective from July 1 next, until thirty days after the convening of the next legislature.

Mr. Holden's name was submitted to the senate for confirmation during last winter's session but the appointment was rejected by the body.

Holden is at present a member of the commission.

W. V. M. Gerard of Cedar Rapids was appointed today a member of the board of pediatric examiners. Mr. Holden's name was submitted to the senate for confirmation during last winter's session but the appointment was rejected by the body.

James W. Holden has been re-appointed a member of the state highway commission because of his unquestionable integrity, courage and ability. His service to the state is of high order.

Gov. Hammill contemplates an extended road program. If it were a private business one would not hesitate, he would continue the experienced man in the position. It is a waste of the public to apply the same method in the administration of the state's business.

"Not a single word has been raised against the character, ability or service of Mr. Holden. The judgment is that the best interest of the state will be served, in continuing him on the highway commission at this time."

Light Globe Sets Fire To Bed, Little Girl Painfully Hurt

DAVENPORT, May 18.—(AP)—Eloise Allen, 6-year-old child, was seriously injured Sunday when an electric light globe broke, setting fire to her bed clothing. The child had complained of ear ache early in the day and had gone to bed. The light globe was placed in her room for her warmth. Her parents were busy down stairs when they heard the child's screams. Into the room they found the child in flames.

THE GAZETTE'S WINDOW OF WONDER DOLLIES; NOW ON DISPLAY AT THE KILLIAN STORE



HERE are some of the wonder dollies which all children of the city are invited to see. They are in the window of the Killian store, and introduce them to the wonder dollies—dollies that talk and sing and play and walk, and have real human hair just like little girls. Hundreds of little folk visited Killian's second floor Saturday and then made up their minds that they were going to own one of these wonderful dolls. If you will go there, the Doll Lady or her helpers will tell you how you may own one. You are invited to the Doll Lady's party, today and every day, on Killian's second floor.

—Photo by Baldridge, Cut by True-Art Engravers.