

Iowa State Bystander

ESTABLISHED FEB. CO., Publishers.
DES MOINES, IOWA

Wants aviation to change presidents as often as France changes ministers.

These aviation delays are going to trouble the road shouldered squad.

On a successful and decorous auto show must be properly called a high old time?

What is below the average, but the crop of automobile accidents in first class.

Women's hats are to be smaller, thus giving the hatpins a freer range for action.

The girl with six feet of veil streaming from her hat certainly does not own an auto.

Many a man boasts that he is "self-made" when he ought to do his best to keep it a secret.

About the only strings on the human kite are the pull of gravity and the rules of the aviation meet.

The new way of proposing is this: "I don't like your last name." If the girl agrees to this it is all settled.

American men should prevent women from entering business life, says a doctor. Just let them try it!

A highway tells us that there is poetry in a bean. But the chunk of pork that goes with it is quite prosy.

Eating corn on the cob may not be the most dignified pastime in the world, but by criming, it's real sport!

Big liners and tall skyscrapers are soon outdone, and then they fall back and are forgotten in the rank and file.

Brass bands and vaudeville stunts have failed to draw worshippers to a Chicago church. Why not try religion?

We see by the papers that a girl in Long Branch danced herself to death. She had probably remarked: "I could just die waiting!"

A man in Cincinnati offers to sell himself to the highest bidder, thereby placing himself on a level with European nobility.

Speaking once again of the flight of time, is there anything that flies more slowly than the week immediately following your vacation?

There's one born every minute. A Cleveland girl complains to the police that she was persuaded to hand a spywar fortune teller \$150.

"The forehead," says Lillian Russell, "should not be too high." Great Scott! Are they going to switch the forehead about like the waist line?

There is nothing new in the report the human aura has been discovered. It has often been used as a costume by our classical dancers.

It is against the law to wear a dead bird on one's hat in New Jersey, but the milliners may be depended upon to concoct something just as costly.

Chinese authorities have spent \$100,000 in furnishing a class room for their 13-year-old emperor and providing imperial textbooks. Poor little kid!

There's a tribe in Africa, under German domination, where the men eat their wives. This is a little more disagreeable than ordinary divorce, but it saves alimony.

Nevertheless, we refuse to believe that the man who went over Niagara Falls in a barrel could drop 1,000 feet from an aeroplane and escape death, even if he used his barrel.

A writer in a Chicago newspaper says that no real-life lovelinking is like that which the novelists describe. It may be, however, that the novelists describe it as it should be.

A New York woman thinks she is going to solve the servant problem by importing Filipino girls. Probably she will find before long that she has merely added another side to it.

A shoe merchant tells us that women's feet and brains are becoming larger. Possibly he is misled by the fact that women have developed enough brains to buy shoes that fit.

In the war against the fly the mosquito hopes to escape unnoticed. But success in the extermination of the one will stimulate the fight against the other, so the disturbed of our slumbers need not hum the louder in anticipated safety.

A legitimate outlet has at length been found for the surplus vacation energy of the small boy. He is fly-swatting, and the community and the home circle are doubly rejoiced.

A French scientist has succeeded in hatching tadpoles from frogs' eggs by administering electric shocks. We decline to become excited. If he had succeeded in getting tadpoles out of blackberry seeds there might be some reason for surprise—provided one were interested in the development of tadpoles.

Reports from the east say that the cranberry crop has been badly damaged, and this will be followed in a few weeks, no doubt, by the announcement that turkeys will be scarcer than ever.

It is exasperating, when one wishes to get upon a street car, to see it fit past, with the motorman and conductor grin sarcastically; but the Chicago man who used a shotgun for the purpose of inducing the crew in charge of a car to stop for him seems to have been almost too emphatic.

LARRABEE WEDDING

Iowa's Veteran Governor and Family Celebrate Anniversary

CUMMINS AND KENYON THERE

Former Governor and His Wife Are At Home To Host of Friends At Larrabee Home in Clermont—Married Sept. 12, 1861.

Clermont.—Former Governor and Mrs. William Larrabee on Tuesday, Sept. 12, informally celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at their home near this city. The former Iowa executive, who is now nearly eighty years old, takes a keen interest in every public movement and his daily correspondence is almost as large as it was during his active work.

The governor and his wife were "at home" to immediate members and close friends of the family. Among the former are the two sons, William, Jr., and Senator Frederic Larrabee, of Ft. Dodge, Charles Larrabee, of Ft. Dodge and the daughters, Mrs. Julia Lode, wife of the former mayor of Lincoln, Neb.; Mrs. Robbins, wife of Judge Robbins of Cedar Rapids, who also is a guest, and Miss Anna Larrabee.

Among the invited friends of the family were Senators Cummins and Kenyon and Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Conway of Ames.

Gotch Sees Own Pictures.

Fort Dodge.—Frank Gotch for the first time saw himself defeat Hackenschmidt in motion pictures when he saw the films run off here at a local show. After taking the red cross degree of the Knights Templar lodge he and other members of the lodge visited the motion picture theater.

50,000 Presbyterians in Iowa.

Chicago.—The annual report of the general assembly of the Presbyterian church, just issued, gives the following statistics on the Iowa synod: Presbyteries, 15; ministers, 300; churches, 483; communicants, 51,264; baptisms, 2,711; Sunday school membership, 45,644.

High Land Value.

Toledo.—The highest price paid for close-in land in this vicinity was reached when Lyman Emerson sold his eighteen-acre home for the sum of \$9,000 to Sam Bovenmeyer, who intends to make this his home. The land itself was valued at \$300 per acre.

Co-operative Store Suspends.

Marshalltown.—The Marshalltown Co-operative store started by union men to cut down the price of living on July 10 last will suspend. The stockholders did not patronize the store properly and wholesalers tried to smash it and would not give credit.

Prominent Young Man Killed.

Mason City.—Paul Benton Hart, 22, son of a prominent business man, was instantly killed while moving a gun in a seat in an auto. He had just shot a hawk and set the gun down beside him, with one barrel loaded and the hammer at cock.

Woman Killed at Grinnell.

Grinnell.—Mrs. Brassington from Altoona, Pa., was killed here at the Iowa Central crossing and her son, and her uncle, William Bortell, of this city, were injured. The carriage was struck by a freight train.

Injunction Is Asked.

Mason City.—Action for perpetual injunction against the school board has been brought to restrain it from expending \$40,000 for repairs to the high school building without submitting the proposition to bids.

Kills Himself With Shotgun.

Rockwell City.—Henry Potter, a young man working for Joseph Meuser, southwest of town, committed suicide by blowing a part of his head off with a shotgun.

Robbers Busy During Fair.

Nasau.—During the Big Four fair, robbers went through three business houses while the owners were at the fair, and got \$500 worth of goods and cash.

To Acquire Keokuk & Western.

Keokuk.—It is reported here that the Wabash and Santa Fe railroads have joined to acquire the Keokuk & Western road of the Burlington.

Kate Shelley Near Death.

Boone.—Kate Shelley, the North-western heroine, in a hospital at Carroll, is reported weaker, and may not recover.

Sank Sloop to Recover Large Sum.

Charles City.—The bank of Rudd has filed a petition of attachment against F. W. Kaynes, formerly cashier of the bank for \$12,995 which the bank says the cashier wrongfully voted to his own use.

Votes New City Building.

Oskaloosa.—Returns from the special election indicate that the proposition to erect a new municipal building carried by a majority of 1,021. Almost 800 women cast their votes.

Fourth Iowa Cavalry Celebrates.

Mount Pleasant.—Veterans of the Fourth Iowa cavalry closed their reunion here with a banquet at the Y. M. C. A. One hundred members of the first regiment which left Mount Pleasant for the front in 1861 were here for the campfire.

Lightning Strikes Church.

Stanley.—Union church was struck by lightning, the steeple was demolished and a hole torn in the ceiling over the belfry. The flooring was torn up.

Methodist Conference Meets.

Shenandoah.—The Des Moines conference of the Methodist Episcopal church will be in annual session here this week, Bishop Neely of New Orleans, presiding. Among the eminent men of the denomination present are Dr. F. C. Esplin, professor of Hebrew in Garrett Biblical Institute, who will deliver several lectures on the Old Testament; the Rev. Henry J. Coker, of Philadelphia; Dr. Edwin Locke of Topeka, and the Rev. W. C. Barclay, D. D., of Chicago.

New Buildings At State College.

Ames.—Building operations have again marked the last season, just as previous summers, at the Iowa State college. The new \$100,000 veterinary building is nearing completion, and the veterinary students and faculty soon will have their hopes for fine new quarters gratified. The \$150,000 gymnasium, which was started in June, has not progressed so rapidly, but the work is being pushed steadily.

Prouty Estate Divided.

Des Moines.—Judge Hewitt of the probate court has signed an order authorizing W. R. Prouty, executor of the will of the late C. C. Prouty, to divide the property between the heirs. Cheney R. Prouty, only son of the deceased, will get \$163,754.77 of the \$245,632.16 estate. The remainder, or \$81,877.39, goes to Mrs. Belle O. Prouty, widow of the deceased.

Iowa Has Best Roads.

Des Moines.—"I found the River-to-River road and Iowa roads in general far the best between Des Moines and Rockyford, Col.," said Dr. W. J. Charters, who, with Mrs. Charters, has just returned home from a five weeks' auto trip. "I made a number of side trips through Colorado from Rockyford, but aside from a few roads, which have been specially built, Iowa has them bested for automobile roads."

Oldest Pioneer of Iowa.

Muscataine.—Captain H. L. Clark of Buffalo, the oldest pioneer in the state, is dying at his home at the age of 98. He took part in the Black Hawk war and settled in Iowa in 1822 and was an intimate friend of Colonel Davenport who founded the city of that name and ran the first store in Iowa in 1829.

Electric Lights for Bedford.

Bedford.—Bedford has closed negotiations for electric lights from the electric light plant of Clarinda. The contract goes into effect December 1st, by which time the wires between the two towns will have been strung. The Clarinda plant has a franchise in New Market, and it is expected one will be sought in Gravitv.

Mishap in Burglar Chase.

Glenwood.—While chasing a man charged with burglarizing Miller & Phipps store, the auto driven by Arthur Dice and carrying Deputy Sheriff Al Edwards and a number of bloodhounds, went off a bridge at high speed near Pacific Junction, falling twenty feet into Pony creek.

Double Capacity of Plant.

Des Moines.—The Iowa Portland Cement company will immediately begin the expenditure of \$250,000 for additional machinery equipment, which will about double the present capacity of the plant. The average daily output will be increased from 3,000 to 5,000 barrels a day.

Sensational Trial Comes To Close.

Keosauqua.—The Warner manslaughter case terminated when the jury returned a verdict, finding the man guilty as charged. It is not thought that anything near the maximum penalty will be given as the circumstances surrounding the case point to accidental death.

Charged With Forgery.

Creston.—A. A. Wright, former cashier of the bank of Kent, at Kent, Ia., was arrested here by Officer Exline upon a warrant issued in a case in which W. H. Hoar of Kent charges Wright with the forgery of a note for \$320.

Man Jilted Sues Girl.

Mount Pleasant.—Fred Wellington of New London, is suing Nellie DeSpain for \$2,400 damages for breach of promise. He says she proposed to him and he accepted her in December and that in June she threw him down.

Charged With Kidnaping.

Glenwood.—Deputy Sheriff Edwards went to Des Moines to secure requisition for Mrs. Edward Howard, of Lincoln, Neb., charged with the kidnaping of two children from the home of Mrs. Stella Hooker at Glenwood.

Aged Iowa Musician Dies.

Iowa City.—Peter Weber, aged 96, is dead. He was the last member of the Hohmann band which played here during and after the civil war.

Creston Eager for Line to Canada.

Creston.—Persistent rumors from the east are to the effect that the Iowa Central railroad is to extend its lines south to Kansas City and the Gulf. Men high in authority claim that a thorough line from Canada to the Gulf is soon to be built.

Mrs. Phoebe Lucas Dead.

Iowa City.—Mrs. Phoebe Lucas, 84, widow of Hon. E. V. Lucas, is dead. She was a prominent woman during the civil war and her husband was colonel of the Fourteenth Iowa.

Church In Dedicated.

Mount Pleasant.—Mount Pleasant's new \$28,000 Congregational church was dedicated Sunday. Rev. T. O. Douglas preached the sermon. The building seats 600 people and is among the finest in the state.

Iowa City Wants Franchise.

Iowa City.—The Commercial club of this city has raised a guarantee of \$4,000 and has asked for a franchise in the Central league in place of Hannibal, which did not finish this season's schedule.

WANTED-A UNIFORM DIVORCE LAW



UNSEALS HIS LIPS DEFENDS PUBLIC MEN

MADISON MYSTERY, CLEARED WHEN JOHNSON CONFESSES HE SLEW GIRL.

HURRIED TO PEN IN AUTO

Fearing Mob Ex-Convict Pleads Guilty to Annie Lemberger's Death—He Is Immediately Sentenced to Prison for Life.

Madison, Wis.—John A. ("Dogskin") Johnson, former convict and former inmate of the state insane asylum at Mendota, pleaded guilty to the charge of having kidnaped and murdered little Annie Lemberger, seven-year-old daughter of Martin Lemberger, on September 6, and whose body was found in Lake Monona three days later.

Immediately he was sentenced to life imprisonment by Judge Donovan Twenty minutes later Sheriff Brown and Under Sheriff Page departed with him in an automobile for the state penitentiary at Waupun. The whole proceedings did not last over half an hour.

In many ways it was quite the quickest solution and conviction in a mysterious crime on record.

Johnson will probably be brought back to Madison. There is an idea that his disordered brain created a bug-a-boo of a mob that was waiting for him outside and that his confession was prompted by fear.

A sanity commission will probably be asked to pass upon his mental condition. While this probably would not result in his release it will at least bring about a reopening of the mysterious case. If Johnson is insane, and there is every reason to think that he is, he does not belong in Waupun, but in Oshkosh where a new hospital for the criminal insane of Wisconsin is approaching completion.

Suspicion against Johnson developed as soon as the crime was reported, and he was arrested. He was held in the police station and refused absolutely to confess or admit any knowledge of the crime.

ERUPTION OF ETNA SERIOUS

River of Lava From Volcano Imperils 65 Cities and Villages With 300,000 Inhabitants.

Catania, Sicily.—The eruption of Mount Etna is assuming the proportions of a disaster.

It was reported that 79 new fissures had opened in the volcano since the disturbance began. The river of lava, which is moving slowly northward, increased in volume and extended eight miles from its source.

The eruption means great suffering for the peasantry. The slopes of Etna, with an area of more than 400 square miles, support a population more dense than that of any other portion of Sicily or Italy.

There are 65 cities and villages in the area. The number of inhabitants is more than 300,000.

Biggest Hog Is Found.

Montgomery, Mo.—Perhaps the biggest hog in the world has been discovered in the possession of J. R. Robinson, who lives near Bowling Green, and has been brought overland for exhibition here. It weighs 1,100 pounds and is nine feet from tip to tip.

Famous Fisherman Is Dead.

Louisville, Ky.—S. S. Hite, known from Canada to the Gulf as an expert fisherman, whose grandfather came to Kentucky with Daniel Boone, is dead at the age of eighty-three.

Woman, Sixty-Five, Jilted, Sues.

Lawrence, Kan.—Ending unromantically a courtship of several months, Mrs. L. J. Sperry, a widow aged sixty-five years old has filed suit against James D. Faxon, sixty-nine years old, alleging breach of promise and asking \$10,000 damages. Mr. Faxon is a wealthy shoe merchant.

Spanish Workmen Strike.

Madrid, Spain.—A general strike was declared by the workmen's union. Troops are held in readiness for an expected outbreak of disorder.

ASK REMOVAL POWER

GOVERNORS URGE RIGHT TO OUST INCOMPETENT OFFICIALS.

O'Neal of Alabama and Wilson of N. Jersey Clash Over Initiative and Referendum.

Spring Lake, N. J.—The experience meeting of the governors of 24 states, with Governor Cruce of Oklahoma as presiding elder, was enlivened by a spirited verbal battle between Governor Wilson of New Jersey and Governor O'Neal of Alabama regarding the "caprice of the majority" and "mob rule;" by a spirited attack on the divorce evil by Governor Carey of Wyoming, and a plea for sympathy by Governor Kitchin of North Carolina, who has neither the power of veto, appointment nor removal.

Governor O'Neal of Alabama spoke on "Strengthening the Power of the Executives." He reviewed the conditions in his state, discussed the early constitutions of revolutionary times and declared there was a crying need in most states for their amendment.

Two methods in which the powers of state executives throughout the Union ought to be strengthened were discussed by Governor Edwin L. Norris of Montana. He agreed with Governor O'Neal that the first vital step to be taken is to bestow upon governors the power to remove inefficient state officers charged with the enforcement of the criminal and remedial laws. The second is to grant the governor the right to initiate and refer legislation to the voters for their approval or rejection.

Governor Wilson of New Jersey and Governor O'Neal measured swords over the initiative and referendum before the conference. Governor Wilson, as champion of the measure, replied to Governor O'Neal, who had previously denounced them as "an insidious popular vagary."

"There was no minding of words in the Alabamian's denunciation of the initiative, referendum and recall. 'There is a movement which seems to be gathering strength in certain sections of the country,' he said, 'that tends to weaken rather than strengthen executive authority, and that is the system of initiative, referendum and recall. The governor has no power to veto or amend a law initiated by the people and adopted by referendum. If the law is in violation of the constitution, invades vested rights or destroys individual liberty, the only remedy can be found in the courts; and where the system of recall of judges prevails, overthrowing as it does the independence of the judiciary, the courts would degenerate into tribunals organized chiefly to register popular judgment on all legal questions.'

Governor Wilson did not reply until several western governors had spoken. Among other things he said: "What I would urge as against the views of Governor O'Neal is that there is nothing inconsistent between the strengthening of the powers of the executive and the direct power of the people."

"The probabilities are that there is not a congressional district in America where there is a majority of purchasable voters; and the unpurchasable voters can control every one of them if they would only do their duty."

"The vast majority of American voters of all parties are absolutely honest. The majority of public men are of high character and patriotic. The corruptionists are only the exceptions, and the voters of the land, without regard to political preference of affiliation, are more and more demanding perfect integrity as a condition precedent to a public career."

"That's the truth, and it ought to be preached incessantly to our own people and to these newcomers into our midst."

G. A. R. LAUDS CLARA BARTON

New York Leader of Patriotic Body Says Veterans Pray for Red Cross Head.

New York.—As commander of the G. A. R. of New York state Gen. George B. Loud sent the following communication to Miss Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross, who is ill at Oxford, Mass.

"From the hearts of 40,000 Civil war veterans in the great Empire state goes up a prayer to the great white throne for the recovery of the woman—yourself—whose sublime work of suffering humanity has never been paralleled anywhere in the civilized world."

Big Warships Keel Is Laid.

New York.—The keel of Uncle Sam's latest and greatest dreadnought, the battleship New York, was laid at the New York navy yard in the presence of Rear Admiral Letzke, commander of the New York navy yard, officers at the yard and scores of workmen.

German Dirigible Falls.

Berlin, Germany.—During the army maneuvers the dirigible balloon "M3" caught fire and fell near the village of Grossblow. The crew saved themselves by jumping as they neared the ground. The airship was almost destroyed.

Find Poverty Is Growing.

New York.—There is more suffering from poverty in New York this summer than last year, according to the Association for Relieving the Condition of the Poor.

Umpire Killed by a Ball.

Boston, Mass.—Struck on the head by a baseball when umpiring a game at Riverside-on-the-Charles, Meyer Schlesberg is dead at the Boston Relief hospital, where he was taken after the accident.

Big Atlanta (Ga.) Tabernacle Opened.

Atlanta, Ga.—The new Broughton tabernacle, said to be the largest religious edifice in the south, erected by the Baptist congregation of which the Rev. Len G. Broughton is pastor, was opened here.

Gen. Funston's Father Is Dead.

Iola, Kan.—Former Congressman Edward H. Funston, seventy-five years old, father of Brig. Gen. Frederick Funston, commanding the department of the Philippines, died at his home here of heart disease.

Pay Too Low; Quits Pulpit.

Pontiac, Ill.—Rev. Robert M. Wood of the First Baptist church at Woodmont, has resigned his pastorate, declaring that the church does not pay his pastors enough salary. He will engage in farming. He has been a pastor for 17 years.

Eleven Uhlans Are Drowned.

Dresden, Saxony.—Eleven Uhlans were drowned in the Elbe during the army maneuvers. The tragedy occurred near Pirna where the cavalry scouts endeavored to cross.

Bare Binford Pictures.

New York.—Commissioner of Licenses Wallace has informed Isaac Levy, who controls the moving pictures for which Bulah Binford posed, that the pictures could not be shown in Greater New York.

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Reopen Historic College.

Bardonia, Ky.—Historic St. Joseph's college, once a place of refuge for exiled King Louis Philippe of France, abandoned as a seat of Catholic learning, except for twenty years after the war, was reopened here with impressive ceremonies.

McNamara Trial October 11.

Los Angeles, Cal.—Judge Walter Borchard announced that the trial of John J. and James J. McNamara, alleged dynamite conspirators, would begin October 11.

Counterfeiters on the Coast.

Washington.—The secret service believes that a dangerous gang of national bank note counterfeiters which has been lying low for a year is again operating on the Pacific coast. A counterfeit \$10 note on the Pasadena (Cal.) National bank, brought to secret service headquarters, was declared to be the work of the gang.

Astor's Son Going to Harvard.

Newport, R. I.—Vincent Astor, son of John Jacob Astor, will enter Harvard this fall.

HELD FOR BIG THEFT

FEDERAL OFFICERS ARREST A. POTTER, ALLEGED LEADER OF "CON" MEN.

LOOT TOTALS \$1,500,000

Alleged Gold Brick King Arrested After Long Search—Government Refuses Bond of \$50,000 for Release of Accused Man.

Chicago.—S. O. Potter, alleged leader of a band of confidence men, who is said to have earned \$1,500,000 through sales of "gold bricks" and green goods, was arrested by federal authorities. Seated in a Turkish chair in the parlor of his luxurious home at 1223 East Fifty-second street, Potter was smoking a cigar and reading a newspaper when the officers arrived.

The sum of \$50,000 offered for Potter's release was refused, and the prisoner was taken to the county jail following a preliminary hearing before United States Marshal Hoy.

Potter was arrested by C. F. De Woody, division superintendent of the United States secret service here, on charge of operating a confidence game in Wisconsin. In addition, his operations are said to have covered the principal cities of the world and his loot to have amounted to not less than \$1,500,000.

Potter is alleged to operate with a gang, chief of whom is his special companion, Edward Starkloff, alias A. A. Steaver, E. A. Seaton, E. A. Sheldon, E. A. Selby, A. B. Cline, Frank Norris, Francis Norris, Frank Allen, Ellis Shertley and E. A. Sands. Starkloff is said to use the name of Almore than his other aliases. He and Potter are known to the police as the "Gold Dust Twins." Between them they are said to have separated "suckers" from thousands of dollars.

Potter and his friends are reported to have cleaned up \$1,500,000 in cash in the last few years, and have carried on their schemes successfully in London, Paris, Berlin and Vienna.

Potter, arrested here under the name of George W. Post, is now under indictment on six counts on complaint of Fred W. Hansen of Evansville, Wis.; Josiah Millsaps of Brooklyn, Wis.; Richard G. Mason of Geneseo Depot, and G. A. Robisch, W. O. Elkhorn and W. F. Feind, all of Jefferson, Wis. They declare that they received his literature, inviting them to purchase "money" on discount, and complained to the federal officials.

Chicago, New York and Philadelphia were the favorite camping grounds of Potter and his crowd in America, but a year ago Potter and Starkloff were arrested in the latter city and indicted for operating a confidence game. They furnished a cash bond of \$23,000 and disappeared, and the department of justice offered a reward for them. Potter will be taken to Philadelphia when the Wisconsin matter is disposed of.

THIRTY HURT IN CYCLONE

Town of Hobart, Mich., Is Swept by Terrific Storm—Property Damage \$500,000.

Cadillac, Mich.—Thirty persons injured, six seriously; sixty dwelling and business buildings leveled to the ground and property damage