

IRVIN S. PEPPER PASSED AWAY AT MERCY HOSPITAL IN CLINTON EARLY THIS MORNING

Congressman From Second District Succumbs After Several Weeks' Illness

OPERATION FAILS TO SAVE PATIENT

Peritonitis Develops and Surgery is Unavailing; to Bring Remains Here

Muscataine, Dec. 22.—Congressman Irvin S. Pepper of Muscataine passed away at 5:10 o'clock this morning at Mercy hospital at Clinton, where he underwent an operation for peritonitis early Sunday morning. The operation was the last effort made to save the life of the distinguished Iowa legislator who was taken ill at Clinton with typhoid fever several weeks ago and who was slowly recovering when he suffered an attack of peritonitis in an aggravated form.

Word received from Clinton at 10:30 o'clock announced that the funeral of the late congressman would be held at 1:30 o'clock Friday afternoon at Ottumwa, Iowa.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—Representative Pepper was secretary of the democratic national committee. He was serving his second term in congress but previously had been for many years secretary to former Congressman Martin J. Wade of Iowa.

He had planned to enter the contest in Iowa for the senate against Senator Cummins and had gone to his home to canvass the situation at the time he was stricken.

Profound regret at the death of Representative Pepper was expressed in both the senate and the house today. Senator Kenyon announced the death to the senate and Representative Connolly to the house. Speaker Clark sent a telegram to a brother of the late congressman expressing sympathy of a personal loss. His son Bennett Clark will attend the funeral. Over seventy-five members asked the privilege of being named on the house committee to attend the services in Ottumwa Friday. The committee will include the entire Iowa delegation; Congressman Tavenner of Illinois, Russell of Missouri, Doremus of Michigan and Ashbrook of Ohio. The senate committee includes Senators Cummins and Kenyon, Lewis of Illinois, Jones of Washington, Gronna of North Dakota, Reed of Missouri, Martin of New Jersey, and Thomas of Colorado, M. F. Cronin, secretary to the late congressman, and the sergeants of both the senate and house will be in the funeral party.

Following the news received Saturday afternoon that his brother had suffered a relapse, Ben S. Pepper of Ottumwa left for Clinton. The aged father, John Pepper with Dr. J. L. Pepper of Goldfield had already reached their son and brother by the time Ben Pepper arrived at the hospital. Two nephews, Clyde and Lewis Pepper of Ottumwa left here Sunday night and the various relatives were present when the end came.

Service at Muscataine.

State Chairman N. F. Reed was informed at noon by Ben S. Pepper from Clinton, over the long distance telephone that the body of Congressman Pepper will arrive in Muscataine tonight about 9 o'clock and will lie in state in the home city of Mr. Pepper for a day or perhaps longer. The Macons and Elks will have charge of the funeral service to be held in Muscataine. The remains will be brought from Muscataine to Ottumwa by Ben S. Pepper and arrive here Wednesday or Thursday. A public funeral will be held in Ottumwa Friday afternoon. The service will be held at the Ben S. Pepper home on Chester avenue, and the remains of the dead congressman will be laid beside those of his mother in Shaal cemetery. The father, John Pepper with other relatives who were at the bedside when death came, are enroute home.

The following letter was received by the Courier in this morning's mail but was written before the end came and the writer was hopeful for recovery:

Clinton, Dec. 21, 1913

Editor Courier:

I arrived here at 8 a. m. I. S. Pepper was operated upon about 4 a. m. for pus in the gall bladder. About 1 1/2 to 2 ounces of pus was removed. He stood the operation well considering his condition, is resting well and we hope for his recovery. The case is

Congressman I. S. Pepper Who Died This Morning



Congressman Irvin S. Pepper was born June 1, 1876 on the old John Pepper homestead, four miles northwest of Drakeville in Davis county, Iowa, on "Soap creek." The youngest of a family of nine children, he worked on his father's farm in the summer and went to country school in the winter until he was 17 years of age, when he entered the Southern Iowa Normal school at Bloomfield. In 1896 his parents moved to Bloomfield. The following year Mr. Pepper graduated from the normal school and that fall taught school south of Pulaski, also in Davis county.

In the fall of 1898 he took a step, which, though he did not know it, then was fraught with momentous import. He went to Muscataine county, accepting a position as principal of the Atalissa schools. Muscataine county liked him from the start. He remained at Atalissa for three years.

In Muscataine county he early entered the political game. One year after his arrival there he was nominated by the democrats for county superintendent of public schools, running against the then incumbent, J. A. Townsley. Mr. Pepper was prevented by his school duties from making an active campaign. It will be remembered that the elections of 1898 differing from similar events of recent memory were not marked by any especial democratic triumphs. It was his first venture in politics. However, despite all these handicaps he came within 291 votes of being elected, which was for a youngster, a fair mark, and gave promise of better performances to come when the greenness was gone and he had become a crack warrior.

He Moves to Muscataine.

In the fall of 1901 Mr. Pepper moved one step nearer to Washington after the manner which many people believe he long ago decided to obtain—he moved to Muscataine. He came there as the principal of the Washington school in which position he served for two years. In the fall of 1903 the second district of Iowa elected Judge Martin J. Wade of Iowa City, to congress. He took Pepper to Washington. Mr. Pepper in the summer of 1902 took his first course in law at the summer school of the Drake university at Des Moines. When he went to Washington as Congressman Wade's secretary he took the work of both the first and second years' courses and completed both in his first year in the national capitol. The following year he took the senior year course and graduated in 1905.

In the fall of 1904 when Mr. Pepper returned to Washington after the manner of the senior class at the George Washington university was in the midst of a great contest over the election of a class president. The honor was being eagerly sought by five candidates, none of whom had a majority. When Pepper arrived on the scene the big class of 150 was divided into warring factions and had had a meeting without making a selection. Pepper never thought of being a candidate, but after repeated efforts to elect the class turned to Pepper the "Big Hawkeye" as they called him, and elected him president of the class. No one was more surprised than Pepper himself.

Enters Prominent Law Firm.

After his graduation in 1905, Pepper read law in the office of Attorney J. J. Smith of Ottumwa. Then he returned to Muscataine and went into the office of Carskaddon and Burke in

November of that year. January 1, 1906, he became a member of the firm under the name Carskaddon, Burke and Pepper. He was nominated for county attorney by the democratic party in the fall of 1906 running against J. R. Hanley, a candidate for a second term, was successful, being elected by a plurality of 310 votes. In the fall of 1908, he was re-nominated and re-elected, his opponent this time being John C. Coster. Mr. Pepper increased his plurality to 979.

Becomes Candidate.

Mr. Pepper's eleventh hour entrance into the race at the time of the democratic primary caused considerable comment and some attempt was made by his political opponents to make capital of it during the last campaign.

What is declared to be the true inwardness of his decision to become a candidate, right at the last moment, can now be told. At the democratic county convention on Friday, April 22, 1910 Mr. Pepper was warmly and enthusiastically endorsed for the office. He was not then an active candidate, and discouraged all suggestions of his candidacy and had practically definitely decided in his own mind not to tempt fate at this time.

Friday evening he left Muscataine for the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Pepper, in Ottumwa. The following morning at the parental breakfast table he told his father and mother of the events of the day before, including of course the kind words and endorsement of the county convention of his party. He saw their eyes glisten with pride as they listened. Then he told them that he had decided not to be a candidate, that he could not afford to make the race. Immediately he saw a subtle change, a shade of disappointment steal across their faces. Not a word was said. They made no effort to change his mind, uttered no

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CURRENCY BILL IN FINAL FORM

Conference Committee Busy Until Dawn Threshing Out Differences

ADHERES TO THE PLAN OF WILSON

Perfected Measure Shows Nearly All Features Laid Down By the President

Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—Although administration leaders in congress bent every effort for a speedy approval of the currency bill today, that it might be hurried to the white house for President Wilson's signature before night, a series of delays developed to hamper their program.

Printed copies of the conference report were late coming from the printers, and the parliamentary situation in both the house and senate seemed to favor delay. Democrats in both houses were prepared, however to ask for speedy approval of the disputed points agreed on by house and senate conferees with the hope of getting the bill out of the way in time for President Wilson to leave for his Christmas vacation in Mississippi tomorrow.

It was 2 o'clock before unanimous consent was given in the house to take up the conference report. At that hour the report had not been presented and the leaders expected at least two or three hours debate when it did come in.

As the house must first dispose of it, its appearance in the senate was not expected before late in the day.

The administration bill, in its final form was reported to both houses or congress to be written into the law by the members of the conference committee which labored until dawn this morning threshing out the differences between the two houses, presented a perfected measure which followed closely the lines laid down by President Wilson in his demands for currency reform.

A general desire among legislators to get away from Washington for the Christmas holidays are said in a program calculated by democratic leaders to place the bill before the president for his signature tonight and to clear the way for an immediate recess.

Set Aside House Rules.

In the house, procedure called for the setting aside of the rules in order that the conference report might not be forced to lay over for a day to be

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Mrs. Pankhurst Will Rest up After Strike

London, Dec. 22.—Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, the militant suffrage leader, left London yesterday for Paris on the way to Switzerland to recuperate from her weakness brought about by a "hunger and thirst strike" in Holloway jail from which she was released on December 17. Departure was not accompanied by any of the usual demonstrations.

Rumors were in circulation today that relations were strained between Miss Sylvia Pankhurst and Miss Christabel Pankhurst, the two daughters of the militant leader in consequence of Miss Sylvia's determination to concentrate her campaign in the east end of London and in efforts to cooperate with the members of the labor party. Miss Christabel disapproves of this scheme and is said to be withholding funds.

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Wilson Says Other Corporations Have Shown Tendency to Reorganize

Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—President Wilson let it be known today that some other corporations besides the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. had shown a disposition to take the initiative in reorganization to conform with the Sherman antitrust law.

The president did not specify what corporation he referred to, though in informal discussion of the subject with callers today he spoke of having some in mind. He reiterated that there seemed to be a very general disposition to inquire what the law was, to know what would be expected of "big business" and a desire to comply with the spirit of the law.

Mr. Wilson said it would be the policy of his administration to cooperate in every way it could to legitimately bring about a satisfactory understanding of the law by the business men of the country and that the executive departments did not want to raise barriers against those who wanted to obey the law. The president pointed out that the country generally would cooperate and heartily desired and

welcomed the impulse on the part of business to take the initiative.

The president indicated in his manner of discussion that he hoped the government had shown by example in the American telephone and telegraph

Senator Kenyon Wins Out With Railroad Bill

Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—Senator Kenyon's bill to prevent the removal of damage cases against railroads involving less than \$3,000 from state to federal courts was favorably reported by the senate committee on judiciary today. A similar bill has been reported in the house.

The bill was presented to the senate immediately by the committee and was passed without debate. Senator Kenyon is extremely gratified over the victory.

President Makes Public His Letter Reprising Carabaos

Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—President Wilson today made public a letter addressed to Secretaries Garrison and Daniels, respectively, requesting that a very "serious reprimand" be administered to those army and navy officers who participated in the recent dinner of the military order of the Carabaos at which the administration's Philippine and other policies were satirized. The letter follows:

"The officers who were responsible for the program of the evening are certainly deserving of a very serious reprimand, which I hereby request be administered and I cannot ride myself of a feeling of great disappointment that the general body of officers assembled at the dinner should have greeted the carrying out of such a program with apparent indifference to the fact that it violated some of the most dignified and sacred traditions of the service."

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"My purpose therefore, in administering this reprimand, is to recall to the men who are responsible for this lowering of standards to their ideals; to remind them of the high conscience with which they ought to put duty above personal indulgence and to think of themselves as responsible men and trusted soldiers, even while they are amusing themselves as diners-out."

(Signed) "Woodrow Wilson."

MURPHY IN REPLY TO VAN WAGENEN

REVENUE COLLECTOR GIVES OUT ANSWER TO ATTACK UPON ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Dubuque, Dec. 22.—Louis Murphy, collector of internal revenue for Iowa, has given out a reply to District Attorney Van Wagenen's attack upon Attorney General McReynolds, declaring that his dismissal is due not to the causes assigned by Mr. Van Wagenen but to the latter's failure in office.

In the article which is quite lengthy Mr. Murphy says:

"As the only representative of the administration in a major federal office in Iowa," says Mr. Murphy, "I feel it to be my duty to reply to Mr. Van Wagenen, informing the public of the actual facts of his brief and unfortunate administration of his office. I do this reluctantly because I have been Mr. Van Wagenen's political friend. I sought to persuade him to resign voluntarily because my knowledge of his record convinced me that his continuance in office must be disastrous to the interests of justice, and so to the administration."

"To my urgencies to withdraw, Jerry B. Sullivan, who had also been his friend, added his. But Mr. Van Wagenen insisted that he would hold on until put out, apparently in the deluded notion that he could fashion for himself a martyr's crown and be accounted another bleeding victim of the trusts."

GIVEN LIFE TERM FOR MURDERING

Cleveland, O., Dec. 22.—Judge Lawrence, in common pleas court here today sentenced James Meaney to life imprisonment in the Ohio penitentiary at Columbus for the murder of Patrolman Leroy Bouker here, Thanksgiving eve, 1912. Meaney was convicted last week of murder in the second degree. Three others are already serving life terms for the same crime.

BURLINGTON MAN SHOOT'S WOMAN

Burlington, Dec. 22.—Olive Layton, 28 years old is in a dangerous condition in a local hospital with a bullet in her head, fired by Charles Anderson, a cement worker. The woman says the shooting is accidental and the man says he was too drunk to know how it happened.

MAY MAKE CHANGE IN BURKE CASE

ATTORNEY GENERAL APT TO SAY THAT PRIVATE CORPORATION IS EMPLOYER.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—Secretary Garrison has learned informally that Attorney General McReynolds probably will rule that John Burke, manager of the commissary department of the Panama railway, whose transactions are under investigation, is an employee of a private corporation and not a government official. Such a ruling means that if the charges that Burke accepted gratuities from contractors from whom commissary supplies were bought should be sustained, Burke can be proceeded against civilly by the Panama railroad. Meanwhile the investigation of Burke's dealings with contractors is being pushed by the Isthmian canal commission.

NEW AMBRIM ERUPTIONS

Loss of Life Has Been Heavy Among The Natives on Island of the New Hebrides Group.

Paris, Dec. 22.—Fresh eruptions have caused further destruction of life among the natives of the islands of Ambrim in the New Hebrides group, according to a report received today at the French ministry of Marine from the captain of the French gunboat, Kersaint on his arrival at Noumea, New Caledonia.

Dip Point, on the western coast of the islands has been buried beneath a heavy fall of cinders and many of its inhabitants are missing. Several local steamers rescued 1,300 natives. No Europeans or Americans have been injured or killed. Earlier dispatches estimated the loss of life among the natives at 500.

WANT RECORDS OF THAW

Commission Requests Certified Copies From Matteawan of Attorney Jerome.

Concord, N. H., Dec. 22.—Certified copies of all records of the Matteawan insane hospital relating to Harry K. Thaw since his commitment to that institution have been requested of William T. Jerome, special deputy attorney general of New York in the legal fight to secure Thaw's return to the New York jurisdiction. The request was made today by the commission appointed by the federal court to determine whether Thaw's mental condition would make his release on bail a menace to public safety.

BURLESON PROTECTS MEN

Postmaster General Wants Assistants To Have Benefits of Civil Service Law.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Postmaster General Burleson has taken a stand against the proposal to take assistant postmasters from the protection of the civil service, which is embodied in the annual appropriation bill now in the hands of the house postoffice committee. Mr. Burleson today in a letter to Chairman Moon, characterized such a plan as detrimental to the public service.

PERRY WOMAN KILLED.

Perry, Dec. 22.—Mrs. A. Wallace, 79 years old, prominent resident of Perry and who has lived in Dallas county for nearly fifty years, was instantaneously killed when she was struck by a Milwaukee engine at the Woodward station today.

COMMUNICATION ABOUT RESTORED

Northwestern Mexico Now Has Advantage of Wire and Rail Service

CHIHUAHUA IS IN DIRECT LINE AGAIN

Federal Forces Are Victors in Scrimmages at Tepic and Mazatlan

Hermisillo, Sonora, Mex., Dec. 22.—Communication by rail and wire have been practically restored throughout northwest Mexico, according to an announcement made today by Ignacio Bonillas, secretary of communications, in General Carranza's provisional cabinet. This is assisting materially the constitutionalist campaign by putting the various insurgent leaders in close touch with the general headquarters here.

Telegraph lines have been restored in the states of Sinaloa, Sonora, Chihuahua and Durango, which comprise a section in northwestern Mexico about 800 miles long and about 500 miles wide. In this territory the federals hold only the coast towns of Guaymas, on the gulf of California, and Mazatlan on the Pacific coast. Constitutionalists officials assert that only the presence of two federal gunboats on the coast has prevented the capture of these ports. Secretary Bonillas announced that within a few days telegraphic communication will be restored between Nogales of the Arizona-Sonora border, and Juarez, on the Texas-Chihuahua border, by way of Torreon, 700 miles south of the international line.

Already the border telegraph lines between Hermosillo and Chihuahua City have been put in working order.

General Carranza received from his home at Saltillo, Coahuila, news that his three sisters Ursula, Hermilda and Mariana De Carranza had been forced to ride upon a federal troop train. This follows previous reports that federals had compelled the wives of constitutionalist officers to ride on patrol trains to prevent attacks by insurgents in that vicinity. Friends of the constitutionalist commander confirmed the report that his Saltillo residence had been sacked by the federals, who carried away furniture and carpets and either destroyed or appropriated a library of 5,000 volumes.

Federals Successful.

Mexico City, Dec. 22.—Federal success at Tepic and Mazatlan, on the Pacific coast of Mexico, are reported in official advices received here today.

The rebels are said to have been severely punished in a fight with the federal troops eight miles from Tepic, the capital of the territory of the same name, while the federal forces which had been besieging Mazatlan for many weeks are said to have assumed the aggressive and to be forcing the rebels back toward Culiacan, capital of the state of Sinaloa.

Watch For Mercado.

Presidio, Texas, Dec. 22.—United States troops patrolling the border were watching today for General Salvador Mercado, deposed commander of the Mexican federal troops who was reported to have crossed over to the American side from Ojajana, possibly with a view of making his way to Mexico City. It was not believed Mercado would be arrested should he be found in this country as he was said to be travelling as a civilian.

General Francisco Castro who succeeds Mercado, did not cross the river from here, until he had paved the way through a series of conferences with General Pascual Orozco, through intermediaries. His having been here was unknown until he had crossed.

CHARITON MAN KILLED ON CROSSING

Charlton, Dec. 22.—William A. Clark, aged 52 years, and one of Charlton's prominent business men, was instantly killed last night by Burlington No. 4, as he was returning home from downtown.

The funeral will probably be held Tuesday. Mr. Clark is survived by his wife and four children. A brother-in-law, Conductor J. W. Wilson of Ottumwa.

PROMINENT LAWYER DIES.

Cedar Rapids, Dec. 22.—Charles A. Clark, one of the most prominent lawyers in Iowa, died suddenly last night at the age of 72 years. He was a resident of Iowa since 1896, and became widely known because of his legal ability. He was prominent in the democratic party until 1896 when he became a republican. Mr. Clark was a veteran of the civil war.

MISSOURIAN KILLS WIFE.

Tulsa, Okla., Dec. 22.—Louis T. Rea of Carrollton, Mo., shot and probably fatally injured his wife, Blanche Rea, then shot himself to death in a hotel here early today. Both Rea and his wife are said to be prominently connected in Missouri.