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JIM HAM AND PEACE.

The danger that the utterances of a single man in a position of prominence may be mistaken for the sentiment of his whole country is illustrated effectively in the case of Senator Lewis of Illinois—Jim Ham of pink whisker fame—and his remarkable speech in the senate pleading for serious consideration of Chancellor Michaelis' peace talk.

A few weeks ago, the reading public in nations outside of Germany were electrified by the fiery speech of Matthias Erzberger, member of the Catholic centrist party in the German reichstag. He attacked Count von Bethmann-Hollweg, then chancellor, in unmeasured terms; scored the Hollweg policies and the U-boat campaign; demanded that Germany adopt definite non-conquest peace terms, and in general declared for a revision of the Prussian aims and war methods which would have left the entente little as a basis for continuing the war.

Erzberger was credited by the general public in America with representing his party, one of the strong minority organizations in the reichstag. He was credited with responsibility as a member of the reichstag and the impression was created that he spoke for a large portion of the German people.

In a few days his own party councils repudiated his declarations and pledged fealty to the kaiser and his policies. Erzberger was discredited by friends and foes alike, and those of the other nations who had taken hope of active German dissatisfaction from his outburst were disillusioned.

Now comes Jim Ham, and in a characteristic speech he demands that the senate and the United States government accept Chancellor Michaelis' inspired interview as an invitation to consider peace on terms acceptable to the United States. And the disagreeable feature about the thing is that in nations outside of America, where Lewis is known merely as a member of the United States senate, from one of the greatest states and from the second city in the land, his remarks must be construed by the uninitiated reader as reflecting the sober judgment of a large body of loyal Americans.

Lewis' views, which he says are based on the Michaelis speech, are as wild as his famous whiskers and as roseate in hue. He declares that what the kaiser's mouthpiece meant to say—though he didn't say anything like it—was that he proposed the restoration of Belgium, Serbia and Rumania, the return of Alsace-Lorraine to France and the return to Germany of her African colonies.

Michaelis, of course, meant to suggest the last named condition as a part of his ideas of a proper treaty, but had he hinted at the others listed by Lewis he would have been sacrificed before now to the quick anger of the junkers and the indignation of his patron.

Probably Lewis considers as merely a figure of speech the chancellor's insistence, which Count Czernin echoed, that the Teutonic powers would make peace only as victors.

Of course, Lewis' colleagues in the senate rejected his views with proper indignation. They know Jim Ham and make the allowances they should make for his irresponsibility and idiosyncrasies. It is regretttable that he is not known so well in Germany and in other countries overseas.

POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY.

The senate conferees on the food control bill followed the right course yesterday when they voted to yield on the proposed amendment for the establishment of a joint congressional board to pass on war expenditures.

The amendment was prompted by a spirit of criticism and bickering which is not justified, even by the evidences of turmoil and even of extravagance on the part of some of the nation's war activities. Such a spirit was behind the stubborn insistence on the measure, and it is the spirit rather than the object sought, that deserves rebuke.

The government's part in the world war cannot be directed successfully by a town meeting nor an unyieldy body of men. President Wilson, as he has pointed out, is the man on whom the responsibility rests, and he must be permitted to discharge his duties without undue hampering.

The establishment of a congressional committee to co-operate with the president for the purpose of framing and enacting proper war legislation would be entirely proper. But a committee born of a spirit of dissension and criticism not only would hamper him but it would hamper the progress of the nation itself.

There is a lesson in the situation, however, which the president cannot afford to overlook. If he is given the plenary powers he asks, he must be ready to use them to advantage. Every extension of his authority carries an extension of responsibility. The delays in putting an end to the ship building controversy, the delays in negotiating and having fulfilled the contracts for materials and camps for the war army, are due to differences in procedure the resolution of which rested solely with the president.

President Wilson, laboring under the greatest burden which has been put upon any president at least since Lincoln, enjoys the confidence of the overwhelming bulk of America's people. He must retain that confidence by proving himself worthy of it. He can do this by weeding out the inefficient ones among his advisers, by insisting on settlement of needless friction between departments and bureaus, by insisting on "pitiless" publicity for the administration's activities and by utilizing to the full the patriotic co-operation of the business men of the nation who have laid aside politics to rally to his support in the present emergency.

If he will do this he need have no fear of the outcome of any protest from the capitol against what may be called his encroachments and assumption of dictatorship.

THE DRY VOTE.

It is to be regretted that the senate's vote yesterday on national prohibition cannot be considered an unmixed victory for the element which has espoused that issue though so many years. Without denying any credit the party prohibitionists and other "dry" agitators may wish to claim, it must be admitted that the sentiment which crystallized in the vote of yesterday is induced to some extent by the war and its demand for sobriety and highest efficiency.

Because this is true, and not because of a lack of sympathy with the demand for prohibition, The Courier calls attention to the fact at this time. Possibly it is just as well to obtain constitutional prohibition as a result of the world war; certainly prohibition from now until the war and the subsequent period of reconstruction shall end is a major necessity. But there is a vast difference of opinion in America on this question of prohibition in normal times, and it is regrettable that the big issue should not have been permitted to wait for settlement until normal times are restored, war time prohibition being enacted meanwhile as an experiment to prove the virtue of making the restriction a permanent one.

In all probability, the ultimate decision—adoption or rejection by the states of the proposed constitutional amendment—will be postponed until after the war in the majority of commonwealths. The senate has acted, however, and the house is regarded as certain to give the proposal a sufficient majority.

Perhaps this vote would have been obtained in ordinary times, but because it is taken during the war, those who oppose prohibition have an opportunity to use as an argument against favorable state action the plea that the exigencies of the war are responsible for the legislative vote of submission.

So far as it is possible, the question at this time should be divorced from wartime considerations. The speech which Senator Kenyon made, appealing for votes in the senate on the ground of wartime necessity, is just the sort of speech which should not be made now, although it would have been a proper speech for the food control amendment, and war time prohibition should be enacted in as drastic a form as it is possible to conceive.

The Courier is convinced that America would be a better, greater, grander nation with liquor and its effects eliminated—war or no war. And because of a sincere desire to see this elimination The Courier believes the question should be considered now on its merits and without regard to wartime considerations.

National prohibition for all time should stand on its own bottom as an issue. The decision should be made by the people and the states after sober consideration of the problem as one of domestic national life. Such a decision, if it eliminates liquor, will bring results greater than mere prohibition—great as that may be—by upholding the majesty of the majority's rule and promoting respect for the nation's institutions of democracy.

SWEET AND THE HEAT.

Only one who has been sentenced to Washington in midsummer, with congress in session and the hot weather plug pushed in to the hilt, is able fully to understand the true significance of the term, "hot spell." With recollections of the steaming days through which Ottumwa has just passed it is possible to make some allowance for the condition of Congressman Sweet of Iowa, who rose at his seat in the national capitol Monday and, after warming up to his work by means of a long series of balanced statements as to what the people of America think of the country's course in the war, delivered the following:

Not here in the halls of congress during these momentous days is the fate of nations to be ultimately determined. Not here in the stately mansions of place and power is the destiny of the Republic to be finally decreed.

Not here in Washington in the sweltering heat of summer are all these great measures to be fully settled; but by the firesides of twenty millions of homes, scattered all over this great Republic—on the broad prairies of the west and in the hamlets and cities throughout the land, away from the roar and tumult incident to the preparation for war, in the seclusion of the household, in the quiet eventide, with father and mother surrounded by their children, with the thoughts of loved ones and country, with reverence for the fathers and saviours of the nation and their mighty deeds, with solicitude for the present and the future of our nation's welfare, with the fires of patriotism aglow in their hearts, is to be found the serenity of mind, the communion of souls, the sincerity of purpose, the absence of guile, where God in His infinite mercy, justice and wisdom finally prepares and decrees the destiny of all mankind, living under the banner which exemplifies the freedom of the free, wherever it floats, the whole world around.

With this sentence out of his system, Mr. Sweet proceeded to define "Americanism," which, he said, epitomizes "the struggles, the hopes, the dreams and the aspirations of man for better days and better things since the time when he cringed and crawled in the dens and caverns of barbarism and groped and felt his way through the long night of the stagnant centuries, toward the dawn of a grander day up to the present hour when we behold him revealed, standing upright, with the sunlight of heaven in his face, or walking with uncovered head beneath the silent stars, contemplating the handiwork of the Creator and the betterment of the human race."

Americanism he described, also, as being "like a mighty and everwidening stream," and continued:

> Its origin is coeval with the human race. It has been fed by passing clouds that drop their garnered fullness down, by innumerable rills that gush from the mountainside, by springs that well up into its unseen depths, and by subterranean rivers that joyously swell its ever-increasing volume as it moves on in solemn majesty toward the eternal sea. It wanders through every land, permeates every soil and touches all the shores of thought. Sometimes its course has been through pleasant fields bestrewn with nature's rarest gifts. Sometimes it has been o'erhung with embowering trees that fleck its surface with tremulous and everchanging shadows. Sometimes it flows through the forest depths, by cave and woodland dell."

And so forth.

Certainly the hot weather must be blamed, though it is an awful indictment. High school orations are acceptable in their proper place, to be sure, but it seems a shame that the machinery of the United States government must be halted, at a time when the nation waits on tip-toe for important war time legislation, while such effusions are spilled into the already fetid air of Washington.

THE BALANCE.

With three years of the war behind us and the fourth and doubtless one or more others in prospect, it is proper to pause in the perusal of stories of death and carnage to consider just what has been done, and to strike a sort of trial balance of war.

Considering Germany's case first, we find the following items on the side of the central empires, as achievements wrought at the cost of many billions of dollars and millions of lives:

Ravages of the U-boats. From 400,000 to 600,000 tons of merchant ships—perhaps more—put out of service monthly in the last six months. Neutral shipping largely frightened off seas.

Disorganization of the Rusian army due to revolution. Rout of the Russians in Galicia and Bukowina.

Conquest of Roumania, with possession of rich farming and oil fields.

On the credit side for the entente allies there are the following entries:

United States, Brazil, seven other American nations and Siam enter the war against Germany, or have severed diplomatic relations with Germany, because of the U-boat campaign. Great wealth, man power, manufacturing power and inventive genius thrown into the scale.

Roumania and Greece with fresh armies join the allies.

Russian democracy uprooting German influences throughout Russia and spreading the campaign against autocracy among the German and Austrian masses.

Death of Francis Joseph and rise of Emperor Charles, who has overthrown the pro-Prussian party in Austria-Hungary and has taken a powerful hand in committing the German reichstag to a program of peace without conquest.

German socialists openly fighting autocracy and carrying their campaign to the army. Strikes and riots in many parts of the empire.

The American embargo, which will shut off many military and food supplies Germany has been getting through neutrals.

Retreat on a front of eighty miles by the German army in France. Capture by the British of Vimy and Messines Ridges and by the French of Craonne Plateau and Fort Vaux. Advance of the British past Bagdad and across the Sinai peninsula. Capture of Gorizia by the Italians and Monastir by the Serbs.

On this page is a diagram showing the major items of cost for three years of the war, with comparative figures for other conflicts. It is an object lesson in itself, and its contemplation, together with the items listed above, serves to show us here in America the meaning of the war into which we have been plunged by the kaiser's lust and outlawry.

HAIR TRIGGER CRITICISM.

It is a little amusing and more than a little disgusting to read in several Iowa newspapers the most indignant and extravagant arraignments of Davenport as a community of ingrates and disloyal individuals because a very few of that city's several thousands brought Daniel H. Wallace to Davenport for one of his alleged disloyal and certainly illogical and senseless "lectures" in which he scored the draft law and Great Britain, criticised the United States government and lauded Germany.

Yesterday a federal grand jury, sitting at Davenport, returned indictments against Wallace and six Davenport men, charging conspiracy and invoking the new espionage law. A few hours before the true bills were returned to Judge Wade, loyal men and women in Davenport announced the success of a four days' campaign to obtain pledges from citizens to supply $24,000 a year as long as the war shall last, for the support and equipment of Red Cross hospital units for which Davenport women are making supplies.

Although it probably was not planned with any reference to the investigation of the Wallace cases, the Red Cross achievement serves as a timely answer to the hair trigger Iowa editors who have chosen to charge Davenport with a lack of patriotism because of the Wallace meeting and the fact that a handful of Davenport men professed to believe Wallace was right in his course.

The Wallace incident truly was a disgrace to Davenport, viewed from one angle. Davenport people, the great bulk of them, took this view and wiped out the disgrace by applauding the investigators who made quick work of their inquiry and obtained indictments in record time.

On the other hand, Davenport people well might claim considerable credit for their cool-headed action in permitting the law to take its course and refraining from any attempt to hasten justice by methods such as were employed at Butte, for instance. Certainly there can be no disgrace in abiding by the law.

Davenport, to be sure, is no Eden, but a blanket charge of disloyalty should not be added to the other counts against it.

A WAR CABINET.

It is not a pleasant fact to admit, but it is becoming more and more evident that, before America can have a wartime administration of proper efficiency there must be a reorganization of the cabinet which will bring into it some of the strongest men in the nation, chosen for their fitness and not with regard to their political possibilities, powers, past performances or ambitions.

Secretary McAdoo has a rather extensive organization helping to propagate his boom for the presidential nomination in 1920, and his attention is divided between that interest and the herculean duties which belong to the secretary of the treasury at this particular time.

Secretary Redfield, who has some duties of his own, is bucking the McAdoo boom quite industriously, apparently for reasons more political than patriotic, and the two departments have become involved in a conflict over a question of credit for the proposed army insurance law, which is to take the place of a pension provision in this war. Pensions, of course, always have been handled in the department of the interior, and it would seem proper to let that department handle the subject now.

The serious phase of interdepartmental rowing at this time is that it reduces the efficiency of the administration and embarrasses the one man on whom the nation must depend for statesmanlike direction of the government's affairs, President Wilson.

Burdened with a cabinet which never shone as especially brilliant even in normal times, the president is extremely unfortunate now, when these same men are in positions of the greatest responsibility at a critical period in the nation's history. The fact that Secretary McAdoo is the president's son-in-law complicates the situation materially.

But the country has learned that Mr. Wilson had sufficient nerve to settle one disagreeable row by removing both parties from their official posts. General Goethals and Mr. Denman stayed longer than many people thought they should, but there could be no fault found with the speed with which they got out when the president finally decided they could not compose their differences satisfactorily.

His action in the case of the shipping controversy lends strength to the hope that he may follow a similar course with regard to his squabbling cabinet members, against whom there are two counts—incompatability and failure to measure up to the requirements of their jobs.

Every nation involved in the war has found it necessary to make extensive changes in its war cabinet. Not one of the premiers who were at the head of affairs in their respective governments when the war began is there now. A war time ministry demands special qualifications which a ministry in normal times does not require. A war cabinet composed of specialists would be of great advantage to the country and a great assistance to the president.

DRAFTING BOND BUYERS.

The plan put forth by the members of the state legislature living in the fifth congressional district, for levying a tax to raise money for the purchase of Iowa's quota of Liberty Bonds, has the virtue of originality, at least, and possesses several other points that commend it to the thoughtful consideration of the people and the governor.

It was found during the recent campaign for the sale of the first Liberty Bonds that many men who, by all the rules of reason and patriotism, should have been heavy purchasers, refrained from buying altogether or delayed their purchases until they had been solicited repeatedly.

Yet, the war is as much theirs as it is the war of the wage worker who is saving his dollars and dimes to make his payments on a bond of small denomination. It is as much his duty to buy in accordance with his means as it is the duty of his wealthy neighbor, to be sure, but the point is that the responsibility is for both.

There is room for doubt as to the constitutionality of such a law as is proposed. The Courier does not attempt to pass on that question. But the suggestion affords opportunity for discussion of the duties of Iowans and of every citizen of the United States—discussion which ought to result in a realization of that duty and a proper division of the feeling of responsibility.

It is the history of every campaign for a fund to further the interests of a city, or of a community of any size, that the men and women who provide the money are the community's patriotic, public spirited, loyal people. It is noticeable that in their number there are many who would not rank at the top in a wealth list; it is noticeable also that the names of some of the community's richest men cannot be found in the list of contributors.

This is true not only when the request is for actual donations; it is just as true when an investment offers small returns in money individually though it holds possibilities of considerable betterment for the community as a whole.

It is the course of men who should subscribe in these campaigns which gives rise to proposals such as the one for a tax levy to provide for Liberty Bond purchases.

It is too early now to speculate on the course Governor Harding may take if the request for a special session of the legislature reaches him. It is too early, also, to speculate on what the legislature would do if assembled.

It is not untimely, however, to indulge the hope that if a way is found to create a tax law along the lines proposed, the tax shall be made to apply to all classes on a basis of financial ability. It would be better to end the discussion now and depend on the volunteer system for the sale of Liberty Bonds, than to enact a law along the lines followed so often by Iowa legislatures, with exemptions for this or that class of citizenship, corporation or industry.

If Iowa is to draft her bond buyers, there should be no favoritism and no exemption.

HEFLIN'S OUTBURST.

Congressman Heflin's attack on Representatives Mason and Britten of Illinois in the house yesterday partakes of the mob spirit which prompted the execution of Little in Butte recently and moved the citizens of Bisbee to drive the I. W. W. agitators out of their town.

Patriotic Americans are losing patience with the thinly disguised pro-German activities which are becoming more and more evident in this country, and it is not difficult to understand the indignation of Mr. Heflin over the activities of Mason and Britten, and, as well of La Follette and others in Washington, who take advantage of their official positions to voice ill-advised statements which should be suppressed summarily.

Heflin summed up his arraignment like this:

> The other day one member in another body by his objections held up for ten days the airplane bill. Would Germany have asked anything more?
>
> Another one praised the slackers and the traitors of Canada for resisting the selective draft. Would the kaiser have asked for more?
>
> Another has tried to discredit Mr. Hoover before the country.
>
> Yesterday another introduced a bill to have a referendum whether the commander in chief should send men out upon the ocean to fight for the liberty of this country. Would the kaiser have had him change his tactics?
>
> In this house a member from Illinois has introduced bill to undo the selective draft, and the German spy system is having petitions sent to members asking them to vote for it.
>
> Another gentleman from Illinois, Mr. Britten, introduced a bill to exempt all men of German blood from responsibility in this war and from fighting for the flag.
>
> What will that do? Why, the kaiser says to them: "The people of the United States are not with the president; the Germans won't fight against the fatherland; Britten has a bill which speaks that fact. Mason is going to undo the selective draft, and they will have no army; and the senator from Georgia has introduced a bill to get every man's consent as to whether he will fight or not."

The halls of congress, of all places in America, should be the last to hear the voice of disloyalty. To that extent Mr. Heflin is justified in his outburst. It is unfortunate that he resorted to extravagant language which the house expunged from its record, for the message he had to deliver was one which would have lost nothing by being phased with dignity and delivered with solemn seriousness and without personal rancor.

APPANOOSE MEN TIRE OF BLUE LAWS

Centerville, Aug. 3.—With the Sunday closing laws being successfully enforced in Centerville and Appanoose county by County Attorney Greenleaf, business interests affected have started a movement to have an investigation of conditions in surrounding counties to see whether this county is discriminated against in the inconveniences resulting from Sunday closing. In every case tried here by the county attorney, he has been succesful, first getting three convictions before justice court juries, and then an opinion on an agreed submission of facts before the district court, Judge Seneca Cornell of Ottumwa giving the opinion. It is believed that every confectionary and ice cream store in the county will be closed next Sunday unless there is further contest of the law on the grounds that it is not in effect elsewhere.

MOULTON WOMAN LEAVES CITY $10,000

Centerville, Aug. 3.—The will of Mrs. Mary H. Biggs of Moulton, filed with the clerk of the court here, gives a bequest of $10,000 to the city of Chicago, the income from same to be used in aiding orphan and homeless girls from five to fourteen years old. She gives this in memory of her son J. Lloyd Armstrong and the fund to be held intact is to bear his name. She also gives $1,000 to Albert Sampson of Berthoud, Colo., who was with her son and gave him much attention in his last days. A namesake of her son, J. Lloyd Moon, of Annawan, Ill., gets another $1,000. Her husband, W. H. Biggs, gets $1.00, which was provided for in an antenuptial contract.

FINDS RATTLESNAKE IN BUREAU DRAWER

Centerville, Aug. 3.—When Mrs. William Espy, wife of a farmer near Centerville, opened the dresser drawer in her son's bedroom she threw up her hands in terror on seeing a rattlesnake coiled there. Presumably it had been carried in from the harvest fields the evening before in the boy's coat, and had sought a hiding place in the drawer. Help was called and it was killed.

BOY ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.

Trenton, Mo., Aug. 3.—Gleason Barnett, the nine-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Barnett, living at East Ninth street and Harris avenue, was accidentally shot through the right shoulder by Frank Edgar Davis, 12 years old.

Children's Evening Story

Copyright, 1915, by A. S. Bailey.

TOMMY FOX LEARNS A NEW TRICK.

Now, there was a road that ran through the valley, along the bank of Swift River. And when Mrs. Fox reached it, with Tommy close behind her, she turned again—this time to the left—and ran along in the beaten track which the horses and sleighs had made.

Tommy Fox thought it very strange that his mother should lead him to the road, where they were sure to find people driving. Tommy followed her. But he was very unhappy. They swung into the road just ahead of a farmer, who was driving along in a sleigh. The sleigh-bells tinkled merrily as the horse trotted smartly down the road. But the jingling of the bells did not sound at all pleasant to Tommy Fox. It only frightened him all the more.

The farmer in the sleigh did not see Tommy and his mother, for the snow rose high on both sides, and the road wound in and out. Little did he know that Mrs. Fox and Tommy were scampering along in front of him. Of course, he couldn't catch them, anyhow. Tommy knew that much. But if they ran very far down the road they would be sure to meet some other man.

To Tommy it seemed bad enough to have that dog chasing them, without going where they were sure to find other enemies. Tommy could hear the dog braying. And he knew dogs well enough to know that that dog felt sure he was going to catch them. But pretty soon Tommy heard the dog talking in a very different fashion. He gave a number of short barks, which meant that he was in trouble.

Mrs. Fox looked over her shoulder and smiled at Tommy. She knew that they were safe. She knew that the dog had not reached the road until the farmer had driven right over their footsteps and spoiled their scent. After the horse had passed over their trail the dog could smell only the horse's footprints, instead of theirs. And Mrs. Fox could tell what was happening back there in the road. She knew just exactly as well as if she had been there herself—she knew that the dog had stopped short, and was running all around, with his nose to the ground, trying to find where she and Tommy had gone. But he never found out.

You see, he wasn't half as clever as Mrs. Fox. It never once occurred to him that Tommy and his mother had turned into the road just ahead of that farmer in his sleigh. And finally the stupid dog gave up the chase and went back to Farmer Green's house.

By that time Mrs. Fox and Tommy were safe at home. Yes—they were even having a good laugh over the way they had fooled the dog. And Tommy had quite forgotten how frightened he had been. In fact, he began to feel very well pleased with himself. For he never once remembered that it was his mother, and not himself, who had thought of that trick. He ought to have felt very grateful to his grandmother, for having taught his mother that clever way of cheating a dog out of his dinner. But Tommy Fox was so conceited that if his grandmother had been there with them he would have thought he knew ten times as much as she did. I've no doubt that he would even have tried to teach her to suck eggs— never once stopping to think that she knew all about such things many years before he was born.

(To be continued.)

DINNER STORIES

It was a little hard on the boy, for he meant well, and had a since admiration for the girl. They were sitting at the tea table with a company of others, and as he passed her the sugar he murmured in an undertone:

"Here it is, sweet, just like you."

The compliment was a little awkward to be sure, but he meant it, and it seemed more than cruel when a moment later she had occasion to pass the butter to him, and drawled:

"Here it is, soft, just like you."

He was a New Yorker visiting in a South Carolina village, and he sauntered up to a native sitting in front of the general store and began a conversation.

"Have you heard about the new manner in which the planters are going to pick their cotton this season?" he inquired.

"Don't believe I have," answered the other.

"Well, they have decided to import a lot of monkeys to do the picking," rejoined the New Yorker. "Monkeys learn readily. They are thorough workers and obviously they will save their employers a small fortune otherwise expended in wages.'

"Yes," ejaculated the native, "and about the time this monkey brigade is beginning to work smoothly a lot of you fool northerners will come tearing down here and set 'em free."

The vicar of the parish when out walking one day met a former lady member of his congregation.

After exchanging salutations he observed: "I don't see your husband with you so much as when you were on your honeymoon. Has he grown cool?

"Not if what you preach be true," was the reply. "He is dead!"

BOY SCOUT SAVES LIFE OF NEPHEW

Marshalltown, Aug. 3.—Gail Adam, a member of the Boy Scouts troop of Liscomb, this county, has enrolled in the hero class by saving a life. The boy risked his life to save that of his little nephew.

The little fellow had started to cross the Minneapolis & St. Louis railroad tracks ahead of a freight train and slipped and fell between the rails. Adams rushed to the child's aid and pulled it from the track when the locomotive was not more than a rail's length distant.

IOWA AUTO OWNERS VERY DELINQUENT

Des Moines, Aug. 3.—Lists of automobile owners in the state who are delinquent in the payment of their auto taxes were being sent out today to county attorneys by W. S. Allen, secretary of state. There are 33,000 owners in Iowa who have failed to pay their license money according to Secretary Allen's records. County attorneys in these counties were notified that car owners were in arrears with payments: Shelby, Clay, Cherokee, Allamakee, Adair, Adams and Mills. Money for licenses was due the state April 1. After that time a ten per cent penalty was attached to all delinquencies.

CENTERVILLE PLANS AUTO TRIP FOR CO. D

Centerville, Aug. 3.—Under the auspices of the Association of Commerce an auto ride is being provided for Company D boys now in camp. Many of them come from Unionville, Udell and Moravia which are to be included in the tour to be made some evening soon after supper, accompanied by the band. A big farewell banquet is being arranged for by the Association of Commerce to be given them before their departure. At the county picnic held on the grounds recently more than 4,000 people were present.

RED CROSS IS READY.

Oskaloosa, Aug. 3.—The first box of supplies was packed at Red Cross headquarters this week, and it contained only eight short of 5,000 pieces. There is over one-half o fthe second box done up and packed, waiting for enough finished supplies for shipment. All this had been done by the ladies of Mahaska county including the Oskaloosa chapter and auxiliaries which have been organized since July 1st.

LITTLE BENNY'S NOTE BOOK

BY LEE PAPE

The Park Avenue News.

Weather. Warm in the shade and hot in the sun.

Fearse Accident. Leroy Shooster fel loff the roof of a 40 story bilding last Friday nite and landed on top of his hed in a barril of pins, wich jest then he woak up and was mutch releeved to find out it was ony a dream.

Spoarts. Sam Cross found a haff of a tape mezure last Thersday and a contest was started to see who cood open their mouth the widest, Skinny Martin winning by opening his three inticheс.

Pome by Skinny Martin.

Nobody Ixpected To.

He opened his mouth and yelled,
And there was hundreds of peeple
erround,
But he was ony a man in the movies
So nobody herd the sound.

For asle or rent. Dog kennel, on account of having got a new one. If you havent got eny dog, it can be used to decorate the back yard and make berglers think you have got a dog. See Sid Hunt. Avvertizement.

Deths. Gold fish frum Sam Crosses mothers aquarian. Fewnrel private, in Sam Crosses back yard next Toozday at 4 o'clock. Admission one sent.

Intristing Facks About Intristing Peeple. Skinny Martin wunts had his pickture taken with a sailor hat on like a sissy boy, wich Skinny wunts to say he never did, but the pickture is on the mantel peece in his setting room.

COOPER SELECTS ENGINEERING HELP

Keokuk, Aug. 4.—The commissions for the members of the immediate staff of Hugh L. Cooper, well known engineer and builder of the Keokuk dam, who is now "somewhere in France" in charge of all the engineering work of the United States contingents abroad, were approved by the war department.

After a consultation between Mr. Hughes and Colonel Taylor, now in France, the commissions will be signed by the president and forwarded to the chosen seven who are to comprise the immediate staff with Mr. Cooper in charge of the work.

Among those who will serve on the personal staff of the engineer is County Engineer M. F. McFarland of this city, who will be commissioned a lieutenant and who is now awaiting further orders to proceed to New York, from where the party will sail.

FARMER'S BODY DRAWN INTO MACHINE

Washington, Aug. 4.—Douglas Rathmael, prominent farmer, was instantly killed by being drawn into a threshing machine. The lower part of his body was literally torn to shreds.

The machine would not work properly and in an endeavor to discover the cause Mr. Rathmael climbed to the top and began investigating with a stick, when the fatal accident occurred.

No one knows whether a board gave way or whether the stick caught in the cylinder and drew him in. The engineer saw him fall and men near heard one agonized word, "Help"—that was all. It is thought he died almost instantly.

NEW SHARON DOCTOR NAMED.

New Sharon, Aug. 4.—Dr. Harry I. McCulloch of New Sharon, has received an appointment as second lieutenant in the veterinary department of the U. S. army and will go to France for service.

WARNS ABOUT CUT OUT.

Brighton, Aug. 4.—Mayor Williams of Brighton, warns auto drivers to keep their foot on the soft pedal of their car while in that town. The state law forbids the use of the cut-out.