

THE ST. JOSEPH OBSERVER.

VOLUME XI.

ST. JOSEPH, MO., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1917

NUMBER 9.

THE PROTECTION THAT IS ACCORDED OUR BOYS

How the Strong Arm of the Government Will Shield Them and Their Dependents

If the Soldier Loses His Life, the Family Is Safe and Wounded Soldiers Are Cared For

When our St. Joseph boys rode away to the Camp Funston and Fort Sill and Great Lakes and Jefferson Barracks and Camp Clark and other training camps, many an anxious parent or otherwise dependent watched them go with a sinking at the heart, not from lack of patriotism, but from a realization of what condition the parent or dependent would be left in should death or other misfortune overtake the soldier by then going out to begin the preliminary work to become a soldier of the nation.

These parents and other dependents thus watched their boys go in this mood, for the reason that patriotism does not fill the empty larder, neither is the pay of a private soldier a royal sinecure, therefore the prospects with winter coming on was anything but encouraging, when right at the time in September when these dependents were feeling the most alarmed along comes the American congress and passes a law which the President approved on the 6th of this month, which put every doubt that might have existed in the minds of these dependents as to what Uncle Sam would do for his boys and their families at rest.

"I consider this one of the greatest and best acts ever passed," said Congressman Charles F. Booher of this district, who helped to pass the bill, yesterday. "By and through it no family or person who has a member or a person in the army need have any worry as to the future—outside of the danger to which the soldier is subjected—for ample provision is made for any dependent should a fatality result or in case of the disability of the soldier or sailor himself he is provided for the rest of his natural life—and then his family if he has one—after him.

"We felt that the fathers and mothers and the sisters, brothers and wives of soldier or sailor could more readily yield up their boys if they were assured that all possible that humans could do was done for them, and therefore we did our best—as we should. We passed an appropriation of \$141,000,000 for family allowance, \$12,150,000 for family compensation for death or disability and \$23,000,000 to help to defray the cost of life insurance that may be taken out by them, and we will make any further needed appropriations that may develop in future. In this way we made it so that the American who goes into the army or navy may know that his wife and children, or his dependent parents or his brothers and sisters will be provided for, not only if he is killed but while he is gone, and he will not leave them to suffer destitution or to become recipients of charity," he added.

The Act Explained

As but few people so far have read the law as passed or understand its provisions, Congressman Booher suggested that it might be well that the people of this section understand it more clearly, and acting on his suggestion it may be stated that the law provides for the support of dependents in four ways—by allotment of the soldier's pay, by allowance granted by the government to supplement the allotment, by compensation for death or disability, and by the payment of insurance policies in 240 equal monthly installments.

The allotment of the enlisted man's pay "shall be in an amount equal to the family allowance hereinafter specified except that it shall not be more than one-half the pay, or less than \$15." This provides, in the beginning, at least \$15 a month for the support of wife, child and other dependents.

The family allowance, paid by the government upon written application after investigation, is \$15 for a wife with no child; \$25 for a wife with one child; \$32.50 for a wife and two children, with \$5 a month additional for each additional child. This means that a wife with three children, for example, would receive at least \$15 allotment from her husband, and \$37.50 allowance from the government—a total of \$52.50 a month. If

there be no wife but one child, the allowance is \$5; two children, \$12.50; three children, \$20; four children, \$30, with \$5 a month additional for each additional child. This again, in addition to the allotment of at least \$15 a month from the father's pay.

The allowance for a parent is \$10; two parents, \$20; for each grandchild, brother and sister, \$5, payable only, however, if these are dependent, in whole or in part, upon the enlisted man. The total family allowance to be paid by the government shall not exceed \$50 per month, upon which wife and children shall have prior claim. The allowance to parents, grandchildren, brothers and sisters shall not exceed the average sum habitually contributed by the enlisted man to their monthly support "during their period of dependency but not exceeding a year immediately preceding his enlistment or the enactment of this amendatory act."

As to Death Benefits

In case of death, "if the deceased leaves a wife or child, or if he leaves a widowed mother dependent upon him for support, the monthly compensation shall be the following amounts: Widow, \$25; widow and one child, \$35; widow and two children, \$47.50, with \$5 for each additional child up to two; no widow, but one child, \$20; two children, \$30; three children, \$40, with \$5 for each additional child up to two; widowed mother, \$20. The amount payable to the widowed mother "shall not be greater than a sum which, when added to the total amount payable to the widow and children, does not exceed \$75." The widowed mother shall draw compensation for the death of but one child, and none on this account if in receipt of compensation for the death of a husband. The government pays an additional \$100 for burial expenses.

The payment of compensation to a widow or widowed mother continues until death or remarriage; to a child, until it is 18 years old, or marries, but if the child is incapable and helpless the payment continues during such incapacity.

Disability Benefits Are Large

In case of disability there is paid the injured man, while the disability is total, \$30 per month if he has neither wife nor child living; a wife only, \$45; wife and one child, \$55; wife and two children, \$65; wife and three children, \$75; no wife living, but one child, \$40, with \$10 for each additional child up to two. If he has a widowed mother dependent upon him, he gets \$10 in addition to the above amounts. If he is totally disabled he draws, besides, not to exceed \$20 a month for a nurse or attendant. If he is blind, or has lost both hands or both feet, or is permanently bedridden, he draws \$100 a month.

"If and while the disability is partial, the monthly payment shall be a percentage of the compensation that would be payable for his total disability, equal to the degree of reduction in earning capacity resulting from the disability, but no compensation shall be payable for a reduction in earning capacity rated at less than ten per centum."

In addition to all compensations the injured person is provided with medical, surgical and hospital services, and with such supplies and appliances, like artificial limbs and trusses, as are deemed necessary.

In case of permanent disability the injured person is required "to follow such course or courses of rehabilitation, re-education, and vocational training" as the United States may provide. And, if necessary, "a form of enlistment may be required which shall bring the injured person into the military or naval service." In that case he shall draw the same pay as during the last month of his active service, and his family shall be entitled to the same allowances and allotments as then.

Compensations for death and disability are not assignable, are exempt

(Continued on Page Three.)

HOME GUARDS VOLUNTEER

The Initial Steps Taken to Protect St. Joseph During the Period of the War.

The initial steps were taken at a patriotic meeting held at Patee Market Armory Tuesday night and furthered last night by a second meeting, to give St. Joseph an efficient military organization in the shape of a home guard to be under orders during the continuance of the war. The meeting was presided over by O. B. Knight after Mayor Marshall had called the assemblage to order, and Col. W. E. Stringfellow took charge of the recruiting work and will see that it goes steadily forward. Much enthusiasm was shown when Louis T. Golding and J. O. Barkley made patriotic addresses and a determination was expressed by those who participated to see that this section of the country was given the full protection needed, while its younger defenders were away with the colors. The new organization will be of great service to many of the younger men who will later be called into regular service, as it will give them the benefit of early military training.

Several recruiting stations will be at once put into operation, and it is expected to recruit the organization to the strength of a battalion. Among those who were sworn in on Tuesday night and will therefore be charter members of the guard were:

Seeley M. Brown, 1115 Jule.
John Donovan Roberts, 623 North 25th.

Albert Dedrich, 430 East Kansas.
Kirk Garth, 819 Hall.
John B. Hall, 2747 Penn.
Herbert McKinney, 1115 South 12th.
Scotts Dishrow, 1406 Sylvan.
Byron L. Chappelle, 508 Antoine.
Harry B. Fichman, 1504 1/2 Buchanan.

Boyd Howard, 2002 Thomas.
Elmer Delp, 1004 South 17th.
Cashet E. Robinson, 612 Bon Ton.
C. Hodge Wallace, 605 North 8th.
Adolph Daniel, 502 Antoine.
Robert H. McDonald, 2400 Jackson.
Charles E. Dickey, 603 East Hyde.
Eddie Abrams, 503 Antoine.
Glenn B. Hoover, 305 North 26th.
Daniel J. Patton, 603 1/2 South 11th.
Tom McKee, 720 Faron.
Leo S. Shatrick, 602 Felix.
Arthur J. Owen, 1027 Henry.
Ernest H. Favor, 3853 Terrace.
Albert J. Brunswig, Jr., 2404 Francis.

Horace C. Bodkin, 1119 Jule.
Conrad L. Breidenbach, 106 South 15th.

Ulrich Schneider, Krug Park Place.
Rudolph Steinacker, 1406 Prospect.
Albert D. McCubbin, 1118 Ridenbaugh.

Hayden A. Campbell, 2604 Faron.

POSTMASTER CARTER DEAD

Telegram From Chicago at Noon Yesterday Gives Advice of His Death.

Arthur L. Carter, one of the leading citizens and merchants, also postmaster of Fairfax, Mo., died yesterday noon in Chicago, at the Mercy Hospital.

Mr. Carter was one of the progressive men of Northwest Missouri, who took an active part in all affairs political and business and who made many friends at all gatherings where he attended. With the election of a Democratic president, the honor of appointment of postmaster in Fairfax was given him and he made an enviable record.

Mr. Carter is survived by his wife and one child, and according to the telegram, the body will be brought back to Fairfax for burial.

SOME DIFFERENCE IN THESE PRICES

The St. Joseph man or woman who now goes to market with a dollar and a basket does not get much for that dollar, but if the following prices taken from the Gazette of forty-three years ago were in effect he or she could read this:

"Fred H. Brice, the old reliable meat dealer at Second and Main, is offering good fib roasts at eight to ten cents a pound; sirloin steak, eight to ten cents; round steak, seven to eight cents; corn beef, five cents; pork, eight to ten cents; mutton, six to ten cents; veal, eight to twelve and one-half cents; choice kettle rendered leaf lard, ten cents, and ham, bacon, tongue, dried beef and everything else usually kept in a first class butcher shop at equally low prices."

IT CANNOT BE POSSIBLE

Rev. Stopford is now pastor of the First Memorial church. Our only comment is that it is almost impossible.

FIRST TRENCH FIGHT FOR AMERICAN BOYS

Where the First Shot Was Sent Over Into the Territory Occupied By the Germans

A GRAPHIC STORY OF THE INITIAL EVENT

Floundering Around in a Sea of Mud Somewhere in France the United States Boys Fought Their First Shots on Foreign Soil and Inaugurated the Initial Movement Which America Made in the War for Human Rights and for the Democratizing of the Entire World.

As American troops are now in the battle lines in France and as it will not be long before St. Joseph and Northwest Missouri boys will take their places in French trenches, it is not out of place to show how the initial action of American troops came about, as written by an Associated Press correspondent who was on the battle line and witnessed the boys in action. This correspondent on Monday wired in this fashion:

"The first Americans to establish contact with the Germans today are bathing in the mud of eastern France. They constantly are under fire and constantly have their guns on the enemy.

"American shells have been buried into German territory and they have exploded near the enemy line.

"On a hill to the right of the explosion craters of mud are to be seen. To one side an American officer is looking out on the scene through his field glasses. He is trying to see what damage has been done by the artillery to the enemy and his barbed wire entanglements.

"Closer to the enemy is the first line trenches in the infantry with the shells of both American and German guns whizzing over their heads. The men are rubber-booted and ponchoed.

Wet But Satisfied

"Rain mixed with snow pelts their helmets. No clothing, however, is able to withstand the wind-driven drops of rain and snow, but gunners and infantrymen, although they were wet, are satisfied, feeling that the honor of having been the first Americans in action is more than sufficient recompense for their discomfort.

"The correspondent reached the American position after a long motor ride through shell-battered towns. Leaving the motor in one of the towns he walked the rest of the way. Motor cars attract the eye of the Germans and they are likely to drop a half dozen shells in the direction that any machine is seen.

"The first American battery was almost walked upon before it was discovered. It was so well hidden under the trees and with foliage about it on a low-hung wire netting. Under the net water dripped steadily. Some of the gunners were digging another pit in the mud alongside their hidden gun.

Flash of Flame

"Through the foliage in every direction the ground was undulating. At that moment there was a flash of flame through the mist. It was the crack of a .55 gun, and following it closely came the noise of the shell rushing through the air, becoming fainter and fainter as the projectile went on its way to the German position over the crest of a hill further away. The mud-digging artillerymen continued their work, without even looking up.

"A lieutenant from Georgia emerged. He was the officer who directed the first shot. He led the way down the slippery, muddy hill to a dugout covered over with sandbags and logs. There we met a lieutenant from Indiana of the same battery, who directed the first eighteen shots of the war against Germany from an observation point.

First Gun Fired in War

"On the other side of the hill was fired the first gun fired. The muddy gunners were hard at work cleaning their gun.

"This was the first gun fired in the war," said the jaunty lieutenant. "The sergeant inside the pit there fired it."

"Looking into the pit, the lieutenant said: 'Sergeant, where are you from?'"

"A husky voice replied: 'I'm from

Continued on Page Eight

FRIEDA HEMPEL MUST SING IT

Frieda Hempel, the great singer, who delighted the people of St. Joseph at the Auditorium last Friday night, is evidently not in good odor with the people of Rhode Island. A dispatch from that place says that the police commission of Providence on Tuesday withheld the granting of a license for a concert Sunday by Hempel, pending a promise by the singer that she will sing "The Star Spangled Banner." While in that city last spring Madame Hempel refused to include the national anthem in her program, claiming that she did not know it.

WINEINGER WAS QUICK ---SO WAS THE LAW

For He Is Now Ready For His Permanent Home in the State Penitentiary

WILL BE TAKEN THERE THE COMING WEEK

In Open Court His Attorney States

That the Murderer Had Made All the Arrangements That He Could by Declaring His Property to His Victim's Children and Was Then Ready to Take the Sentence That the Law Would Impose Upon Him for the Brutal and Unprovoked Slaughter of His Unsuspecting Victim.

It only needed about ten minutes of Judge Utz's time Thursday forenoon to dispose of Wineinger's part of the Gould murder—to send the murderer to Jefferson City, there to spend the remaining years of his life—if some chicken-hearted sob artists do not get busy and have him pardoned out.

Joshua A. Graham, his attorney, did all of the work—and Mr. Graham did not mince words, neither did he in any way attempt to shield his client from the hands of the law. In a plain concise statement, the words of which thrilled every spectator in the crowded court room, Mr. Graham told Judge Utz that his client was guilty—that he had no excuse to offer—and that he was ready to receive the just sentence of the court.

Then there was a moment of tenseness while Judge Utz looked at the prisoner and then at his counsel. Then he asked Wineinger if that was his plea, to which his attorney responded for him that it was—and then Judge Utz spoke the few words which condemned the murderer to the Jefferson City penitentiary for the rest of his life. He was taken there yesterday by Sheriff Isaacson.

Prior to the proceedings Wineinger, who had an estate of about \$4,000, decided if in trust to the four children of the man he killed, and it will be used for their education and support. Mrs. Gould, who is also charged with being an accessory to the murder, was brought before Justice Forgraves on Wednesday afternoon and gave bond in the sum of \$5,000 for her appearance for a preliminary hearing on Nov. 14. Her mother will take her back with her to the former home of the accused in Iowa, where she will remain until her case comes up for hearing. No one paid any attention to her as she sat in the court room of Justice Forgraves, while the details were arranged.

A Brutal Slaughter

A brutal affair—in fact an assassination—was the killing of William C. Gould, the proprietor of the Worth While garage, which occurred a week ago Thursday night, and the object of which was a mystery until this week. Gould's body was found on the King Hill road below the city Friday morning with the skull crushed and two bullet wounds in the chest. He had been dead for several hours when the discovery was made.

It all came out this week when Mrs. Gould, wife of the murdered man, was taken to the police station by Detectives Grabel and White, and put through a sweating process. While she made no direct confession, yet she told enough to cause the officers to arrest Charles F. Wineinger at Kansas City and bring him here, where on Tuesday after he had been confronted by the interurban conductor, who on Friday morning picked him up at an early hour at a way station below St. Joseph and took him to Kansas City. Wineinger broke down and made a clean breast of the whole matter, disclosing in all of its hideous aspects the brutal man's in-

Continued on Page Eight

SASSEENS ARE IN TROUBLE

A Former Methodist Episcopal Presiding Elder of This District Said to Have Been Unduly Influenced.

The Rev. John R. Sasseen was for many years presiding elder of the Methodist Episcopal church of the St. Joseph district, and during that period resided in this city. He was as widely known as any divine who ever filled an appointment or married a couple. He is now in trouble with his wife at their present home in Fremont, Neb., where the eighty-year-old minister now resides.

Alleging that he has been unduly influenced by his wife, Mrs. Eliza Sasseen, has begun suit in the district court of that county against the Fidelity trust company asking for a judgment revoking an agreement, entered into by her husband and the trust company, by which the bulk of his estate, valued at \$18,000, goes to four eleemosynary institutions of the state. The remainder is left to relatives. Mrs. Sasseen who claims she was promised a widow's share in the event she survived her husband, is left nothing.

The Sasseens have been residing in Fremont for the last few years. The plaintiff charges the trust company officials with using their influence in persuading her husband to enter into the agreement by which she is deprived of her share. Five-sixths of the estate is divided equally among the Fremont Y. M. C. A., the board of foreign missions of the Methodist church, Wesleyan university and the Nebraska state board of Y. M. C. A. Sasseen for forty-five years was a Methodist minister. Mr. and Mrs. Sasseen were married at Mountain Grove, Mo., in 1915. Mrs. Sasseen who was a Mrs. Follansbee, is a trained nurse and claims she was to be paid for taking care of the elderly minister by a prenuptial agreement.

MARRIED A HALF CENTURY

James A. Speelman, the Veteran Mail Carrier, and His Wife Celebrate Their Golden Wedding.

Surrounded by half a hundred friends in their cozy home at 712 Woodson street on Wednesday night, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Speelman celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage and the golden event brought much joy to the aged couple and their assembled friends. The evening was appropriately spent and a tasty repast was served to the guests by the host and hostess. There were many tokens of love and esteem presented to the couple who have so endeared themselves to all who have known them in the years past.

Mr. Speelman is the veteran of the St. Joseph letter carriers and the gold stars which he wears on his sleeve is the designation of his long and honorable service. He has for nearly forty years been in the service of Uncle Sam as a letter carrier and to his credit it may be said that his service period is marked by naught except faithful and honorable, constant service. Mr. Speelman was born Jan. 18, 1839, and is now seventy-eight years of age, yet he handles his route daily with the skill and expertise of a young man. There are few men in St. Joseph more honored, loved and respected than James A. Speelman and the same holds good in the case of his devoted and loving helpmeet.

FEDERAL INVESTIGATION

They Look Over the Coal Situation and Hope to Improve the Conditions Shortly.

Raymond Richards and James F. Whiteley, federal representatives, were here Thursday to look after the coal situation in St. Joseph and it is to be hoped that as a result of their visit conditions will soon improve here. It could not be worse than it is now.

The federal representatives held a meeting with the coal dealers of the city at the Commerce Club rooms in the afternoon and the situation was gone over in all of its details. The investigators found that many of the dealers have not a pound of coal and that it is impossible for them to get it. Wallace Crossley is now coal and fuel commissioner for Missouri, and a delegation composed of Henry Hesse, H. R. Smith, Wilf Brinson, Cavan G. Wyatt, John W. Bruce, I. C. Knott and Frank Brinson was selected to go to Kansas City yesterday and take up the situation with him. The commissioner is now holding an investigation of conditions at that place. Early action is expected—and needed.

The fine Italian tinge has been removed from St. Joseph weather.

Continued on Page Eight

SENATE GAVE SEN. STONE A CLEAN BILL

The Charge Against Him Were Groundless and Not Worth Trouble of Investigating

COMMITTEE REPORT UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED

Much As It May Have Disliked to Do So the Kansas City Star, Which Has for the Past Twenty Years Persistently and Vigorously Fought Senator Stone, Prints the Following Story as One of Its Front Page Features.

Senator Stone is now at home in Missouri—and he will be here but a few days when he will return to Washington to get ready for the coming session which promises to be of even greater importance than the great session just closed.

One of the most virulent and aggressive opponents of Senator Stone for over 20 years has been the Kansas City Star. All through the session it has on every occasion possible gone out of its way to attack him and his actions. When Senator Stone demanded an immediate inquiry into his acts by the senate his request was granted and the committee which was appointed to investigate found that there was no foundation for the charges on which he was assailed and he was given a clean bill, the senate by vote vote unanimously adopting the report of the committee. Then it became necessary for The Star to do a little explaining and retracting which it did through the medium of this dispatch printed on its front page, which says:

A Clean Bill

"WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—Reporting on Senator Stone's letter asking for an inquiry into his acts, the Senate committee said:

"Action having been requested by Senator Stone on certain committee indications in which he was assailed, a senator charged therein that he has obstructed the enactment of measures for the prosecution of the war, the committee finds that the charges make mention of no facts warranting action by it. The record discloses that though Senator Stone opposed the declaration of war, he has, since it was adopted, voted for all such measures considered by the Senate on which a record vote was taken."

"In his letter to the committee, Stone said:

Senator Stone's Letter

"It appears that one of the papers submitted to your committee by the Vice-President was a letter addressed by him to W. E. D. Stokes, New York, who accused me with others of being guilty of disloyal acts.

"This communication is vicious and incendiary in the highest degree and I cannot refrain from expressing my surprise that the Vice-President would submit such a paper to the senate for publication in the Record and for the consideration of a standing committee.

"I feel that I have a right to insist, as I do insist, that a matter which was wantonly assailed, my integrity and my loyalty should not be laid aside or even postponed for a day by the committee whose duty it is to consider and dispose of the matter.

"The authors of calumnies may speak ignorantly or maliciously—as to their motives I do not know, nor do I care—but when they are formally laid before the Senate, in the way these were, no matter whether the source or origin is irresponsible or otherwise, and without regard to the knowledge or motive of the men who prefer the charges, I insist that a senator who knows that he is unjustly accused has a right to have the committee examine into the facts at once and report their findings to the Senate."

"When Vice-President Marshall learned that Stone had criticized him for lying before the Senate—the accusing letter written by Stokes, he made a brief statement to the Senate, urging a method be devised before the next session for handling such communications."

SEDALIA STAYED IN THE 'WET' COLUMN

Sedalia, Mo., Oct. 26.—Sedalia voted today to retain its saloons by a majority of 713 votes. The First Ward, known as the negro ward, gave the saloons a majority of 510. The Second Ward gave the wets a majority of 344; the Third Ward gave the drys a majority of 42, and the Fourth Ward gave the drys a majority of 49 votes. A total of 4,075 votes was cast.

Eight years ago the wets defeated the drys by a majority of 843.

BURLESON COUNTY GOES 'WET'

CALDWELL, Tex.—Burleson county voted to retain saloons in a local option election yesterday. The vote for prohibition was 1,127; against, 1,304; "wet" majority of 177.