

# THE ST. JOSEPH OBSERVER.

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NO. 4.

## BEFORE HIM THE WAGES OF SIN ARE NOT DEATH

But They Might As Well Be In Many of the Cases That Are Brought Up

For the Guilty Get All That Is Due Them When They Face Judge Van Valkenburgh

"The prohibitory law is on the statute books. It was put there to be observed and respected and it will be as long as I have the power to administer the law," said federal judge Van Valkenburgh on Wednesday morning when he opened court and faced what one of the attorneys facetiously remarked "looked like a bootleggers' convention," for never in the history of the city has there been so many liquor violation cases before a court of any kind. "When I was here at the last session I warned all that it would not be well for them to be brought before me for liquor violations," he continued, "and I shall keep my word." With this statement no liquor violator will disagree for the judge kept his word—and in full effect and force—as all who qualified before him as a violator found out. There was practically no mercy shown and excuses of attorneys fell like rain on a duck's back—so to speak—for they just ran off—and the learned judge did the rest. The United States would soon be able to pay off its war indebtedness if Judge Van Valkenburgh could keep up his liquor fine record.

And then he did more—for he not only fined but he imposed jail sentences as well—and he did not respect anyone, as take it for instance in the case of Chris Otten, the well known hotel man, who on pleading guilty to violating the prohibitory law was sentenced to sixty days in jail and to pay the costs in addition. His two employees, Fred Sillman and Earl Roylston, in the Hotel Otten who also plead guilty, were fined \$250 and costs each.

**Soaked Jones \$250**  
The good talking qualities of Col. John D. McNeely is what no doubt saved Harrie Jones, the Nineteenth street druggist, from a jail sentence as well as the fine which was inflicted of \$250 and costs. Police detectives twice bought whiskey of Jones, Harry B. Carter, another druggist, also was fined \$250 and costs for a like offense. Harry Higgins, who also plead guilty, was fined \$250 and costs, while Peter Barber and John Evans, confessed bootleggers, were sent to jail for three months. Ernest T. Burde, former saloonkeeper, was sentenced to jail for two months for selling liquor. Frank P. Sutera, indicted for making corn whiskey, was given sixty days in jail.

Thursday forenoon Judge Van Valkenburgh had another session with his bootlegging and whiskey violating clients and when the procession stopped filing by he had assessed on pleas of guilty this line of fines and sentences:

John Nerki, possession of whiskey, \$250 and costs.

H. R. Pyle, possession of whiskey, \$250 and costs.

Floyd Fersen, possession and sale of whiskey, \$250 and costs.

William Kamler, proprietor of the Atlantic Hotel, sale and possession of whiskey, sixty days in jail.

Louis Dragia, possession of whiskey, ninety days in jail.

George Anderson, possession and sale of whiskey, ninety days in jail.

B. Kalia, sale and possession of whiskey, sixty days in jail.

John Schuch, possession of whiskey, \$100 and costs.

Phillip Balsamo, possession of whiskey, \$100 and costs.

Lee Tobin, possession of whiskey, \$100 and costs.

C. M. Potta, possession of whiskey, \$100 and costs.

George Ievich, possession of whiskey, \$25 and costs.

In each case where a \$100 fine was assessed, the defendants were clerks in soft drink places. The \$250 fines were assessed against proprietors of soft drink places, and those sentenced to jail were old offenders.

**Swindler Gets Five Years**

When Lee De Lachaussey, a native of Louisiana, was arraigned on a charge of forging money orders, for which offense inspectors had trailed him all over the country, finally arresting him at Sedalia two weeks ago, he plead guilty and was given five years in the Leavenworth pen. He stole 100 blank money orders from a

Pennsylvania post office some months ago and went all over the country cashing them, generally for \$200 each. So well did he work a scheme which he had to introduce himself to prominent Knights of Columbus and getting into their good graces, have them identify him and cash these forged money orders, that he worked and victimized New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Detroit, Milwaukee, Louisville, Atlanta, Baltimore, Galveston and other large cities.

Mrs. Hazel Gladden Cooley, the mother of four small children and who was married the second time but a few weeks ago, plead guilty to using the mails to defraud mail order houses and was fined \$100 and costs. Al Rader, a white slaver, got his case continued until next term and Julia Palmer, a negro, who sold dope, was fined \$100 and costs. Wesley A. Foote, a former ticket seller at the Union station, who has a wife and two children, was given six months in jail for violation of the white slave act. Miss Ruth Wood of Atchison appeared against him in court, with her babe of which Foote is the father.

P. V. Ricord, who raised a dollar bill to a ten and passed it, was given eight months in jail and a fine of \$100 and costs, and Mrs. Opal Long, former wife of a former soldier, paid \$100 and costs for making false affidavits to obtain a government allotment.

**Sent to Kansas City**  
Lee Broom's attorneys and physicians worked diligently to induce Judge Van Valkenburgh to give him a continuance on the plea that his father was critically ill, but when after Broom, who with John N. Willman and Henry Thomas is indicted for conspiracy to smuggle in \$7,000 of whiskey last fall, failed to explain why if his father was critically ill and his presence was demanded at all times, that he was able to conduct the pool and gambling privileges at the lake last week, Judge Van Valkenburgh ruled that he was not entitled to a continuance, but transferred the case to Kansas City where it can be brought up in the next few days.

Not only were William Rositzky, Wallace Hicks, Jack Beaver and Earl Beaver arrested, charged with using the National Hotel at Third and Francis as a place from which to dispense liquor, but they were also charged with having made a nuisance of the place. When arraigned Monday they secured a continuance until yesterday when an injunction case against the hotel and their own liquor violation cases came up.

The injunction against the hotel was disposed of by it being made permanent as against the handling of liquor in that place, but the hotel was allowed to continue in regular business. In the cases against the four men involved in the liquor transactions Jack Beaver was given 60 days in the Buchanan county jail, and 30 days in which to arrange his business affairs before serving. Earl Beaver and William Rositzky were fined \$250 each and costs and Wallace Hicks \$100 and costs.

L. E. Price, who stood trial on a liquor violation case and the only one so far who dared to, was convicted on two counts and given the costs and six months in the Buchanan county jail.

Just before the noon recess yesterday Judge Van Valkenburgh granted Chris Otten and B. Kalia, each under sentence of 60 days in jail, a stay of 30 days each in order that they could arrange their business affairs before they went to jail.

The present term of court has really been profitable for Uncle Sam, as up to last night the receipts from fines were over \$3,000.

It was a sad blow to the many friends of Mrs. Lillian May Curd to learn of her death which occurred at a local hospital on Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock. She was the daughter of Judge and Mrs. Charles F. Strop and the wife of Isaac T. Curd. She was a graduate of the University of Missouri and of Ward-Belmont college of Louisville, Ky.

## TIME TO KILL 'EM

State "Bogologist" Wants the Farmers to Get Rid of the Chinch Bug.

A. C. Burrell of the entomological department was in St. Joseph on Tuesday conferring with farm agent McDaniel. He is on a tour of the northern part of the state and the killing of the wheat and corn destroying chinch bug is his pet hobby just now. This pest does millions of dollars worth of damage each year and with the Hessian fly is the farmer's greatest enemy. Here is "bogologist" Burrell's treatment all in a nutshell:

"One chinch bug destroyed in winter may prevent the production of hundreds to infest your wheat field in early spring.

"Chinch bugs pass the winter in wild grass and leaves, especially along hedges and fences and in the edges of woodlands adjoining cultivated fields.

"Burn grasses, leaves, and other trash where the bugs may find winter refuge. The bugs not burned will be killed by exposure to the weather.

"Remove shocks of corn or other fodder from the field in the fall.

"Clean up all trash and rubbish which may harbor the insects in winter."

"DES MOINES, Sept. 22.—Des Moines is ready to drop the bus service and go back to street cars.

The city council, generated by Mayor H. H. Barton, wrote the fine on another chapter of the local traction war Friday when they virtually turned down the proposition of the Fay Company of Rockford, Ill., to establish a \$1,000,000 bus system in Des Moines on a two-year franchise.

"Little time was wasted in 'receiving and filing' the proposition of the Illinois concern. Following the reading of his proposition by Fay, Mayor Barton made a curt statement tabling the proposition.

"What the city wants is street cars," said Barton. "I would not want anything to come up that would complicate or stand in the way of securing street car service as soon as possible."

**BLOSS HANGED HIMSELF IN PASTURE**

When Frank Stanley of 3020 South Twenty-ninth street was passing the Myers pasture in the 2900 block on South Twenty-ninth street at an early hour Thursday morning, he stared long and hard at an object swaying from a large willow tree. Not satisfied with his sight, he went closer and found that the strange object was the dead body of Edward D. Bloss of Pawnee City, Neb., an ice dealer of that place, who for the past two weeks had been a patient at the Woodson sanitarium and who escaped at 5 o'clock Wednesday evening while walking in the grounds. He had taken the check rein of a horse which was tied in the pasture, climbed into the tree and fastening the rein around the tree, and his neck, jumped off.

**THE LAST RITES FOR LIEUT. MACDONALD**

Ten thousand people turned out in St. Joseph Sunday to help pay the last honors to Lieut. Malcolm Macdonald, son of Col. Clay C. Macdonald, whose remains were brought home from France to repose in Mount Mora. At Christ Church Rev. C. Hely Malony officiated, and at the grave the American Legion with Chaplain Collins of Topeka took charge. The remains were taken from the church on a caisson drawn by six horses that were ridden by artillerymen. All of the local posts were in attendance and a number of state officers of prominence were present.

**TRIED TO DERAIL BARNES CIRCUS**

Early Sunday morning as a special circus train of thirty cars containing the Al G. Barnes animal circus, and pulled by engineer W. T. Arent of this city, was moving along just west of Hiawatha, a steel rail was found on the track, which the engine struck and pushed along for 150 feet, but luckily the train did not leave the rails. The rail was placed on the track by discharged circus employes.

**DISMISSED THE FESTIVAL DIRECTORS**

The charges against the ten directors of the Civic Festival Association which were filed by assistant prosecuting attorney Randolph, came up for a preliminary hearing before Justice Wilson yesterday afternoon, and when called were dismissed by prosecuting attorney Perry A. Brubaker, over the protest of the assistant prosecuting attorney.

## ST. JOSEPH AND PEORIA

It is poor policy, no matter how much one may desire to carry a point, to deride, condemn, and run down your own city—where you make your living and your money—where the people patronize you and keep you going—but that is exactly what the afternoon paper is doing every day in its eagerness to put the bond propositions over. In its Wednesday issue the contrasting of St. Joseph and Peoria is a disgrace to this community and will do no good for the cause advocated so slovenly by the afternoon paper.

## WANT THEM BADLY

Des Moines Turns Down a Million Dollar Bus Proposition and Wants Cars.

Just to further illustrate the rotten condition which Des Moines is now in, and which St. Joseph would have been sharing had it not taken a reef in time and got rid of the busses by getting together with the street railway people, here is graphically shown by this Associated Press dispatch. Read it:

"DES MOINES, Sept. 22.—Des Moines is ready to drop the bus service and go back to street cars. The city council, generated by Mayor H. H. Barton, wrote the fine on another chapter of the local traction war Friday when they virtually turned down the proposition of the Fay Company of Rockford, Ill., to establish a \$1,000,000 bus system in Des Moines on a two-year franchise.

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## PARKER IS COMMANDER

Will Head the American Legion in the Missouri Division for the Year.

Despite the fact that almost all of the time that the convention of the Missouri division of the American Legion was in session here on Monday and Tuesday it rained, and in consequence all outdoor features were abandoned, the seven hundred delegates and visitors enjoyed a good time and were given true examples of St. Joseph hospitality. The business sessions were held in the crystal room of the Hotel Robidoux, and the grand ball at the Auditorium.

The ball was the event that pleased all who attended and that was about 1500. A large number of St. Joseph's young ladies turned out and helped to entertain the visiting soldiers at the grand ball, which was led by state commander John F. Williams of Joplin and his partner. The closing session Tuesday was the most interesting as it settled who should be the officers for the ensuing year and where the next convention should go, both of which propositions were hotly contested. The officers elected are:

Commander—Dr. John F. Parker of Warrensburg.

First Vice-Commander—Al Schlapfer, Columbia.

Second Vice-Commander—Maj. John Maybrey, Cape Girardeau.

Third Vice-Commander—William F. Hurst, St. Joseph.

Fourth Vice-Commander—Dr. M. P. Ravenel, Columbia.

Fifth Vice-Commander—Mitchell Charno, Kansas City.

Adjutant (re-elected)—Edward J. Cahill, Kansas City.

Finance Officer—E. W. Tebby, Kansas City.

Among the resolutions passed was that favoring removal of the United States public service headquarters from St. Louis to Kansas City; one asking that former service men be favored in the appointment of workers in welfare activities concerning ex-service men, endorsed the proposition to have federal bonus money used for the relief of the alien property custodian in his work of seizing and holding aliens' property, recommended that alien property be held to satisfy German claims amounting to about \$1,000,000,000, expressed condolences over the deaths of twenty men, including Col. Frank Galbraith, late national legion commander, and Gen. Harvey Clark, adjutant general of Missouri; recommended that representatives of veterans' bureau be instructed to talk freely and frankly to properly accredited legion officers designated for service work about cases coming under the direction of the service officer; recommended that the finding of the examining doctor in all disability cases of ex-service men be prima facie evidence of extent of disability; recommended that post finance officers endeavor to locate unexpended funds raised by organizations for war work, and now idle, with no plans for immediate use in welfare work among ex-service men, and endeavor to have such funds transferred to a special state legion fund, to be known as the memorial and welfare fund; thanked the citizens of Missouri for their splendid vote for the bonus proposition, thanked the citizens of St. Joseph for their hospitality toward convention delegates and visitors, and endorsed the pending bill to retire national guard and national army officers disabled in service on two-thirds pay, such as is paid regular army officers retired.

Hannibal secured the next meeting by a unanimous vote.

## FORMED A MUNICIPAL CHORUS

On next Monday night will be held the first rehearsal for the new municipal chorus, the initial formative steps of which were taken at a meeting held in the Olney auditorium Monday night participated in by thirty-three St. Joseph singers, all of whom promised to bring additional members next Monday. This chorus will fill a long felt want and be a public benefit.

## FRED WORDEN TELLS THIS

A girl rather hoydenish is sitting on a Moesian street car when a roughneck enters and sits beside her. She begins to laugh boisterously. "Well," says he, "what the hell tickles you?" Gallant youth across the way rises and, addressing the roughneck, says, "Hey, bo, you want to say 'lady' after that there remark."

Yesterday the supplemental registration for the park election was held. It was not here.

## MADE MANY CHANGES IN THE TAX LAW BILL

INCLUDING THE REPUDIATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION

TO REPEAL THE EXCESS PROFITS, HIGHER SURTAXES

And in View of What Has Been Accomplished the Letter of the President to Senator McCormick Detailing the Monumental Accomplishments of the Administration Thereby Takes on a Decided Added Interest.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—(Special Correspondence.)—Repudiation of the administration's recommendation to repeal the excess profits and higher surtaxes to become effective January 1, 1921, was a marked feature of the work of the Senate Finance Committee in revising the tax law as passed by the House.

Although it sustained the House bill provision to make these taxes payable this year, the senate committee made many important changes in redrafting the bill, the most important of which are as follows:

Increasing the corporation tax from 12 1/2 per cent, as provided in the House Bill, to 15 per cent.

Repealing the capital stock tax effective July 1, 1923.

Eliminating the House provision exempting the salaries of the president and judiciary from income tax.

Eliminating the House provision exempting expenses of traveling salesmen from income tax.

Eliminating the House exemption of \$500 on income received from building and loan associations.

Eliminating the House provision allowing corporations to deduct from taxable incomes any contributions made to charity.

Restoration of the transportation taxes (repealed by the House bill) at one-half the present rate.

Although it was not decided at this writing, it is reported that the Senate committee is virtually agreed on restoring the tax on express packages and the duty of five per cent on candy which had been lowered by the House to three per cent.

**The Money Is Needed**

The retention of the excess-profits tax and the higher surtaxes for 1921 and the restoration of duties eliminated or lowered by the House with a further increase of the tax on smaller corporations does not harmonize with the administration claims of reducing government expenditures. The Senate Finance Committee evidently believes these taxes will be needed, or it would have permitted the administration to keep its pre-election promises of reducing or repealing them.

With the exception of sustaining the House in making the repeal of excess profits and higher surtaxes effective January 1, 1922, the Tax bill which will be reported by the Senate Finance Committee will differ in many particulars from the House bill, but promises to be no more satisfactory to the general public. In addition to the voice of the people crying in protest against the inequalities of the tax bill, may now be heard the vociferous cries of the big corporations and the plaintive tones of the oppressed multi-millionaires. They will still have the consolation, however.

(Continued on Page 4)

## MILLS, INDIAN FIGHTER, TO CONVENTION

O. C. Mills, 2513 Sacramento street, one of the four veterans of the Indian wars, who resides in St. Joseph, will attend the National Indian War Veterans' Association at Wichita Sept. 26-30 and will be the only delegate from St. Joseph. He saw Indian service in Colorado, Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma (then Indian Territory.) Max Andriano, 1358 Buchanan Avenue, served in the Dakotas and Northwest, W. D. McNeil, Florence Addition, served in the Dakotas and Montana, and police detective David Berenberg served in the Indian and other territories. All draw federal pensions.

## ON TO KANSAS OCTOBER 13

The directors of the Automobile Club has set Thursday, Oct. 13, as the date of the next one day sociability run, and this time the tour will be in Kansas. Hiawatha has been selected as the dinner point, and it is expected that there will be a full attendance of members.

## IS UP TO BRUBAKER

He Must Do the Casignating of the Lake Men as the State Shies Away.

Prosecuting Attorney Brubaker will have no help from the state attorney general's office in his trouble over the lake gambling cases, as the attorney general's office is much too smart to be caught in this factional republican row and fights shy. He has been told by the attorney general to go ahead and sweat 'em as he is the man on the ground—and Brubaker says that he will. He was on yesterday in receipt of the following alibi story:

"Jefferson City, Mo., Sept. 21. "Hon. Perry A. Brubaker, Prosecuting Attorney, St. Joseph, Mo.; Judge Utz writes regarding charges of corruption in prosecuting attorney's office in St. Joseph. There has been no suggestion you are in any way involved. It is your plain duty to take charge of the situation. The responsibility is yours and this office expects you to get it. You should investigate thoroughly any alliances of official corruption, and if evidence justifies, you should prosecute energetically.

"We will not interfere in this matter with your performance of the functions for which local prosecuting attorneys are elected by the people. This office does not supplant the local prosecutor nor appropriate his office unless that officer is physically or mentally incapable, or has himself been guilty of crime, or is plainly endeavoring to protect and shield the guilty.

"We have every confidence in your integrity and that you will proceed to do your sworn duty.

(Signed) "JESSE W. BARRETT, Attorney General."

And this means that the weeping and wailing and teeth gnashing in the kop local ranks will go on—as far as Brubaker can make it go.

## FEDERAL COURT WAS POPULAR PLACE

The federal court room was the most popular place in St. Joseph this week, and drew better than the movies. It was so crowded Wednesday that Judge Van Valkenburgh was led to remark: "Jurors and others having business here cannot find seats," he said, "because there are many of you who are morbidly curious to see whether a man is fined \$100, or goes to jail for thirty days. There are many of you here every day who have absolutely no business in this courtroom, and it is utterly incomprehensible to me how you can stand around for hours and days listening to court procedure which is largely the handling of liquor traffic violators."

## NO CUT IN ST. JOSEPH WATER RATES

After a conference held Wednesday between Mayor Marshall, Supt. C. H. Taylor of the Water company and city attorney Lindsay, it was announced that there would probably be no reduction in water rates before next January. The present rates expire in October. Supt. Taylor has also applied to the public utilities commission for a complete valuation of the company's plant. The valuation April 30 by the commission was \$2,217,612.72, since which time there has been added \$17,890.72 in betterment.

## POSTAL REGULATIONS GOVERNING FINLAND

The Finland postal administration has advised this government that raw hides and pelts except those duly salted, seeds of red and hybrid clover save Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, Estonian, Lithuanian and Russian clover cultivated north of latitude 53 are prohibited importation into that country; also the importation of firearms except by ministerial permission; pork and pork products under license and rags and poisonous substances only under regulations.

## MCALLISTER'S TIME WAS SHORT

When Herbert McAllister, a Burlington switchman residing at 2207 1/2 South Ninth street, was acquitted in Kansas City Tuesday of a charge of assault with intent to kill, he had hardly had time to congratulate himself on his gaudy alibi, when he was re-arrested and brought here to answer to a charge of robbing a box car here. He was arrested by A. D. Owens, a Burlington special officer, while he was loading goods from the car into a motor car, but later escaped.

William P. Resterer, 23 years of age, died at a local hospital Thursday.