

# MOLINE'S SECTION OF THE ARGUS

## BELGIAN WOUNDS 2 WOMEN, THEN ENDS OWN CAREER

Shoots Sweetheart and Landlady Who Came to Her Assistance.

## ROMANCE WAS SHATTERED

Girl Who Had Courted in Europe Refused to Wed After Coming Home for Purpose.

A whole tragedy was enacted in East Moline yesterday which has stirred the city.

Armed with grief and disappointment because his sweetheart, Miss Alice Vermote, refused to marry him, Edward De Graeve, a Belgian, shot her twice in the head with a 32-calibre revolver, shot the young woman's landlady when she came to the assistance of the girl, and a short time later hung himself in his cell at the city jail.

When arrested for the shooting the young Belgian put up a stubborn battle, but the police managed to get him to the jail. There he was lodged in a cell and left to himself. Shortly after 11 o'clock last night when the jailer made his evening rounds to see that all was well, he found the lifeless body of De Graeve hanging at the end of a strip of white mullin, a noose tightly encircling the neck. De Graeve had unwrapped the bandage from his broken arm and used it in taking his life, slipping one end through the bars in the window of his cell, and forming a noose which he bound tightly about his throat.

Came From Belgium.

According to the story told the police of East Moline, Miss Vermote came to this country but a few days ago, ostensibly for the purpose of marrying De Graeve, who had been her sweetheart, back in the fatherland before he came to America.

De Graeve, it seems, had sent for the young lady and she had consented to make the trip, but on arriving here she gave the matter further thought and reached a decision that marriage for the time being was out of the question. The fact that her lover was suffering with a broken arm, was without money and had no means of earning a livelihood and supporting a wife, is given as the cause of the young woman's action.

De Graeve broke his arm a few days ago while working in the Deere harvester plant, where he was employed as a driller. He carried the arm in a sling and was unable to resume work after the accident for five weeks. Upon seeing her former sweetheart, Miss Vermote refused to carry out her promise at least for the time being, and De Graeve became angry with her after pleading in vain for some time. He pulled a revolver, shot her twice in the head, inflicting scalp wounds, and when Mrs. Camiel De Meyer, landlady at whose home the young lady was stopping, interfered, De Graeve turned the weapon upon her.

Loving Cup on Display.

Peter S. Schief, local motorcycle speed king, has the loving cup he won in the Decoration day races at Iowa City on exhibition in the Street and Schoppers show window. Mr. Schief won the one-mile race in one minute and 19 seconds on a half-mile track. Last Sunday he was a contestant in a 100-mile race held in Rockford. In this race he finished in fifth place against a field of fast riders.

Olympics Play at Buffalo.

The Moline Olympics are scheduled to clash with the Buffalo, Iowa, team

on the latter's field tomorrow afternoon. Probable battery for the Olympics is Gellerstedt and Johnson. Both took part in the record-breaking 22-inning factory league game of a few weeks ago. Gellerstedt as pitcher for the J. Deere Wagon company team and Johnson as catcher for Root & Van Dervoort.

## DISCREPANCY IN BIDS FOR SEWER

The city commission in informal session this morning opened bids for the construction of a storm drain on Fourth street between Fifth and Eleventh avenues. Victor C. McLain of Moline was the lowest bidder naming a price of \$2,524.50, as against the engineer's estimate of \$4,000. This figure is less than half that quoted by the E. A. Lord Construction company, second highest bidder, which offered to do the work for \$5,985. The Abraham Porter Construction company named a price of \$5,298. Ippoligo & Master bid \$4,891.25 and the Concrete Construction company \$3,834.75. The drain is to be constructed along the new Fourth street car line and the thoroughfare will be made 66 feet wide instead of 16 feet, as was originally planned. The improvement will be paid for by public assessment.

The bids were laid over until Monday and in the meantime the bid of McLain's will be investigated to ascertain whether or not he has made a mistake.

## MILK SAMPLES ARE ALL WELL UP IN BUTTER FAT

The city chemist this morning reported on 28 more milk samples and all of them contained the required percentage of butter fat. Only one had an excessive amount of bacteria. The samples as a whole were a great improvement to those tested some time ago.

## WANT U. S. TO INSURE SHIPS TO AID TRADE

(Continued from Page One.)

ment issued Friday night by Secretary McAdoo. The statement declared it to have been the consensus of opinion at the conference that with "enlarged registry of American ships and action by the government supplementing what private companies might do in connection with insurance, the question of exports of grain and cotton and ferrous exchange would rapidly solve themselves."

Many speakers, including J. P. Morgan, James J. Hill and other financiers, pointed out the fact that Great Britain, France and Belgium already had provided for government war insurance of their merchant shipping. Against this action, they declared, the United States would be helpless. The result would be a foreign monopoly of sea transportation, they predicted.

Pivot of Plan. Following is the conference resolution on this point, which is the pivot of the plan of relief offered.

"Resolved, That this conference urge the United States government to establish a bureau of war risk insurance, to be administered under the direction of a suitable government department by a board of three or five members which shall assume the risks of war on American vessels and American cargoes shipped thereon, whenever in the judgment of the board it shall appear that American vessels or ships on American vessels are unable, in any particular trade, to compete on equal terms with the vessels or shippers of other nationalities by reason of the protection offered such other carriers or shippers by arrangements for war indemnity through their governments and that such board have power to fix rates of premium subject to change to each country or for each class of cargo."

Three Problems.

Early in the session showed the opinion to be unanimous among the business men and the government officials present that the problems to be faced

## War Fever in London; Crowds Cry for German Blood



Scene in Trafalgar Square, London, following the declaration of war against Germany.

Pictures have just reached this country showing how the London crowds acted following the declaration of war against Germany. According to these pictures and cable dispatches, London is seized with a war frenzy such as has not been known there before in many years. A huge mob on Trafalgar Square gave vent to its patriotism by crying for German blood just after the war declaration.

divided themselves naturally into three heads:

"Restoration of a market for foreign exchange bills; the immediate acquisition of means of transportation for American wheat and cotton to European markets, and the war risk insurance."

In appointing war risk insurance, transportation and foreign exchange committees, the conference sought to provide the government with expert advice in each of the branches.

The committee on war insurance began work on the preparation of a measure it will present to congress.

Wilson Speaks. The conference interrupted its deliberations in the afternoon to go in a body to the White house. President Wilson addressed them briefly.

"If we get no other benefit out of the present trying circumstances in the world at large," said the president, "we shall at least get this benefit: We shall enjoy a period when we meet each other not as members of different parties, all our prejudices fallen away from us, coming together as Americans for a common object that is not touched with selfishness or personal ambition of any sort. Surely handsome results will come out of the spirit in which conferences of this kind are held."

A Common End.

"I believe you will discover, those of you who did not know it before, that this government has means, somewhat fully developed means, for assisting the commercial and industrial operations of the country, and that, therefore, it is worth while to maintain the kind of connection which is here momentarily established. We have been face to face with very critical circumstances. For my own part I feel that the period of apprehension has passed and that the period of steady, sensible, concerted, constructive action has come and that we are in the temper to bring that action about in the most effective way. I am sure that all of us here wish to put ourselves at your disposal, as I am sure you would wish to put yourself at our disposal, to think out a common means for a common end. Such a conference as this furnishes acceptable proof to the country that the antagonism between government and business has disappeared and that there has come into business the spirit of generous rivalry and cooperation which is the essence of statesmanship."

"I have no thought except the thought of self-congratulation in the matter, because, as I have said, this is not a selfish but a wholly public-spirited operation, a thing that we shall look back to with pride. We shall remember that America knew how to handle herself in such a way as not only to help herself but also to serve the rest of the world."

The conference echoed the president's sentiments in its resolution declaring its high appreciation of the prompt and effective action of the president and congress and the secretary of the treasury in affording a prompt solution of the currency difficulties created by the sudden outbreak of war in Europe on a colossal scale.

Farming is as old as the human race and is yet in its infancy.

## ASSOCIATION TO BETTER DISTRICT

Will Confer With Authorities and Railways Regarding Improvements.

## CROSSINGS ARE DEMANDED

Committees Will Ask Street Car Company and Commissioners to Fulfill Promises.

Members of the Moline city commission, officials of the street car company and also of the railway companies whose tracks pass through the east end of the city are all scheduled for interviews with committees from the East End Improvement association, as a result of a meeting of that civic body held Friday evening.

The city commission will be asked to grade Fifty-fourth street between Fourth and Fifth avenues so that the street will not be two feet above the sidewalk, as it is said to be in one place along that thoroughfare. The present discrepancy in the grades of the sidewalk and street results in the walks being covered with mud following every heavy rain, and according to the residents of that vicinity it will be an easy and inexpensive matter to equalize the grades.

The street car company will be asked to live up to a promise made 18 months ago to fill in with cinders the open space between the tracks from Thirty-eighth to Fifty-ninth streets. A portion of this, some six blocks, has already been filled, but the remainder is still open and practically impassable to teams.

Better Crossings Wanted.

The railroad companies will be requested to place better crossings at Thirty-eighth, Thirty-fourth and Forty-eighth streets, and make them passable to traffic.

The city commission will also be reminded of a promise once made to the effect that it would pass an ordinance, if the east-enders would withdraw their opposition to the sewer improvement in that district, prohibiting the connection of down spouts and surface drains with the sanitary sewage system. These connections, de-

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clare people of the east end, result in the basements of down town business houses being flooded after heavy rains, and by passing an ordinance prohibiting such connection the city commission could eliminate the evil. The commission agreed to pass the ordinance as soon as the assessment rolls were confirmed.

The next meeting of the East End Improvement association will be held at the home of George Gould, and will be followed by an informal social session with the association acting as host to their friends and families.

## THOMPSON TO SPEAK HERE AGAIN SUNDAY

Four churches of the bluff district, the First Christian, Second Methodist, Second Congregational and the Salem Lutheran, will unite tomorrow to hold a union Sunday evening service in the Christian church, the meeting to begin at 7:45. Dr. Edwin Thomson of St. Louis, secretary of the Sunday league of America, has returned to Moline and will address the meeting which promises to be most interesting. Dr. Thomson filled the pulpit of the First Methodist church last Sunday morning. He is the father of the popular and nation-wide Goto-Church Sunday movement, and he is also given credit for leading the agitation which resulted in the closing of postoffices Sunday. His great work from the lecture platform and pulpit is to inspire greater respect for observance of the Sabbath in all communities.

## MOLINE CRESCENT CLUB TO HAVE FOOTBALL TEAM

Moline is soon to have a new athletic club composed more particularly of the younger element who wish to take part in the various branches of athletics; the organization to be known as the Moline Crescent Athletic club. Plans for a football team for the coming season are already being made. With the old Crescent team as a nucleus, the leaders hope to secure a team that will take high rank among the gridiron teams of the city and vicinity. A basketball team for the coming winter is also on the program. Quarters are being fitted up at the old Wagner opera house and next Monday is announced as the date when the room will be ready for use.

## MORE IMPROVEMENTS ARE PLANNED BY COMMISSION

As busy a year as the present one has been in the matter of public improvement work Mayor M. R. Carlson and Commissioner Ed Ericson have three more projects, which they hope to see consummated this fall as a climax to the record breaking season. These are:

Paving with brick of Moline's share of First street from the railroad tracks to fifth avenue. Rock Island has just completed such work on its half of the street.

Storm drain on Second street, running south on Sixth avenue and then direct to the Rock Island city line. Storm drain on Fourth street, along the course of the new street car line, to be built at public expense, at an estimated cost of \$4,600. Bids for this

work are to be opened tomorrow at 10 o'clock at the city hall.

Swedish Olive lodge, No. 533, I. O. O. F., held a special meeting Thursday evening to arrange for the funeral of J. Axel Swanson. The deceased had selected those who shall officiate at the funeral and Axel H. Kohler will deliver the funeral oration at the services in the lodge room Sunday afternoon. Singing will be by the Olive male chorus. In addition to the relatives mentioned Mr. Swanson is survived by a brother, Charles, of this city, his mother and three sisters in Sweden. His mother is 80 years old.

Canton Moline, No. 60, Patriarchs Militant, will attend the funeral of Chevalier J. Axel Swanson Sunday afternoon in full dress uniform. At the meeting held Thursday evening Lieutenant George A. Johnson was elected representative to the department council.

## PASSENGER TRAIN HITS MOLINE MAN

Robert Linder Seriously Injured When Struck at a Crossing.

Robert Linder, 424 Railroad avenue, employed by the Deere & Mansur company, was severely injured and narrowly escaped death last evening when he was struck by a passenger train at the Twelfth street crossing of the Rock Island lines and hurled a distance of 20 feet.

Linder was removed to the city hospital in the police ambulance, where he was attended by Dr. A. H. Arp. He was unconscious for some time, the extent of his injuries being a deep gash in the head, and several bruises of a minor nature about the body. No one knows how the accident occurred, and Linder himself is unable to furnish the information at present.

## LODGE NOTES.

Local members of the Loyal Order of Moose are planning to attend the field day exercises to be held under auspices of the Moose in De Witt, Ia., August 26. Governor Clarke of Iowa will be present and will deliver an address. Those members who are athletes are getting ready to win some of the contests and the entries show that the field of starters will be large.

## MOLINE DOCTOR SAFE IN LONDON

First Word Received From Dr. Otis in Month Tells of His Experiences.

The Tri-City sanitarium force is unusually happy today, having just received a letter from Dr. F. J. Otis, who has been in Europe since early June attending the congress of surgeons in London, the American surgeons first visiting various parts of Europe together. This is the first letter received here since July and relieves much anxiety. It is dated London, Aug. 3. He says in part:

"As you will see by the papers Europe is involved in war. German boats have all stopped and very few are putting out to sea here because of war conditions. I am hooked for the Baltic. If she sails you will know of my coming. It will be in the papers. We fear the English boats will be commandeered and we will be stranded."

He tells of the people trying to get out of Austria, through which country he traveled before reaching England. He said it was much like the Americans trying to get out of Mexico. Women and small children were thrust aside that strong men might take their places. Many of the doctors in the party say they will shoot themselves hoarse if they ever get to sea again, and all agree that when they sight the Statue of Liberty they will feel willing to jump overboard and swim the rest of the way. The letter is one of much interest.

The Baltic was to have sailed yesterday.

## PROFESSOR MUHLEMAN TO SPEAK IN LOCAL CHURCH

Professor George W. Muhleman, well known in Moline as a former high school instructor in science, will address the congregation of the First Methodist church Sunday morning at the usual church hour on the subject, "Four Essentials to Happiness." Professor Muhleman now occupies the chair of chemistry at the Methodist university in Oklahoma.

All the news all the time—The ARGUS.

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