

TROPICAL SNAKE IN FRUIT CAR

Lincoln Banana Handler Retreated When He Found Boa Constrictor

Lincoln, Neb., March. (Special)—Orville Robertson, banana handler for the Grainger Fruit company, received the shock of his life when he opened a car of the tropical fruit on its arrival here and found a boa constrictor that measured five feet in length wrapped about a stalk. The measuring was done later. Mr. Robertson did not stop to ascertain the snake's size when he first made the discovery. The snake was badly chilled through its long ride in the refrigerator car and was unable to move. A glass jar was secured, and the snake will live the rest of its life in the university of Nebraska museum.

BOOZE DEAL IS IN HIGH COURT

Giver of Note For \$1,000 Contends Whole Transaction Was Illegal

Lincoln, Neb., March. (Special)—What Attorney Cowan, of Stanton, declared to be a tale from the Arabian nights was unfolded in supreme court today when William Sporn and W. A. Baier have appealed from a judgment that they are liable on a note of \$1,000 given to Lawrence Shellpepper, who lives north and west of Stanton. The defense to this note is that it is part of an illegal transaction, and that being against public policy the note cannot be collected.

The story of the defendants is that Shellpepper wanted to buy whisky, and employed Sporn to get it for him from a Sioux City handler of contraband liquor. They said they made the deal, and the liquor was brought one night to a point in Wayne county, close to the Stanton county line and there hidden. Sporn said they were afraid to go further because of the vigilant attitude of the Stanton county attorney. Shellpepper was notified, they said, of the cache, but when the parties went to get it there was none there. Somebody had stolen it.

Their story as to how Shellpepper, who says it was a straight loan, happened to have their note, is that he demanded some security for his money in the event that something would happen to them before he got the liquor. Mr. Cowan said the story was ridiculous, and that if the money was given for that purpose, no liquor was ever purchased by them; that they simply struck the money in their jeans. He said that a cache for the 16 cases they said they got would have to be 32 feet square.

NORFOLK CONCERN IS ATTACKED IN COURT.

Lincoln, Neb., March. (Special)—The validity of charter membership certificates issued by the Elkhorn Life & Accident company of Norfolk is under attack in supreme court by Charles H. Durland and other stockholders. These certificates were issued to 250 charter members and provided that they should be paid 5 per cent. of all first annual premiums collected from other members. Durland said that in the end this will cost the company \$100,000. The certificate terminates with death, but 80 men still hold these. The company won in the court below.

Durland contends that the company has no power to issue such certificates that the company being a mutual one, no member is entitled to a privilege denied another, and that it represents promoters' profits. The company says a promoter is a man who figures in the pre-organization, and that these men risked their money and insurance at a time when it was a real risk, and that this was ample consideration for the payment, which is much less than the stock company pays as commissions to agents out of the first annual premiums they collect.

SECOND CONVICTION FOR BOOTLEG WAR MURDER.

Omaha, Neb., March. —William E. Welter, of Nebraska City, was found guilty of manslaughter by a jury in district court last night after 10 hours of deliberation. Welter was accused jointly with Jay Banker, Nebraska City, and James Griffin, Omaha, of the slaying of Henry McArdle last November. McArdle's body was found, charred in a burned haystack south of town the morning after he had been taken in an automobile on North 18th street.

Griffin, already found guilty of manslaughter, testified at Welter's trial. Banker's trial will come next.

DECATUR GIRL BELIEVED DEAD

No Word Had From Jessie McCluskey, Missing Several Weeks

Decatur, Neb., March. —After being taken to Omaha from his farm home near Decatur by Detectives Leroy Wade and Felix Dolan on a warrant issued on complaint of Ross McCluskey, charging a statutory offense, Fred Phelps was again freed because of lack of evidence.

This is the second time Phelps has been arrested and the case dismissed, the first time being caught at Omaha by County Sheriff Smith, after he had fled across the ice of the Missouri river into Omaha.

Although Jessie McCluskey, 19-year-old Decatur high school girl, for whose mysterious disappearance Phelps was arrested, left several weeks ago, no trace or word from her has been received. It is feared she may be dead. Her relatives state she was never in Omaha but once in her life, when a girl about five years old, and she has never since been in any other large city. They believe if she were free and alive, she would certainly return home or get some word to them.

LINCOLN GRADE SCHOOL GIRL WINS CONTEST

Lincoln, Neb., March. —Mary Frances McReynold, 11 years old, Lincoln seventh grade school girl, won first prize in the state essay contest on "making State Highways Safer," and her essay is to go to Washington to be entered in a similar contest of national scope.

Herbert Bennel, also of Lincoln won second prize. The winner receives \$15 and a gold medal and second prize is \$10 and a silver medal. Five other prizes consist of \$5 and bronze medals.

Marcella Nason, Norfolk, was third in the competition.

Miss Grace Eley, Gothenburg, a teacher, won the first prize in the contest for a plan of teaching safety in the schools. Misses McReynold and Eley will each be given a free trip to Washington if their respective entries win the national contest. The contest was sponsored by the highway education board and the department of education.

BOYS HELD FOR SERIES OF ROBBERIES.

Winnebago, Neb., March. —For nearly a month a series of burglaries has been going on here, and until now the perpetrators have covered their tracks. Various residences and stores have been broken into and numerous articles stolen.

The latest and for the time being, at least, the last of these offenses, was the burglarizing of the Schmidt hardware store. Lefe and Clifford Beltz, Prosper Maney and Orville Tipton were discovered by R. J. Hart, federal officer and special constable, in the rear of the building. They were arrested by him and there were found in their possession, it is alleged, articles taken from the store, including a shotgun, knives, watches and ammunition; also skeleton keys and an assortment of files. Upon being questioned the boys confessed to taking part in several robberies, it is alleged. They are all young, the oldest being under 15.

STIMULATE INTEREST IN AMERICAN HISTORY

Columbus, Neb., March. (Special)—In order to stimulate the interest of Columbus school children in American history the local post of the American Legion, as a part of its new local Americanization program has appropriated \$100 for each of a series of pictures known as "The Chronicles of America" produced by Yale University. Each of the series, constituting an hour's motion picture performance at a local theater and beginning with the landing of Columbus in America is donated by the local post to the children. The youngsters of each ward school will attend in bodies under the supervision of their instructors and be admitted at the Legion's expense in cooperation with the local theater manager, William Jewell.

PLAYGROUNDS FOR COLUMBUS SCHOOLS

Columbus, Neb., March. (Special)—Municipal all day playgrounds for every day in the week to be conducted on the grounds of the various ward schools in the city are being contemplated by a committee headed by Rev. T. M. Pyle, pastor of the First Baptist church and representatives of the various civic and luncheon clubs. The plan, which will provide for the all day operation of playgrounds at the five grade schools in the city will be presented to the board of education next Tuesday. The plan has for its object keeping of youngsters off the streets during the vacation season.

Why Not a Broom? From Illinois Central Magazine. Drug Clerk: "What kind of a tooth-brush do you want?" Customer: "Gib me a big one, boss; dar's ten in my family."

DIVORCED ON FIRST WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.

Columbus, Neb., March. (Special)—On the exact date of the first anniversary of their marriage, Carl Herschenhahn obtained a divorce in district court Saturday from his wife, Marie Herschenhahn on charge of cruelty and desertion. The couple were married in Council Bluffs. The husband alleged the wife didn't want to cook meals and finally left him Jan. 1, going to Omaha with another man.

Women Invent Individual Radio



Mrs. F. S. Julian and her sister, two Los Angeles women, have perfected individual radio sets, without aerial, tubes, batteries or ground wires, and they claim to have communicated with each other at a distance of 2,000 miles. Mrs. Julian is shown wearing her tiny receiver.

BIG TREE PLANTING PROGRAM FOR 1924 NOW UNDER WAY

Washington.—Following a great tree planting week in which every body turned out in the city of Sacramento, the American Tree association has called on the people of the country to make the year 1924 the biggest tree planting year the nation ever had.

Under the direction of Irvin Engler of the Chamber of Commerce, and a committee made up of M. B. Pratt, state forester, F. N. Evans, park superintendent, Geneva Watson, of the Beautification Committee and Hugh McWilliams, county forester, Sacramento opened on January 29 the year's campaign. The week had its climax Saturday when, reports to the American Tree association say ten thousand school children turned out and planted trees, shrubs and flowers. The campaign had been launched in the churches on the previous Sunday.

"Thousands have heard our call to celebrate the centennial of Arbor Day in 1924 by planting the trees now and 1924 will be a record breaker," says Charles Lathrop Pack, president of the Tree association. "We registered 69,590 tree planter in the tree planting army during 1923. The first report in 1924 on roadside plantings comes from Mrs. E. M. Savage of Eustis, Florida, where an entire school planted trees along the Dixie highway. The old Spanish Trails with headquarters in San Antonio, Tex., has big plans under way as has the Lee highway particularly in Tennessee.

"Most important of all planting perhaps, scheduled for 1924 is the planting of 26 miles of the Harding highway starting at Lima, Ohio, and planting toward Marion. Mrs. Florence Kling Harding, her health permitting, will inaugurate this planting in co-operation with Lynn R. Timmerman, the Boy Scouts, J. Earl Miller of Lima; Carl J. Gugler of Gallon, the president of the Harding Highway association and myself. This planting will be in April.

DENVER WIDOWER, 56, ADOPTS GIRL 24 AS DAUGHTER

Denver.—Mrs. Ethel Webb, 24, has a new daddy today, following decision of District Judge Butler authorizing the issuance of an order permitting Charles Eichold, a 56-year-old widower, to legally adopt her.

Eichold petitioned the court for permission to make the adoption, declaring he wished to make the woman his heir-at-law and give her a home. He testified that his wife was dead, that he was lonely and needed someone to keep house for him. He said he would be glad to leave the woman his property when he died.

Mrs. Webb informed the court that her husband had deserted her; that she had no parents, and was perfectly willing to become Eichold's daughter.

Nine Deaths in Week Laid to Fireplaces

Atlanta, Ga.—When the open fireplace, unprotected by a screen, claimed nine more lives here this week, as indicated by the mortality records of Dr. John P. Kennedy, City Health officer, Fire Chief W. B. Cody issued a vigorous renewal of his warning, sounded several weeks ago, that the "open fireplace is one of the greatest menaces of the day to the lives of elderly persons and children.

CHAUFFEUR A WAR ACE

Pasadena, Calif.—The distinction of having in their employ as chauffeur one of the leading "aces" of England and winner of the English aerial derby last summer, Capt. George Clifford, belongs to Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Field of Brocton, Mass., who are spending the winter in Pasadena. Chauffeur Clifford is a captain in the reserve of the Imperial Royal Air Force of Great Britain.

Since its beginning, four years ago, the air route between London and Paris has carried 4,000 passengers about half of the number having been American tourists or business men.

Sympathy is Urged for Dope Addicts

Not Punishment, But Help Required to Aid Them, Says Chicago M. D.

Chicago.—Instead of punishment being meted out to persons addicted to drugs, wholehearted sympathy and extensive co-operation should be extended to these unfortunates, according to Dr. Herman N. Bundesen, Chicago health commissioner.

In a signed bulletin issued recently, Dr. Bundesen also pointed out that each year finds the ranks of child narcotic addicts increasing steadily. This is a problem, he said, which demands the highest skill of the medical profession before it will be solved satisfactorily and its menacing aspects gradually eliminated.

"Opium, cocaine, morphine and other habit-forming drugs have reached out and clutched thousands of boys and girls within their tentacles," Dr. Bundesen asserted. "Where in other years only adults were victims today the influence of drugs is found in many grammar and high schools. Children, 12 years of age, and others in their teens have been found to be addicts.

"Nowadays the use of drugs is not confined exclusively to the underworld. Prominent personages, even those who move in the highest strata of society, now 'hit the dope.' Of course, the degradation of their affections—and dope victims include many professional men and also highly educated, accomplished women—ultimately swells the ranks of the underworld."

New Specific For Pneumonia Found

Holy Ghost Hospital Surgeon Says Remedy Kills Germ

London.—New and amazing results in the treatment of pneumonia are claimed for a preparation now being used at the hospital of the Holy Ghost here.

The preparation, known as "anti-microbium-Tomarkin," is the discovery of Dr. Tomarkin, surgeon to the hospital, who claims that under his new treatment deaths through pneumonia in the Holy Ghost hospital have been reduced to 4 per cent, as against 46 per cent. in other hospitals where the customary treatment was used.

In an article contributed by him to a leading Italian medical organ, Dr. Tomarkin gives figures for three months in a ward under his treatment, which substantiates his claims and shows how he treated only the worst cases and cured 24 out of every 25.

His preparation, which takes the form of capsules, will be supplied only to medical institutions and hospitals. Four boxes of thirty capsules each are necessary for an ordinary case of pneumonia according to the doctor, three of the boxes being antitoxin in their action and the fourth antipneumogenic. In brief, the discovery first kills the pneumonia germs and then eliminates them.

Inquires and appeals for the new preparation are pouring into the Holy Ghost hospital from all over the world. Dr. Tomarkin states he will endeavor to meet all demands in good time.

PROTEST BEER TAX

Munich.—The "Associated Christian Brewery Workers" of Bavaria have opened a new breach between Munich and Berlin, reviving at the same time the ancient feud between Bavaria and the north. Berlin proposes to increase the tax on beer. Bavaria protests that beer is liquid bread and takes a dig at the profligate north, by suggesting instead more taxes on "Schnaps."

Women were entirely excluded from attendance on the Olympic games in ancient Greece and were not even allowed to cross the Alps while the games were going on.

OLD ARMY MAN QUILTS SERVICE

"Gatlin' Gun" Parker, Much Decorated, Retires After Thirty-Seven Years

Omaha, Neb., March. —Col. John Henry (Gatlin' Gun) Parker, after a service of 37 years in the regular army, during which time he received more decorations from the United States than any other man in the history of the nation, has retired to private life. His retirement, in the presence of Brig. Gen. Halstead Dorey and officers of the Seventh corps area headquarters and Forts Crook and Omaha, took place Sunday afternoon.

Colonel Parker left Monday for his future home in the mountains of northern California.

"My parting word to you officers before I go to my ranch in the west is to remember that you have a country worth serving," Colonel Parker declared.

"There is no question of doing too much for it, and the privilege of service is enough to compensate any man. Be thankful if you are able to serve it at any and all times.

"What service I have had has been through co-operation and team play with my brother officers and the men who served under me. In my private life which begins tomorrow I am going to serve my country just as well as I have in the army, and, if possible, better."

WHITE-ROBED MEN AT CHURCH SERVICE

North Platte, Neb., March. —The Christian church here was visited Sunday evening by six white-robed men, who entered by the front door and proceeding to the altar after handing Rev. Mr. Stevens a letter containing the principles of the organization and presenting the church with \$31 for the collection. They asked the audience to sing "America," and repeat the Lord's prayer which was done.

After this the klansmen departed. The letter, which was handed to Rev. Mr. Stevens, was read to the audience. The letter contained the principles upon which the organization is based and they pertained mostly to Americanism.

BLOOMFIELD DEBATORS DEFEAT HARTINGTON TEAM

Bloomfield, Neb., March. (Special)—"Resolved, that the United States should further restrict immigration," was the question debated by the debating teams from the Hartington and Bloomfield high schools Friday evening, the debate taking place at the local high school assembly. Bloomfield upheld the negative side and won by a two to one decision of the judges. Local debaters were: Hannon VanAken, Marcus Tague and Ray Johns. The Hartington team: Natalie Millard, Helen Eby and Violet Chaney. The judges were Miss Gail Hyspe, English instructor in the Wausau high school, and Messrs. Johnson and Aetting from Wayne.

CANDIDATES GET IN LINE FOR PRIMARIES

Bloomfield, Neb., March. (Special)—Chas. Gnewuch of Center has filed for the democratic nomination for state representative from the 47th district and will oppose P. R. Neff, incumbent, at the primaries: Mr. Gnewuch was a member of the board of supervisors and is well-known all over the county. L. B. Crew of Creighton has filed for the republican nomination. He is also a former member of the county board. It is rumored that L. D. Case, a farmer, will oppose Mr. Crew in the primaries but he has not filed for the office as yet.

BLOOMFIELD FIREMEN ELECT NEW OFFICERS

Bloomfield, Neb., March. (Special)—At the regular meeting of the Bloomfield Volunteer Fire department, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, A. C. Sendell; vice-president, Carl Schurr; secretary-treasurer, H. F. Cunningham; chief, H. H. Hassman; assistant chief, Taylor Mefford; directors, G. H. Liddell, J. F. Noecker and Art Hermann. The firemen's ball, staged recently netted over \$300 and the department is in a very prosperous condition.

UNABLE TO LOCATE OWNER OF COV.

Newcastle, Neb., March. —After having cared for a cow which came to his farm about three months ago, Ole G. Anderson, farmer two miles northwest of here, has despaired of finding the owner and has about made up his mind that she will belong to him.

GOVERNOR'S SECRETARY WOULD BE JUDGE

Lincoln, Neb., March. (Special)—F. C. Radke, private secretary to Governor Bryan, has filed as a non-political candidate for county judge of Johnson county. He formerly represented Cedar county in the legislature.

LOCAL TALENT PLAYS FOR BAND BENEFIT

Newcastle, Neb., March. (Special)—The High school auditorium was filled to capacity both Friday and Saturday evenings, when a local talent comedy, the cast consisting of the public school teachers and members of the Newcastle Community band, was presented. It was a benefit for the band which made its first appearance in a concert preceding the play. The band is under the leadership of Bandmaster Carlson, of Sioux City.

FIRST DIVISION MEN TO MEET

First Gathering Since War to Be Held At Omaha, March 15

Omaha, Neb., March. (Special)—Members of the famous First division, which saw such strenuous campaigning in France, soon after America's entrance into the war, will meet in Omaha, March 15. Because of the great distance and expense involved in a trip to the metropolis for the reunion, Omaha men who served in the First are arranging the get-together here.

Letters have been sent to two hundred and fifty veterans of the "Fightin' First" living in Nebraska, Iowa, North and South Dakota, Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota, and Arkansas, and it is believed by the committee that more than 1,000 former members of the First will be reached by these invitations.

DAIRY COWS BEING BROUGHT TO HOLT COUNTY.

O'Neill, Neb., March. (Special)—Tangible results in the campaign to add a million head of cows to the dairy herds of Nebraska already are manifesting themselves in Holt county and around O'Neill. Dairying always has been one of the important, although not the leading of the county's agricultural and stockraising industries. While others are discussing a future development, the county's farmers and dairymen this winter and spring have gone to work to improve and augment their dairy herds. A number of head of registered thoroughbred Holstein milk cattle have been imported and others are on the way.

FARM DANCE ENDS IN CUTTING AFFAIR.

Columbus, Neb., Mar. —Three men were wounded, two seriously, in a stabbing affray that broke up a midnight dance at the farm home of Joe Shemek, 11 miles northwest of Silver Creek. Wesley Pickering is in a critical condition. His brother, Francis, is suffering from numerous knife wounds. George Graves, the third victim, suffered severe injuries.

Two more men, John Cuba and John Doryca, were placed under arrest on a felony charge and released on bonds of \$1,500 each to await hearing.

CROW HUNTERS PLAN FOR BIG BANQUET

Tilden, Neb., March. (Special)—At least 200 hunters from Antelope and Madison counties will attend the annual banquet here on the night of March 10 when the annual crow shooting contest between the two counties ends. The American Legion and Tilden Community club of which Patrick Stanton is president, are co-operating in order to carry out a big program for the shooters. The crow's feet will be counted and the silver trophies awarded to the best shooters.

PRODUCERS' ALLIANCE HAS BIG MEMBERSHIP

Columbus, Neb., March. (Special)—More than 9,000 farmers and business men in Platte, Pierce, Knox, Cedar, Madison, Antelope, Boone, Nance, Dixon, Wayne and Stanton counties have joined the National Producers' Alliance, according to P. H. Mohler, of Minneapolis, organizer for the association.

OMAHA CONCERN HAS CLAIM ON GUARANTY FUND.

Lincoln, Neb., March. (Special)—Argument was had in the supreme court on the application of the National Fire insurance company of Omaha for reimbursement to the extent of \$15,000 out of the state guaranty of bank deposits fund. The manager of the American State bank of Aurora solicited a deposit from it. He accepted \$15,000 in liberty bonds and gave certificates of deposit in return. He then sold the bonds for \$13,704, deposited the proceeds in bank to his credit, and later part of it went into his bank. It failed. The state is opposing payment on the ground that if the discount on the bonds be calculated, the fire company got about 18 per cent. for its money. Which bans it as a claim against the fund. The lower court gave the bank a judgment for the amount realized by the sale of the bonds, and held that this was a claim against the fund.

SUNSHINE HIGHWAY TO PASS THROUGH WAYNE.

Wayne, Neb., March. (Special)—The Sunshine Highway, extending from Canada to Yankton, S. D., will be extended to the Gulf this year. The trail will cross the new bridge at Yankton and strike the new Nebraska State highway that runs through Wayne. Preparations are being made by the Kiwanis and Greater Wayne clubs to mark the highway for a considerable distance. The city of Wayne has allowed sufficient funds for the enlarging and adding of tourists conveniences at Tourist park. Graveling the new State highway just south of Wayne will start early this spring.

HELD FOR ASSAULT ON NORTH PLATTE GIRL.

North Platte, Neb., Mar. —Charles R. Moose, 30 years old, a salesman, is under arrest here charged with an assault on an 18 year old girl. He is now in the county jail. According to the report of the affair as given by the young woman, Moose stepped his car beside the curb and after asking her to go for a ride and take her home, he assaulted her, and before leaving her beat her up badly.