

DEATH CHARGE WILL BE FILED

Injuries Inflicted by Robbers Cause Death of Howells, Neb., Man

Chuyler, Neb. (UP)—Murder charges will be filed against the four men who beat and robbed Joseph Semerad, 77 years old and his daughter, Miss Rosie, of near Howells, Neb., Monday night, if they are apprehended, it was learned today, following death Thursday of the aged man.

Semerad died suddenly while walking to the farm of his son. The attending physician expressed belief that a severed artery in the head, sustained when the robbers beat him, caused death, and that he also may have suffered from exposure due to being left bound to a tree for several hours.

Miss Semerad, who was thought to have been the most severely injured, is expected to recover.

State officers were convinced that the robbery was committed by men familiar with the premises and who knew Semerad well. Semerad was a Bohemian, and two of his four assailants spoke Bohemian as their native tongue.

Confidence was expressed that the guilty men will be captured.

WAYNE ATTORNEY SPEAKS AT WOMEN'S CLUB MEET

Wayne, Neb. (Special)—Fred S. Berry and Mrs. Grace Walsh Lutgen, both of Wayne, are scheduled for speeches at the convention of the Third District Federation of Women's Clubs, at Madison today.

Delegates and alternates from Wayne are Mrs. A. McEachen, Mrs. E. W. Huse, Mrs. F. S. Berry, and Mrs. J. G. W. Lewis.

WILL ACCEPT COLLEGE WORK IN HIS HOME TOWN

Fremont, Neb. (UP)—Midland college's history department, which has been without an individual head since Dean E. Clyde Xander resigned in 1926 to become president of Thiel college, Greenville, Pa., is to be headed by William Zimmerman Jr., a Fremont man, who will receive his doctor of philosophy degree from Cornell university, at Ithaca, N. Y., this spring. He will take over his new duties June 5.

Zimmerman graduated from Midland in 1922 and after teaching three years, one at Dwight, Neb., and two at Luther college, Wahoo, he entered the University of Nebraska to receive his master of arts degree in 1926. Since then he has been at Cornell. At both the University of Nebraska and Cornell he has served as an assistant in the department of history.

RECENTLY CLOSED BANK AT BRUNSWICK REOPENED

Brunswick, Neb. (Special)—Through the aid of 150 farmers, the Brunswick State bank, which was closed recently, opened its doors Thursday.

MUSIC CONTEST AT IDA GROVE

Schools of 21 Western Iowa Towns Entered for April 6 and 7 Event

Ida Grove, Ia. (Special)—Central and East high schools, of Sioux City, Mapleton, Storm Lake, Cherokee, Ida Grove, Lake City, Oto, Manson, Aurelia, Early, Newell, Cherokee (Immaculate Conception), Bronson, Battle Creek, Schleswig, Kingsley, Danbury, Lake View, Lawton and Galva schools are entered for the district music contest to be held April 6 and 7 in Ida Grove. The contest begins Friday evening and lasts through Saturday with sessions in the morning, afternoon and evening.

Four girls glee clubs, four boys' glee clubs, two bands, two orchestras, three small instrumental groups, 8 vocal groups, 27 vocal solos, 7 violin solos, two violincello solos, 3 wood wind solos, 6 brass and 10 piano solos will be included in the program.

YOUNG LIVESTOCK DOING EXCEPTIONALLY WELL

Spencer, Ia. (Special)—Paul Busenbark, county agent, states that the early pig crop is normal and that the weather has been very favorable for them. There will be many more pigs during the next two or three weeks.

Among early chickens there have been few losses and most of the early hatches have proved to be 100 per cent healthy. Although there may be a few losses from adverse conditions there is no contagious disease of any kind.

A few early lambs have arrived and have averaged about 100 per cent.

A large number of calves have arrived, largely the beef breeds. The largest bunch reported is at Fred Schmidt's six miles north of here.

LOOKS LIKE THEY VOTED FOR THEMSELVES

Shenandoah, Ia. (Special)—Fifty seven different persons received votes for mayor of Essex at the city election when voters wrote in the names of whom they pleased. No tickets were nominated. C. H. Lilledahl was elected mayor. Other officers are: W. C. Pendleton, assessor; C. E. Hanson, treasurer, and councilman; Alfred Sar. F. D. Milgerson, Walter E. Carlson, C. J. Carlson and Dolph Hanson.

FARMER ASKS \$5,000 FOR LOSS OF OLD WALNUT TREE

Omaha, Neb. (UP)—The unsparing woodman who chopped down a walnut tree 100 years old has been dealt a legal and financial blow by the district court here. Emmet N. Hanley, Nashville, Neb., a farmer, was granted an attachment of \$5,000 against the Des Moines Saw Mill company and E. O. Stife, manager. Manley charged that the company without his permission cut down a tree which was a landmark on his property for 50 years.

The tree was four feet thick at the base, 100 feet high and shaded the entire yard. He said it was valued at \$2,500, but added it was "worth double that amount to me."

The attachment was obtained to seize logs and equipment of the company at Nashville.

NEW RULING IN MORTGAGE CASE

Nebraska Supreme Court Decides Against Bank Newman Grove

Lincoln, Neb. (Special)—The supreme court decided the quarrel between the First State bank of St. Edward, Boone county, against the Newman Grove State bank of Madison county, over the liens they had originally on property belonging to Sam Nikalasson. The Newman Grove bank took title from the owner so as to be in a better position to defend its claims as a superior title, but the supreme court holds that in doing so it lost the right to claim that the St. Edward bank mortgage was usurious because it called for 10 per cent interest and the payment of the mortgage tax by the owner. The court holds that the defense of usury is personal to the owner and cannot be successfully pleaded by the holder of a junior mortgage expressly taken subject to the mortgage to which the defense is sought to be applied.

The court laid down some new law with respect to mortgage foreclosure practices. It says that a subsequent mortgage may not add to the amount secured by his mortgage the sums he paid for interest upon a prior mortgage, done for the purpose of avoiding foreclosure at the time, where authority so to do is not contained in his own security. In such case he is subrogated to the lien of the prior mortgage to the extent of the payments, and in order to recover them on foreclosure of his mortgage, must plead the prior mortgage lien and facts showing such a breach of conditions thereof as give a right to foreclose that mortgage.

CITIZENSHIP QUESTIONS PUZZLE MANY NATIVES

Norfolk, Neb. (Special)—Mrs. Mary Lackwood, a native American, who 14 years ago married an Italian who had not taken out his naturalization papers, applied here the other day for citizenship papers. Two of the questions asked by the examiners she could not answer. They were, "Who would become president if Mr. Coolidge died?" and "What is the name of the highest law of the United States?"

A poll made at a local newspaper office showed that a dozen at least native-born, white Americans could not answer the questions, either. One thought the chief justice of the supreme court would become president, if both president and vice president died. Another thought it would be a cabinet officer, but he didn't know which. Another thought the highest law of the land was the supreme court.

TYPEWRITERS STOLEN FROM PLATTE CENTER SCHOOL

Platte Center, Neb. (UP)—Thieves entered Platte Center high school and took seven of the eight typewriters owned by the commercial department. The machines, all nearly new, were valued at more than \$500.

FORMER LABOR GROUPS END THEIR CONFERENCE

St. Paul, Minn. (Special)—Representatives of farmer and labor groups in several northwest states, terminating a conference here, late Wednesday, decided to join with "other progressive organizations" in calling a national political convention in July.

While disavowing any leadership in plans for a third ticket in the national political campaign this year, the conference agreed to give its support to such a movement if generally endorsed by other similar groups throughout the country.

Terminating itself the "northwest conference of progressives," the meeting here declared its primary interest was in formulation of plans for a closer working arrangement between "the progressive movements in several states of the northwest."

Authorized delegates participating in the conference included men from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Colorado, North Dakota, Iowa, Illinois and Idaho, while a number of others took part in the conference merely as interested persons.

FARMER KILLS SELF, AND SAYS HE BLAMES NO ONE

Scottsbluff, Neb. (UP)—Cloyd Thompson, farmer who lived nine miles north of Scottsbluff, ended his life by shooting himself through the head with a rifle, late Wednesday.

Thompson, son of John Thompson, left a note saying that he blamed no one for his act. He was in good health and his financial affairs were in good condition. He killed himself by placing the muzzle of a rifle in his mouth and pulling the trigger with his foot.

Out Our Way



By Williams

"Standardized State Doles" Might Undermine Individual Competition

From Barron's Financial Weekly.

Under the drear but less repulsive garb than "government dole," the American Association for Labor Legislation will press its "standard bill" for the "old-age pension," in the 1929 session of 42 state legislatures as well as in congress.

It proposes "modestly" that any 70-year-old citizen who has lived continuously in one state for 15 years, if not worth more than \$3,000, shall be paid by that state an amount sufficient to give him, including his own earnings and income, a daily maintenance of one dollar.

Montana and Nevada adopted the old-age pension system as far back as 1923, at the very time when one of the best reading topics of the day was the British dole, its inutilty, premium on irresponsibility, sloth, extravagance, and the whole round of zig and petty vices which lead to the poorhouse.

If the progress of the association in emancipating the worker from the duty of providing for his own, his wife's, his mother's, his father's old age, and in opening a new outlet for public expenditure, equal in diameter to the sum of all other legitimate and unlawful outlets, is to be halted, it will most likely be, not because the system is violative of the rights of private property and creative of a Stalin despotism, but because the standard bill cannot prevail against its own absurdities.

Yet even the standard bill can fall back on precedent. In more than one state the taxables carry a school budget providing for nurses, dentists, apothecaries, milk, meals and school tickets, stadiums, ball courts, fields and halls and physical culture.

In more than one township so burdened the tax collection dare not refuse to collect taxes on the installment plan, when such terms are offered.

The penitentiary is equipped with auditorium, stage, playground and athletic apparatus.

The "dehumanizing poorhouse" has its movies, radios and other dehumanizing diversions which have made the fireplace no longer the sanctuary of senectitude.

Why, indeed, it will be asked, should old age be denied a statutory guaranty of one dollar, when the super-luxuries of bodily culture, of science and refinement are given by the state to the children of the rich, poor, strong, weak, apt, inept, native, foreign, newcomer and oldtimer alike? To that question the "who cares" mood of the hour does not intend to reply.

Only its own shortcomings threaten the standard bill. They are crude, clumsy, unequal, unfair, according to one an income at the most not exceeding \$180 while guaranteeing to another a maintenance of \$365.

Yet these very shortcomings are fruitful bolshevistic soil, readily yielding to improvement, to larger benefits to elastic classes of all ages and physical conditions. Standardized state doles conceal but move toward a more distant goal—a state subsidy that will dispense with a full day's work for a full day's pay.

War and Wishing.

From the New York Times.

One reason for the lack of enthusiastic public response to Secretary Kellogg's diplomatic notes and announcements on the subject of ending war, is a general feeling that he has left the matter too much in the air of merely a pious aspiration. What he wants, we all want, but when we stop to think about it, we know that the only way to abolish war is to put something effective in its stead. Hostilities cannot be averted by simply wishing that they might never occur. Mr. Kellogg himself virtually admits that the disclaimer of war in the pre-ambles to the recent arbitration treaty with France has no binding effect. It is really no more than an amiable flourish of international friendship. And evidently, one might go further and say that a universal treaty, such

The Farmer's Handicap.

Senator Capper of Kansas.

A comparison of actual rates shows the Canadian wheat grower in Saskatchewan paying a freight rate of 13 cents per 100 pounds for a haul of 666 miles, while for hauls of almost identically the same distance the Montana wheat grower pays 31 cents and the Kansas farmer must pay 36 cents. On longer hauls the handicap placed on the wheat farmers of the United States is practically as great. For hauling his wheat 1,728 miles from Regina, Sask., to the port of Quebec, the Canadian farmer pays 23 cents a bushel. The Kansas farmer, for a

Four Crops a Year.

From the Illinois Central Magazine.

The successful raising of four crops on the same land in less than a year is reported by a farmer living in southeastern Mississippi. The crops were cabbage, Irish potatoes, corn and cowpeas. The same farmer boasted of strawberry shortcake from March to June, fresh peas, turnips, mustard, green onions, radishes, lettuce and the like in November. \$16 worth of satsuma oranges from one tree, 167 bushels of Irish potatoes to the acre, a hay crop worth \$48 an acre and 250 pounds of pecans from a single tree.

tion cost on the basic product of grain, which in proportion as it gives purchasing power, causes the movement of other traffic. The producer in the United States suffers material injury from the higher grain rates thus imposed.

Q Was Alexandria, Va., ever part of the District of Columbia?

N. A. H.

A. Alexandria, originally called Bellehaven, was a part of the territory ceded to the United States in 1799. It was retroceded in 1804 and again became a part of Virginia in 1847.

TAX SALES ARE VITAL SUBJECT

Omaha Official Asserts City and County Cheated Out of Thousands

Omaha, Neb. (UP)—The city council Monday voted to appoint a committee to investigate sales of delinquent taxes being conducted by county officials here. City Commissioner Joe Koutsky charged that the city and county are losing many thousands of dollars through the sales. Lots have been selling for as low as \$1 on these sales—not enough to pay the cost of advertising and conducting the sale, Koutsky charged.

Koutsky pointed out that there is plenty of chance for collusion in the way tax sales are conducted in Douglas county. There is nothing to stop a purchaser from privately turning the property back to the original owner, he said. Those purchasing property at tax sales become owner of the property after they have held it for two years and paid regular taxes on it, he said. It is not necessary to pay up back taxes which in many instances amount to hundreds of dollars which are lost to county and city.

JUDGE BUTTON BEING OPPOSED

Members of Dodge County Bar Association Seek His Defeat in Election

Fremont, Neb. (Special)—Attorneys who are members of the Dodge County Bar association have been holding meetings all over the county to oppose the nomination of Judge F. W. Button, who has been on the bench in the Sixth judicial district for the last 15 years. The attorneys assert that the judge does not have good judicial poise, that he influences juries by his actions and decisions and that his continuance on the bench is a stumbling block to good judicial practice.

At a recent mass meeting held in Fremont, several Fremont attorneys addressed the crowd in explanation of their reasons for opposing the re-nomination of the judge.

TENANTS OCCUPY SAME FARMS FOR MANY YEARS

Scottia, Neb. (Special)—Believed the record for northeast Nebraska, John Vance has rented the Ellihu Fish farm for 30 consecutive years. He then moved off the farm for a year or two, returned, and has rented it altogether 32 years. Robert Mitchell has been on one rented place for 27 years. Mrs. Emma Hermsmeier has been on the same rented place for 23 years.

FEARS THAT COLD HAS DAMAGED FRUIT CROP

Falls City, Neb. (UP)—Fears that Richardson county's apricot crop may have been slightly damaged when the mercury dropped to 18 degrees above zero this morning are expressed. It will take several days, however, to determine the extent of the damage.

ARGUMENTS TO BE HEARD IN INCOME TAX CASE

Omaha, Neb. (UP)—Federal Judge T. C. Munger will hear final arguments in the \$500,000 Uppike income tax case today. The defense rested late yesterday after placing Nels B. Uppike, millionaire grain man and owner of the Bee-News on the stand.

Uppike said an attempt had been made by Collector A. B. Allen, of the Omaha Internal Revenue bureau, to compromise all Uppike tax cases for \$10,000. Uppike gave Allen a check for this amount but it was returned nine months later.

Judge Munger is expected to reserve decision until he has time to thoroughly study the large mass of documentary evidence introduced in the case. He announced briefs must be filed early because he will settle the case before May 15, if possible.

The suit involves about \$511,000, principal and interest on income and excess profit taxes of \$373,911.54 claimed by the government to be due from the Uppike Grain company for 11 months of 1917.

HAD ACCOUNT LOSSES TOTALED BUT \$49.65

Madison, Neb. (UP)—During 14 years as a retail merchant in Madison, E. E. Burris, now retired, lost only \$49.65 in bad accounts. For five and one half years Burris operated a variety store from which he lost \$15 in worthless accounts. The rest of the amount was lost in the drug business over a period of eight and one half years. Credit was extended liberally to Madison people and Burris explained the showing was not due to his own business ability but to the people of the community.

DENTISTS OF DISTRICT WILL MEET AT TRACY

Tracy, Minn. (Special)—Dentists from this section of the state will assemble here for the annual convention of the Southern Minnesota Dental association, May 24 to 26. Twenty-one counties are included in the district and it is expected that 200 will come here. Dr. W. J. Haycock of this city says that the program will include speakers and clinics by men of state and national reputation.