WEATHER FORECAST

Nebraska—Possibly thunder showers; not much change in temperature.

CITY EDITION

# THE OMAHA MORNING BEE

VOL. 54. NO. 10. OMAHA, THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1924. TWO CENTS In Omaha and Council Bluffs. Five Cents Elsewhere.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

We join ourselves to no party that does not carry the flag and keep step to the music of the union.—Rufus Choate.

# Democrats Stage Fist Fights Over Klan

## U. S. to Join Dawes Plan Conference

### Ambassador Kellogg Instructed to Attend Premier's Parley at Invitation of England.

### Logan to Assist in Meet

Washington, June 25.—Ambassador Kellogg at London was instructed today to attend the forthcoming premiers' conference to discuss execution of the Dawes' plan.

His appointment was announced in a White House statement which said that Mr. Kellogg would attend the conference "for the purpose of dealing with such matters as affect the interests of the United States and otherwise for purposes of information."

**U. S. Receives Invitation.**

This action was determined upon after the State department had been advised by the ambassador that an invitation for the United States to participate had been handed the American embassy in London. The White House statement declared that it was "the desire of the administration that the Dawes plan should be put into effect as speedily as possible."

Col. James A. Logan, who has been American observer with the reparation commission at Paris, also will go to London to assist the ambassador at the conference.

**Text of Statement,**

Ambassador Kellogg forwarded to the State department the text of the invitation and later Secretary Hughes conferred at length with President Coolidge. The statement then was given out at the White House. It follows:

"It is the desire of the administration that the Dawes plan should be put into effect as speedily as possible. This is the first essential step to economic recovery abroad in which this country is vitally interested. It is with this view that in response to the invitation extended by Prime Minister MacDonald, instructions have been given to Ambassador Kellogg to attend the conference in London on July 16, for the purpose of dealing with such matters as affect the interests of the United States, and otherwise for purposes of information. Colonel Logan will go to London to assist the ambassador."

## IOWA DELEGATION WAIVES UNIT RULE

New York, June 25.—The Iowa delegation, which is under the unit rule, today unanimously voted to waive the unit rule in the event there is any voting on a Ku Klux Klan plank in the democratic platform.

E. T. Meredith, former secretary of agriculture, and chairman of the delegation, said he regarded the klan issue as religious, not political and that no one should be bound to vote in a manner contrary to the dictates of his conscience.

## *We Have With Us Today*

**L. D. Henderson, Commissioner of Education, Alaska.**

Up where it's night all winter, Mr. Henderson has charge of the territorial schools, 78 in number, with 200 teachers. It gets 30 and 40 degrees below zero and the teachers have to wrap up like the Eskimos in picture books, but they teach just the same.

Mr. Henderson stopped at the Omaha oBard of Education office Wednesday en route to the National Education association meeting in Washington, D. C., which starts Sunday. He will spend the summer studying educational work in Columbia university.

The main trouble he finds in Alaska is the lack of transportation facilities, said Hr Henderson. Another great problem is the Indian. Although the federal government provides schools for the Indians, it is necessary to take a great many in who live near the territorial schools.

The schools which he has under his supervision include 18 high schools. The teachers are mostly women. It's harder to get efficient male teachers, who will go up there," said Mr. Henderson.

## Heir to Earldom Is Sailor on U. S. Cutter

Though he's heir to the earldom of Westmoreland, one of the oldest of English houses, the Hon. John Neville Burg-Apton Villiers Farrow holystones decks on board the U. S. coast guard cutter Shawnee.

When not sailoring the young nobleman associates with San Francisco's Blue Bookites.

## Boys Trapped in Second Franks Ransom Scheme

### Sister of Slain Lad Threatened Unless $8,000 Paid; Bogus Money Package Leads to Capture.

Chicago, June 24.—Three boys were trapped tonight when they went to collect $8,000 they had demanded from Jacob Franks as extortion. They had treatened to kidnap Josephine Franks.

Josephine Franks is a sister of little Robert Franks, kidnaped and slain by Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb.

The youths arrested tonight are about 17, school boys.

Mr. Franks, father of Josephine, received a letter telling him to drive his car to a depot with the money. He called police. Chief of Detectives Hughes suggested a bogus package be made up and carried by Mr. Franks to the spot indicated.

By Associated Press.

Chicago, June 24.—Detectives and postal authorities who spent the day investigating threatening letters recently sent to wealthy Chicageons were undecided tonight whether the missives were the work of cranks with a perverted sense of humor, or a band of extortionists bent on capitalizing the recent kidnaping and slaying of Robert Franks to frighten wealthy persons into meeting their demands.

One of the letters was received by Edward Hines, wealthy lumberman, from a man who signed the missive "Farewell" and called upon the recipient to bury $20,000 under an ash pile at a designated point before July 8 or forfeit his life. The writer represented himself as suffering from tuberculosis and with less than two months to live, which he said he expected to make as easy for himself as possible. Numerous warnings were interspersed with bits of poetry and philosophic musings.

Another letter, neatly typewritten, was received by Dr. Homer S. Warren, the writers signing themselves "The Red Peppers' and demanding $5,000 under threat of "exposure." Dr. Warren told police that he had deposited a decoy package and had received a second threatening letter as a result. Evidence that a woman also received one of the letters was found by police in the personal column of a newspaper which a few days ago carried a note addressed to "The Red Peppers" and signed "Mrs. N," in which the writer asked more time to meet the requests made. Police are trying to find Mrs. N. The police expressed the opinion that all notes have been written by the same person of persons.

## Topping Machines Used to Harvest Grass Seend

Clarinda, Ia., June 25.—The Page county crop of blue grass seed is being harvested with topping machines. Eight of these huge rollers are now in operation on the W. E. Anderson farm north of Clarinda, heading the 400 acres of bluegrass. The seed is sacked directly from the machines and removed by trucks.

## Government Sues 30 Big Oil Firms

### Violation of Sherman Anti-Trust Act Charged—Standard Defendant as Alleged Fixer.

### Omaha Company Named

By H. R. REYNOLDS, International News Service Staff Correspondent.

Washington, June 25.—In a gigantic effort to break the alleged control of the Standard Oil company over gasoline and oil prices in the United States, the federal government today charged 30 of the country's great oil companies with violation of the Sherman anti-trust law and asked the district court at Chicago to enjoin them from further violations.

The suits were filed under the direction of Attorney General Harlan F. Stone on the basis of an investigation conducted by the federal trade commission.

The litigation thus started by the government is regarded by officials of the Department of Justice as among the most important that has been undertaken during the past quarter of a century.

**Standard Oil Named**

The companies named in the bill include the Standard Oil of Indiana, Standard of New Jersey, Standard of California, Standard of Kansas, Standard of Louisiana, Standard of New York, Standard of Ohio, the Texas company, the American Refining company, the Aetna Refining company and 20 other great oil companies.

In explanation of the government's legal assault on the various Standard Oil companies, which were dissolved several years ago by the United States courts, the Department of Justice issued the following official statement:

"In bringing this suit Attorney General Stone, charging that all these great companies have combined to control the production of gasoline by a pooling of associated patent rights in violation of the Sherman anti-trust act, names as the primary defendant in the conspiracy to organize and maintain the unlawful combination, the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, Standard Development company, Texas company and the Gasoline Products company.

"In substance, the petition filed by the attorney general alleges that, due to the increased demand for gasoline resulting from the great increase in the use of automobiles, manufacturers of gasoline now utilize processes for cracking gasoline which increases the yield from a given amount of stock from 50 to 100 per cent over the old methods of distillaton. The process is described as the subjecting of the residue after distillation to high temperatures and super-atmospheric pressure that effects the decomposition of molecules of the heavier hydrocarbons, gas, oil and so forth, into the molecules of the lighter hydrocarbons known as gasoline.

**Patents Pooled, Claim.**

"The attorney general charges that the disclosure of this process was made in patents issued 60 years ago, and long since expired, and that while there now are no valid patents covering broadly the basic features

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## Bloomfield to Hold Big Celebration on the Fourth

Bloomfield, Neb., June 25.—All preliminaries for the big celebration to be staged here on the Fourth of July under the auspices of the Bloomfield Concert band have been completed. The program will include exercises at the city park in the forenoon, ball game, races and sports in the afternoon and a grand ball in the evening. A feature of the afternoon program will be a hose race between two teams picked from the Bloomfield volunteer fire department, one captained by H. H. Hassman and the other by Taylor Mefford. The boys' band will play during the day and will give a concert in the evening.

## Griswold Churches Protest Against Movies on Sunday

Atlantic, Ia., June 25.—Speculation is rife as to the probable move to be made at Griswold, Ia., against Sunday movies. The city council some weeks ago granted the proprietor of the Strand theater permission to operate on Sunday. Churches immediately registered a protest. There is talk of asking the district court for a restraining order.

## Enid and Husband Set Sail for Rome

Enid Bennett, screen star, sailed on the Leviathan from New York with her husband, Fred Niblo, movie director. They're going to Rome.

## 242,013,000 Yen Asked for Quake Repairs in Japan

### Imperial Diet Meets to Consider Budget — Record Membership in New Lower House.

By Associated Press.

Tokio, June 25.—The imperial diet met in extraordinary session this morning, the chief business being to deal with the supplementary budget for the fiscal year 1924-25. This appropriates 242,013,000 yen, principally for earthquake reconstruction work, according to the figures of the finance department.

The supplementary budget, added to the regular working estimates of 1,347,173,000 yen, announced by the finance department at the opening of the fiscal year, April 1, 1924, makes a total appropriation for the year of 1,589,186,000 yen.

The home office and department of communications together claim two-thirds of the supplementary appropriations, their share being allotted to the rebuilding of roads, government offices, postoffices, telephone and telegraph lines, temples and shrines. The war office asks for 12,213,000 yen and the navy department 7,787,000 yen.

The supplementary budget does not contain all the appropriations to be asked of this session of the diet. The navy department, for instance, will ask approval of a continuing program of re-construction, principally for the Yokokashima naval base, to cover several years, and to cost 92,000,000 yen.

The new house of representatives, as a result of the general election of May 10, contains more new members than any house since the inauguration of the national parliament 34 years ago. Nearly half the membership of 464, or 218, are holding seats in the diet for the first time. Only 53 members of the new house sat in the one dissolved on January 31. The remainder, 193, have been in parliament before, but not in the last diet.

## Married in Council Bluffs.

The following persons obtained marriage licenses in Council Bluffs yesterday:

| | |
|---|---|
| Paul D. Nuecky, Omaha | 29 |
| Helen C. Amberson, Superior, Neb. | 21 |
| Harry Fleeker, Manhattan, Kan. | 27 |
| Dorothy Janet Blossom, Council Bluffs | 18 |
| Edward S. Terry, Omaha | 28 |
| Ida J. Mayo, Fort Worth, Tex. | 24 |
| D. M. Downs, Neola, Ia. | 21 |
| Jet Thrush, Council Bluffs | 21 |
| Clark E. Wooldridge, Sidney, Neb. | 23 |
| Elsie Remender, Madison, Neb. | 23 |
| Ray Schad, Olbion, Neb. | 21 |
| Laura Witt, Albion, Neb. | 19 |
| Michael P. May, Omaha | 47 |
| Anna Fischer, Omaha | 42 |
| Edmund Mathiesen, Council Bluffs | 28 |
| Helen Knudsen, Council Bluffs | 21 |
| Clarence Howard Bowers, Omaha | 21 |
| Gladys Ferne McFarland, Omaha | 21 |
| John W. League, jr., Council Bluffs | 22 |
| Emma I. Kellogg, Council Bluffs | 18 |
| William G. Kieck, Plattsmouth, Neb. | 21 |
| Lora A. Lloyd, Plattsmouth, Neb. | 21 |
| Ernest Herman Knebel, Norfolk, Neb. | 22 |
| Elna Katherine L. Sasse, Norfolk, Neb. | 18 |
| Wallace R. York, Farragut, Ia. | 24 |
| Blanche A. Kemerling, Farragut, Ia. | 21 |
| Rudolph Ensilk, Omaha | 23 |
| Freda Knee, Omaha | 18 |
| J. C. Anderson, Council Bluffs | 21 |
| Doris B. Rosch, Council Bluffs | 21 |
| R. D. Zeorian, Springfield, Neb. | 27 |
| Thelma Blodgett, Springfield, Neb. | 18 |
| J. E. Dieringer, Hastings, Neb. | 21 |
| Flora Moulds, Hastings, Neb. | 21 |
| O. E. Hayes, Griswold, Ia. | 22 |
| Dorothy Kennedy, Council Bluffs | 19 |
| Charles B. Williams, Omaha | 25 |
| Gladys Martin, Omaha | 24 |

## Lions Hear Pleading of Blind Boy

### Will Buy Braille Magazine for Every Sightless Child in United States and Canada.

### Convention Climax Today

Hushed as never before in solemn moments at the Lions international convention, the gathering listened intently while a 10-year-old blind boy, Edward Kuncel, 4518 South Seventeenth street, Omaha, read with his finger tips a plea for a magazine for the blind children of America. Clearly and deliberately as any orator of the convention, little Edward delivered his message.

He and other blind children will receive an answer to their plea. Following the boy's dramatic appearance, the convention adopted a resolution urging every Lions district in the United States and Canada to subscribe for the Braille Junior Magazine and send it free to every blind child in the district, as was first done by the Lions of Cincinnati, and then by the Lions of Ohio and later in other Lions districts.

The blind boy orator was brought on the stage by N. C. Abbot, for many years superintendent of the state school for the blind at Nebraska City. His mother, Mrs. Gus Kuncel, was in the audience.

**Child Welfare Program.**

Only one copy of the Braille Junior magazine has been received at the state school, Mr. Abbott said, after the boy's talk. The blind children take turns in reading this one copy aloud to the rest. Edward asked that the last copy be given him. After his talk at the convention, the request was granted, and he carried away the precious magazine printed in raised letters.

Other recommendations of the child welfare resolution, reported by Judge Hubert Utterback of Des Moines and adopted by the convention, urges upon all Lions child welfare work and a survey, endorsement of the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., Campfire Girls and American Junior Red Cross; urged Lions to be big brothers to handicapped boys and girls, to back the child labor amendment to the U. S. Constitution; to observe Father and Son week and Boys' Week, and to hold a series of oratorial contests by children on good citizenship.

**Candidates File.**

The convention will reach a climax Thursday with the election of officers and the selection of the 1925 meeting place. Campaigns for candidates and cities have been waged all week. Numerous nominations are expected on the floor of the convention, probably of 'dark horses," inaddition to the list of candidates filed with the nominating committee when it adjourned at 4:30 o'clock Wednesday afternoon.

Candidates filed with the committee are:

President—William A. Westfall, Ninth district, Mason City, Ia., and Col. W. G. Higgins, Second, San Antonio, Texas.

First vice president—Benjamin Jones, Fourteenth, Newark, N. J.

Second vice president—Irving L. Camp, Fourteenth, Johnstown, Pa.

Third vice-president—Judge William V. Gregory, Twelfth, Louisville, Ky.

Directors, three to be elected for three years—Mason Forbes, Fifth, Duluth; Fred N. Redheffer, Twenty-fourth, Kansas City; J. A. Holmes, Twenty-seventh, Madison, Wis.; Earle W. Hodges, Seventh, Little Rock, Ark.; Dr. M. M. Nielson, Twenty-eighth, Salt Lake City; Thomas Halliburton, Thirty-fourth, Macon, Ga.; Thomas B. Lee, Twentieth, Niagara, N. Y., and James H. Readio, Twenty-third and Thirty-third, Providence, R. I.

**Fight for Convention City.**

Nominations will be made in the forenoon, but the election will not be held until just before adjournment at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Nominating speeches are limited to three minutes, and seconding speeches to one minute. Candidates expected to be nominated on the floor are Harry A. Newman, Toronto, Can., and Earnest L. Kreamer of Chicago. Illinois is said to have withdrawn from the Kreamer race, being satisfied with having international headquarters in Chicago.

Huge banners hung in the convention hall tell the story of the convention city campaign. "All Ohio, 1925,

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## Put the "Go" in Goodfellowship

**Ak-Sar-Ben has created good fellowship throughout the west. It has brought Omaha and its natural trade territory into closer business and friendly relations.**

**J. Dean Ringer, president of the Omaha Lions Club, says: "One begins to fully appreciate what Ak-Sar-Ben means and really is when a big convention like that of the Lions is entertained in Omaha. It is the great moving spirit in good fellowship and friendly rivalry. It is the enthusiasm of Ak-Sar-Ben that keeps things going. Membership in Ak-Sar-Ben should be deemed a pleasure and a privilege—a pleasure because of the friendship made and enthusiasm aroused; a privilege because it enables one to work intelligently and co-operatively for Omaha and the west."**

## McAdoo Forces Still Confident of Vote Outcome

### No Significance Attached by Manager to Anti-Klan Demonstration on Convention Floor.

New York, June 25.—Nomination of William G. McAdoo by the end of the week is the objective of his supporters. Balloting at the democratic convention, they predict will begin Friday.

After today's session, a dozen or more of McAdoo's advisers went into conference with him to canvass the situation and perfect plans for the battle of ballots afterwards. David Ladd Rockwell, his campaign manager, declared he was convinced the convention was in no mood for a deadlock stretching into next week and that every effort would be made by the McAdoo forces to wind things up, at least so far as the presidential nomination is concerned by Saturday.

**Claim Reserve Strength.**

Continuing to express confidence as to the outcome, Mr. Rockwell said the McAdoo lines not only had been held intact, despite reports from rival camps to the contrary, but that the candidate had a reserve strength that would surprise his opponents.

Mr. Rockwell declined to make any prediction as to the strength McAdoo would poll on the first ballots, or as to how many ballots would be required to name a candidate.

Apparently confident that McAdoo early will roll up a majority and of the opinion that if this occurs, many delegates will conclude that a protracted deadlock can be avoided only if McAdoo is named, his managers seemed convinced it would be good strategy to press the issue at the outset.

**Developments Encouraging.**

Developments during the day, it was declared at McAdoo headquarters, were encouraging from every angle. The demonstration given the candidate at the convention after he had been placed in nomination appeared to please his lieuteants. Then, too, they said, reports reaching them from various delegations indicated that all is well, although some of the faithful had been uneasy earlier in the day on account of the activity of the enemy in attempting to make inroads in the McAdoo ranks.

No significance, at least with regard to Mr. McAdoo's candidacy, was attached by Mr. Rockwell to the anti-klan demonstration on the convention floor. The charge was made by him, however, that some leaders in the party, among them George E. Brennan, democratic national committeeman from Illinois, was seeking to stir up a row over the klan issue in the hopes of embarrassing Mr. McAdoo.

## Ord to Have Fair.

Ord, Neb., June 25.—Loup Valley Agricultural association will hold a fair in Ord this year, opening on August 26. Differences with the county board over assistance have been adjusted and the fair will be held as usual.

## Tromble to Speak.

Columbus, Neb., June 25—John Tromble, president of the Kansas Farmers' Union, will speak at Platte Center Friday evening, June 27. The meeting is under auspices of the

## *Nominating Speech Denouncing Order Precipitates Brawl*

### Delegations Launch Parade as Anti-K. K.K. Demonstration Sweeps Convention Hall—Personal Encounters Follow When Number of States Refuse to Join Marchers.

### McAdoo, Robinson, Underwood Names Presented

New York, June 25.—The deep currents of democratic rivalry and dissension burst their dykes today in Madison Square Garden and engulfed the party's national convention with a billowing wave of confusion and disorder.

The Ku Klux Klan issue, brought at last to the open floor of the convention, set off an anti-klan demonstration that swept the great hall like a tornado and led to several fist fights among delegates, but apparently brought the question no nearer a solution.

Reaching the stage of receiving nominations for the presidency, the convention also was shown, in an hour's demonstration for William G. McAdoo, visible proof of the organized and driving power of the forces that are at work to influence the selection of a nominee.

The name of Governor Al Smith will be presented tomorrow, and his campaign organization was preparing tonight a convention floor parade designed to outlast and outdo that accorded today to his leading rival. Nominating speeches for all the other candidates are expected to conclude tomorrow night, but there will be no balloting before Friday or Saturday.

**Organization Perfected.**

Moving swiftly through its routine preliminaries, the convention today perfected its permanent organization, accorded two prolonged demonstrations to its permanent chairman, Walsh of Montana, the Teapot Dome prosecutor, and disposed of all its duties except adoption of the party platform and selection of the nominees.

The klan and other debated subjects tonight held in continuous session a platform sub-committee appointed to comb over a vast collection of suggestions and advice and weld what is found acceptable into a declaration of principles on which the whole party can stand united.

Convention officials hope the platform will be ready for submission by Friday morning. Under the rules, it must be adopted by the convention before voting begins on presidential candidates, and if no prolonged floor fight develops on the controverted planks, it is possible the first roll calls on presidential candidates will be reached before adjournment Friday night.

**Twenty to Be Presented.**

In all, about twenty candidates are to be formally presented to the convention and only three of the nominating speeches were heard today. Alabama, heading the roll of the states, placed in nomination Senator Oscar W. Underwood. Arizona had no nomination to present, and Arkansas presented the name of Senator Joseph T. Robinson. California's nomination of Mr. McAdoo and the demonstration in his behalf brought the day's proceedings to a close. When the convention reconvenes tomorrow morning, Colorado will nominate Governor W. E. Sweet and then, when the name of Connecticut is called, its delegation will yield to New York for presentation of the name of Governor Smith.

It was denunciation of the klan by Forney Johnson of Birmingham in his speech nominating Senator Underwood, that threw the convention into its first open manifestation of disagreement. Throughout his pre-convention campaign, the Alabama senator has waged unrelenting war on the klan, and since he came to New York he has made public the anti-klan plank he would like to see in the platform.

Mr. Johnson read the vigorous phrases of this plank to the convention and its response was as prompt as it was dramatic.

**Tear Flags from Walls.**

Sending up a shout that came as from a single throat, the delegations from several anti-klan states poured into the aisles to begin a parade around the hall. Gathering momentum as they went, they tore from the walls and railings clusters of American flags to carry aloft in their militancy, and took up for their marching songs, "The Star Spangled Banner" and "My Country 'Tis of Thee." It was 20 minutes before order could be restored.

A number of states refused en masse to join in the demonstration and in two or three delegations where sentiment was divided, there were fist fights between delegates who sought

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## Man Near Death From Accidental Rifle Discharge

### Little Hope Held for Recovery of Young Bridegroom at Fairbury—Bullet Under Heart.

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee

Fairbury, Neb., June 25.—Hiram Jurgena, 27, a bridegroom of two weeks' duration, accidentally shot himself today. He is unconscious and little hope is held for his recovery.

Jurgena is a butcher and the accident occurred in a slaughter house where the young man had gone to butcher a cow. The animal had been run into a chute and Jurgena had walked onto the platform preparatory to shooting it. The rifle was kept in a corner on the floor and it is believed that in someway it was discharged when Jurgena reached for it. The bullet entered the left side directly under the heart.

Jurgena is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Jurgena, living on a farm near Powell, Neb. His bride was Miss Letha Smith and they had just settled in a new home at Fairbury.

## MIDLAND FUND REACHES $314,521

Fremont, Neb., June 25.—Midland college officials announced today that the total thus far obtained in the appeal for $500,000 has reached $314,521 with reports from various precincts yet to come in.

Dr. O. H. Pannkoke, director of the appeal, and President J. F. Krueger are in Kansas at present working with the local committees in winding up the campaign in that territory. Delays caused by continued rainstorms upset the plans of the campaign and as a result the appeal will be carried on for a brief period.

The Fremont drive for $100,000 has passed the $75,000 mark and with a number of pledges to be renewed, the workers are confident of considerable success.

H. V. Grothe, in charge of the alumni campaign, reports that about 75 per cent of the $60,000 has already been secured. And as yet, he stated, a great number of former students have not been approached.

## Reckless Driver Jailed.

Clarinda, Ia., June 25.—Glen Burge was arrested for reckless driving following collision with a truck of the A. A. Berry Poultry company. He was fined $25 and being unable to pay cash is serving 10 days in jail.

## *The Weather*

For 24 hours ending 7 p. m., June 25, 1924.

Precipitation, inches and hundredths. Total, T. Total since January 1, 14.74, excess, .15.

Hourly Temperatures.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5 a. m. | 59 | 1 p. m. | 71 |
| 6 a. m. | 59 | 2 p. m. | 70 |
| 7 a. m. | 61 | 3 p. m. | 72 |
| 8 a. m. | 63 | 4 p. m. | 74 |
| 9 a. m. | 66 | 5 p. m. | 74 |
| 10 a. m. | 65 | 6 p. m. | 73 |
| 11 a. m. | 69 | 7 p. m. | 71 |
| 12 noon | 70 | 8 p. m. | 69 |

# JOE ELLEN--A STORY OF BROADWAY--*By Alexander Black*

PART ONE.

**The Spouting Devil.**

I.

As for Jo Ellen, if you had been in search of her you might have missed her altogether. The grass had been precocious that year. Where it squirmed in the hot wind, and especially where the clover and wild carrot spattered the slope, a slender figure was easily immersed.

The girl sprawled with her feet toward the river. She had been in the shade of the maple when she flung herself backward. Now the sun had crept to her neck. Presently it would pry open her eyes. Her bare legs glistened in the light. One of them carried a pale red scratch running diagonally upward from the ankle.

Before that, she had sat peering at the water and at the purple silhouette of the other side. A tugboat and a long string of barges had been cutting a line through the glittering space. A freight train droned by, showing only the roofs of the cars and the high windows of the caboose. The tracks would blister your feet if you had your shoes off. If you were further down the hill you could see the tracks shining like slits of river. Probably the telegraph wires were just as hot. It was a wonder the sparrows could stand on them as they did.

The shadow of the Palisades looked cool. Very likely it wasn't. When you got anywhere it only proved to be hot in another way. Even the water seemed to simmer. But the river was cool. It would be a great day to fall in.

Thought of falling in brought about a glance at the slip of a dress she more and a meditative movement of one hand. The fingers advanced to a torn place in the hem, then reviewed the line of the scratch on the leg. Experimental wriggling of her toes resulted in the detachment of one canvas slipper. She pushed the slipper through the grass with her pink heel, stared again at the Palisades and pulled off her cap, the cap with the long peak which she liked to wear in the sun.

Hair was a nuisance in such weather. She plunged a hand into the mess of its coils. Sticky. If only it could be cropped—not merely bobbed, but cropped close like a boy's. Shingled. A lot of red hair could be sold to somebody. You could buy something with the money.

When she tweaked the knot the mass leaped like a flame. Her shoulders winced at the hot tickle of it. In an airplane the whole thing would stand straight out. On some days it would be blown gorgeously if you stood on the very top of the Palisades, facing that other way, where you could jump off into the world. . .

She dropped backward and the grass seemed to flow over her without dimming the ruddy flash. Against this daub of color the warm whiteness of her face and neck showed sharply. She looked into the leaves overhead with wide, clear eyes. The glint of green and mauve between the lashes might have been borrowed from the setting or might have belonged to them. When the lids came down, the lash lines were deeply curved. There was a moist glow in the hollow at her throat and in the prophecy of the breasts that rose and fell in a steady, participating tranquillity.

II.

Emma Traub, a bony, long-limbed woman, with a scuttling stride that never appeared to be affected by footway or weather, turned out of the lower road. She was whistling a wheezy note and folding the ends of a newspaper that wrapped a bundle she carried under an arm. Her wiry brown hair glistened at her temples. Having subdued the paper, she drew the back of her hand under her chin and glanced at the wet knuckles without losing the pucker of her lips. She rubbed the knuckles over her skirt at the hip and swung up the slope. When there was need to dodge an obstacle, she showed an extraordinary nimbleness. Something lankly girlish appeared in her movements.

It was a bare foot that caught her glance. . . . When she saw that it was Joe Ellen Rewer, she halted and faced the figure in the grass without suspending the breathy tune or seeming definitely to focus her look. Casually she noticed the detached slipper, the hat, the hair gleaming through the green, the creeping intensity of the sun. She became rather intent at last in watching the girl's bosom rise and fall. The interest of this seemed to grow upon her. She ceased whistling and her inky eyes acquired a look of being fascinated, or of being held by some extraordinary thought. Now that she had ceased whistling, her lips had a loose plainness. They hung apart while she stood there, as still as one of the trees, staring at the sun-tinted throat and shoulders of the lithe young body, at the one spot in the sultry scene that moved. It was as if here the hillside breathed; and it was as if the hill woke up when Joe Ellen's eyes opened wide.

Emma Traub blinked.

"Your uncle's home," she said.

Jo Ellen yawned, gathered herself into the shade, and began fussing with her hair.

"What of it?"

"Sick," said Emma Traub.

Joe Ellen's brows gave a perplexed twitch. "Sick?"

"He looks bad," added Emma Traub. Thereafter she resumed her

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