

CURRENT NEWS OF IOWA COUNCIL BLUFFS

QUARREL ENDS IN TRAGEDY

John Coyan Shoots Himself in the Presence of His Wife.

TWO HAD DISAGREED OVER TRIVIAL MATTER

Wife of Opinion Man Did Not Intend to Kill Himself, but Snapped Supposedly Unloaded Revolver to Seize Her.

"Between you two, you will drive me crazy." With these words John Coyan, while sitting with his wife in their bedroom at their residence, 3417 Fourth street, yesterday afternoon sent a bullet into his brain, inflicting a fatal wound.

Coyan and his wife had quarrelled over what apparently was a trivial matter and were still discussing it when Coyan placed the revolver in his hand and pulled the trigger. Whether Coyan actually intended to shoot himself or merely snapped the trigger not knowing the weapon was loaded, while the intention of frightening his wife, is a question. Mrs. Coyan insists that it was purely an accident and that her husband was unaware the revolver was loaded.

Quarrel a Trivial One.

As far as could be learned the cause of the quarrel between Coyan and his wife was of small importance. They are building a new home across the street from their present residence and Mrs. Coyan and her father, Andrew L. Henshaw, who makes his home with the Coyans, wanted to discharge a carpenter employed on the building. Coyan had refused to discharge the man and this, it is said, led to some heated words Saturday night. The matter was brought up again shortly after the family had finished dinner. Coyan and his wife were sitting on the side of the bed in their bedroom still arguing over this matter when Coyan stepped to the bureau and took from it an old-fashioned, long-barreled revolver. He, according to his wife's statement, did not think it was loaded, as he searched through the drawers of the bureau for some shirt, but failed to find any. He then sat down again on the bed beside his wife, holding the weapon in his hand. They continued to discuss the question of discharging the carpenter, the wife insisting that her husband comply with the wishes of herself and father. Suddenly Coyan placed the revolver to his forehead, exclaiming: "Between you two, you will drive me crazy." The weapon was discharged and the man fell back on the bed, the blood gushing from the two holes made by the bullet in his head.

Wife Tries to Follow.

The report of the shot brought Mrs. Coyan's father and a neighbor, Frank M. Wood, who lives directly back of the Coyan home at 3415 Fifth avenue, who were in the yard talking, to the house and they at once sent for Dr. Reller and later notified Dr. Treynor, as it was evident that Coyan was mortally wounded.

Mrs. Coyan, when she realized that her husband was fatally injured, attempted to seize the revolver with the intention of turning it upon herself, and her father had a struggle to take it away from her. She, failing to secure the weapon, rushed into the yard and made for the well, evidently intending to throw herself in, but was prevented by her father and Mr. Wood, who succeeded in getting her back to the house. The two children, a boy aged 6 and a girl of 4 years, were taken to the home of a neighbor.

To Coroner Treynor, Mrs. Coyan, between her hysterical outbursts, said she was sure it was an accident. "Oh, I know it was an accident! I am sure it was. He did not know it was loaded. Although I was not to blame I will always feel that it was my fault. Poor John. He did not mean it. He only intended to frighten me by snapping it."

Andrew L. Henshaw, Mrs. Coyan's father, was too much overcome by the tragedy to make any statement beyond that he was sure it was accidental and that his son-in-law had no intention of making his life. The quarrel between his daughter and her husband, he asserted, was of too trivial a nature to have prompted Coyan to even think of taking his own life.

Coyan died at 9 o'clock last night without regaining consciousness. Coroner Treynor decided that he did not think it necessary to hold an inquest, after investigating the circumstances Dr. Treynor stated he was of the opinion that the shooting was accidental and that Coyan

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WESTERN IOWA COLLEGE

LEWIS CUTLER MORTICIAN, 22 Pearl St., Council Bluffs. Phone 27.

SUNDAY CROWD AT THE FAIR

Every Indication Iowa Will Be Up to Its Usual Mark This Year.

PROMOTING TWO INTERURBAN LINES

Populists, Who Hold Convention This Week, Are Having Some Difficulty in Finding Candidates.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

DEB MOINER, Aug. 21.—(Special.)—The Iowa state fair had a good day today, the first day for paid admissions, and the only feature was a concert by the Eleventh cavalry band from Fort Des Moines, which was given at the stock pavilion at 3 p. m. The attendance was an open season as any Sunday of past state fairs. All the exhibits are now placed and the fair is complete. A great deal of work was done today, as many of the live stock exhibitors had not arrived upon the ground until this morning. President Morrow, of the fair association, is well satisfied with the exhibits that have been made. Every department is well filled and there is not one that is lacking. The cattle show leads all others, but the horse and hog departments are declared to be good. The new exhibit is well filled with the agricultural, dairy and fruit displays. The speed program begins tomorrow and lasts all week and the number of entries is very large.

Rival Promoters at Work.

It is found here that rival interurban promoters have got into the field between Des Moines and St. Joseph. Two separate companies are engaged in planning to build an electric line or a railroad over this territory. Both are companies capitalized in the east, if at all, and practically nothing is known of them here. But little activity has been paid here to either of the companies, but in the south part of the state both have been securing franchises and tax aid. One company, promoted by William Mordant has been very active in getting right-of-way and it appears to be making much headway. Now another company of which Edward C. Steger is president is said to be planning to build from Kansas City to Des Moines and has abundance of capital.

Hard to Find Candidates.

The populist state convention is to be held in Des Moines this week on Thursday, when it is expected plans will be made for rejuvenating the party in Iowa. An effort is to be made to establish a state organ here and to open headquarters again to former members. At one time the populists cast nearly 25 per cent of the vote of the state, but now only a fraction of 1 per cent and the party is not recognized as a legal party. Thus far the leaders have not been able to find men who are willing to be nominated for state office and to take the responsibilities of a campaign.

Will Not Get off the Ticket.

There are several of the candidates for presidential electors in Iowa who are officers in national banks, but it is felt that the republican committee will not offer the example set in Wisconsin and ask that all who are officers or directors in national banks get off the electoral ticket. The republicans of this state have always contended that bank officers are not within the prohibition of the constitution in regard to federal office holders being electors. The matter has been brought up and discussed with the conclusion reached that no action is needed in this state.

Tippecanoe Club Petals.

The usual announcement has been made of prizes offered by the Tippecanoe club of the state in regard to success in republican voting. The club offers its banner to the county that makes the greatest relative gain in republican majority as compared with 1902 and its flag to the county that makes the largest relative gain of majority over the democratic majorities in 1902. In case both would under this arrangement go to one county the second best county gets the flag. This system of giving prizes has been followed for a dozen or more years with great success.

Dedication of Courthouse.

Chief Justice Horace E. Deemer of the state supreme court of Iowa will deliver the chief address at the dedication of the new courthouse at Centerville, Appanoose county, under the auspices of the Bar association, September 12. There will be an address by Judge Sloan, presiding at the term of court, and addresses by Judge Cornillon, L. C. Meehan, Judge Pease, A. J. Baker and C. H. Porter. The new courthouse is a fine one and has just been completed.

Labor Day Plans.

So far as reported Labor day celebrations will be held at Council Bluffs, Sioux City, Boone, Cedar Rapids, Clinton, Davenport, Iowa City, Ottumwa, Fort Madison, Des Moines, Oskaloosa, Charleston and Mystic. Keokuk will celebrate with Fort Madison and Marshalltown with Boone. Speakers so far announced are: S. J. Kent, general organizer of the Carpenters, at Ottumwa; Mayor C. Carr, Hon. W. W. Dodge and Mrs. H. Holborn, organizer of the Women's Union Label League, at Burlington; John F. Reum, member of executive board United Mine Workers of America, at Fort Madison; Max S. Hayes, Cleveland, and Rev. T. W. Jones at Clinton; A. L. Urlick at Mystic. Cedar Rapids will dispense with Labor day sporting and give the entire celebration over to games, sports and a general good time.

BODY OF MURDERED MAN FOUND

Indications Crime Was Committed Some Time Ago.

PERRY, Ia., Aug. 21.—(Special Telegram.)—The usual quiet of our city was rudely broken at 7 o'clock last night and for a time excitement was at fever heat by the finding of the badly decomposed body of a man probably 30 years old on the Rock Island right-of-way at the foot of Lucinda street near the barn of Dell Cave. The stench of the body had been noticed for a week, but as Mrs. Cave was away from home and no other house near it was left for her to investigate. Thinking it might be a dog she got two boys, Ed and Will Lavelle, to go and see what it was. They at once notified Marshal Willis, who summoned Coroner French. The man's hat was found nearer the track and with it a bloody handkerchief and in the weeds a heart like a bullet wound. The body had been dragged from where the hat was by the feet and left with arms extended above the head, the coat and shirt pulled up around the neck. The flesh was gone from the face, making it almost impossible to get anything to identify him by. He was about 30 years old, brown or black hair, drab coat, dark pants, dark blue shirt with white stripes, dark felt hat of "Bismarck" brand, wore No 7 lace shoes. One white and two red handkerchiefs, a map of Iowa, part of a Des Moines Daily News of July 27, an August number of

Home Life, a dime novel, some tobacco, two sheets of writing paper and a small round mirror were found on the person. No name or marks of any kind to identify him were found. The clothing was kept by the coroner and the remains, which had evidently lain there two weeks or longer, were buried in the potter's field. So far there is no clue to the murderer. The coroner's jury will begin on the case Monday morning.

Sibley Doctor Honored. SIBLEY, Ia., Aug. 21.—(Special.)—Dr. M. Neill, of Sibley, has been elected president of the Upper Des Moines Medical association.

DEATH RECORD.

Mrs. Matwine Spethmann. GRAND BLAINE, Neb., Aug. 21.—(Special.)—Mrs. Matwine Spethmann, wife of John Spethmann, died at her home in this city yesterday afternoon at the age of 31 years. She leaves to mourn her loss her husband, aged 35, and nine children, together with many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Spethmann celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary about three years ago. The deceased was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany; came to this country in 1855 and to this section in the sixties. The funeral will take place at the home at 2:30 o'clock Monday afternoon. Rev. T. W. Kahse of the Lutheran church, in which deceased had been confirmed, officiating.

Mrs. J. L. Pinkerton. CHADRON, Neb., Aug. 21.—(Special.)—Mrs. J. L. Pinkerton died at the residence of her son, Conductor George A. Pinkerton. Mrs. Pinkerton came here two weeks ago to be operated on and she rallied so well from the operation that the husband returned to his home ranch at Mullen, Neb. The husband and children arrived too late to see her alive.

Good Progress at Soldiers' Home. HOT SPRINGS, S. D., Aug. 21.—(Special.)—Work upon the National Sanitarium is progressing finely, two of the ward buildings and the service building now being ready for the roof. The carpenters are busy with the roofs and will soon have them ready for the Spanish tiling. A new road has been surveyed from the city to Battle Mountain, into the park that the government recently made a national reserve. A 19 per cent grade has been found to the top, which is much better than was hoped for and gives an easy grade for that interesting point.

FORECAST OF THE WEATHER

Fair and Warmer Promised for Nebraska and Iowa Today and Tuesday.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—Forecast for Monday and Tuesday. For Nebraska, Kansas South and North Dakota—Fair and warmer Monday; Tuesday fair. For Iowa—Fair Monday and Tuesday; warmer Tuesday. For Missouri—Fair Monday, preceded by showers and much cooler in central and south portions; Tuesday fair and warmer. For Wyoming, Montana, Colorado—Fair and warmer Monday and Tuesday.

Local Record.

OFFICE OF THE WEATHER BUREAU, OMAHA, Aug. 21.—Official record of temperature and precipitation compared with the corresponding days of the last three years: 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897. Maximum temperature... 77 88 82 84 Minimum temperature... 56 69 67 65 Mean temperature... 69 78 74 72 Precipitation... 12 .50 .00 .40 Record of temperature and precipitation at Omaha for this day since March 4, 1894: Normal temperature... 62 Excess for the day... 12 inch Total deficiency since March 1... 2.23 Normal precipitation... 10 inch Excess for the day... 2 inch Precipitation since March 1... 19.71 inches Deficiency since March 1... 2.66 inches Deficiency for cor. period, 1892... 1.83 inches

Reports from Stations at 7 p. m.

Table with columns: Station, Temperature, Precipitation. Includes Omaha, Council Bluffs, Des Moines, etc.

T indicates trace of precipitation. L. A. WELSH, Local Forecaster.

Advertisement for Meadow Gold Butter, featuring an illustration of a woman and child, and text describing the butter's quality for camp and picnic use.

Large advertisement for Missouri Pacific Railway Coach Excursions to St. Louis, Mo., during Tuesdays and Thursdays in August and September. Includes ticket prices and contact information for T. F. Goldfrey and H. C. Townsend.

Advertisement for Rudyard Kipling's 'Soldier' Story, published by Metropolitan. Features an illustration of a soldier and a woman, and text describing the story's content and availability.