

# ONLY EX-PRESIDENT CALVIN COOLIDGE, DIED ALONE

## EX-PRESIDENT COOLIDGE FOUND DEAD AT HOME

Last Ex-President Died Alone At His Home At 1:15; Death Due To Heart Disease

Northampton, Mass., Jan. 5.—(UP)—Calvin Coolidge, 30th president of the United States, died suddenly today at his home in Northampton.

He succumbed, according to physicians, to a heart attack that had developed while he was at his main street law office, and he died alone in his bedroom.

Mrs. Coolidge, returning from a shopping trip, discovered the body at 1:15 P. M.

The former president had been dead 30 minutes, according to physicians.

The tragic death of the sturdy New Englander, who less than four years ago relinquished his high office in apparently the best of health, provided a parallel with the sudden death of his predecessor, Warren G. Harding, who died in a San Francisco hotel while his wife was reading to him, and after physicians had believed he had passed a serious crisis.

It was upon the death of Harding that Coolidge, then vice-president, assumed office. The oath it was recalled today, was given to him in a hump-backed room of an old farmhouse, by his late father—a justice of the peace.

Mr. Coolidge had been in his usual good health, so far as his family knew. This morning he left his home in time to reach his office as usual at 8:30 A. M. He was greeted there by his former law partner, Ralph W. Tamm, who remarked that he appeared to be "as sound as ever."

He worked steadily for about an hour and a half and then, accompanied by his secretary, Harry Ross, left for the Coolidge home, "The Beeches."

He left his secretary downstairs for a while before noon. Ross continued his work downstairs, and did not accompany the former president.

Shortly after noon, Mrs. Coolidge, who had been shopping, returned to the house and inquired for her husband. She went upstairs and there in his bedroom made the tragic discovery.

Dr. Edward W. Brown, medical examiner, summoned and, after examination of the body, said Mr. Coolidge had died of heart disease, and that death occurred probably half an hour before discovery of the body.

The news of Mr. Coolidge's death broke with stunning suddenness over this quiet town. It was almost unbelievable under the circumstances of the former president's quiet life in the midst of the scenes and people whom he loved.

The four years since he surrendered the duties of the presidency had been spent comfortably. The summer had been restful, with few business cares and almost no political activities to intrude on his comfortable and non-exacting existence.

A greater part of the summer was spent at the Coolidge ancestral homestead at Plymouth, Vt., where he first took the oath of office while his late father, Col. John Coolidge, held the office.

Here he did some hunting and fishing, wrote a little, and occasionally attended a meeting of directors in New York but for the most part merely "rested."

In recent weeks he had found further interest in his membership of the railroad commission to which he had been appointed four months ago, and within the past month he had given considerable of his attention to the work.

Northampton, Mass., Jan. 5.—(UP)—Calvin Coolidge, only living former president of the United States, died today. He was 60 years old.

The former president had lived in retirement at his home here since he left the White House. His health had not caused concern so far as had been known. Death was attributed to heart disease.

Mr. Coolidge died at the home which he and Mrs. Coolidge rebuilt after his return from Washington. Coolidge apparently in good health, went to his main street office at about 8:30 A. M. today.

After about an hour and a half at work, he and his secretary, Harry Ross, left for the Coolidge home, "The Beeches."

The former president was found dead on the floor of his bedroom by Mrs. Coolidge when she returned from a shopping trip at 1:15 P. M.

Secretary Ross was in the house at the time but not in the room where Mr. Coolidge died.

Dr. Edward W. Brown, medical examiner, was summoned and after

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# ASHLEY DOWNING IS BRUTALLY MURDERED

## CALL TROOPS IN MINE DISORDER

National Guardsmen Called In Illinois Mine Wars.

By GEORGE F. SCHUPPE  
United Press Staff Correspondent  
Taylorville, Ill., Jan. 5.—(UP)—The measured tread of troops echoed through Christian county today as national guardsmen were again called to quell the flaming central Illinois mine war that has taken 2 lives and wounded 14 in the past two days.

Five companies of militiamen, most of them veterans of the bloody coal mines labor strife, were deployed at danger spots among the four mining communities of the county.

The mining hamlets were tense but quiet today. Lieut. Col. R. W. Davis, commander of the militia forces, expected no new outbreak. He placed 50 men at each of the four Peabody coal mines. Another 100 troops were held in reserve, ready to reinforce their comrades should fighting again break out.

The county was thronged with armed men.

There were 200 militia men, garbed in steel helmets and armed with rifles with bayonets affixed. In the group was a machine gun detachment.

Fifty sheriffs' deputies, revolvers at their hips, patrolled streets. At each mine were 10 heavily armed guards employed by the coal company. In addition 200 working miners were deputized as added defense force. And any of the 4,000 miners working in the county who so desired were allowed to carry weapons for their own protection.

How many of the picketing miners are under arms, authorities could not say, but casualties in the present outbreak have been divided fairly evenly between each side. The pickets are members of the Progressive Miners Union, rebels against the United Mine Workers of America members who are operating the mines here.

Little trouble was expected from pickets today. Troops were massed heavily in the six-mile "No Man's Land" along a highway connecting the mines. It was in this territory that casualties occurred Tuesday and Wednesday. The area virtually was deserted except for guards and working miners today.

Hospital authorities held little hope for recovery of Tom Hickman, one of yesterday's casualties. He was struck by bullets from rifleman snipers. Authorities determined definitely no machine gun figured in the hostilities.

Many local citizens were sullen over the return of troops to the community. The guardsmen had been here for many weeks and were only withdrawn two days before Christmas when the situation had been believed calm. The citizens, while anxious to see peace restored, feared the renewed occupation of the county by guardsmen would act to stifle trade as visitors would be loath to come in town to transact business.

Red Oak, Ia., Jan. 5.—(UP)—V. Casey was shot and seriously wounded today when he defied a bandit who attempted to holdup his drug store.

Casey, a partner in the Artz Drug Store, opened the establishment about 7 A. M. and had just arrived when a middle-aged man described as weighing about 140 pounds and of medium height, entered. He asked for aspirin.

Casey turned to get the medicine and the bandit drew a pistol and demanded money. Casey instead of turning over the available cash tried to argue with the robber. Finally with the gun pointed directly at him, Casey boldly told the bandit to "get out of here."

The robbed friend and Casey fell with a bullet wound in his abdomen. A passerby saw the bandit and a companion jump into a car with a Kansas license and speed out of town. A short time later a similar car was reported passing through Clarinda.

Casey, 56 years old and a druggist here for many years, was taken to a hospital where he was considered serious.

The bandit obtained no money.

## FRIEND OF THE SCHILDHAUER'S READY TO TELL

Earl Bradberry To Tell Everything He Knows During Murder Trial

Chicago, Jan. 5.—(UP)—The increasingly complex mystery surrounding the slaying of Capt. Edwin Schildbauer, handsome Austin high school bandmaster, is rapidly nearing solution, police believed today.

Hope of solving the strange killing was strengthened by a sudden announcement of Earl Bradberry, friend of Schildbauer and his attractive widow, Frances, that he would "tell everything."

Bradberry, a former deputy sheriff, has been held in jail for 24 hours undergoing intensive police questioning. He has told stories of the private life of the Schildbauers, which conflicted with reports to police from other witnesses.

"I will tell everything I know about this business," Bradberry said, "providing my lawyer is present. But, remember, I didn't kill Schildbauer."

Schildbauer, a tall, talented musician, was slain the night of Dec. 10. His body was found beside a roadside, a bullet through the head. His widow reported she saw him kidnapped in front of their home by two men who forced Schildbauer into an automobile.

Bradberry's announcement was made shortly after new light on the relations of Schildbauer and his wife had been cast by a story told police by Charlotte Holland, niece of an insurance agent who wrote a \$30,000 policy on the musician's life.

The former deputy sheriff confirmed details of Miss Holland's story.

Miss Holland said she attended

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## Calvin Coolidge, 30th President of U. S. Died Suddenly, 1:15 P. M. Today



## DEMOCRATS WILL ORGANIZE BOTH HOUSE-SENATE

Democrats Will Have Complete Control In Organizing The Iowa Legislature.

By HARTZELL SPENCE  
United Press Staff Correspondent  
Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 5.—(UP)—Complete democratic control of the legislature which convenes Monday may be effected despite a republican majority of two in the senate, the United Press learned today from well-informed sources.

The political situation, especially with regard to senate organization, is the most complex in many years. The return of democrats to power with the election of a governor, lieutenant governor, state officials and two-thirds majority in the house, has caused a tremendous democratic pressure on the republican senate majority.

For practical purposes, there are 26 republicans, 24 democrats, and a democratic lieutenant governor in the senate. Two seats are in contest and there is doubt in both cases that there will be anyone filling them until contests are settled. Frank Cuykendall, a republican elected on a democratic platform this fall but now a member of the new republican patronage committee, presents another stumbling block.

The odds are greatly against the republicans. If they should decide to attempt organization of the senate, and reliable sources indicate they will not—they would be opposed at every turn by the power of overwhelming democratic strength. Consequently it is conceded in many well informed quarters that the republican party will be content to give the democrats the power or organization. Thus, if two years hence the actions of the assembly should be criticized, the democrats would be forced to shoulder complete responsibility. They would not be able to shift the blame to the republicans by saying vital measures were blocked or rewritten by a republican senate.

Several offers, it is understood, have been made to leading democrats by republicans that the two parties get together and organize on a non-partisan basis, dividing committee chairmanships and the not-inconsiderable amount of patronage the senate bestows. These, it is reported, have been refused.

This refusal was interpreted in some quarters as an indication that the democrats are confident of pulling several republican senators into the democratic alignment on organization votes.

Lieut. Gov.-elect N. G. Kraschel is already at work in an office back of the senate chamber at the state house, whipping his party machinery into shape for the opening of the assembly. Of vital importance to him is the senate's decision early in the senate on the expected special session.

## HOUSE TAKES UP BILL FOR FARM RELIEF

Final Vote Expected By Saturday On Domestic Allotment Bill

By WILLIAM F. KERBY  
United Press Staff Correspondent  
Washington, Jan. 5.—(UP)—Democratic leaders today brought before the house the domestic allotment bill, a drastic and frankly experimental farm relief program designed to put an estimated \$1,000,000,000 a year into agriculture's empty pockets.

Debate was to begin at noon, with a final vote expected by Saturday. Republican Leader Snell, while opposing the bill, conceded its probable passage. A presidential veto is expected, however, in event the senate approves the measure.

The allotment bill was framed by democratic leaders after a long study in which some of President-Elect Roosevelt's advisers participated. It is the latest of a series of proposals advanced to raise commodity prices and curb the crushing surpluses.

The bill would work through a complicated arrangement of bounty payments to farmers who reduced their output of wheat, cotton, tobacco and hogs. These commodities would be collected from the millers and other processors in the form of a tax and returned to farmers by the federal treasury.

Thus, it is hoped to restore agricultural commodity prices to pre-war levels and reduce production as much as 20 per cent.

The department of agriculture would see that producers actually reduced their acreage and supervise payment of bounties on sales. The extent of rebates to farmers would be determined by the secretary of agriculture on the basis of 1909 to 1914 average prices. The tax and the bounty would be equal to the difference between this average and existing prices.

The measure would be limited to duration of two years. In the event commodity prices rose so rebates were not necessary to raise farm income to pre-war levels, the bill would become inoperative.

The bill comes before the house with the united backing of farm organizations and democratic leaders, but opposed by republicans and apparently destined for a White House veto.

Republican house leader Snell after a conference with President Hoover vigorously attacked the measure as hopelessly complicated and likely to lead to tremendous administrative difficulties.

He said the rebate and crop reduction features would need a virtual "army" of officials to administer. In this view Snell reflected the opinion of many of his party followers.

Admitting the probability of a veto, or of delay in the senate, democratic leaders frankly stated the purpose of present consideration is to have a bill ready for the expected special session.

## LIQUOR REPEAL IS APPROVED BY SUBCOMMITTEE

Senate Judiciary Committee Approved Repeal Of 18th Amendment.

Washington, Jan. 5.—(UP)—Chairman Blaine's senate Judiciary subcommittee today approved repeal of the 18th amendment with protection for dry states and prohibition of the saloon.

The repealer would be submitted to state legislatures.

Blaine said no formal vote was taken on the repeal resolution but that he considered the committee action as "a favorable report for repeal."

Qualified repeal in the form approved by the subcommittee is believed to have more senate support than the pending 3.2 per cent beer bill. But the necessity of a two-thirds majority in amending the constitution is a major hazard to senate approval.

Sensors have indicated they would not obstruct consideration of the repealer.

Chairman Norris of the judiciary committee favors modification of the 18th amendment and opposes repeal but has promised that the repealer will be expeditiously handled in his committee.

The senate subcommittee was composed of senators Blaine, repn. Wis.; Hebert, repn. R. I.; Borah, repn. Ida.; Dill, Dem., Wash., and Walsh, Dem., Mont.

The text of the repeal proposal, which now goes to the full judiciary committee, was as follows:

"Resolved, by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America, in congress assembled (two-thirds of each house concurring therein) that the following amendment is hereby proposed to the constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and (Continued on Page Seven)

## PREVENT FARM MORTGAGE SALE

Get Attorneys To Agree Not To Bring Any Foreclosures Until February 13.

By GENE GILLETTE  
United Press Staff Correspondent  
Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 5.—(UP)—A farmers uprising which threatened to become as widespread and serious as last summer's farm strike was sweeping among the ranks of mortgage-burdened agrarians today.

It took two courses:

1.—Opposition to delinquent tax sales.

2.—Opposition to mortgage foreclosures.

Inspired by success as forestalling the tax sales in several counties by the simple expedient of suppressing all bids, the farmers have turned to the aid of neighbors about to lose their property by foreclosure action.

At Le Mars, Iowa, in the heart of the Farmers Holiday association area, an attempt to foreclose a farm yesterday precipitated a riot. An attorney was dragged down a long flight of courthouse steps when he bid less for the property than the amount of the mortgage against it. Lynching was ominously discussed.

Although the Le Mars incident had its inception in a demand that the insurance company holding a mortgage on John A. Johnson's farm bid as much for the property as the amount of the mortgage, the farmers' demands soon expanded.

After the insurance company attorney, Herbert S. Martin, had been dragged from the courthouse to the telegraph office and instructed to request permission from his employers to bid more money, the farmers invaded the courtroom of District Judge C. W. Pitts. They asked him to refuse to issue further foreclosure actions and when he explained he could not legally do so they directed him to write to Governor-elect Clyde L. Herring who will take office next week, suggesting to him that he order in the coming legislature a farm mortgage moratorium bill.

To further clinch their point they obtained an agreement from all Le Mars' attorneys that they would bring no more foreclosures until February 13, thereby giving the legislature time to act. Meanwhile telegraphed word had been received from the insurance company raising the bid on Johnson's farm and giving another victory to the crowd of about 700 farmers.

Earlier this week farmers in several counties presented an organized front when county treasurers called for bids at delinquent tax sales. So threatening was the attitude of the desperate farmers that no bids were heard and the treasurers resorted to their only alternative—they postponed the sales.

Research Committee Finds Divorce and Separations Increasing

By SIDNEY B. WHIPPLE  
United Press Staff Correspondent  
New York, Jan. 5.—(UP)—With divorce and separation increasing, it is instability, President Hoover's research committee on social trends discovered in its national analysis.

"Increased divorce," the committee said in its report, "is due to the weakening of the functions which served to hold the family together, and no doubt, of public opinion."

The committee traced the effect of modern building improvement, of women in commerce and industry, and of a falling birth rate, with fewer children per family, upon the nation's family life.

"Husbands and wives," the committee says, "incidentally, may have close friendships with others outside the family circle (because of more leisure) and the opportunities for such friendships may increase with improved transportation facilities and the growth of cities. These outside relations

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## ASHLEY DOWNING BRUTALLY KILLED BY A ROBBER

Agol Farmer Near Westgate, Brutally Murdered And Pocketbook Is Missing.

Ashley Downing, aged about 75, was found murdered in his home about eight miles northwest of Oelwein, about 4:15 yesterday afternoon, evidently killed with a shot gun by a robber. Mr. Downing lived alone on a 240 acre farm and was somewhat feeble, although his health was good. For a number of years he has walked with the aid of a home made cane, taken from a pitchfork handle. This was a short stick, and was probably used as much for a weapon of defense as an assistance in walking. His pocketbook is the only thing missing so far as known.

Just what time the murder was committed is not known. He was talking with C. F. Plaster between 1:00 and 1:30 yesterday afternoon. Mr. Plaster lives about a half mile south of the Downing home, and in dying past the Downing home, he stopped and talked with Mr. Downing in the road in front of his home. He was the last person known to have seen him alive.

From all of the evidence at hand it would seem that Mr. Downing was shot in the back of the head, just back of the right ear, as he was stooping over the woodpile which has in his kitchen or general living room. The charge was fired at close range, burning his neck, and the entire charge of shot from a shot gun going through his head, the shot lodging in the wood pile over which he was bending, tearing away the right side of his face. The pile of wood was in the southeast corner of the room, and the door from the east opened into it from the outside, was closed. This, "The body which was lying with the head against the east wall, just north of the outside door, and his feet toward the west, nearly to the heating stove, which was in the center of the room. The brains had been blown over the woodpile, with his head back of the door which was closed. At the northwest corner of the room was a little room used for storage and at the southwest corner of the room was a small room used as a bedroom. Whether the man who killed him was already in the house when he came in and he came out of one of these rooms and shot him in the back of the neck, or whether he came white from the door, was not known. Mr. Downing was there in the house and shot him afterwards is not known. Whichever way it may have been Mr. Downing was evidently stooping over this pile of wood to get some to put in the stove when he was shot.

The body was found by John Boiling and Harry Leiser, who had brought some chickens from Westgate to deliver to him. Mr. Downing had bought the chickens but had not yet paid for them, and these men were making the delivery. Looking around the place to locate Mr. Downing and not finding him they knocked at the east door of the house. Receiving no response, they pushed the door open and there they met the gruesome sight on the floor just back of the door. They immediately notified the sheriff's office.

The sheriff and coroner arrived, as also the county attorney. The house was full of people by that time so that it was difficult to locate anything that might lead to a clue. There was a large number of notes and mortgages in the house, for Mr. Downing never kept any money to speak of, he investing it as soon as he received it. Some of these notes were good and some of them were not. While he was most eccentric he was also a sociable sort of man, and enjoyed company stopping and visiting with him. Living a hermit's life seemed to be largely from choice. His wife left him about six years ago, since which time he has been entirely alone. The wife died at the home of her daughter in Oregon about a year ago. He has three sons, two of them, Roy and Arthur living at Parkersburg, Minn., and one, Ralph living in South Dakota. The daughter, Mrs. Ethel Quinn, lives in Oregon.

Miss Ethel Gierken, teaching at the Oelwein school, heard the shot, about three o'clock yesterday afternoon.

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