

THE POST - DEMOCRAT

Volume 5—No. 41.

MUNCIE, INDIANA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1925.

Price 5 Cents a Copy—\$2.00 a Year

DELAWARE COUNTY IS BROKE, THANKS TO BILLY Williams And His Machine

Having Squeezed The County Dry The Gangsters Will Take The City Hall On January 1

Delaware county is broke. She is not only busted, but by the first of the year will be "in the hole" one hundred thousand dollars.

When the republican "organization" came into complete poer in the county, on the first day of January, 1919, after eight years of democratic management, there was a surplus of two hundred thousand dollars in the treasury and the county was out of debt.

Inside of four years this surplus was completely wiped out and every year thereafter the county went further and further behind.

Current bills were paid by anticipating the next year's tax receipts and the final smash came when the announcement was made this week that no more claims can be paid until after the first of the year.

Claims aggregating fifty thousand dollars are now being held up because of the depleted treasury and it is estimated that the claims to be filed in the next month will bring the total deficit up to one hundred thousand dollars.

Eight years of Billy Williams and his gang of blood suckers have bankrupted Delaware county, notwithstanding the fact that the rate of taxation has constantly been increased until the tax payers are paying more than double the amounts with which they were assessed eight years ago.

And now, having squeezed the last remaining drop of juice out of the county orange, Billy and his wrecking crew have the city of Muncie in their grip, through the folly of voters who refused to heed the solemn warnings given by this newspaper.

Looking back over the history of the county for the past eight years, the people of Muncie may well be pardoned for their skepticism concerning the promises of the republican "organization" to give Muncie four years of efficient and economical business management.

Among those who control the situation and who will constitute the cabinet of "best minds" which will guide the Hampton ship of state, are Billy Williams, Harry Hoffman and Clearance Dearth.

The first named, the boss of the pack of political wolves that have looted the county strong box, has seen to it that his own and his relatives' interests have been well taken care of in the distribution of the public funds.

Clarence Dearth, judge of the Delaware circuit court, has done his part. This able seaman of the pirate sloop "Stand Pat," had his own salary increased eighteen hundred dollars a year, court expenses have mounted to unprecedented heights, new jobs were created by him in the probation department for the purpose of placing his own wife and sister-in-law on the public payroll and another of his extravagances was the creation of the job of "riding bailiff," an appointment alone which accounts for two thousand of the one hundred thousand dollar deficit for the year.

Dearth also increased salaries of political favorites at the orphan's home and the expense of that institution have enormously increased.

Judge Murray, of the superior court, also added his mite to the cyclone of financial destruction, by having his own salary raised nine hundred dollars a year.

The sheriff's office has also been a Christmas tree which has shed prerequisites right and left among the faithful, than whom there are none more faithful than the redoubtable Hoffman himself, who is ever found on guard when the easy money falls.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION.
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed by the judge of the Circuit Court of Delaware County, State of Indiana, administrator of the estate of Charles M. Bullock, late of said County, deceased.
Said estate is supposed to be solvent.
HERBERT M. BULLOCK.
Dated November 5, 1925.
Attest: PERCY W. MANSFIELD,
Clerk Delaware Circuit Court.
WARD MARSHALL, Atty.

In the year 1915 the total expenditures in Delaware county for free gravel road repair amounted to \$27,000. The late George Saunders, democrat, was road superintendent. Hays, Clark and Sanderland, democrats, were the county commissioners. The amount named above constituted the aggregate of every expenditure for labor and materials for road repair.

Road repair now, under the management of one of Billy Williams's henchmen and a horde of assistants who hold their jobs by playing politics for their postmaster boss, is costing the county around two hundred thousand dollars a year.

Sheriff Hoffman, illegally contracting with the county through a "dummy," will probably receive this year through his felonious transactions with the county which he is supposed to serve as sheriff, more money for the sale of gravel than was required by George Saunders in the year 1915 to pay the entire expense of road repair in the county.

Every county department and institution controlled by underlings of the boss has been treated as a personal asset of the machine, to be milked dry for the benefit of factional servings and relatives of the commanding generals of the army of political cockroaches that has infested the administrative household of Delaware county.

Looking backward, one is constrained to wonder why the tax payers of Delaware county have slept so serenely at the switch while the dark lantern crowd worked on their pocketbooks.

And why, in the name of sense, did not the banks and business interests in general, of the city of Muncie, perform their patriotic duty by sounding a warning and taking up arms against the invaders when they boldly trained their guns on the city of Muncie?

Mayor-elect Hampton will soon make known the personnel of his cabinet. It may be assumed that no man will be selected for the major appointments who will refuse to do the bidding of the big boss from Selma.

Billy does business right across the barrel head, so to speak. He has demonstrated that in the county. Now that he has added Muncie to his string of conquests there is little or no consolation in the thought that he might possibly have reformed and that the pre-election promises of his mouthpiece, John Hampton, will be carried out.

The camp followers of the machine are now licking their chops and waiting at the door of the banquet hall. Their glorious performance in the county has merely whetted their appetite. The hungry horde must be fed.

The people of Muncie made a wonderful non-partisan fight to prevent the disaster, but they lost by an eyelash through a combination of three evils—stupidity, cupidity and treachery.

The next big fight will be the spring primary next year. The machine is already making its plans to keep control of the county. The blue print is now being prepared by the chief architect in the little back room of the postoffice.

The trouble is that the average citizen only plays politics on election day. He, or she votes, and then does calmly until the next election day. In many instances the voters do not even take the trouble to go to the polls. Out of twenty thousand registered voters in Muncie, only thirteen thousand took the trouble to vote in the recent municipal election.

(Continued on Page Two.)

A Little Ancient History

United States Senator Arthur R. Robinson, who was given a reception here a few days ago at the home of City Attorney Arthur McKinley, might gather a few pointers by reading the following, which appeared in the Muncie Post in February, 1916, just prior to the "wet and dry" election:

In a city the size of Muncie it is next to impossible to prevent the illegal sales of liquor during the sporadic "dry" spells, but even if it were, and the town would shut up so tight that it would be impossible even to buy a quart of Duffy's whisky at the corner drug store, the biennial elections would be called just the same.

Real enemies of the liquor traffic have no patience with the piffling option laws of Indiana, which have merely aggravated strife without causing much decrease in the sale of booze. Real thinkers do not advocate the administration of the local option remedy, but are demanding that the axe be laid at the root of the question and that national prohibition laws be enacted.

Stop and think a minute and decide whether or not, for instance, local dry Republicans are making any particular effort in behalf of real prohibition.

There are three Republican candidates for the nomination for United States Senator in Indiana. Two of them, Jim Watson and Harry New, are wet, or at least they will not commit themselves on the prohibition question. The third man in the race, State Senator Arthur R. Robinson, of Indianapolis, is running on a straightout prohibition platform, and makes the pledge that if elected he will vote for a bill to prohibit the sale and manufacture of liquor.

Robinson spoke in Muncie several nights ago and where were all the dry Republicans? Although Robinson's views were well known and the meeting had been well advertised, Robinson spoke mainly to a large concourse of empty chairs in the Wyson Theatre.

A ruling has been made that the state convention must nominate candidates for Governor and United States Senator in case candidates for such office fail in the primary to receive a majority of all votes cast.

This means that the Republican convention will nominate a candidate for Senator, for Robinson will receive enough votes in the primary to prevent the nomination of either Watson or New.

With that fact staring them in the face, how much of an effort is being made, we ask, on the part of the dry Republicans of Delaware County to see that Robinson candidates for state delegate be put on the ballot to be voted on March 1?

As a matter of fact, we believe that nothing of that sort has been done. On the other hand, if all reports are true, the Republican gang here is framing up a Watson delegation, and the principal men behind the movement in behalf of Slippery Jim are so-called drys, who hope to make considerable capital out of their anti-prohibition views during the coming option campaign in Muncie.

If these dry Republicans who expect to vote for "wet" Jim Watson, can explain why it is right to vote dry in a Muncie campaign and wet in a national election, we will be pleased to give them space for an explanation.

The Post suggests that the voters here do some thinking for themselves when they arrive at the point of deciding the perplexing questions that will be up for solution in the near future.

Some individuals have been officious enough to dub The Post a "wet" newspaper. To these persons we address this query: "Has any one of the so-called "dry" Republican newspapers of Muncie or Delaware County pointed out to the unsuspecting rank and file of "dry" Republicans the scheme to deliver the Delaware County delegation to Jim Watson, who was shown up in the Mulhall investigation to be a supplicant for brewery support?"

SUPREME COURT REVERSES MANY CASES APPEALED FROM DELAWARE COUNTY

There is scarcely a week now that some case appealed from Judge Dearth's court is not reversed in the supreme court. There are more cases appealed from Delaware county than from any other county in the state and there are likewise more reversals.

A week or so ago the Amelia Lindley liquor case was reversed and this week that of Nora Barlow. In both cases the attorney general confessed error upon the part of the trial court, instead of arguing for the state.

Amelia Lindley was one of the victims of the evidence of the notorious Sherman G. Parton, a slimy cuss brought here from Richmond by Sheriff Hoffman, who paid him \$25 a week to secure evidence against alleged liquor law violators.

Upon his unsupported evidence sixteen persons were indicted and nine of them were convicted. The last seven escaped when Parton looked them over in court and declared that he didn't recognize any of them.

It was proved by the defense that Parton himself had done time for violations of the liquor law and the at-

torney general mentioned the fact in confessing error. The error consisted in the refusal of Judge Dearth to instruct the jury to take into consideration the appearance, demeanor and credibility of Hoffman's trained witness.

It will be recalled that the Post-Democrat, commenting at the time on the extraordinary trials, professed astonishment that any sane juror should believe such a palpably unbelievable person as the delectable Parton.

He contradicted himself time and again on the witness stand and did not even possess the attributes of being an adroit liar. He was clumsy, crude and apparently untruthful and unreliable. His crowning performance was his failure to recognize a job lot of the defendants from whom he had bought liquor, according to his testimony before the grand jury, and the prompt dismissal of the indictments against him.

From time to time Muncie enters into freaks of the Parton stripe who make trouble and then depart. Who, for instance, can forget Tommy P. Patterson, who lit here ten years ago, backed by a wonderful organization known as the Civic League and proceeded to "impeach" Mayor Roll

Bunch? And who has forgotten the freakish antics of the knockabout twins, Wilbur Ryman and Pat Masterson? Wilbur brought Pat here to swear that the democratic city administration had hired Pat to blow up Wilbur's home.

A grand jury, presided over by Wilbur, gladly ate up Pat's yarn and indictments were returned. Later Pat made an affidavit that he had been spoofing the grand jury and that he was paid by Ryman to tell his wild yarn to the gullible grand jurors.

Pat has since been sent to prison for perjury and Patterson disappeared under indictment for embezzlement. It seems that any sort of a low down, lying criminal may come to Muncie and find public officials who will co-operate with them and protect them in their perjury and infamy.

Pueblo, Colorado, Nov. 12.—The love of a Ute Indian for his bride, which caused him to bury his 17-day-old baby alive in the grave of its mother, believing it would bring her back to life, will bring Platt Nee face to face with the white man's law here tomorrow in a Federal Court trial for murder.

WRIGLEY'S
AFTER
EVERY
MEAL



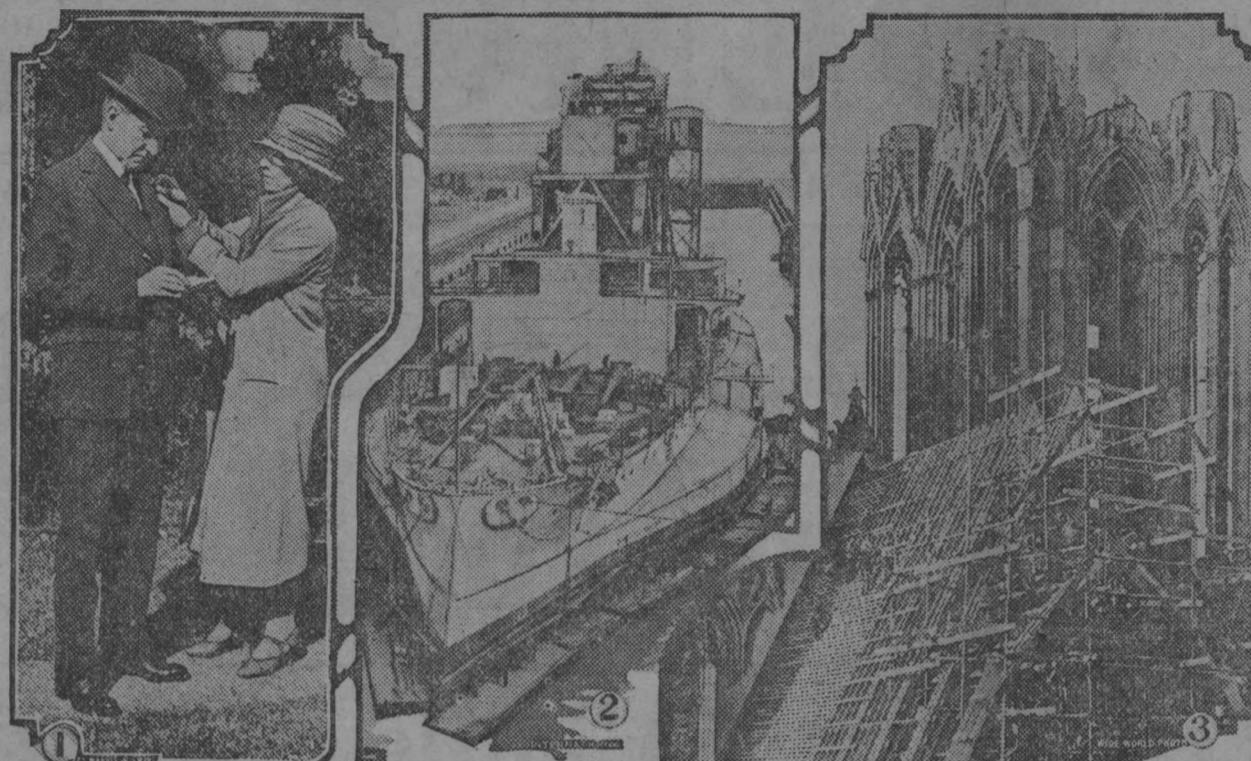
THE
FLAVOR
LASTS

Probably one reason for the popularity of WRIGLEY'S is that it lasts so long and returns such great dividends for so small an outlay. It keeps teeth clean, breath sweet, appetite keen, digestion good.

Fresh and full-flavored always in its wax-wrapped package.



F 122



1—Mrs. Coolidge enlisting the President in the annual roll call of the American Red Cross. 2—Kearsarge, giant crane ship of the navy, in South Boston drydock for repairs. 3—Workmen putting new roof on the war-shattered Cathedral of Reims which is being restored by the Rockefeller fund of \$1,000,000.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Walker's Election as Mayor of New York Is Big Triumph for Gov. Al Smith.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

NATIONAL interest in last week's elections centered mainly on New York city where "Jimmy" Walker, the Tammany-Smith candidate for mayor, was pitted against Frank D. Waterman, millionaire Republican nominee. Little doubt of Walker's victory had existed, but the size of the plurality—more than 401,000—caused something of a sensation. Actually it was a spectacular triumph for Gov. Al Smith and fixes him in his place as the foremost figure in the Democratic party. He says he will retire from politics at the end of his term, but if he wishes it he is assured of the support of the Eastern "wet" delegations for the Presidential nomination in the next Democratic national convention. That of course doesn't mean that he could be nominated, for the Southern and Western Democrats are still dry in the main.

In addition to putting over his gubernatorial candidate, Smith won a big victory in the state, for the four amendments to the state constitution which he warmly supported all carried, despite the fight on three of them made by the Republicans under the direction of Senator Wadsworth, Representative Osgood Mills and State Chairman Morris. These leaders of the G. O. P. in the state suffered considerable loss of prestige, for they are accused of bungling the fight on the amendments. The only one the Republicans supported provides for a reform of the judiciary.

Democrats scored another victory in New Jersey, where the issue was clearly prohibition and their candidate for governor, A. Harry Moore, wet, defeated Arthur Whitney, dry, Republican and endorsed by the Anti-Saloon league, by a plurality of about 40,000. Immediately after learning of his election Mr. Moore announced that as soon as he was inaugurated he would begin a movement to have congress modify the Volstead law so as to permit the manufacture and sale of beers and light wines.

Municipal elections in Indiana resulted in victories for the Republicans in Indianapolis, Terre Haute, Evansville, Fort Wayne, Lafayette, Peru, Elkhart, Crawfordsville, and several other cities; with the exception of Indianapolis, all these had been governed by the Democrats for four years. Among the Hoosier cities won by the Democrats were South Bend, Marion and Richmond.

In a nominally non-partisan election Boston, which has been controlled by the Democrats for sixteen years, was captured by the Republicans, who elected Malcolm E. Nichols mayor. The Ku Klux Klan figured prominently in two elections, and broke even. It supported J. R. Duvall, who was elected mayor of Indianapolis; but Charles Bowles, its candidate for mayor of Detroit, was decisively beaten by John W. Smith, the present executive.

COL. WILLIAM MITCHELL'S court martial now promises to be a long drawn out affair. On Monday of last week the prosecution completed its presentation of proof that the colonel had said the things he is accused of saying, and the defense, in cross questioning the witnesses, was in the main satisfied to elicit admissions from army officers that Mitchell's statements had not caused insubordination or lack of discipline so far as they knew. Then the prosecution rested its case, and next day the defense asked and obtained adjournment to the following Monday in order that it might have opportunity to confer with the prosecution as to what witnesses the prosecution would agree that the defense might summon. General Howe, presiding, was indignant at the delay and scolded the prosecution for it, but could not deny the request for adjournment.

Colonel Mitchell and Congressman Reid, his chief counsel, spent the re-

mainder of the week preparing a new list of charges and criticisms which the colonel will make and a tremendously long recital of details with which he will attempt to sustain them. Colonel Mitchell wants to call 71 witnesses, including admirals, generals, technicians, flyers, and members of congress, the secretaries of war, navy, and agriculture, Maj. Eddie Rickenbacker, Lowell Smith, Reed Lands of Chicago, Donald MacMillan, the Arctic explorer, Admiral Sims, and Mrs. Lansdowne.

"The whole defense," said Mr. Reid, "will be that Colonel Mitchell spoke for the good of the country and with pure intent. That it was necessary that he speak we shall prove by the conditions which we shall uncover in detail. We shall not withdraw a hair's breadth from our position that all Colonel Mitchell said was and is true, and that more which he now is going to say was and is true."

NATIONAL COMMANDER MCQUIGG of the American Legion presented to President Coolidge that organization's national legislative program, which includes provision for a universal draft of all the country's man power and resources in time of war. The legislation asked would give the President control of transportation, materials together with farm products and their prices. It would provide that there would be no slackers and no profiteers in case of another war.

Other legislative recommendations include provision for medical treatment and adjusted compensation for certain classes of disabled men now excluded under the law; the creation of a medical corps in the veterans' bureau and construction of 2,000 additional beds in veterans' fireproof hospitals.

I TALY'S debt funding mission arrived in Washington and at the first meeting with the American commission Count Volpi set forth his country's sacrifices in the war and her present financial troubles. Subcommittees are studying Italy's capacity to pay and an early agreement on the terms for settlement of the \$2,138,000,000 debt is expected.

Resumption of negotiations concerning the French debt was promised by Premier Painlevé in a ministerial declaration, but as his government was likely to be upset at any time because of Socialist defection there is some doubt about the debt matter. If the new Painlevé cabinet does not fail it is believed Senator Henri Beranger will come to Washington to try to succeed where M. Caillaux failed.

The Painlevé ministry obtained a vote of confidence at the opening session of the chamber of deputies by the narrow margin of 221 to 189, the 103 Socialists refraining from voting and a number of the premier's political foes convicted of violating the prohibition on narcotic acts.

Among the speakers at the convention were Andrew J. Volstead, who called attention to certain provisions in the law that are overlooked by the courts and enforcement officers, and Rear Admiral Billard, who told about the coast guard's warfare on the run feets and smugglers.

A GREEMENTS under which the conductors and trainmen are working expire on December 31, and it seems likely that the two brotherhoods will demand a return to the war time scale of wages, or an increase of 7 per cent over present rates. The grand lodge officers and general chairmen representing the men on Western roads already have approved such a demand, and those of the Eastern and Southern lines are expected to take the same action.

TARIFF autonomy for China was accepted in principle by the international customs conference in Peking, and the American delegation offered a plan for putting the principle into effect not later than January 1, 1929. Dr. C. T. Wang for China pledged the abolition of the tien or tax on interprovincial commerce before that date. A committee of the conference is now framing interim measures.

R IZA KHAN, who had been premier and dictator of Persia for two years, now sits on the throne of that country as King Pahlavi, having yielded to the requests of leaders of all parties, big land owners and certain ecclesiastics. Thereupon the mejlis or parliament formally deposed Ahmed Mirza, the shah, and abolished the Kadjar dynasty, which had ruled over Persia since 1779. The crown was made elective and Riza promised to call a constitutional assembly to make the necessary changes in the basic law. His first acts were to liberate all political prisoners and to grant amnesty to the deposed shah and all members of his family and his household. He also ordered the price of bread reduced through government subsidy.

The committee voted to increase the exemption for single persons from \$1,000 to \$1,500, and that for heads of families from \$2,500 to \$3,500. The 40 per cent surtax rate is to be cut to 20 per cent.

There was only slight opposition to the accession of Riza, and the crown prince left the country.

So much information is given in censored dispatches from Teheran. But from other sources it is gathered that Riza's coup d'etat was inspired by British influence and that he forced the parliament to take the action detailed above, after which the legislators were compelled to flee for their lives by Riza's hired gunmen. Shah Ahmed Mirza, who has been spending most of his time in Paris, was in the hands of a party in Persia that was in close touch with the Russian Bolsheviks, while Riza has been friendly with the British. The whole affair is really a development of the struggle between Russia and England for control over the oil fields of Persia and the routes to the Far East. The new government endorses the American financial mission headed by Dr. Arthur Millspaugh.

D RYS from all parts of the country gathered in Chicago for the biennial convention of the Anti-Saloon league. Wayne B. Wheeler, chief counsel, in his report said in substance: "Prohibition enforcement has raised scores of puzzling problems. We have helped solve them. The wets have blasted leak after leak in the prohibition dam. We have helped close them and to mop up the puddles they created.

"We have given our aid to the adoption of new laws, the securing of court decisions and the support of administrative action in doing these things.

"It has been an uphill fight but the fight has been less significant than the fact that we have moved up the hill steadily. No similar policy of government has ever shown a more continuous, constructive gain.

"The active opposition of the wets is significant testimony that the law is far from being a dead letter. Instead it is a red letter law."

Mr. Wheeler outlined three measures which would be urged on congress. One is placing all prohibition agents under civil service; the second is increasing the penalties for violation of the national prohibition law; the third is for deportation of aliens convicted of violating the prohibition on narcotic acts.

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STIPENDIOUS

Amelia—Swear not by the moon, the inconstant moon.

Augustus—Then what shall I swear by?

"Swear by that which you hold invaluable; something which is dearer to you than all else; something which you cannot live without."

"Then, Amelia, I love you! I swear it by my salary!"—Pearson's Weekly (London).

Necessity the Mother—

Marc Antony beheld Cleopatra floating toward him on her royal barge, clad simply but becomingly in a Nile green veil.

"Ah!" quoth the ravished Roman. "Representing Venus! Enchanting!"

"Venus, forsooth!" whispered the first lady-in-waiting to the second. "It's all she's got left. She's just paid her income tax."

Well?

His wife began to laugh at him.

"You silly," she said; "fancy being superstitious after all these years! Why, do you remember the first time we met? We walked under a ladder, and you said you were sure something horrible would happen to you."

"Well? ! ! ! " said he.—Tilt-Bits.

UTTERLY RUINED



"I—I—I'm sorry, mister—"

"You should be sorry, young man—"

"But you'll hafta buy me another banana now."

Dim Them Lamps

Oh, Mary, call your cattle home. Across the sands of Dee; So Mary brought 'er calves along. So all the world could see.

Willing

Customer—Do you mind if I steal a kiss?

Waitress—Not in the least, providing you don't steal it from me.—Progressive Grocer.

In Luck

"Say, old man, I ain't got money enough to get my wife back from Florida."

"Congratulations."

Or What Have You?

He—I love you with all my heart, with all my mind, with all—

She—Yes, I know; but that means so little.—London Mail.

Progress

"We live in remarkable times."

"Yes, sir. The women seem to be able to learn to smoke cigarettes without getting sick."

Overheard on the Campus

Elsie—What a queer girl Ethel is. I don't believe she's all there.

Alice—What makes you think that?

Elsie—Why, the poor siml actually thinks a girl comes to college just to get an education.

LONGER WITHOUT OIL



"If you want machines to run you've got to oil 'em."

"That's true of all except national political machines."

Luck and Pluck

Luck and Pluck went up life's hill. In search of gold and laughter Luck fell down and broke his crown And Pluck came tumbling after.

Disapproval

"What makes these two women turn up their noses at each other so superciliously?"

"Possibly," replied Miss Cayenne, "each got a glimpse of the current novel the other was reading."

The Situation

"I think most men are happily married."

"Well, I know very few who will claim they ain't," responded the other half of the sidewalk conversation.

HOW TWO WOMEN AVOIDED OPERATIONS

The Following Letters of Mrs. Thurston and Mrs. Beard Carry an Encouraging Message to Other Sick Women

Vegetable compound that I told my husband I would try it before I gave up. I soon began to feel that it was doing me good. The awful misery began to leave me, also the backache. I have a good appetite and am gaining weight. Taking the medicine was the best thing I ever did. I feel like it has saved my life and I do not hesitate to say so to my friends. At least it saved me from a dreaded operation and I am still taking it. I am willing to answer letters from women asking about the medicine.

Mrs. ETHEL THURSTON, 324 North Pine Street, Lima, Ohio.

Mrs. Beard's Letter
Eddy, Texas—"I will write you a few words, thinking it will do some one else good. Two doctors said I would have to be operated on because for nearly twelve months I suffered from a weakness from which I could get no relief. I was restless and nervous and was not able to walk across the house. They said it was the Change of Life. I saw Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound advertised in the newspapers, and as I could not get any help from doctors I thought I would give it a trial. I began with the liquid and it helped me some, then you advised me to take the tablet form and I began to improve rapidly. I have gained in weight from 105 to 170 pounds. I recommend it to all women with this trouble."

Mrs. M. E. BEARD, R. No. 1, Box 143, Eddy, Texas.

If a woman's grief happens to be a wrinkle even time cannot heal it.

The best way to make money is by helping others to make money.



MRS. ETHEL THURSTON
324 N. PINE STREET, LIMA, OHIO

Lima, Ohio—"I want to tell you how your medicine has helped me. For weeks I suffered with awful pains from inflammation and I was in such misery that I had to bend double to get relief. I could not be touched or jarred, had awful pain all over my abdomen and could not touch my feet to the floor. It was impossible for me to straighten up and the pains never ceased. I took treatments for some time and finally was told I would have to have an operation. I do not believe in operations, and I had read so much about Lydia E. Pinkham's

DO NOT AFFECT THE HEART

Safe

Accept only "Bayer" package which contains proven directions. Handy "Bayer" boxes of 12 tablets. Also bottles of 24 and 100—Druggists. Aspirin is the trade mark of Bayer Manufacture of Monocetacide of Salicylic acid. He who cannot command himself, Rep

THE POST-DEMOCRAT.

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Entered as second class matter January 15, 1921, at the postoffice at Muncie, Indiana, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

PRICE 5 CENTS—\$2.00 A YEAR.

Office 733 North Elm Street. Telephone 2540
GEO. R. DALE, Owner and Publisher.

Muncie, Indiana, Thursday, November 12, 1925.

THE GRAND DRAGON

D. C. Stephenson, who grand dragoned the klan during the first three years of its glorious career in Indiana, declares that he has been "framed" by his enemies. Having officiated for three years as the chief "framer" of Indiana, his plights at this time are somewhat ludicrous.

Drunk with power, the "grand dragon" for three years controlled public officials and directed their acts in every part of Indiana. Judges took his orders, sheriffs, prosecutors and police officers were his errand boys and at a nod from Stephenson those who opposed his reign of anarchy were arrested, tried and sent to prison on baseless and fantastic charges, while criminals who did his bidding were immune from prosecution.

Surrounding himself with a band of armed bravos, the grand dragon established a mediaeval court at Indianapolis and assumed to be the dictator in Indiana. Weak minded politicians, blowing with the wind, hastened to do homage to this grotesque personage, who was heralded as a sort of a combination of John the Baptist and Alexander the Great.

Being great, and a boss, the fact that he was a whisky addict and revoltingly lecherous, was not discovered until one of his women victims took poison and died, and he and two of his henchmen arrested and placed in jail on murder charges.

Imagine the surprise of the man who felt that he was above the law being arrested like an ordinary person, placed in jail and then tried for murder! And all this happening in a state which Stephenson thought had been reduced to such a state of subserviency that the theory had been accepted that the king could do no wrong.

Having asserted "I am the law in Indiana," and having demonstrated many times in every section of the state that the "boast was not an idle one, the grand dragon simply can't get over his surprise that the agency which he assumed to control should place him in the criminal dock.

The grand dragon doesn't understand it, at all. It is simply beyond comprehension. One day he was the boss of the Indiana legislature, the close friend and confidant of Senator Jim Watson, the avowed organizer of the forces which had elected a governor and the supreme boss of the republican party in Indiana, and the next day he occupied felon's cell and those who had fawned at the feet of "Steve" and boasted of their stand-in with "The Old Man," changed front in the twinkling of an eye and seriously advocated the idea of taking him out and lynching him.

In the high tide of his rulership, Stephenson blandly gave orders from Indianapolis which were implicitly obeyed in Muncie, not only by public officials, but by thousands of deluded men and women who regarded him as a superman.

The Post-Democrat, daring, almost alone in Muncie, to draw sword against the Stephenson mania, was marked for slaughter by "The Old Man," and when all the facts are finally revealed, an amazing chapter will be added to the history of the klan in Indiana, and the power exercised by its "grand dragon."

Less than a week ago a well known Muncie citizen, who was a high officer of the local klan while Stephenson ruled Indiana, voluntarily made this statement to the publisher of this newspaper:

"About three years ago I received a 'fiery summons' to appear before the grand dragon at Indianapolis. I disregarded the summons, but later received another summons of a similar character to meet Stephenson at Yorktown, where a big klan meeting was to be held that night.

"A 'fiery summons' from the grand dragon is a demand to appear instanter before the potentate and the one summoned is expected to obey any order given. I went to Yorktown and met Stephenson.

"Dispensing with preliminary talk, Stephenson said: 'Look here, that man Dale at Muncie must be knocked off. I am commanding you to see to it that he is beaten up. It's up to you to see that the job is done right. Send him to the hospital.'

"Stephenson became very angry when I refused, on the ground that you had always treated me decently and that such a performance would hardly add to the prestige of the klan in Muncie. It's got to be done, and if you won't look after it, I'll get somebody who will,' said Stephenson."

The gentleman who made this statement is a good citizen, who is now in a normal frame of mind. There are hundreds of others who look back and wonder now how they stood for Stephenson's bunk, which is now so apparent to them in the light of sober reflection.

Sitting in the prisoner's dock at Noblesville, Stephenson still dreams of empire, we believe. And at that he is a remarkable man. Personally he has the utmost contempt for the high-falutin' talk of the klan, yet he is the man who invented the bunk used in Indiana to coax temspots from the pockets of the unwary.

He is frankly contemptuous of his dupes and his favorite expression is one employed at one time by one of the world's greatest leaders in war and diplomacy: "I never look behind to see who is following me."

Napoleon nor Nero never gave orders with more absolute authority and expectation of implicit obedience than D. C.

Stephenson and the dreams of Aaron Burr were childish as compared to the vaulting ambition of the man who is now fighting for his life at Noblesville.

In the klan he saw his opportunity. In the kingdom of bunk, he soon rose to be the chief mountebank. In a modern era he chose to rule by mediaeval methods. With all his vices there must be something about the man that approximates greatness.

The editor of the Post-Democrat knows Stephenson personally. We became acquainted with him in his office in the Woolworth Block in Indianapolis last winter while the legislature was in session. We witnessed many manifestations of his power. His offices were filled with politicians of high and low degree. He gave orders and all obeyed without question.

"I am building a Tammany in Indiana," said he, "which will completely rule the state and I am the leader."

Immediately after the election last year he wrote to every republican county chairman in Indiana, summoning them to call on him to consult in regard to federal, state and local appointments.

In the letter he thanked them for their "co-operation" and assured them that he, Stephenson, would recommend no appointments from their counties unless it was satisfactory to the county chairman.

Stephenson really believed that he would gain permanent control of Indiana, then widen his influence until every state in the union recognized him as master, and then—but figure the rest out yourself.

It may be that he dreamed of the president's chair instead of the electric chair, which threatens.

The sixteenth precinct on the Southside, popularly known as "The Redlight," gave a majority vote for John Hampton. Law abiding Riverside cast its vote for Rutherford. It is to be construed that the sixteenth wants a Bigger and Better "red-light."

Inch by inch the Billy Williams machine is being driven to its last line of defenses. One more battle and the war will be won. Prepare for Armageddon.

OGLE PROVES IN GUN
CASE THAT GRAND JURY
WAS ILLEGALLY DRAWN

Like Tennyson's brook, the gun toting case entitled State vs. Dale, threatens to go on forever.

Special Judge Lon Guthrie Monday ruled for the state in the matter of the plea in abatement asking for the dismissal of the case.

Here's the status of the case, with apologies for taking up so much space talking about the editor:

The case was sent to Winchester on a change of venue, on the ground that the defendant could not get a fair trial in Delaware county, and was there dismissed by Judge Alonzo Bales.

The next day the defendant was re-arrested on the same charge. A plea in abatement was filed before Special Judge Lon Guthrie, setting up the fact that the arrest was made on an affidavit; that the grand jury was in session at the time and that the law provides that an arrest to be legal must be based upon a grand jury indictment. Arrests may be made upon affidavit and information only when the grand jury is not in session.

The plea in abatement was tried out several weeks ago, Judge Eichhorn and Judge Gordon, of Bluffton, appearing for the defense. The county clerk was placed on the witness stand and the circuit court order book was produced to show that the grand jury had been impaneled in September, 1924, and that it adjourned in January, 1925.

To every question propounded by Judge Eichhorn, Prosecutor Ogle made the amazing objection that the grand jury in question was not a real grand jury, but a "pretended" grand jury; that when the six grand jurors were summoned for service only four appeared and that Sheriff Harry Hoffman, on order from Judge Dearth, illegally and unlawfully selected two bystanders and placed them on the grand jury and therefore, the grand jury being illegally drawn was not a grand jury.

The objection was overruled and the grand jury record introduced, showing that seventy-nine indictments had been returned by Ogle's "pretended" grand jury.

Judge Dearth was put on the witness stand to help prove that he and Hoffman had unlawfully impaneled a grand jury, but an objection by Judge Eichhorn stopped him. He volunteered the statement, however, that "everything was just the way they said."

Monday morning Special Judge Guthrie ruled for the state, without giving his reasons in writing. However, he declared from the bench, when the case was argued, that he had decided one point, and that was that the grand jury was illegal.

It will be recalled that the editor of the Post-Democrat was convicted of contempt for attacking the legality of the selection of jury commissioners and for criticizing grand jury methods.

In order to try to convict the defendant in the gun case both Prosecutor Ogle and Judge Dearth proved to the satisfaction of a trial judge in the Delaware circuit court that grand juries ARE ILLEGALLY DRAWN in Delaware county.

There is a similarity here between Ogle's action and that of the second hand clothing merchant's argument. A prospective customer complained of the evil odor emanating from a second hand garment. "You must have found that in the sewer," he said.

"No, it isn't the coat," said the merchant, anxious to make a sale, "it's me you smell. I'm a stinking son of a gun."

But how about the seventy-nine who were indicted by Ogle's "pretended" grand jury. Some of them were compelled to wear stripes, yet according to Guthrie's ruling, the grand jury was not a grand jury. The state at least owes these unfortunate an apology.

The sentences they served were at least not pretended. They were real.

You never can tell by the length of their vacation how many bills they left unpaid when they went away.

(Continued from Page One.)

The "machine" got out its vote. The machine works at politics three hundred and sixty-five days every year. There is only one way to beat Billy Williams's machine, and that is for those who oppose his ruinous rule to work just as steadily at the job of politics as Billy does himself.

The Post-Democrat is willing to do its part to redeem Muncie and Delaware county. We have led the fight here for five years and have seen some astonishing results. Last year, because of our revelations of the Whitney gravel steal, we saw five rock ribbed republican townships go democratic by large majorities.

All machine-republican candidates for county office were elected by tremendously reduced majorities. In a county with a natural republican majority of eight or nine thousand, the three Billy Williams commissioners were elected by majorities of less than two thousand and the sheriff came through by a bare nine hundred.

In the recent city election the revolt against the republican machine was so complete that a natural republican majority of at least six thousand was whittled down to a measly 415. In fact there is little doubt that Rutherford, the democratic candidate for mayor, really received more votes than his opponent, if all fraudulent votes were excluded from the count.

Eight of the biggest republican precincts in Muncie went democratic by large majorities and had it not been for the combined efforts of a coalition of the Williams and Bunch machines, a solid combination of gamblers and liquor law violators, and an exasperating and utterly needless disaffection on the part of a number of Southside democrats, the democrats would have won by an overwhelming majority, even without the help of the seven thousand stay-at-home non-voters.

And in this connection the Post-Democrat wishes to pay a high compliment to the independent republican voters of the city of Muncie, who threw party to the wind and joined with other good citizens in an effort to save the city from disaster.

With the republicans of the rural districts almost solidly insurgent and with a majority of Muncie republicans stirred to rebellion against gang rule, there is no reason on earth why the machine should not be utterly wiped out in the coming spring primary.

In order, however, to do this, it is incumbent that everybody get on the job AT ONCE. The machine is working now. The insurgent republicans and the democrats must not sleep in fancied security until about a week before the May primary.

An organized minority always licks an unorganized majority. Billy Williams makes a business of politics. Nominally he is postmaster and draws a salary for it, but in reality he is the all-year manager of a bi-partisan minority. That's his real job. The postmaster is a negligible side-line, valuable only to him because of the fat salary attached and because of the importance of the postoffice as a coaling station for his political organization.

Let's get on the job, right now. There's no use in sitting around bewailing the fact that the Jolly Roger of the pirate sloop is to float over the new city hall after the first of January. It will be there and that's all there is to it.

The thing to do is for the voters of Delaware county to forget their past mistakes and go at this thing of busting the machine in a businesslike manner.

If every man and woman in Delaware county who opposes gang rule will seriously address himself or herself to the task of machine-busting, the thing can be done so easily that it will be laughable.

Billy Williams knows this himself, better than anyone. He is now bank-rolling on future successes on the theory that the apathy of the past on the part of his antagonists will be duplicated in future performances.

He knows that he and his cohorts are sitting in a leaky old boat, which can be sent to the bottom of the sea by one well directed shot, but is relying upon the admiral of the opposing fleet forgetting to load the gun as usual. Let's load 'er to the muzzle and shoot!

How can the health of a state longer be gauged by the death rate? States with a low mortality may have few automobile

CITY ADVERTISEMENT.
Department of Public Works.

Office of the Board.
Muncie, Ind.

NOTICE OF IMPROVEMENT
RESOLUTION.

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS.
In the matter of Certain Proposed
Public Improvements in the City
of Muncie, State of Indiana.

Notice is hereby given by the Board of Public Works of the City of Muncie, Indiana, that it is desired and deemed necessary to make the following described public improvements for the City of Muncie, Indiana, as authorized by the following numbered improvement resolutions, adopted by said Board on the 10th day of November, 1925, to-wit:

I. R. No. 118-1925, For General District Sewer known as Madison Street Relief Sewer, commencing at the manhole in the intersection of Main street and Madison street, and extending southwardly in said Madison street to the manhole within thirty (30) feet of the center of the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad Company's tracks.

The territory to be derived, affected and assessed for the construction of said sewer is as follows:

Beginning at the center of the alley between Main street and Washington street and 50 feet west of the west line of Lincoln street; running thence west on the center line of said alley to the center of the first alley east of Walnut street; thence south on the center line of said alley 67 1/2 feet; thence west on the north line of Lot 8 in Block 12 in Brown's Donation to the east line of Walnut street; thence south on the east line of Walnut street to the center of the alley between Main street and Jackson street; thence east on said center line to the east line of Elm street; thence south on said east line of Elm street to the center of the alley between Jackson street and Adams street; thence west on said center line of said alley to the east line of Jefferson street; thence south on said east line of Jefferson street to the west line of Hackley street to the alley; thence east on said alley 30 feet to the south line of the right-of-way of the Lake Erie & Western Railway; thence east on the north line of the right-of-way of the Lake Erie & Western Railway; thence northwardly on said south line to a point 62 1/2 feet east of the east line of Elm street; thence south to the south line of Howard street; thence east to the east line of Center street; thence south on said east line of Center street to the south line of the right-of-way of the Lake Erie & Western Railway; thence northwardly on said south line to a point 200 feet west of the west line of Hackley street; thence northwardly on said south line to a point 58 feet east of the east line of Center street; thence south on said south line to a point 62 1/2 feet east of the east line of Elm street; thence south on the south line of the right-of-way of the Lake Erie & Western Railway; thence northwardly on said south line to a point 200 feet west of the west line of Hackley street; thence northwardly on said south line to a point 58 feet east of the east line of Elm street; thence south on the south line of the right-of-way of the Lake Erie & Western Railway; thence northwardly on said south line to a point 200 feet west of the west line of Hackley street; thence northwardly on said south line to a point 58 feet east of the east line of Elm street; thence south on the south line of the right-of-way of the Lake Erie & Western Railway; thence northwardly on said south line to a point 200 feet west of the west line of Hackley street; thence northwardly on said south line to a point 58 feet east of the east line of Elm street; thence south on the south line of the right-of-way of the Lake Erie & Western Railway; thence northwardly on said south line to a point 200 feet west of the west line of Hackley street; thence northwardly on said south line to a point 58 feet east of the east line of Elm street; thence south on the south line of the right-of-way of the Lake Erie & Western Railway; thence northwardly on said south line to a point 200 feet west of the west line of Hackley street; thence northwardly on said south line to a point 58 feet east of the east line of Elm street; thence south on the south line of the right-of-way of the Lake Erie & Western Railway; 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