

# DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT.

Volume VI. Number

Decatur, Indiana, Wednesday Evening January, 1908.

Price Two Cents

## NEW COURT HOUSE OFFICIALS

**James P. Haeffling, Clerk-Harvey Steele Recorder.**

### THEIR TERMS BEGIN

**John F. Lachot Succeeds Himself as Treasurer.**

### THREE FINE OFFICERS

**Well Fitted for Their Positions and Will Prove Worthy of Trust.**

The fact that today is the first one of the year 1908 was evidenced in three offices at the court house, where new terms of office were begun. John F. Lachot succeeded himself as county treasurer, James P. Haeffling began his four year term as county clerk and Harvey Steele followed Clinton S. Cloud as county recorder. The new officials have duly qualified and have filed the necessary bonds as required by law. Mr. Steele's bond being \$2,000, Mr. Haeffling's \$10,000 and Mr. Lachot's \$200,000. While each of these three officials are men well known and we have on various occasions told of their special fitness for the offices entrusted to them, it may not be out of place to gain give a few facts concerning them.

John F. Lachot, the county treasurer, who will succeed himself, has already served two years and has proven his worthiness. He has made a record that his friends and his party are indeed proud of and we haven't room in which to print his many good things we have heard of his administration. He has proven a faithful, efficient, honest and worthy officer and will continue to transact the business of the county treasury in a businesslike way during the ensuing two years. He was born in Wayne county, Ohio, June 9, 1860, moved to French township, Adams county, when eight years old, moved to Berne when a young man, worked as a drug clerk, managed the cottage hotel and traveled to the Brock Oil company, of Cleveland, several years prior to his election to office. He is one of the most popular officers ever in Adams county. He turns over to himself the sum of \$40,069.64 and you can bet your last cent that every cent is duly accounted for.

James P. Haeffling, the new county clerk, is another one of whose ability many are wont to vouch. He has been connected with various business enterprises, served several years as deputy clerk and knows thoroughly every detail of his office. He will personally look after the work as clerk of the Adams circuit court, where he is favorite with courts, attorneys and the reporters. Mr. Haeffling was born in Tiffin, Ohio, forty years ago, came Adams county when a small boy and has lived here practically ever since. He was educated in the schools of the county and his career since maintaining his majority has been very busy one. For several years he served as a railroad carpenter, did tract work and later became deputy clerk under Elmer Johnson. After four years at that work he engaged in the fire insurance business with Mr. Gallogly. After receiving termination for county clerk he sought agency interest and soon afterward was appointed receiver for the Loeb, Dirksen & Co. business settlement requiring the property of ability. About \$40,000 being involved. After disposing of that, Mr. Haeffling assumed a position with the Kirsch Sellemeyer luneyard, where he remained until twenty-two ago, when he resumed his post at the clerk's office. His record as county clerk has been a clean honorable one. He is a member of the Blue Creek township, and as deputy.

Steele is new recorder. He has been acquainted with his duties, and for some time will conduct

the work without the assistance of a deputy. He is forty years old, and a native of Adams county. He is a son of ex-trustee John Steele of this township and was educated in the local schools. He lived for five years in Kirkland township and since has resided in Decatur. He taught school several years, traveled for Lyman Brothers and for some time conducted a grocery in this city. In all his career he has been industrious and honest, and being capable as he is he is sure to make a splendid record as a public officer.

Mr. Cloud, who retires, will resume his farm work. Miss Mayme Cloud, who has proven her proficiency as a deputy, will visit in Nebraska for several months. David Gerber, retiring clerk will continue in the stock business.

## A DOUBLE EVENT

**Annual Birthday Party Was Followed by Complete Surprise.**

### AT STEELE HOME

**On West Monroe Street, Marked the Closing of the Old Year, 1907.**

One of the most brilliant social events of the season occurred at the home of D. V. Steele on west Monroe street last evening. For some years Mrs. D. V. Steele and Mrs. John Bolinger have been giving birthday dinners alternately—December 31st being the birthday of Master Pete Bolinger and Mrs. Steele. This year the six o'clock dinner was given at the magnificent home of Dayton Steele. Besides the two families Rev. Stangle and family and Father Peter Bolinger of South Whitley were present to enjoy the festivities incident to the tenth birthday of Master Bolinger and the fiftieth birthday of Mrs. D. V. Steele. Many beautiful and valuable presents added to the joy of the evening.

No sooner had the guests risen from the bountiful repast given by Mrs. Steele than a large concourse of people filed into the home and gave the principals of the evening's enjoyment a complete surprise. Among those who came were J. D. Wischaupt and wife, J. D. Stults and wife, L. W. Frank and wife, Harry Wilkinson and family, James Hurst and wife, David Stoler and wife, Adam Deams and wife, C. E. Baughman and wife, John Hill and wife, Phillip Melhls and wife, Mrs. Robert Perkins and Mrs. Martha Stephens. After spending a most enjoyable evening and wishing all a happy New Year the friends departed in time to get home by 1908.

## MAKING INQUIRY

**About Attitude of Different States at National Convention.**

### ELECTION NOT CINCH

**A Hopeful Financial Note from Controller Ridgely.**

Washington, January 1.—Just now republican politicians as a rule are devoting their time to trying to find out whether their favorite candidate for the presidential nomination can get the vote in national convention of this or that state. A little later there will be some thoughtful inquiry as to whether the republicans can elect the man to be nominated at Chicago next June, in

their private exchange of views the old party wheel horses are saying that the remarkable victories of the republican party in both state and national elections since 1896 seem to have caused them to forget that the political pendulum must swing back sooner or later. Many of the far-seeing ones are somewhat puzzled with the outlook for next year. They are beginning to realize that conditions are changing. They speak of a good many clouds on the horizon. They hope the outlook will become more promising; they are disposed to believe it will, but they are impressed with the fact that the time is near at hand when the party in power may well pause and take stock—may well take a good square look at the situation as it exists today.

Washington, January 1.—William B. Ridgely, controller of the currency, sounds a hopeful financial note in a statement given out this afternoon. The new year, he is confident, will bring a general revival in business. The banks of the country, he believes, will soon find it advisable to return to normal cash payments. In a general review of the financial situation the controller reaches the conclusion that the blame for conditions that have existed the last two months cannot justly be placed on any man or any set of men. It is sufficient, he thinks, to know that conditions are rapidly improving.

### TO ATTEND FUNERAL OF AUNT.

Messrs. Holthouse and Voglewede Go to Kentucky.

Messrs. Peter Holthouse and John Voglewede left this morning for Covington, Kentucky, where they will attend the funeral of their aunt, Mrs. Lizzie Overman, who will be buried at that place tomorrow morning. Mrs. Overman was the last aunt living of these gentlemen and since her demise, they have neither an aunt or uncle living and in fact many of their near relatives have gone to the great beyond. Mrs. Overman was quite well known here, she having visited with relatives in the city on several different occasions. She was preceded by her husband, who died several years ago. The relatives here are grief stricken over the sad affair. The deceased was eighty-six years of age, she having died from old age and a complication of ailments.

## TO SAVE MONEY

**Clover Leaf and Alton Will Cut Off \$100,000 Expenses Under New Plan.**

### THE SAME SERVICE

**Will Be Continued—Will Not Reduce Wages But Expect More Work.**

A reduction in the operating expenses of the Clover Leaf and Alton road of at least \$100,000 a year is said to be the plan of the new owners of the property. A change in service is not contemplated in this economy but a consolidation of the elimination of jobs will be depended upon to accomplish this result.

The Alton road has been found to be over officered. There are, according to the stories one hears, several officers whose functions are so nearly alike that there can be found little excuse for the existence for more than one. This condition is said to exist from the highest to the lowest grades of employees. The new owners of the road intend to cut out all superfluous timber and consolidate the offices as fast as possible.

Evidence that the new owners intend to cut down the number of officers, foremen and employees are seen every day in the bulletins announcing the consolidation of departments of the Clover Leaf and Alton. Traveling engineers and firemen, it is reported, will be dispensed with and from every official and employee more work will be expected. Wages are not to be reduced or anything done that will jeopardize or injure the quality of the service.

Regular passenger service has been inaugurated between Bluffton and Huntington over the Chicago, Bluffton and Cincinnati railroad, and trains are now running on a regular schedule between Huntington and Portland.

## IS BADLY INJURED

**Carl Ernst Hurt in Pennsylvania Yards at Fort Wayne.**

### ON LAST EVENING

**Slipped While Throwing Switch—Left Arm Severe Fractured.**

C. W. Ernst, a Pennsylvania brakeman, sustained a broken arm last evening at 7:30 o'clock by falling while attempting to throw a switch. The railroad had run ahead of his train in the east yards and seizing the switch lever gave it a jerk but slipped on the ice and fell over the stand, alighting on his left side, with his left arm doubled under him. The bone in the upper arm was fractured just above the elbow. He was placed aboard a switch engine and hurried to the station where a cab was waiting to convey him to the St. Joseph's hospital. He is the second trainman to sustain a broken arm as a result of the slippery condition of the ties and ground as Wilber Holly was the victim of a similar accident about two weeks ago. Mr. Ernst is single and lives on Baker street. The fracture is said to be a serious one but there is no danger of the loss of the use of the member.—Port Wayne Journal-Gazette.

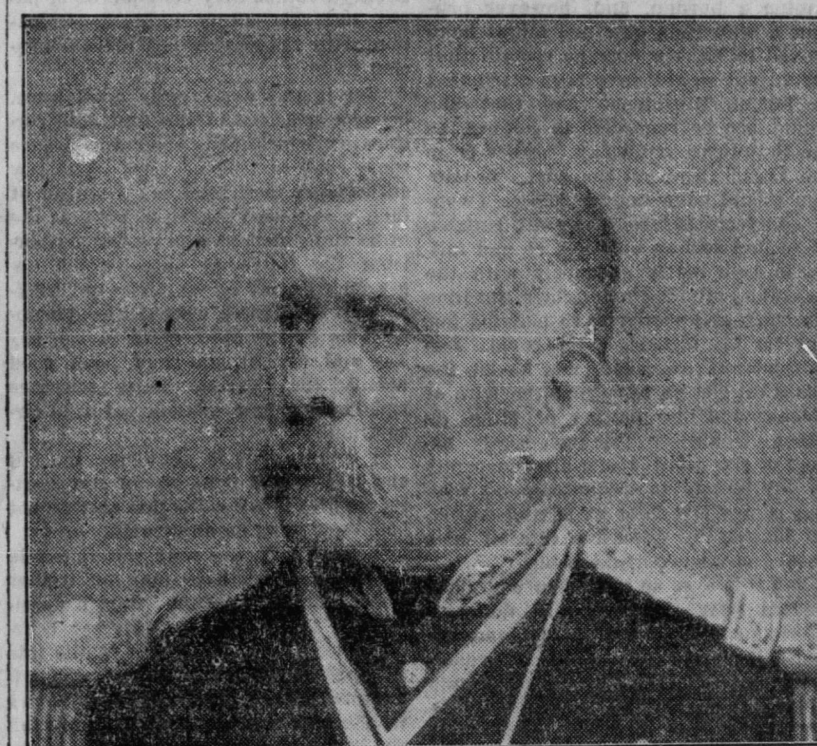
Mr. Ernst is a son of Titus Ernst of this city and has many friends and acquaintances here who hope his injuries may not prove at all serious.

### WERE WEDDED AT MONROE.

Mrs. J. Richards went to Monroe this morning to attend the wedding of Miss Ony Ulrich of that place and James Stewart, of Huntington, the ceremony having been performed at the home of the bride in the presence of a number of friends and relatives. Both parties are quite well known in this city and they have the best wishes of all for a prosperous and happy wedded life.

## FAMOUS PEOPLE

BY FANNIE M. LOTHROP



Photograph by Schlattman, Mexico

**WHAT DIAZ HAS DONE FOR MEXICO**  
PORFIRIO DIAZ of Mexico is a wonderful man, and for more than a quarter of a century has given peace, prosperity and progress to a country that in the fifty-nine years preceding his assumption of the reins of government had fifty-two rulers—dictators, presidents and emperors. Revolution was the normal condition; peace was but that strange, portentous calm that presages a new storm. Murder, mutiny and turmoil was the order of the day.

His eventful life with its adventures and lightning changes would make a writer of dime novels humiliated with envy. Born in 1830 at Oaxaca, he was destined by his mother for the priesthood; but in 1847 forsook church and cassock for the life of a soldier and prepared a company to join the Mexican forces against the United States. Juarez, then president, recognized the mettle of this boy of seventeen and took him into his law office.

But young Diaz had larger ideas; he had keen eyes and a clear head and began to see vaguely through the fog of troublous conditions the chances for a man to scale the heights of realization by the pathway of opportunity. He knew opportunity was on the battlefield so he went there to meet it. Enemies were pressing in on all sides; he led gallant men in perilous attacks, wrestling town after town from the invaders. Dashing assaults, thrilling escapes, brilliant victories, brave defeats, became common-places to him. Twice he was thrown into prison and twice escaped. Leaving his prison-door he gathered round him a new army and fought like a Spartan. He swam a shark-infested river to escape his enemies, was picked up and evaded capture disguised as a coal-heaver; at Puebla when his cannon balls gave out he filled his one field-piece with cobblestones; in the fight at Oaxaca he stood on the church tower and had the church bells melted into charges for his cannon, and faced the rain of shell till his command was reduced to two.

Other men of the time could be forced, placated, pleaded with, bribed, silenced in some way, Diaz—never. Fearless, incorruptible, a man of instant decision, born to command, he unified the thirty states and territories of Mexico into a nation with a government as free as our own, gave it free schools, free ballot, free press, freedom of speech and religion, threaded the country with railways, expanded the postal service, encouraged industry, increased trade, and with temporizing, diplomacy, cajolery, force—whatever the situation required—gradually transformed a fighting pit into a great nation.

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## JESSE LA FOLLETTE RETIRED.

**Begins Career as Head of University Law Department Today.**

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 31.—After ten years of service as assistant United States attorney at Indianapolis, Jesse J. M. LaFollette retires from office today to become a member of the faculty of Indiana university. He will be instructor in the law department of the school. Mr. LaFollette will be succeeded as assistant United States attorney by Clarence W. Nichols, who has been attached to the office for nine years. Joseph B. Keating, United States district attorney, recommended to the attorney general's department that Nichols be appointed. Mr. LaFollette has also urged the young man's appointment. Although Mr. Nichols has had no official information regarding the place, it is understood that the necessary sanction of the Washington officials will not be long delayed. The salary attached to the position is \$2,500 a year. Mr. Nichols took service in the office nine years ago as a stenographer and afterward became chief clerk. He has been closely associated with Mr. LaFollette and employed his time well.

## NEW YEAR SOCIETY

**Many Watch Parties Were Held in Decatur Last Evening.**

### MENU-ATES MET

**Family Dinners Today—Miss Jean Lutz Entertained A. H. C. Club.**

Misses Marie Petterson, Fanny Hite, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Torrance of Marion, Ind., Messrs. Robert Schock, Oscar Hoffman, Oliver Gleichman, of Evansville, Ind., were pleasantly entertained last evening by Miss Midge Smith at

(Continued on Page 3.)

## COURT HOUSE NEWS

**Mrs. Dora Hower Files a Divorce Complaint Against Her Husband.**

### THE PLAINTIFF WON

**In Case of Hamlin vs. Bolds—Jury Returned a Verdict Last Evening.**

L. C. DeVoss is attorney for the plaintiff in a new divorce case filed, the title of which is Dora Hower vs. Charles J. H. Hower. They were married in November, 1902, and lived together until about six months ago. However, their married life has been full of discord and unhappiness. Mrs. Hower says her husband mistreated her in many ways, abused her, failed to provide for her and the two children and frequently abandoned her. Recently Mr. Hower tried to get a divorce a few weeks ago and Mrs. Hower also asked for a decree on her cross complaint, but both were refused. Since that time one of the children has been adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Fin Bennett, of Portland. Mrs. Hower asks for the custody of the other child.

Marriage licenses have been issued to Webster C. Martz, aged twenty-three and Luetta Mae Mock, aged nineteen, both of Monroe township, also to William Kelley, aged twenty-one, a farmer from Van Wert and Sylvia Beltz, aged seventeen, of Blue Creek township.

Susie Connant vs. Louis J. Habegger a \$2,000 damage suit, rule to answer in five days recorded.

The case of Edward Hamlin vs. Otto Bolds was concluded last evening by the jury about five o'clock. The following verdict was returned about 7:30 o'clock: "We the jury find for the plaintiff that he is the owner and entitled to possession of the property described in his complaint and that the same has been unlawfully detained from the plaintiff by defendant, and we assess the plaintiff's damages for such unlawful detention at \$8.00. John T. Myers, foreman."

Old Adams County Bank vs. John H. Yager et al disclaimer filed by Meyers and Gillig. The same entry was made in a similar case against H. S. Porter.

## AGAINST THE CITY

**Suits Filed by Night Police—Men Frank and Reynolds.**

### TO COLLECT SALARIES

**Controversy Will Be Settled in the Adams Circuit Court.**

Joel Reynolds and Samuel Frank, the two night policemen, will try to collect their salaries in the Adams circuit court. Through their attorney A. P. Beatty, they filed separate suits today, demanding the sum of \$125 each. The cases are filed against the city of Decatur, a corporation, and each complaint alleges that said city, by its common council, on May 12, 1891, adopted an ordinance, giving the mayor of said city full power to hire and discharge special police when same is deemed necessary, that said ordinance has never been repealed and is, therefore, in full force and effect. The complaint further relates that on September 6, 1906, these officers were duly employed. They quit for a few days last October, but were again ordered into service on November 1st, and have served ever since, being on duty four days in October, thirty days in November and thirty-one in December, a total of sixty-five days. At \$1.50 per day, this amounts to \$97.50 each. A copy of the ordinance and an itemized bill is attached to the complaint.

Mrs. Frank Yeager has gone to Berne for a visit with relatives.

## HE IS SLOWLY SINKING.

**W. H. Ernst, a Former Bluffton Citizen, is Dying.**

Attorney Thomas E. Saylor arrived home last night from Marietta, O., where, for the past week, he has been the guest of his father-in-law, Al Oppenheim and family. Mrs. Saylor was prevented from accompanying him home by the illness of her sister, Miss Ethel Oppenheim, but will follow next week. While at Marietta Mr. Saylor twice called at the residence of William Ernst, the former Bluffton man, who is at the point of death at his home there from a cancerous growth of the face. No one is admitted to the afflicted man's room and even his most intimate friends have not seen him for weeks.

It is said that the appearance of Mr. Ernst's face is too horrible and repulsive for words, the cheek, eye and nose being almost entirely eaten away and in some places even the bone has been consumed by the creeping, insidious growth. Every known cure has been applied without relief and the unfortunate man cannot live more than a few weeks at the very most.—Bluffton Banner.

## THE CONTEST ENDS

**Miss Frances Radamacker Wins the Gold Watch.**

### LARGE VOTE CAST

**She Wins by Two Hundred and Seventy-Four Votes.**

The gold watch contest that has been creating so much excitement for the past three weeks, closed last evening at the Pictorium and this morning Judges John C. Moran and C. O. France took charge of the ballots and made the final count, which resulted in a victory for Miss Frances Radamacker, who received a grand total of 1,190 votes, she winning over her nearest rival Miss Ada Murray by 257 vote. The contest was clean cut in every respect and the best of feeling prevailed throughout among the candidates. Miss Radamacker received a handsome complimentary vote and she certainly should feel proud of her many friends who so ably assisted her. Mr. Stoneburner by these various contests is making many friends for his place of amusement and so far every contest has been clean cut. The watch was turned over to Miss Radamacker today and she should feel justly proud of her New Year's present.

### CLOSING VOTE.

Stella Ellis 527.  
Frances Radamacker 1,199.  
Dude Voglewede 409.  
Nola Snyder 672.  
Perle Burd 531.  
Minnie Orvis 418.  
Letta Kintz 495.  
Joe Mylott 112.  
May Shilling 112.  
May Holthouse 412.  
Rose Glenhenn 615.  
Joe Krick 404.  
Ada Murray 942.  
Mamie Cloud 113.  
Anna Martin 103.  
Mabel Hocker 100.

### LEAVE FOR DALLAS TEXAS.

**Mr. and Mrs. Schafer Will Spend the Winter With Daughter.**

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Schafer will leave tonight for Dallas, Texas, where they will remain for the winter with their daughter, Mrs. W. F. Britson. Mr. and Mrs. Schafer just recently disposed of their property and household effects and they may remain permanently in Texas, although they may return to this city some time during next summer for a visit at least. Decatur is loath to lose such an estimable family and it is sincerely hoped that Mr. and Mrs. Schafer will see fit to return to our midst and make their future abode before many months have passed.

Mrs. Horace Bothoff and left to visit with relatives.