

ACTOR PINCHED

One of the Vaudeville Stars Spent a Part of the Night in Jail

WANTED HIS MONEY

Took Possession of Moving Picture Machine and Was Charged With Larceny

That troubles come to theatrical people as well as any one else, was demonstrated last night, when John Peel, a member of the Interstate vaudeville association which held sway at the Bosse opera house, was arrested by Policeman Joel Reynolds on a charge of grand larceny and was forced to spend a portion of the night in a cell at the jail. The arrest of Mr. Peel was caused by the manager of the company, F. S. Schmid, who alleged in his affidavit that Peel stole and carried away a moving picture machine, valued at one hundred and fifty dollars, and refused to deliver the same to its rightful owner. Policeman Joel Reynolds was pressed into service and immediately proceeded to the Park hotel, where Peel was boarding and arrested the gentleman and conducted him to jail, where he remained until this morning at nine o'clock, when he was brought down and arraigned before the mayor. Mr. Peel was represented by Attorney D. B. Erwin and the State by H. B. Heller and in a very few moments the court had all the evidence necessary and dismissed the defendant, stating that the state had failed to make a case. The evidence was clearly in favor of Peel, who testified that he was under contract with Mr. Schmid to play vaudeville and that the management was indebted to him in the sum of eight dollars and fifty cents for services rendered, and that after repeated demands for the amount, he was never paid. Last evening after the performance, he escorted the electrician of the company, who was operating the moving picture machine and asked him for the outfit which was turned over to him voluntarily and he immediately took the same to his room at the Park hotel expecting to hold the same until his salary was paid. He denied stealing the machine and stated that he never knew he was accused of the fact until he was arrested by the officer. He brought the machine into court and informed the mayor that he did not care for the same, as it did not belong to him, and he could make whatever disposition he saw fit of the same. Mr. Peel told a straightforward story which was confirmed by several other witnesses and from the appearances of the verdict the court undoubtedly was convinced. The company disbanded here last night and the various members of the company scattered in different directions looking for new jobs.

THE CORA LAWTON-MITCHELL CO.

What the papers say about the Cora Lawton-Mitchell Co., billed to appear here for three nights, commencing Monday January 20: Michigan City Dispatch says of Cora Lawton Mitchell company in "A Woman's Revenge," which is at the Bosse opera house next week:

"The production of 'A Woman's Revenge' last evening at the Grand by Cora Lawton Mitchell and company was a delightful surprise to the patrons of the popular priced repertoire shows. It is far superior to anything seen here at those prices. Charles Mortimer is a fine leading man, and Charles Coon was especially excellent as the old Scotchman. There are other good members of the company and the specialties were interesting. The great Lester is a ventriloquist of extraordinary powers and the Sandow team is good."

Mesdames J. Thatcher and Charles Haviland returned to their home at Geneva this afternoon from a business trip to our city.

Miss Blanche Brown, Gladys Michael and Martha Michael, of Geneva, witnesses in the Haviland divorce case returned to their home this afternoon.

Attorney William Drew who assisted in the defense of Grant Haviland in the divorce suit against him, returned to his home at Geneva this afternoon.

WEATHER CHANGE DUE TODAY

According to Rev. Hicks' Who Don't Know Anything About it.

Hicks—Change to warmer with falling barometer and rapidly falling storm areas will appear in western parts on and touching the 18th. But while the first stage of the period, that is, low barometer, warmer weather and rain or snow, is pushing from central to eastern extremes, blizzardous high barometer and cold wave will have appeared, rushing down from the northwest, and before the modifying influence of the next storm period sets in, this cold wave will sweep to the south and eastward until almost the entire country will feel the icy breath of the north blast. If barometers in the gulf states are at low readings at the culmination of this period, there will be danger of destructive cold and frosts when the high barometer from the northwest reaches that region. At a seasonal crisis like this, a low barometer in the south should always excite apprehensions of coming change to colder—the cold to be in proportion to the low barometer in the south, and the advancing high barometer from the north. Seismic shakes will be reported within sixty hours of noon on the 18th.

VAUDEVILLE HOUSE

Manager Bosse May Enter His Opera House in a Circuit

EARLY IN FEBRUARY

Deal on With the Inter-State Association Toward That End

Manager Bosse of the local opera house informed us this morning that he was endeavoring to make arrangements with the Inter-State association to put on a turn in this city twice a week, commencing in the fore part of February and to continue until spring. The company that showed last evening at the opera house was a sample of some of the material used by this association and from what Decatur people saw, they will no doubt welcome vaudeville to our city. This is the kind of entertainment that the people seem to want and as Mr. Bosse desires to be up to date he is working hard to perfect arrangements in this line. The Inter-State association is one of the best on the road and Mr. Bosse would make no mistake in closing a contract with this company. He states that he will know positively in a very few days as to what the association can do for him, and he may have some good news in this respect to spring on the people.

COPPOCK CO.'S NEW OFFICERS

The board of directors recently chosen by the Coppock Automobile company met last evening and elected officers as follows: M. Earl Brackett, president; Fred Schaefer, vice-president; W. H. Wiley, secretary; M. Kirsch, treasurer and Mr. Coppock superintendent. These men will have control of the company during the ensuing year.

Attorney L. C. DeVoss accompanied Jesse Roop to Van Buren this morning where he will bring suit against parties there for attaching the latter's goods for debts he had contracted.

A fair sized crowd saw the Tri-State vaudeville outfit cut up last evening at the Bosse opera house and those who were in attendance were more than pleased with the time spent. The company, although not a large one, was composed of some first class people, who handled their turns in excellent style. Each and every act was roundly applauded, and from all appearances it would seem that vaudeville would take in Decatur several times a week.

Lewis Erpelding, a lineman employed by the United Telephone company of this city at Huntington, was arrested there Thursday charged with the theft of supplies from the company's store room. About 200 pounds of copper wire were found at his home. He confessed his guilt and implicated others. A charge of larceny was filed against him—Bluffton News.

LOST THEIR SOFA

Marshal Bohnke's Home the Scene of Some Excitement

CAUSED BY A BOY

Struck a Match, Head Flew into the Lounge Fringe—Fire Results

The home of Marshal H. Fred Bohnke was visited by fire last evening and as a result they are loser an extra fine couch with a good sized scare thrown in for good measure. While Mrs. Bohnke was in the backyard doing some work, their little son who was in the house, started to play with some matches around the couch and when striking the same the head flew into the fringe surrounding the couch and in a few seconds the same was a mass of flames. Mrs. Bohnke for some reason unexplainable, happened about that time to look through the window into the house and saw what occurred and at once rushed into the house. The boy however, had used his presence of mind and upset the couch and with the aid of his mother the same was carried out of the house, where in a very few moments it was reduced to ashes. Had not Mrs. Bohnke seen the blaze when she did there is no doubt but that a more disastrous blaze would have been the result. However, the small loss sustained is fully covered with insurance.

A NEW NIGHT LAW SCHOOL

C. L. Walters has organized a night law school, which will meet at present on Monday evenings at his office. The first meeting preliminary to work will be Monday evening, Jan. 20th at 7 o'clock. Every one should know something of the law. The minister, the doctor, the merchant, the farmer and the mechanic should all have a knowledge of the law.

Every day serious mistakes are made which entail loss and trouble on account of ignorance upon this subject. It is not necessary that the student should follow the profession of the law. Fully one-half of the students in the law schools of the country do not expect to practice law, but are studying for a more liberal education and to prepare themselves for other vocations in life.

Students may start any time, take as many or as few subjects as they desire. We will follow a definite course such as is pursued in law schools. Written examinations at the close of each subject. The method will be a blending of the Text book, Case and lecture method. Any text book may be used. Two to six weeks will be given to a subject, enabling any one with an hour or more spare time each day to complete a course of systematic, personal instruction. The aim will be to give a practical course and will embrace from the first subject to the last, a drill in the preparation of contracts, leases, deeds, mortgages, bills of sale, notes, bonds, wills, powers of attorney, pleadings, briefs, affidavits, etc.

Forms of actions, manner of bringing suit in justice of the peace courts and in courts of record and procedure will receive especial attention.

Statement of facts in actual cases will be submitted to apply in actual practice. Students can choose their own time to study. They have the advantage of personal instruction and criticism, and the work does not interfere with the student's regular vocation.

Mrs. Margaret Huber and babies arrived from Marion this noon.

Mrs. Kate M. Busick, one of the wealthiest women of Wabash, and one of the heaviest stockholders in the Wabash National bank, was elected a director of the bank and will devote her attention to banking affairs. She was for many years interested in Jersey cattle and spoke at farmers' institutes.

J. H. McManama, the superintendent of the Peoples' Life insurance company of Frankfort, Ind., and Miss Orpha Jacobs, of Frankfort, Ind., passed through the city to Fort Wayne, to visit with friends for a few days. From the shy responses which were given, it is doubted whether she will return with the prefix of Miss to her name.

G. R. & I. AGREE TO AID.

In Cleaning Sylvan Lake of Stumps and Weeds.

Fort Wayne January 18.—A conference was held Friday between Supt. B. H. Hudson, of the G. R. and I. railway, and Messrs. J. C. Peters, F. B. Wilt, W. S. Sponhauer and J. B. Franke, a committee representing the Rome City Cottagers' Improvement association. The object of the meeting was to obtain the co-operation of the railroad people in the movement to exterminate the weeds from Sylvan lake and remove the stumps that have been more or less of a menace to safety of pleasure seekers for many years. Mr. Hudson assured the gentlemen that he would assist in every way possible and would present the matter before the officials at Grand Rapids with the hope of securing some appropriation to help carry on the work. The improvement association already has a fund of about \$400 which will be applied in the undertaking and Secretary Wilt will issue a call for 20 per cent assessment at once so that the work of stump blasting can be pushed within the next few weeks, while the lake is frozen over.

JOY AT WHITEHOUSE

Over the Knock Out Given the Boom of Governor Hughes

THE OHIO SITUATION

Bad Blood Between Taft and Foraker—Opposition to Grain Inspection

Washington, January 18.—There was unceasing rejoicing about the white house over the victory of the administration forces in the New York republican county committee. The program carried out by Herbert Parsons, the chairman of the committee, and Mr. Roosevelt's lieutenant in New York, was arranged in every detail at the white house. Representative Bennett, Mr. Parsons' assistant, received his final instructions yesterday morning before leaving for New York. No concealment is now made of the fact that from this time on every effort of the supporters of Governor Hughes to push to the front his availability as a candidate for president will be resisted.

Washington, January 18.—It is well understood by public men that Senator Foraker at the beginning of the friction in his state, was perfectly willing to give Secretary Taft a free field for the presidency so far as Ohio was concerned, if it could be understood that he, Foraker, should come back to the senate. The administration would not consent to that. Its demand was that Foraker should be "eliminated." Much the same tactics are being pursued in New York state; Some very prominent men in the party were saying that it looked as if the administration was almost willing to wreck the party in New York rather than see the Hughes candidacy endorsed by the local machine, now in the control of the president and his friends.

Washington, January 18.—That the tendency toward centralizing so many things at Washington is growing is shown by the determined opposition that has developed against the bill for the federal inspection of grain. The senate committee on agriculture now holding hearings on the bill has received requests from boards of trade, commercial clubs and other business men's organizations in every section of the country, asking permission to appear before the committee in opposition to the bill. So far, only Boston and Philadelphia have been heard.

A report of claims in the Journal Publishing company petition for receiver was filed today and the cause set for hearing on February 6th.

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Wybourne, of Fort Wayne, arrived in the city to visit with Mr. and Mrs. Freidmer Walters.

THE EAGLE DANCE

Proved a Popular and Successful Event of Last Evening

OTHER SOCIETY NEWS

Lodge Meetings Held—Epworth Social Monday Evening

Mr. and Mrs. James Fristoe were host and hostess at a small gathering of the old club last evening at their home on Mercer avenue. The chief feature of the gathering was the popcorn contest for the men. The hostess had prepared one-half bushel of popcorn, and placed the same on the dining room table. Dore Erwin proved to be the champion in being the popcorn eater. Another feature was the Winona contest. This was interesting to all. During the evening a dainty luncheon was served the members, who were: Messrs. and Mesdames Wilson Lee, Chas. True, J. C. Patte, son, Dore Erwin, Fred Tague.

Mrs. Chas. Pilliod, of Piqua, Ohio and Mrs. Josephine Rodd, of Toledo were the complimentary guests at a progressive pedro party on Thursday evening given by Mrs. Chas. Voglewede, to a company of friends which numbered twelve.

A large crowd attended the literary meeting last evening at the Monmouth school house. The program which was rendered was pleasing to the hearers who attended. The program was delivered as follows:

Recitation.....John McConnell
Recitation.....Lawrence Lewton
Vocal solo.....Miss Saloma Rice
Music.....Ruckman Orchestra
Recitation.....Helen Evans
Recitation.....Josie Fuhrman
Recitation.....Robert Mann
Vocal solo.....John Wolford
Selection solo.....Ruckman band
Debate: Resolved, That Foreign Immigration be Restricted.

The affirmative side was defended by Frank McConnell and William Evans. The negative, E. M. Rice and Milton Fuhrman. The judges were: Miss Helen Evans, John Singleton, Miss Etta Mallonee, and decided in favor of the affirmative side. This was the closing number of the evening's entertainment, which was a pleasure to the audience. There will be no meeting on next Friday evening.

The Misses Goldie and Della James proved charming hostesses to a number of their friends on Friday evening. It was a pleasant surprise to Miss Della, which reminded her of her sixteenth birthday anniversary. The time was spent in games and having a general good time. An elegant two course luncheon was served by the hostesses. The guests who planned such a delightful evening were: Misses Anna Yake, Sadie Barger, Victoria Stoneburner, Susie Mankey, Bertha Bridgman, of Dutor, Mich.; Messrs. John Borne, Edward Borne, Rudolph Borne, Henry and William Yake, Forrest and Harvey Mankey, Jensen and Nelson Tucker, Chas. Bowers, Edward and David Bieberick, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Mankey.

The members of the W. R. C. enjoyed a good social session last evening, at the G. A. R. hall. After the business period to the surprise of the ladies, the members of the G. A. R. served a delicious three course luncheon in honor of the W. R. C. This was an unexpected pleasure to all present.

The members of the Ben Hur had an unusually good meeting last evening at their hall. A literary program occupied a couple hours which proved to be very entertaining for the friends who were so fortunate as to be included as guests. The readings were splendid and the solos which were rendered were highly complimented by all. A large crowd was present.

The dance given by the Eagle lodge proved to be a success in every way. The floor was crowded with dancers, who tripped the light fantastic for several hours, with the music furnished by the Messrs. Willie Badders, Barney Wetzberger, Roy Wolford and "Rasty" Witham. Not only was the dancing enjoyed but the many selections which were played were appreciated to the fullest extent. This is

the first dance that the Eagles ever gave, and they certainly were royal entertainers from the reports given this morning.

Miss Stella Wemhoff was a clever hostess last evening at a small gathering of friends at her home on Fourth street. The new game which was so exciting and pleasant was the "Five hundred." Immediately at the close, a dainty luncheon was enjoyed by the guests, who were: Misses Nettie Smith, Jessie McLean, Mayme Terveer, Anna Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Pilliod, of Piqua, Ohio, Mr. Lee Hindman.

There will be several evening surprise parties and dinners to be given Sunday evening.

The Menu-Ates will be entertained by Miss Lucile Hale this evening at her home on Fifth street.

Sam Henry W. R. C. No. 41 after their regular meeting last evening, the members of the Grand Army served a delicious luncheon which was appreciated by all the members, who know how to serve and what is good. The courage and patriotism of the young men of '61-'65 will serve to illustrate the glorious and distinguished part taken by the American soldiers in the great battle of rebellion, when the call of war sounded they went forth (Continued on page 2.)

COURT HOUSE NEWS

Last Day of the November Term Was Held Today—A Vacation

THE HAVILAND CASE

Concluded at Noon—McConnehey Divorce Case This Afternoon

The November term of court closed today and the allowances were made as usual. The jurors who served during the term were allowed the respective sums due to them. Allowances were also made to special judges bailiff and sheriff fees, etc., also to restaurants for meals furnished jurors and H. M. DeVoss court reporter.

A two weeks' vacation begins Monday in the circuit court, the February term opening February 3rd.

In the case of State ex rel Sarah Gleason, admrx. vs. Edward E. Young et al, a damage suit, the depositions of Homer Haviland, Thomas Haviland, Ray Boocheer and William Hiestand were ordered taken at the office of L. C. DeVoss on January 23, 1908.

A marriage license was issued to Charley F. Adams, aged twenty-eight and Mary E. Debolt, aged twenty-five, both of Jefferson township.

Daniel Sprunger, guardian for Gilbert and Hulda Stuckey, having died recently, Daniel Stuckey was duly appointed by the court and filed bond for \$3,600 which was approved.

In the Peter Inninger estate, Amos Hirschy administrator, the real estate was ordered sold at public sale as petitioned for, after giving four weeks' notice.

In the case of Policeman Reynolds and Frank vs. the City, mandamus proceedings demurer argued, the judge has stated that he will not pass on same this term of court, but will render his decision first day of next term. He wants time to make a thorough investigation of the matter before passing on same.

The Haviland divorce case was concluded at noon today after a day and a half of spicy evidence and was submitted to the court without argument. Judge Merryman said he would render a decision some time this afternoon.

The last case of the term was that of Alice McConnehey vs. Willard McConnehey, a divorce trial, this afternoon. The usual causes, non-support, drunkenness and general all around cussedness were alleged. On the witness stand Mrs. McConnehey said the only food Willard brought home were chickens which he stole during the night. He was also filthy, had body lice and other ailments. Judge Merryman granted the decree.

A NOVEL CONTEST

Find the "Missing Word" in Democrat Advertisements and Win Prize

PRIZE OFFERED DAILY

Contest Will Begin in Few Days and Be Conducted Systematically

The Democrat will publish in a few days a page of small advertisements, representing the leading business interests in Decatur. The page will appear in thirty consecutive issues of the paper and some of the advertisements will be changed every day. In each issue there will be a number of words omitted from advertisements, and to the first person who correctly determines the words omitted that day and sends the answer to the "Missing Word Editor" of the Democrat under the rules that will be published. The Democrat will pay one dollar. A careful record will be kept of the words omitted and the receipt of the answers and the name of the successful contestant will be published each day.

The purpose is to make this page of unusual value to the advertisers by inducing readers of the Democrat to scan carefully every advertisement on the page every day in order to make sure that every omission in that issue is noted, for it will not be stated how many words, whether one, two, three, four or five are missing. The prize of one dollar for the first correct solution each day is sure to excite a great deal of interest, and the advertiser whose name, business and location appears on the page will be well satisfied with the investment.

The Democrat has engaged Mr. Oscar Austill, of Elwood, Ind., and his corps of ad writers, to make the preliminary canvass for the installation of this valuable advertising feature, which, after the conclusion of this first contest, and the patrons have realized the good results, it expects to be able to continue indefinitely. These gentlemen are experienced in the line of work they are doing, they are gentlemen of high standing at home and as representatives of the Democrat they will make no proposition that will not be fully and honorably carried out. All settlements on contracts will be made with the Democrat.

The page of advertisements will appear as early as possible. The indications are that it will be filled in a few days and it is thought not only that all advertisers will be well pleased with the outcome, but that any who decline the chance to get in will rather wish they had not.

MEAT DEALER ARRESTED.

Inspector Declares Bluffton Merchant Used Borax in Sausage.

Bluffton, Ind., Jan. 17.—Charles Kaltwasser, a local meat dealer, was arrested this morning by Deputy Sheriff Charles Pierce on a charge of violating the state pure food laws in that he adulterated pork sausage by using a preservative which contained borax. Mr. Kaltwasser gave bond of \$200 for his appearance in circuit court at the next term. The affidavit against Mr. Kaltwasser was filed by Bert W. Kohn, a deputy inspector from Indianapolis, who alleges that December 10th last he bought some pork sausage from Mr. Kaltwasser which he had subjected to a chemical analysis at Indianapolis, with the result that the borax is alleged to have been discovered. Mr. Kaltwasser has employed Mayor A. W. Hamilton to defend him, and declares that he is innocent of the charge. He says that he uses no preservatives and cannot imagine how the suit came to be filed against him. This is the first case of this nature filed in Bluffton.

Miss Daisy Haley and her guest, Ross Joker, of Fort Wayne, are spending Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Dan Haley.