

# DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT.

Volume VI. Number 285.

Decatur, Indiana, Monday Evening, November 30, 1908.

Price Two Cents

## TO PAY RESPECTS

Local Gas Office Will be Closed Tomorrow Until Noon

## MR. MURDOCK DEAD

Was Leading Factor in Organization of Many Indiana Industries

Local manager Godfrey Christen, of the gas company has received instructions to close the office here on Tuesday morning, at which time will occur the funeral services for the late James E. Murdock, who died very suddenly Friday night of heart trouble. Mr. Murdock was assistant to President Deitrick in the Logansport and Wabash Valley company and took an active and very important part in the management of the company's affairs in this section of the country. Mr. Murdock worked at his bank all day Friday and retired feeling good. The attack of the heart came on and he died in a few minutes.

Mr. Murdock traveled all over Europe, and during the last summer made a journey to Alaska, incidents of which he was very fond of relating to his friends. His chief recreation was automobile, and he spent much of his spare time in his big machine. No man in Lafayette had such wide business associations as did Mr. Murdock. He formed an alliance with powerful eastern capitalists who invested millions of dollars in interurban lines and gas properties in Indiana and Ohio. The Indiana Lighting company, which was formed this summer, was one of the products of his brain and numerous other enterprises not yet matured originated with him. Among the many institutions and corporations in which he was interested are the following: President of the Merchants' National bank, president of the Evansville and Southern Traction company, director of the Lafayette Loan and Trust company, director of the Belt Railway association, director of the Tippecanoe Agricultural association, principal owner of the Romney Stock farm, director of the Monon railroad, heavy stockholder in the Fort Wayne and Wabash Valley Traction company and Terre Haute, Indiana, and Eastern Traction company, stockholder in First National bank of Boswell and the State bank of Romney.

Mr. Christen had expected to attend the funeral, but being in rather poor health himself, and the weather being so bad he has decided not to do so.

## CLAIMS BILL WILL PASS.

Senator Kissler, of Logansport, Will Seek the Repeal of County Option.

Indianapolis, Ind., Nov. 29.—Senator Frank Kissler, of Logansport, will introduce a bill soon after the legislature is convened to repeal the county local option law by substituting the ward and township unit, as declared for by the Democrats in their state platform. Senator Kissler said that the bill will pass, as he has enough pledges from Republicans to put it through. While he did not mention the names of the Republicans who will vote for the measure in the senate, it is understood that Senators Wood, of Lafayette; Connerman, of Posey county, and Pelzer, of Booneville, are among the members. Senator-elect Walter Leggeman, of Evansville, who died unexpectedly yesterday, was another Republican member counted in favor of the repeal of the law. Governor Hanly will issue a call soon for a special election to name Leggeman's successor, and it is likely that whoever is elected will take a stand against the present law.

## DEATH OF JAMES MURDOCK.

One of Indiana's Greatest Financiers is Dead.

Hon. James Murdock, of Lafayette, and one of the best known business men in Indiana, died early Saturday morning from heart failure. Mr. Murdock was wealthy, being a millionaire, amassing this fortune by a devotion to and a keen insight into the many intricacies of business. The Murdocks have owned practically all of the Wabash Valley Gas Co., which for years supplied Decatur with natural gas. Mr. Murdock's funeral will occur Tuesday morning at Lafayette from St. Mary's Catholic church at 10 o'clock.

COUNTIES FACE LEGAL WAR.  
Confusion of Names of Localities Makes Mixup in Bridge Site.

## ON LOCAL OPTION

Wabash to Be First County in This District to Vote

PETITION IS OUT  
And Election Will Probably Be Held on December 28

Affairs in Wabash county look very promising from the viewpoint of the anti-saloon league. Such a large number of residents in that county have been putting up an appeal for an option election there that when Rev. N. C. Shirey, superintendent of the Fort Wayne district, in which Wabash county is included, stopped off at the county seat Friday night, he was forced to consent to the beginning of operations toward that end and the temperance workers today had placed in their hands petitions for signatures which will be presented to the county board of commissioners if expectations are realized. Should this be the case, an election will be asked for some time during the week of the 28th of December. Rev. Shirey returned from Wabash this morning and he expressed his most confident belief in the ability of the workers there and in the final success of the undertaking. "It is the policy of the league to be conservative in such matters," he said today, "but the room in which we met Friday night was so crowded and every one seemed so enthusiastic that I was but a figurehead in ordering them to go ahead." Wabash county is the first in the district under the charge of Rev. Shirey in which operations have been commenced under the new law and owing to this, more than any other fact, the election must be successful for the welfare of the league. The main fight will be in the city of Wabash, as the remaining part of the county is overwhelmingly in favor of the prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquors. The commissioners' court meets on the 7th of next month and if the petitions contain 25 per cent of the signatures of the voters, an election has to be called within twenty to thirty days.—Fort Wayne Sentinel.

Harness of Quality and Workmanship to Be Sold to the Wholesalers

TO SELL PRODUCT

With Samples

BOOK OF JOB

A Lecture by Prof. William E. Smyser of Wesleyan University

COUNTY INSTITUTE

An Interesting Session

Closed Saturday Afternoon

ELECTION FRAUDS

Will Be Fully Investigated by Special Grand Jury

Called

IN JAY COUNTY

They Will Also Investigate the Recent Murder at Dunkirk

NOTES.

There were several visitors in attendance at the institute.

The educational quiz was a new feature and was well taken.

Trustees Barkley, Kline, Pease, Teeple, Raudebush, Huser, M. Augsburger, Beabout, trustee-elect O. J. Suman were present.

Chas. Schug, of the Berne school board, was in attendance.

Dr. C. B. Wilcox delivered a powerful sermon on the subject, "Thanksgiving" at the M. E. church yesterday morning. A splendid audience heard the excellent discourse. On account of unavoidable circumstances the male quartet did not render special music as was advertised.

SEEKS PART OF A MILLION.  
South Bend Woman Enters Suit as Heir to Estate in Canada.

South Bend, Ind., Nov. 29.—Mrs. Joseph Labadie, of South Bend has, through her attorneys, J. Leon Gould of Indianapolis, formerly of Indianapolis, filed suit in the circuit court of Essex, Ontario county, Canada, for a tract of land on which is now located Walkerville, a flourishing city of several thousand inhabitants. She is one of twelve heirs who are fighting to regain property worth more than \$1,000,000. One of the leading defendants is the Walkerville Distillery company. Besides asking for the title to the property, the Labadie heirs also demand proper compensation for the use of the land from the year 1837.

Washington, Nov. 30.—Congress, in the three short months of the regular session which will open next Tuesday will write at least one very important law upon the statute books. There is hardly any room to doubt that the bill of Senator Thomas H. Carter, of Montana, establishing a system of postal savings banks, will be enacted into law. Debate on this measure will begin in the senate Dec. 14, when it comes up as a special order. It is not expected there will be any protracted discussion, for both national platforms in the last campaign approved the project, and there is unanimity of sentiment in favor which paves the way for speed. In view of the probability that governmental postal savings banks soon will be established, a word as to the system may be of interest. Every postoffice in the United States that is authorized to issue money orders will become a postal savings bank office. Any person who is ten years old or more may become a depositor by placing \$1, the minimum amount necessary to open an account. A married woman may enjoy the privilege of the system free from any control or interference by her husband. The depositor will be given a pass book with the amount of his deposit duly entered and with his name on the back for identification. After an account has been opened deposits of 10 cents and multiples thereof will be received, but no one shall be permitted to deposit more than \$200 in any calendar month. No deposit shall be allowed to exceed \$1,000 and no interest shall be paid on deposits in excess of \$500. On deposits of \$500 and less interest at the rate of 2 per cent per annum shall be allowed and entered in the pass book to the credit of the depositor and shall become a part of the principal.

The afternoon session of Teachers'

Institute opened promptly at 1:30 by singing by pupils of Decatur schools.

"The School Ideal" was then discussed by O. G. Brim, of Berne schools.

He said the aim of education is to fit us for life. The educated man should be social, unselfish, obedient and industrious. To teach these ideals we should keep the ideal before the student. Further discussion of this subject by W. P. Merryman, teacher of Blue Creek township. An education is simply a state of mind. Not only are the leaders educated, but men of all occupations may be educated. He went a step further than Mr. Brim and said that education is not fitting a man for life, but education is life. Four persons are to be considered in developing ideal namely, patron, child, school officer and teacher. Both speakers agreed in the main on this subject.

We were then treated to an excellent lecture "The Book of Job, a Literary Study," by Prof. William E. Smyser, of Ohio Wesleyan university.

This was an eloquent talk of fifty minutes, which was highly appreciated by all.

Rest.

Plano duet, by Misses Mutchler.

Recitation, Miss Goldine Flink.

This recitation was responded to by an encore.

Educational quiz:

First question, "How to Secure and Maintain Interest in School." Answered by Jesse Snyder of Jefferson township.

Second question, "How Can Current Events Be Made Use of in the Schools?" Answered by Mr. Swartz, of French township.

Third question, "How Can We Hold the Large Boys in School?" Answered by Mr. Gilliom, of Monroe school.

Fourth question, "Should the Readers and the Arithmetic be Re-adapted?" Answered by Mr. Beachier, of Decatur.

Fifth question, "What Are the Advantages of teachers' institute conducted on the departmental plan?" Answered from the standpoint of the grammar grade by Clyde Rice, of Decatur. From the standpoint of the high school by R. J. Mann, of Monroe.

Closing remarks by Mr. Opliger.

Adjournment.

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LEAVITT WILL REJOIN WIFE.

Bryan's Son-in-Law Engaged in Painting "The Last Supper."

Paris, Nov. 29.—The Societe des Beaux Arts is arranging an elaborate collection of canvases by its members, to be sent to America early in 1909 for exhibition at the principal cities. W. K. Leavitt, W. J. Bryan's son-in-law, has been asked to take charge of the exhibition and act as the American representative of the society. Mr. Leavitt, who is engaged in the completion of a large painting "The Last Supper," for which prominent prelates and artists posed, has not yet accepted. Mr. Leavitt has announced he intends to resume residence with his wife at Denver as soon as he finishes the painting.

Indianapolis, Nov. 30.—With the activity that has been developed on the part of the Anti-Saloon league in circulating petitions for county local option elections in counties which the temperance leaders believe can be carried first, the Liberal league of Indiana is getting busy. There are increasing signs of activity daily around the league headquarters in the Indiana Trust building. The first clashes between the Anti-Saloon league and the brewers and liberal element will come in Wayne, Daviess, Lawrence and Whitley counties. Secretary Charles Pettijohn, of the Indiana Liberal league said today that preparations are being made to perfect large organizations in these counties for the purpose of contesting the local option elections. There are many people who are opposing the local option elections because of the expense. They estimate the cost of \$50 a precinct. The county council makes the appropriations to bear the expenses of the election. To secure an election petitions signed by 20 per cent of the voters of a county must be filed with the county commissioners. In the four counties where the work has been taken up petitions are now being circulated and the indications are that the required number of signatures will be obtained within the next few days. It is the intention, if possible, to hold the elections before the convening of the next legislature, which, it is believed, will change the county local option law to one with the ward and township unit. Both the anti-saloon league and the Prohibition party will send speakers into the counties to conduct the temperance campaigns. The Liberal league will depend not so much upon speakers as it will upon organization work and what the officers term "practical politics."

A gentleman by the name of Dick Wallace, a resident of Oaxaca, Mexico, was in the city today paying a brief visit with Henry Hite and family. He stopped here enroute to Pennsylvania where he expects to visit with his mother. Hugh Hite and wife from Decatur and Paul Wooten reside in the same city that does Mr. Wallace and it was at their request that he came to Decatur on his way to Pennsylvania. The Mexico gentleman is pleasant to meet and in his interesting talk he related of how Mr. Hite and Mr. Wooten are succeeding in Mexico. He stated that Hugh was doing exceptionally well in the mining business and that he and his wife liked the country very much. The opportunities are great in that country, according to Mr. Wallace, for young men, and Messrs. Hite and Wooten are accepting the good ones. Mr. Wallace owns a mine near Oaxaca. He left on the Erie train for Pennsylvania after his pleasant stay in this city.

ELECT A BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Berne Traction Line Company Organize for Business.

The stockholders of the Bluffton, Berne & Celina Traction company at a meeting at Berne last night prepared articles of incorporation which will be filed with the secretary of state within a few days. The capital stock is \$50,000 and the full list of incorporators numbers about twenty stockholders, the majority of them citizens of Berne or vicinity, while a number of Bluffton men also are interested with good-sized subscriptions of stock. The board of directors, seven in number, elected last night to serve in that capacity for the first year, are Joseph Gerber, Peter Neuen schwander, B. A. Batson, Rudolph Schupp, C. S. Stauffer, Dr. Simpkins, and Edward Engeler. Of this board only one, B. A. Batson, resides in Bluffton. Messrs. Gerber and Neuen schwander reside east of Bluffton, while the remaining four directors reside at Berne. This board of directors will be called together in a meeting later to perfect their own organization by the election of officers. The articles of incorporation signed up with the full list of incorporators, will be received here within a few days by Attorneys Eichhorn & Vaughn and by them will be forwarded to Indianapolis to the secretary of state.—Bluffton News.

ORVILLE WELLS RETURNED HOME

Traded Horses Twice and Brought Good Animal Back.

Orville Wells, one of Monroe town ship boys who left home about ten days ago, taking with them a horse belonging to Wells father, returned home Saturday evening. He and his comrade, Floyd Martz, had got as far as Wells county, where they secured a few days work at husking corn and Wells finally got enough of the life and came home. He had traded horses twice during his absence and came home with a better animal than he started with. Martz decided to go on further west and did not return with the Wells boy. Wells parents were greatly worried about him, and no doubt glad to have him at home again.

FORT WAYNE GOLFERS TO BUILD

New Club Will Erect \$15,000 Home

Early Next Spring.

Fort Wayne, Ind., Nov. 29.—Monday

evening the two hundred recently se

cured members of the Fort Wayne

Country Club, which will succeed the Keltington Golf Club, will meet at the

Anthony Wayne Club for the pur

pose of closing up the deal for the pur

chase of the George Young farm, west

of the city, on which the golf links

and clubhouse will be located. The

option on the property expires at

midnight on that day. It is the inten

tion of the organizers to erect the

clubhouse early in the spring.

## TO HAVE CONTEST

Local Option Elections Are Slated for Four Counties

## RED HOT FIGHT

The Anti-Saloon League

Will Try to Sweep

Everything

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