

DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT.

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Price Two Cents

DIVORCE SUITS

Two Have Been Filed—Mrs. Dan Straub Wants a Decree

SERIOUS CHARGES

Divorce Case Filed on the Wedding Anniversary of Straubs

Two divorce cases have been filed in circuit court. No. 7685 is entitled Alice Whitcomb vs. William W. Whitcomb and was filed by Attorneys Hooper & Lenhart. The charges are the usual ones of cruel and inhuman treatment, abuse and failure to support.

No. 7686 was filed by Attorney Teeple, the plaintiff being Sarah J. Straub and the defendant no less a personage than Daniel Straub, who has on various occasions furnished sensational headlines for the newspapers and who is even now serving a jail sentence for wife beating. The couple were married just twenty-seven years ago today, and lived together until November 15th. Dan is charged with trying to kill his wife, of being an habitual drunkard, of so far failing to support his wife that she had to go to the county infirmary, of cursing and beating her and various other faults. Seven children have been born to them, three of whom are dead. All those living are minors except one. Mrs. Straub asks that she be given the household goods, the custody of the two younger children, \$500 alimony and \$15.00 per month for support of children.

Attorneys Denny, Jacque and McGinnitie, of Portland, were here this morning, arguing various points in the making of issues in the Penina Silvers, ex parte, and from the earnestness displayed by the attorneys, the trial would have been interesting and important one. The cause is one concerning the vacation of certain streets and alleys in the city of Portland. Judge Merryman dismissed the cause.

Henry F. Schlickman 22, a farmer, and Ida Beineke, 17, daughter of William Beineke, have been granted a marriage license.

Fred Hoffman et al have sold to M. Kirsch et al, in lot 4, Decatur, for \$2,000. The item that Kirsch, Seller-meyer & Sons had transferred a property to Med Miller was an error made in copying.

Peterson & Moran filed a new case entitled James M. Rice et al vs. Chicago & Erie Ry. Co., suit for damages, \$2,000. The complaint says that on Jan. 17, 1907, plaintiff shipped a car of horses from Chicago to Decatur over the Erie, that at Crown Point, Indiana, the train was broken into and when re-coupled one part of the train was hurled against the other with such force that twelve of the horses, worth \$250 each, were badly bruised. A veterinary bill of \$500 and the loss of value to the horses totals the demand, \$2,000. At this same time Frank Berger, who was with the horses was quite badly hurt and a suit brought by him against the Erie is now pending in court.

GROSSCUP FEELS BIG STICK.

Roosevelt Announces Strongly He Has No Job for Judge's Brother.

Washington, Dec. 16.—President Roosevelt today emphatically told a delegation of West Virginia congressmen and friends they were "wasting time" to recommend to him the name of the brother of Judge Peter Grosscup to be collector of internal revenue. Senators Scott and Elkins and Representative Gaines had introduced to the president Fred Paul Grosscup for the position. It will be necessary for the senators now to present another candidate.

G. W. Fravel, who had the misfortune to lose the sight from his left eye by a piece of wood striking it while he was sawing wood, was in town Monday and is getting along as well as could be expected. He is wearing a covering over the injured eye.—Geneva Herald.

OSSIAN POSTOFFICE BOOSTED

Goes Into Third Class—Increase in Business.

A Washington dispatch states that the postoffice at Ossian, will be advanced January first from a fourth class to a third class office and the salary will be established at \$1,100 per year. The postoffice at present does not pay a certain stipulated salary, this depending upon the amount of business and cancellation done by the office. But during the past year the Ossian office has shown an increase in business that has caused it to be advanced to the third class and this makes it come within what is termed a presidential postoffice. Under this heading it will not be filled by examinations under a ruling made some time ago as to fourth class offices, placing them under the civil service regulations and to be filled by examinations. The Ossian office will continue to be filled by presidential appointment upon recommendation of the congressman or senator. In the present instance it will be upon the recommendation of Senator Beveridge since the congressman from this district is a democrat. Charles Bell is the present postmaster at Ossian and has held the office for several years.

A RECOGNITION

Decatur High School Will Be Examined Soon by College Inspector

PUPILS CAN ENTER

Such Colleges as University of Michigan Then Without Examination

A movement has found its inception which, if a materialization of the plans is realized, graduates from the Decatur high school can enter colleges of the caliber of the University of Michigan without passing the examination which otherwise is required. Within the next month an inspector will visit the city schools make a thorough examination of the institution and plans of study, after which a report will be made in regard to "accrediting graduates from the Decatur high school. No difficulty is anticipated in securing the recognition from the colleges and if not we will have a distinction which is only attained by the very best of educational institutions.

The attendance thus far this year in the public schools exceeds that of 1907 noticeably and interest is more intense. This school year will be the most successful ever experienced in Decatur.

The new system employed in the eighth grade in preparing students for the high school has proven a decided winner and high school students in years to come will have decisive advantages over those of former years in that they will be better qualified when leaving the common grades.

A very interesting literary program will be rendered at the high school next week prior to the closing of the schools for the holiday vacation. The seniors, juniors and sophomores will participate in the program.

The school board will meet next Wednesday evening, two days before the regular time of meeting for the purpose of allowing the teachers and janitors salaries. The vacation will begin Friday, December 25 and last until January 4th.

RAILROADS PLEAD GUILTY.

Companies Fined for Violating Twenty-Eight-Hour Law.

Chicago, Dec. 16.—Pleas of guilty were entered by the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railroad company and the Atchafalaya, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad company today on charges of violating the twenty-eight-hour law, and fines of \$100 for each violation were imposed. The law provides that cattle, hogs or other live stock shall not be confined in cars for longer than twenty-eight hours without being released for water, food and exercise.

THE DOVE OF PEACE

The Olive Branch Hung Out by the Democratic Senators

HARMONY PLAN

The Minority Propose a Plan for Peace in the Senate

Indianapolis, December 17.—Indications now point to peace among the Republicans and Democrats over the organization of the state senate. Negotiations, it develops, as a result of the gathering of the Democratic members of the legislature in Indianapolis on Monday and Tuesday of this week are soon to be opened whereby the Democrats hope to be able to name the minority members of the senate committees. The Democratic senators, it develops, are for peace. Lieutenant Governor-elect Frank J. Hall, presiding officer of the senate at the next session of the legislature, is for peace. Thomas R. Marshall, governor-elect, has advised peace. It develops that the Democratic senators at their meeting Tuesday morning at the Denison preceding the joint meeting with the house members, determined to give little if any opposition to the plan of the Republicans to control the senate organization. It was the sentiment that the Democrats should endeavor to obtain all their minority position entitlements to and to stand their ground against any tyrannical moves that may be made by the majority, but they will do what they can to promote as much harmony as possible and will not harass the majority when it seeks to control that to which the majority is rightfully entitled. Lieutenant Governor-elect Hall while in the city said he did not believe there would be much trouble between the members of the opposing parties in the senate and he did not believe the Republicans would try any bulldozing tactics.

CASE SET FOR TRIAL

The \$5,000 Damage Case Against Joseph Swartz and Eleven Others

ON JANUARY 19TH

Attorneys From Here at Portland Yesterday and Arranged Date

The case of George E. Paille against Joseph A. Swartz, venue here from Adams county, has been set for trial beginning Tuesday, January 19. It is expected that it will require the greater part of the remainder of the week. This is the case of the Amishman who is suing the elders and leaders of the church at Berne for the alleged alienation of the affections of his wife, Katie Paille, following the insuring of Paille's property contrary to the teachings of the church. When he had a fire and accepted reimbursement from the insurance company, the churchmen declared that he was trying to thwart the will of God, and it is alleged, persuaded his wife to leave him. Much interest attaches to the case throughout the southern part of Adams county, and it is expected there will be a large number of its residents here during the hearing. Frank Cottrell, of Berne, A. P. Beatty and Judge David D. Heller, of Decatur, were here Wednesday, interested in the case, making up the issues.—Portland Commercial Review.

James Harmon, of Riverton, was in the city today and paid this office a visit. He vigorously denies that he bit the nose off Asa Blount and there are none who think he did. He informed us that he heard that Blount was on his trail and had threatened his life on several occasions. As yet there has been no suit filed against either and in all probability there will be none.

NEW INDIANA CORPORATIONS

An Allen County Concern Going to Make Money.

Fort Wayne, Dec. 17.—Papers of incorporation were taken out in Indianapolis yesterday for the Agriculturalists' Company of America, capitalized at \$100,000, the directors of which are all prominent Allen county farmers. Its purpose is to eliminate middlemen's profits on all necessities, and a store will be fitted up in this city within the next six months with Mr. H. L. C. Thiele as manager. The directors of the new concern are Henry A. Rockhill, of Lake township; William J. Sterling, of Perry township; Frederick Henschen, of Washington township; Jacob Popp, of Cedar Creek township; Marshall M. Wellbaum, of Pleasant township; Emanuel Decker, of Abbot township; Charles A. Springer, of Pleasant township; John G. Sterling, of Marion township; William O. Brown, of Lake township; C. L. Greenwell, of Ellettsburg township; H. L. C. Thiele and Edwin T. Jackson.

DAY OF WOODCRAFT

Monday Will Be Time of Biggest Event Ever Held in Northern Indiana

TO BE AT FT. WAYNE

National Lecturer Will Be Here—A Big Class from Here to Go

The regular meeting of the Modern Woodmen lodge held last night was of unusual interest, nine candidates for the class of adoption being balloted upon. Further arrangements were made in regard to the trip to Fort Wayne and the session was adjourned until Saturday night when final arrangements will be made. At that time many more candidates will be voted in. The Fort Wayne expedition will be a delightful one for the members and candidates. Ten delegates will leave here Monday morning at 11:30 o'clock to represent the local camp at the afternoon session at which several interesting addresses will be made including one from the national lecturer, Attorney C. L. Walters will give a response to the address of welcome. In the evening the special car which has been chartered will leave Decatur at 6:30 o'clock and convey more than a hundred members and candidates to the Summit City, where the Auburn degree team will execute the ceremony of adoption. Decatur bids fair to have forty candidates, and in that event she will certainly capture the ten dollar prize which is offered for the biggest class. The Fort Wayne meeting is to be the biggest event in woodcraft ever held in northern Indiana.

OPTION IN WHITLEY COUNTY.

Anti-Saloon League Asks to Have Injunction Dissolved.

Columbia City, Ind., Dec. 17.—Attorney R. C. Minton, of Indianapolis, for the state Anti-Saloon league, arrived in this city today and presented to the court a motion to dissolve the injunction granted two weeks ago preventing the county commissioners from taking any steps toward calling an election under the county option law. The grounds of the injunction were that not 20 per cent of the legal voters had signed the petition submitted to the county board; that the county option law is unconstitutional; that no estimate had been made or appropriation asked of the county council to defray the expense of the election petitioned for. The motion to dissolve the injunction negates these propositions and asks that the injunction be set aside forthwith, without waiting until the February term of court, as was agreed upon by attorneys for both sides of the question in court.

The Democrat acknowledges receipt of a handsome map of the United States and the World, from the Clover Leaf and Chicago and Alton railroad systems. It's a valuable thing around a printing office and we are personally indebted to Mr. Harry Weber for this and other favors shown us.

THE HOLIDAY RUSH

And How You Can Save Trouble by Obeying the Rules

AT THE POSTOFFICE

What You Can and Can't Include in Various Classes

Now that the customary Christmas rush is beginning at the local postoffice, Deputy Postmaster Peterson has prepared a brief summary of the postal rules and regulations applicable to the sending of holiday presents. By following the rules laid down considerable expedition in the delivery of Christmas mail matter can be secured. Included in the summary is a definition of the various classes of mail:

First class—Rate, two cents for each ounce or fraction thereof. Limit of weight, four pounds. Includes written matter and matter enclosed against inspection.

Second class—Rate, one cent for each four ounces or fraction thereof. Includes newspapers and periodicals bearing notice of entry as second-class matter.

Third class—Unsealed. Rate, one cent for each two ounces or fraction thereof. Includes books, newspapers and periodicals not admitted to the second class.

Fourth class—Unsealed. Rate, one cent for each ounce or fraction thereof. Includes all articles of merchandise and all mailable matter not embraced in the first, second and third classes.

With a package of fourth class matter, prepared at the proper rate for that class, the sender may inclose any mailable matter of the third class. A single card bearing the written name of the sender and such inscriptions as "Merry Christmas," "Happy New Year," "With best wishes," etc., may also be inclosed with fourth-class matter without affecting its classification.

A MERITED HONOR

Has Been Bestowed Upon Eli Sprunger of this City

HE WAS CHOSEN

Vice President of the American Belgium Breeders Association

An honor has come to Decatur well merited by its recipient in the election of Eli Sprunger to the vice presidency of the American Belgium Breeders' Association. On December the second the Belgium importers of the United States held a meeting at the Grand Pacific hotel in Chicago where matters pertaining to the importation and breeding of Belgium horses were extensively discussed. It was the second meeting held by the horsemen and it was a very interesting session. The election of officers was one of the features of the occasion, and although it did not become known until yesterday, Eli Sprunger of Decatur, was chosen as vice president of the association. Mr. Cerner of Wabash being elected to the presidency. Mr. Sprunger is a thorough horseman, competent business man and is a member of a firm which imports many horses to this country. His knowledge of the business well qualifies him for the position he has been elected to, and without a doubt he will fulfill the capacity in a manner which will reflect credit upon his ability and the organization.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Knowles and daughter Gladys went to Decatur last Saturday morning to visit relatives. Mr. Knowles returned last week from Robinson, Ill., where he has been engaged in the oil business for the last three months.—Geneva Herald.

RECEPTION FOR MARSHALLS

Big Social Event at Columbia City—Many Guests.

Columbia City, Ind., Dec. 16.—An ideal night was had for the Democratic banquet, love feast and farewell reception given Governor-elect Thomas R. Marshall of this city here tonight and nearly a thousand Democrats were in attendance. Mr. Marshall arrived in the Woodman reception hall shortly after 7 o'clock and his coming caused a round of applause. Other prominent Democrats present were: Lieutenant Governor-elect Hall of Rushville; Congressman Cyrus Cline of Angola; Judge Luke H. Wrigley, of Albion; M. D. Yontz of Indianapolis and District Chairman Hoffman of Fort Wayne. With the exception of only the few invitations issued the reception was intended for Democrats of Whitley county, who never before had an occasion for such a love feast. Shortly before 8 o'clock the assemblage was led to the banquetting room in the armory, where a well prepared menu was served by ladies of the churches of this city. After dinner speeches ten minutes in length, were delivered by Marshall, Hall, Cline, Wrigley and Hoffman. A farewell reception was also given Mrs. Marshall by ladies of the Presbyterian church in the church parlors. Mrs. Marshall was presented with a set of solid silver salad spoons.

DOLLIE DIMPLES

One of the Best Shows on the Road Here Next Tuesday

COMPANY OF FIFTY

Headed by Miss Grace Cameron and a Half Dozen Comedians

Next Tuesday, December 22, at the Bosse opera house, the dainty comic opera star, Grace Cameron, and her company of 50. A play, fashioned after the famous character, "Dollie Dimples" which the dainty comic opera star created in the year's run of "Piff Paff Puff" at the Casino theater, New York City, is to be heard at the Bosse. Miss Cameron is making the success of her theatrical career in her new part and the supporting company is one of the most important to be seen at the Bosse this season. Twenty big song hits, ten big electrical effects, new and original costumes and elaborate scenic display are all promised and then there are a host of pretty chorus and show girls as well as the pony ballet and a chappie chorus which is said to be the best ever. "Dollie Dimples" cannot be classed as a musical comedy, although there is every essential of musical comedy. "Dollie Dimples" cannot be classed as a drama, although the situations in the play are dramatic in the extreme. "Dollie Dimples" cannot be classed as a vaudeville, although there are five big headline vaudeville acts in the company. "Dollie Dimples" cannot be classed as an opera, although it has one of the finest singing companies on tour in America. "Dollie Dimples" cannot be called a spectacular play although the scenic, electrical and mechanical equipment is most complete in detail. "Dollie Dimples" is just a great, big evening's entertainment, and one feels that after seeing this clever concoction they have had an evening well spent and thoroughly enjoyed. You laugh a lot, you cry a little, you applaud with vigor, you admire and praise the clever and diversified entertainment with appeals to your better nature and which satisfies and delights. Such is "Dollie Dimples."

GIVE OUT MADISON PLUMS.

Anderson, Ind., Dec. 16.—The county commissioners have announced the following appointments for the ensuing year: Byron T. McMahon, county attorney; to succeed David L. Bishop; C. A. Clevenger, pauper attorney to succeed John Beeler, and the following appointments: E. M. Conrad, secretary Board of Health; M. A. Rush, county physician; Dr. A. W. Collins, jail physician; James Prather court house janitor; Mrs. Mary Morrison, court house matron.

NO PIE FOR THEM

Democrats Will Not Share in the Census Apportionments

THEY LIKE IT

Congress Enjoys the Controversy With the President

Washington, Dec. 17.—The Democratic congressmen and congresswomen from Indiana are in a peck of trouble. Their discomfiture arises from the fact that a report has gone abroad all over Indiana to the effect that the census plums to be passed out next year will be distributed by the members of congress, which, if true, would mean that in eleven of the thirteen Indiana districts the Democratic workers would receive an invitation to the pie counter. The hungry Democratic hosts have accepted the report at its face value and are bombarding Democratic members and members-elect with applications for census jobs. The sad feature of the story, from the standpoint of the Democratic congressmen, is that it is not true. They have not been slow to investigate and the sum and substance of their discovery is that there is just about as much chance of the moon playing leap-frog with the sun as there is that the census patronage of Indiana will be distributed among the Democratic politicians and wire pullers of the state.

Washington, December 17.—The show has become so interesting that congress is disinclined to take a holiday recess lest it miss an act. However, it will adjourn for two weeks and trust that the entertainment proceedings may be resumed after January 1. The president's quarrel with the legislative body, or the legislative body's quarrel with the president, takes on new features daily. Congress is showing a disposition to take up the subjects that have given rise to restless nights and bad language one at a time and dispose of them in its usual calm, dignified way. First, there is the president's insinuation that the congress contains a lot of criminals. The prospect today was that this language, which appeared in the president's regular message sent in one week ago, would be dealt with before the holiday recess comes on. Some of the leaders seemed to think it might be taken care of before adjournment today. Many of the senators and representatives are insisting that after the president's language shall have been properly dealt with there shall be an investigation of the secret service.

INDUSTRY INCREASES.

Bloomington, Ind., Dec. 16.—To make an effort to solve the water problem of this city by driven wells was decided upon at the meeting of the city council last night. The council has let the contract to Marshall & Potch of this city to make a test well at the plant. Letters were read from two professional well diggers—George E. Weigel of Marion and William F. Harrison, of Noblesville—stating that in their opinion water in good quantities would be struck in this locality from driven wells. The repairs to the water works reservoirs which have been in progress for the last month, are now well under way. Axtell pond, to which Indiana university went to the expense of laying a pipe line with the hope that water from it would supply the university for the remainder of the term, has given out and the plan of hauling water from White river at Gosport in tank cars again has been resorted to. The university has practically spent \$2,000 to get a supply of water since the city water station ceased pumping.

Word is sent out from Washington that a bad five-dollar note is in circulation, and if you've got one of 'em in your pile you can tell it by looking at the Indian picture which ornaments the issue. It is asserted that in making the counterfeit the Indian chief was given a cross-eyed expression. The name of the chief is Oneape, so that if you ever had an acquaintance with him you will be the more readily able to detect the counterfeit when it comes your way.