

THE DAILY DEMOCRAT

Published Every Evening, Except Sunday, by
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Subscription Rates:

Per week, by carrier 10 cents
Per year, by carrier \$5.00
Per month, by mail 25 cents
Per year, by mail \$2.50
Single copies 2 cents

Advertising rates made known on application.

Entered at the postoffice at Decatur, Indiana, as second-class mail matter.

J. H. HELLER, Manager.

The legislature will be asked to pass many new laws and change many others. One that needs attention relates to prosecuting attorneys. All fees should be eliminated and that official placed upon a salary large enough to command the services of able and conscientious attorneys. Much injustice is done under the fee system. The fee is often more in evidence than a desire to enforce the law.—Lebanon Pioneer.

BUYING CHAIRS BY SIGHT.

Few Folks Ever Think to Try Them by Sitting in Them.

"I went with some folks the other day," the man said, "to buy a couple of chairs. We went to a furniture store and looked over what they had to offer.

"There were just ordinary chairs for a bedroom, so that it wasn't a very momentous purchase. The folks I was with looked at the cloth on the chairs and asked questions about the wood and how the chairs would wear. Then they bought the chairs and ordered them sent home.

"What struck me as peculiar about the transaction was that never once did either of the two persons with whom I was think of sitting down in the chairs to see whether or not they were comfortable. I dropped into a furniture store not long afterward and asked a salesman about it, and I wasn't surprised to learn that very few persons buying chairs ever seem to think about testing them in sitting in them.

"Except in the case of rockers, that is. Few persons can resist the temptation to take a few preliminary rocks in a prospective purchase."—New York Sun.

The Proper Word.

Reckoning from the standpoint of the lexicographer, Ruth, aged seven, committed an unpardonable assault on the king's English, but the seventy-five other persons living in that apartment house would swear that she chose the proper word. Ruth's comment concerned the vocal gymnastics of a lady who was learning to sing.

"She is having her voice difficult," said Ruth, and every one of the seventy-five nerve racked neighbors echoed, "She is."—New York Times.

Irascible Von Bulow.

During Hans von Bulow's leadership of the orchestra at Hanover a tenor of fame was engaged to play a star role in "Lohengrin," and while the singer was rehearsing his part Bulow was forced to go over the same bars a number of times without the new actor beginning to sing. Tired of his wasted efforts, the leader stopped the orchestra and angrily turned to the singer.

"I know that a tenor is proverbially stupid," he said, "but you seem to make an extensive use of this unwritten law."

At another time, while one of his grand intermezzos was being played with great feeling by his musicians, a peculiar noise, hardly perceptible by untrained ears, annoyed the leader for some little time. At first he thought it resembled the flutter of wings, but soon he discovered an elegant lady fanning herself in one of the boxes close by. Bulow kept on with his gestures, fixing his eyes on the offender in a manner which meant reproof. The lady, not heeding this, was suddenly surprised by the leader drawing his stick and turning toward her.

"Madam," he cried, "if you must, please at least keep time with your internal nuisance!"

OUR CHALLENGE!

Holthouse Drug Co. Declare That Hem-Roid Will Cure Any Case of Piles.

By authority of Dr. J. S. Leonhardt, Holthouse Drug Co. guarantee that Hem-Roid, an internal tablet remedy, will cure any kind of piles, no matter how bad. Dr. Leonhardt is the celebrated specialist who discovered that the cause of piles is internal, and in giving his remedy to the public, said: "Hem-Roid will be sold under a guarantee that it will cure any case."

\$1 for 24 days' treatment. Dr. Leonhardt Co., Station B, Buffalo, N. Y., prop. Write for booklet.

All meats at 10c a pound. Beef and pork until after New Year's. Boiling meats at 6c. Alex LeBrun.

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AGAINST UNIFORMITY

Leading Educators of Nation Condemn Indiana System.

HOME RULE IS DEMANDED

Teachers' Journal Has Comprehensive Article On Subject of Books For Public Schools.

Journals devoted to education are getting into the fight against the state laws compelling uniformity of books used in the public schools. The Teachers' Journal, published at Marion, Ind., and edited by A. Jones, in its last issue devotes considerable space to an arraignment of the system. Following an editorial, a number of letters from leading educators, all arguing against the uniformity laws, are printed. Among these writers are President Eliot of Harvard, President Angell of University of Michigan, Dr. G. Staley Hall of Clark University, Dr. Nicholas M. Butler of Columbia, Dr. A. S. Draper and Dr. Skinner of New York. Among the state superintendents of schools who are represented with letters are Prof. Olson of Minnesota, Bryan of Washington, Phillips of Alabama and Wright of Michigan.

In part, the editorial follows: The important problem in educational circles in Indiana today is the text-book problem. If it were left to the teachers and those who are directly responsible for the success of the schools, the question would be quickly settled. That Indiana has an efficient system of education is one competent to judge doubts. That she hangs on to a plan for selecting text-books that is not tolerated in a single eastern state and that has been discarded in every progressive western and southern state that has tried it for any considerable length of time is the wonder of leading educators everywhere.

The predominant ideas in education today are the development of the individuality of the pupil and the adjustment of the schools to the need of the community. Uniform text-books, however good, are a serious obstacle in the way of pushing these ideas into practice.

Opens Way For Graft.
The principle of state uniformity is undemocratic. It takes away from the citizens of a community the right and privilege of choosing what they, through their representatives, want. It opens way for graft, enormous graft.

State uniformity in text books is not new in the United States. The state of Vermont was one of the civil law left the choice of books in the hands of the same officers who controlled the schools with respect to the employment of teachers, the studies to be pursued, the building of school houses and their subsequent care. Immediately after the civil war, governments were organized in the southern states which became known popularly, and are now known historically, as "carpet bag governments." The carpet baggers were the inventors of the present kind of laws for state uniformity in school books.

Scheme for Plunder.
The public and the agents are then shut out and in "executive session" the jockeying and trading begin. The chances are that some group of agents has pooled issues and agreed secretly upon a division of the list between houses that are in the combine. If in a board of seven the combine can control four votes, the deal is sure. It is customary at the outset for the members to resolve for appearance sake that all adoptions shall be unanimous. This enables the "combine" to conceal from the public their votes, and the four who are combined have the votes of the three outsiders in their pockets. It also enables the four who constitute the "combine" to divide among themselves any incidental income or advantage which may arise from their success in carrying through the scheme agreed upon.

Books adopted by a state board very seldom retain their sales by a second adoption. They are not the best books in the market and four or five years of experience of their use in the school room demonstrates this fact. Every adoption, therefore, brings a change in nearly every book in use. The people are forced to buy every four or five years an entirely new lot of books for each child, and property which has cost the people of the state a large amount of money is rendered valueless since these books can no longer be used.

State monopoly is no better than any other kind of monopoly. Free and constant competition in the open market and a close relation between buyer and seller is the most economical method of supply for any article—and school books are no exception.

System Broke Down.
A law was passed in 1870 in the state of California providing for uniform books throughout that state. Three adoptions were made under this law; but a new constitution was then enacted and under this, through the influence of "sand lot" oratory, the state itself undertook the manufacture of schoolbooks which were to be sold at "cost of manufacture" to the people and used uniformly in all the schools. The books were written by the citizens of the state and, notwithstanding the promise of cheapness, were sold at rates fully as high

as the prices of standard books. The state bore all the expenses of manufacture and the people paid for books so inferior to those in the market that the entire system broke down.

Michigan passed a law establishing state uniformity in 1897, but the feeling of the people against it was so strong that the act was repealed before an adoption of books took place.

Indiana passed a state uniformity law in 1889 in which maximum prices were fixed on each book and the several books were to be equal in size and quality to standard books named in the law and then in general use throughout the state. At the first bidding the Indiana School Book Company was practically the only bidder and the books supplied by that company were largely obtained from the contractor for the state of Minnesota. The readers secured were originally published for contract purposes in California. At later biddings the regular school book houses have competed either with special editions of standard books or with books made especially for that state. It is well known that the fixed maximum price has excluded from the state some of the best and most popular books in publication and changes have been so frequent and sweeping as to become burdensome to the people. The legislature therefore provided in 1905 that all books except history, copy books and geographies, shall be adopted for a period of 10 years.

Rejected By Missouri.

The state of Missouri passed a law establishing state uniformity in 1891. In 1905 an act was passed repealing the law which had created a school book commission. County boards of education are again the authorities to select books for their schools.

In 1897 Kansas passed a uniform law resembling the law of Indiana in naming a maximum price for each book. Nearly all the books have been changed at each adoption, thus forcing an entire purchase of books each five years, and these changes have made the cost of school books much more than the cost of the best books in the open market.

In 1904 Kentucky passed a law for contracting for uniform text books. This law, which is like the laws in Indiana and Kansas with respect to fixing maximum price at which books must be sold, differs radically from the laws in those states as to the method of their selection. The boards of education in each county of the state express their choice of books to be used throughout the state. These ballots are canvassed and tabulated by the state superintendent in an official capacity, and the books having the greatest number of votes are contracted for.

It is notorious that at state adoptions the character and quality are only talked about for show. The publishers' agents are present in person and by attorneys and each agent is allowed to present the claims of his series. Each claims as much as he can. Each one claims to have the best, and by the time a score of speeches have been made of about the same kind, the board has the impression that all the books are alike and of equal value.

Book Houses Combine.

The public and the agents are then shut out and in "executive session" the jockeying and trading begin. The chances are that some group of agents has pooled issues and agreed secretly upon a division of the list between houses that are in the combine. If in a board of seven the combine can control four votes, the deal is sure. It is customary at the outset for the members to resolve for appearance sake that all adoptions shall be unanimous. This enables the "combine" to conceal from the public their votes, and the four who are combined have the votes of the three outsiders in their pockets. It also enables the four who constitute the "combine" to divide among themselves any incidental income or advantage which may arise from their success in carrying through the scheme agreed upon.

HERE ARE A FEW SAMPLE PROPERTIES WE ARE NOW OFFERING FOR SALE

We have a large number of others on the market, and may have just what you are wanting. If you are interested in the purchase or sale of business rooms or residence, town or city property or farf lands in Indiana, Texas and New Mexico. Examine our recent large descriptive lists of these properties. If you wish a buyer for your property, see what we may be able to do for you. No charge for advertising property if left on the market for the time listed.

A Cyclone Of Ambition.

(Copyright, 1908, by American Press Association.)

If any one had told Thompson Thomas six months before the general election of 19— that he would be a candidate for office he would have laughed him to scorn. Thomas was the most unassuming man in the world. Small, bald, nearsighted, with a soft voice and extreme gentleness of manner, he was especially unfit for participation in an exciting campaign.

One day a widow, impecunious and ambitious, bearing of Mr. Thompson and his income, made up her mind to marry him. There are various ways of appropriating a man. The widow chose that of carrying him by storm. When the storm was over Mr. Thomas was a married man.

The wedding occurred five months and two weeks before the election. At the end of a week's honeymoon Mr. Thomas took up his paper one morning and read:

There is a movement on foot to place Thomp Thomas, a gun shoe politician of the Seventh ward, in nomination for mayor. We hope it will not succeed. We consider him a poor business man for the position, not a drone.

Mr. Thomas was astounded. Calling his wife, he showed her the item. "Well," she said, "I know I've married a drone, but I don't intend that my husband shall remain a drone. I have some ambition. I and you are one. We will work together. I am arranging for your candidacy myself."

"But, my dear—"

"I have the promise of the boss that you shall have the nomination. All that is required is your check for \$5,000 for election expenses—"

"Five thousand dollars!"

"Which will be well spent. You have never taken any stand in the town whatever, but the mayoralty will!"

Mr. Thomas groaned. Then he showed a bit of fight—the only fight he had ever shown in his life—but Mrs. Thomas so out-Herod Herod in a war of words that her husband was cowed. He did not consent to the movement his wife had inaugurated any more than a man consents to be drowned; he was simply submerged.

The \$5,000 was handed in to the boss, who after depositing the lion's share to the credit of the "organization" began paying out the rest to the heelers. Thompson Thomas received the nomi-

nation. Judson Taddeben was put up by the opposition boss, and the people became greatly interested in what they considered their franchise as American citizens. The morning after the nomination Mr. Thomas was surprised to read in a journal—the mouthpiece of the party he represented—an interview with himself. He was not aware of having been interviewed and spoke of his astonishment to his wife. She informed him that it was a "faked" interview for political purposes. Among other things that had been put into his mouth, was this:

"Mr. Thomas, what are your views concerning the trusts?"
 "I consider them unholy alliances to grind the faces of the poor."

"And how do you stand on the labor question?"
 "I look upon the laborer as a man and a brother. If elected, I shall do all in my power to advance his interests at the expense of his employers."

"No pothouse politician wrote it my dear. I was informed that your views would be required, and I put that in myself. You must stand well with the laborer or you will be defeated."

"I look upon the laborer as a man and a brother. If elected, I shall do all in my power to advance his interests at the expense of his employers."

"Mr. Thomas was indignant. "What pothouse politician put that in my mouth?" he said to his wife. "I would be an idiot to advance the laborer's interest at the expense of his employer." Where would the laborer be if his employer were degraded?"

"He made an awed gesture.

"And here I find rats in our cold storage rooms at temperatures that freeze the breath and cause it to fall in the form of snow. To and fro they prowl. Their coats are thick and warm like fur, and, with frost on their whiskers, they feed heartily on meat and game frozen to rocklike hardness."

As soon as Thomas could pull himself together he went to the newspaper office and demanded to see the man who wrote the article. "You mustn't mind a little thing like that, Mr. Thomas," said the scribbler, smiling. "They say all's fair in love and war. They forgot to put in 'politics'." "But I'll have the law of you." "Oh, we haven't mentioned you. Good day, Mr. Thomas. Hope you'll meet with success."

The morning of the 4th of November came at last. The president was elected with an eclat that diverted attention from the minor offices. Mr. Thomas, with principally wire; the soil is largely black land, and properly cultivated will produce good returns of any crops grown upon it. If taken soon, this farm can be bought for \$85.00 an acre.

728—is a well improved five acre tract on the stoned road within one-half mile of Decatur; is well fenced and in good location; has ample buildings for a poultry farm or trucking garden; has a dug well, a drove well and force pump, small stable, new chicken house and park, and a good story and a half side room residence in good condition. This is a good piece of ground and if sold soon can be bought for \$1,450.

730—is a nice square forty acre tract of land on the stoned road near Decatur; is largely black land no open ditches and about 1000 rods of tiling; is on the public road a quarter of a mile from the north and south stoned road; is well fenced and has good buildings; the barn alone is new and at low price and on easy terms. For price, terms, location, etc., apply to Superintendant of Land Companys, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

727—is one of the best 80 acre tracts of land in Monroe township; is fully 1/4 black land no open ditches and about 1000 rods of tiling; is on the public road a quarter of a mile from the north and south stoned road; is well fenced and has good buildings; the barn alone is new and at low price and on easy terms. For price, terms, location, etc., apply to Superintendant of Land Companys, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

728—is a 212 acre tract on the stoned road near Decatur. On this farm is an extensive gravel pit that yields a handsome income annually. The land is largely black and yellow sand soil, easy to cultivate and brings splendid crops. This land has good outlet for drainage, wire and rail fences, good orchard, and ordinary frame buildings; is on the gravel road.

729—is a 1/2 acre tract on the stoned road within one-half mile of Decatur; is a good average quality of land, of which 25 or 30 acres is a black and yellow sand mixture; has good cottage house with brick cellar about 14 by 16 feet in size; horse and hay barn, cribs, wagon shed, etc., apple orchard, and some other trees; can be bought for \$55 an acre.

730—is a good 81 acre tract on the gravel road within about three miles of Decatur; is well fenced, has good average buildings, which consist of a comfortable cottage house, summer kitchen, woodhouse, milk house with cement floor, drove well, sheep and hog houses, cribs and wagon shed, etc., and is in good condition. The land is a good piece of ground and if sold soon can be bought for \$72 an acre.

664—is a desirable 117 1/2 acre tract on the gravel road near Decatur. This land has running stock water throughout the year; is well fenced and tiled, has ten acres of good young timber; is a good quality of soil, sand loam, clay and black land, all a productive quality. The buildings are worth at least \$3,000 and consist of a large bank on stone foundation, a good seven room dwelling house, on stone foundation, with large good cellar; stock scales, cribs, granary, etc. If sold soon this farm can be bought for \$100 an acre.

731—is a 61/2 acre tract on the stoned road within a mile and a half of Decatur; is a good average quality of land, of which 25 or 30 acres is a black and yellow sand mixture; has good cottage house with brick cellar about 14 by 16 feet in size; horse and hay barn, cribs, wagon shed, etc., apple orchard, and some other trees; can be bought for \$55 an acre.

732—is a 1/2 acre tract on the stoned road within about three miles of Decatur; is a good average quality of land, of which 25 or 30 acres is a black and yellow sand mixture; has good cottage house with brick cellar about 14 by 16 feet in size; horse and hay barn, cribs, wagon shed, etc., apple orchard, and some other trees; can be bought for \$55 an acre.

733—is a 21/2 acre tract on the stoned road within about three miles of Decatur; is a good average quality of land, of which 25 or 30 acres is a black and yellow sand mixture; has good cottage house with brick cellar about 14 by 16 feet in size; horse and hay barn, cribs, wagon shed, etc., apple orchard, and some other trees; can be bought for \$55 an acre.