

## A CIVIC LEAGUE

Decatur Has New Organization—Definite Action Was Taken at

### SUNDAY'S MEETING

Movement Backed by All Churches—More Than \$1,000 Pledged.

Several meetings have been held recently in various churches of the city the purpose of which has been to render all possible aid to the officers whose duty is to enforce the laws. At such a meeting held in the Baptist church at 2:30 Sunday the "Civic League of Decatur" was organized by the election of the following officers:

President—Adam J. Smith.

Vice Presidents—C. J. Lutz and U. S. Cress.

Secretary—Rev. Charles E. Ehle.

Treasurer—Mathias Kirsch.

Additional members of the Executive Committee are: John Niblick, C. E. Baughman, G. T. Burk.

The following declaration of principle was unanimously adopted as the basis of organization. It will bear careful study:

"Frequent and repeated violations of the law in respect to one law engenders and develops disrespect for all laws; and in view of the numerous and open violations of the liquor laws of our state, we hereby unite ourselves together to aid and assist the legally constituted authorities to enforce the law efficiently and effectively."

More than 100 citizens had signed the foregoing declaration before 10 o'clock this morning. The membership of the Civic League already includes the pastors of each of these churches: German Reformed, United Brethren, Presbyterian, M. E., St. Mary's, Lutheran, Christian, Evangelical, and Baptist, as well as lay members from most, if not all, of them. While this is neither a political nor a religious movement it aims to include in its ranks all parties and all churches. The aim is to secure the highest possible type of good citizen.

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## SPLENDID MEETING

The County Board of Education Held a Meeting This Morning.

### THE SCHOOL WORK

Course in Agriculture Added to Eighth Grade and First Year High School.

A special meeting of the county board of education was held this morning at the office of County Superintendent Opliger. It was decided to add a course in agriculture to the work of the eighth grade and the first year high school, and Uphan's introduction in agriculture was adopted for the eighth grade, and Wilkinson's practical agriculture for the high school. This will complete one and a half year's work in agriculture and will prove a valuable addition to the course of study as now outlined for the use of the schools of the county. Nelson's Grammar School Reading was also adopted for the eighth grade. The state board of education has adopted a list of nine classics and these classics are embodied in the Nelson grammar school reading. It includes biographies of authors, outlines for recitation, and suggestive helps for study, and many other excellent selections suitable for eighth grade reading. Educational questions pertaining to the coming school year were discussed in an informal way, and the meeting was a successful one. The trustees present were J. A. Fleming, C. E. Magley, Daniel Huffman, David Steele, Samuel Butler, O. J. Suman, Frank Weeter, C. C. Beer, John Moser, W. L. Thornhill and J. T. Kelley.

## CHINCH BUG IN THE CORN.

Charles Bell of Craigville Wants Remedy Against Corn Destroyer.

Charles Bell of Craigville, who was in the city on business today, reports that the chinch bug has started in the corn fields in the vicinity of Craigville. They suck the sap out of the corn and by this method succeed in killing the stalk. Mr. Bell has about seventy-five acres of corn out on his two farms near Craigville and the bugs are on both farms. The bug is very dangerous and it is well scattered at Craigville, but has not been reported from any other part of the county. The corn in Wells county is looking good but if the bug gets in its work it may destroy the crop. Mr. Bell or any other citizen of Craigville would like to find out a remedy for the crop destroyer and any one knowing a good remedy will please notify Mr. Bell or some one at Craigville. Bluffton Banner.

## THE CLOSING DAYS

The Geneva Chautauqua Ended in All Its Glory Yesterday.

### TO HAVE ANOTHER

Four Hundred Season Tickets Pledged For the Season of 1911.

Geneva, Ind., July 25—(Special to Daily Democrat)—The closing days of the chautauqua in Geneva were well patronized and everybody is up in arms for a chautauqua in 1911. Friday evening the people were well pleased with the lecture given by Dr. Charles W. Blodgett in "The Handshake of Grant and Lee." Mr. Blodgett spoke along the line of what this country was before the rebellion, and what it is now, and that it was the handshake of Grant and Lee that made it possible. In the close of his lecture he paid a tribute to both Grant and Lee, and said on the grave of Lee he would place a red rose, and on the stone that marks the last resting place of General Grant he would inscribe "The greatest warrior and soldier of any age." His lecture was forceful in thought, humorous, interesting and highly instructive. Saturday at 3 p. m. we were entertained by the Hattie Rood Grace Concert company, composed of three members, a mother and twin daughters. The selections given in reading and song were well received. In the evening at 8 p. m. we were entertained by L. W. Ford, who for many years was the cartoonist for the Syracuse Herald, Syracuse, New York. He is an artist of recognized ability, a rapid-fire talker and a rapid worker, who kept his large audience attentively watching and listening to his ready wit and wholesome humor, while sketching in rapid succession pictures which rivet the attention, please the eye and point a moral. Mr. Ford drew the largest audience of the chautauqua. Sunday at 3 p. m. the audience was favored with a sermon by Dr. A. W. Lamar of Tennessee, who some say is the successor of Sam Jones. The doctor took for a basis of his remarks, "Zacchaeus in the Sycamore," and to say the least he informed us very plainly that this old world of ours is still maintaining such characters. It was Dr. Lamar that started Sam Jones on his great career, and he is a most pleasant gentleman to meet. Sunday evening we were entertained again by the Hattie Rood Grace Concert company in a sacred concert and thus closed the first and only chautauqua ever held in Geneva, but it will not be the last one, as at the close of the entertainment Sunday evening four hundred season tickets at one dollar and fifty cents each were signed up and pledged by the business men of Geneva for a chautauqua in Geneva in July, 1911, but it is estimated that before that time arrives an even one thousand will be sold.

The German Reformed Sunday school picnic will be held Wednesday at Maple Grove park.

## IN HIGH SOCIETY

Bluffton Enjoying the Notoriety of an Elopement Sensation.

### BOTH ARE MARRIED

Mrs. Alice Kiger and Dr. W. N. Fowler Gone. Leaving No Address.

The most profound sensation that has stirred Bluffton in years has been the chief subject of conversation everywhere during the past two days, since it became known Thursday evening that Mrs. Alice Kiger, wife of Col. W. L. Kiger, had departed from Bluffton with the stated purpose of abandoning her home in this city for good and the added fact that the departure was coincident with the departure on the previous evening of Dr. W. N. Fowler and the current report that the two have plans to meet at some time in the future and the expectation of Mrs. Kiger in leaving one of the best homes in Bluffton was to link her future destiny to that of the doctor.

That Mrs. Kiger deliberately planned to leave her home and husband is a fact that is assured from her own statements to that effect to very intimate friends. Mrs. Marcellus Alexander and Mrs. W. T. Junkin were both called to her home and received the positive assurance from Mrs. Kiger herself that she intended to leave her home here. They tried in vain to persuade her to abandon her purpose. It is said further that Mrs. Kiger admitted infatuation for Dr. Fowler and that she had hopes of divorce that would permit them to live together legally. But she knew of no charge that she could make against her husband and she knew that he would not seek a divorce even if she did go away. For Dr. Fowler, a man aged forty-two, there has been nothing but condemnation. He has been mixed up in other similar affairs in Bluffton and is credited with having broken up more homes in Bluffton, and it probably would not be healthy for him to return to this city.—Bluffton News.

## CHICKEN THIEVES

Hugh Daniels and Clint Death Were Arrested Sunday Morning.

### AN ORGANIZED GANG

Four or Five Hundred Chickens Been Stolen During the Summer.

An organized band of chicken thieves are about on their last legs. Two of the gang are under arrest, and it is expected that more of them will be paying their respects to the law before the matter is entirely closed. Sheriff Meyer and Deputy Ed Green went to Bobo Sunday morning and arrested Hugh Daniels and Clint Death, the case against both of them being pretty clear. Many of the stolen chickens were sold to Mr. Steller at Willsboro and others to Moser & Co. at Wren. The affidavit upon which these two were arrested was sworn to by Adam Gephart, living just this side of the state line. Death is nineteen and Daniels twenty-four, the latter being married. They were arrested at their homes in Bobo, and it is said that there are several others shivering, even in this hot weather. It is estimated that from four to five hundred chickens have been stolen in this neighborhood during this summer, and the officers have been looking for some definite evidence for a long time. They now seem to have it and they will push the matter to the limit. Daniels gave bond, his father and father-in-law coming to his rescue and thus saving him from spending his time in jail. His partner, Death, also furnished bond. A preliminary hearing will be given both of them on Wednesday morning.

## PICNIC AT ROBINSON PARK.

Will be Enjoyed by Christian Sunday School Next Month.

The Christian Sunday school is planning to give a picnic at Robinson park, Fort Wayne, during August, the date not having been fully determined. The Sunday school has increased more than three-fold in membership since the Rev. J. M. Dawson, the new pastor, has been here, and everything is most encouraging for a further increase. The men's class is coming rapidly to the front and will soon be one of the strongest in the city. The picnic this year will doubtless be one of the best ever enjoyed by the school and plans are being made on a large scale to make the day such.

## POINT OF DEATH

William Foreman Receives Message of Severe Illness of His Brother.

### LEFT THIS MORNING

Is Believed to be Suffering With Brain Trouble—Well Known Here.

William Foreman left this morning over the Clover Leaf for Marion, Ind., where he was called on account of the severe illness of his brother, "Doc" Foreman. The message was short and did not state the nature of the illness, only that he should come at once. Just the fourth of this month he was visiting at Van Buren with his brother, but at that time had shown no signs of approaching sickness. On returning to his home he became ill, took to his bed and has not been able to get up since. It is thought his sickness is some sort of brain trouble, as he has been troubled in this way on former occasions, and has been unconscious for several days. Mr. Foreman left at once to be at his bedside. He is well known here by many people, who wish for him a speedy recovery.

The sick man, Chauncey Foreman, better known as "Doc," lives at Van Buren, where he is employed in a machine shop, but when he became sick was taken to the hospital at Marion, where he now is. He had been doing quite well in Van Buren, where he had gone after leaving here about six years ago, now owning his own home and doing quite well financially. He was married to Miss Blanch Johnson, and they have three children, two girls and a boy.

### SOME AMUSING EXPERIENCES

Of Adams County Ladies in the State of Michigan.

George Flanders, who has returned from a week's visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Flanders, at Sanford, Mich., reports a very enjoyable time. He met several people from Allen county who have located there and like the country very much. Among them were Phil and Will Fuhrman and families. He reports an amusing incident that occurred to the ladies and children on the day he arrived there, which he told them he would tell to their friends here, much to their chagrin. They had driven out to get huckleberries, and in the course of the trip were obliged to ford a river. Mrs. Will Fuhrman was afraid to drive across with the children, and so went in a boat. The Misses Addie and Vera Fuhrman, daughters of Phil Fuhrman, attempted the drive across, and when half the distance, turned around and drove back, when if they would have continued the water would have been more shallow and less dangerous than the turn in the middle of the stream. They then thought they would row across in the boat, and when nearly across the boat rocked and they again became frightened and jumped into the river, into water that came very nearly up to their necks. The boat floated away and they would have been in a dire predicament had not the woman who lives on the Flanders farm happened along just then and got their boat and helped them out.

The Misses Louise Hobrock and Letta Lang of the Boston store have gone to Chicago, where they will enjoy a vacation of a week or ten days.

## SLATES ARE MADE

A Standpat Platform is the Program With the Ohio Republicans.

### BOSS COX THERE

The Gubernatorial Race is Still Unsettled—Four Candidates.

(United Press Service.) Columbus, Ohio, July 25—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Nearly all the leaders of the Ohio G. O. P. are here and the political slates are being made with great rapidity and as rapidly broken. In the gubernatorial race a combination is being made against Garfield, the insurgent candidate, and the story goes that the friends of Garfield have agreed to support a standpat platform, endorse the administration of President Taft and make no fight in the convention against the program, providing that the standpatters will stand by Garfield for the gubernatorial nomination. It is said that this feature of the convention is now being considered by Boss Cox and several others who are doing things at the convention. The balance of power in the convention lies with the uninstructed delegates and it is thought that their strength is sufficient to make a majority. The candidates for governor are James R. Garfield, Judge Brown, Warren G. Harding and Carmi Thompson.

### (United Press Service.)

St. Louis, Mo., July 25—(Special to Daily Democrat)—One killed and fifty injured is the result of a head-on collision on an interurban line here today. When they came together the cars were running at the rate of thirteen miles an hour. John Hoffman is dead, and besides the fifty injured the cars were completely demolished.

Miss Celia Gillig, who has been visiting relatives at Pittsburg for several weeks, has had a most enjoyable visit. She will leave tomorrow for Tiffin, Ohio, to join a friend and expects to return home this week.

## THE ERWIN REUNION

A Good Time Enjoyed by Fifty or More Members of This Family.

### NEAR FORT WAYNE

Held at the Home of Richard Kenney Erwin West of Fort Wayne.

The Erwin family reunion, an annual event in the lives of the many Erwins hereabouts, was held Sunday at the home of Richard Kenney Erwin, uncle of "our Dick," and who lives west of Fort Wayne. The Erwin homestead, where the event of Sunday was held, is one of the old country homes, and where this family has lived for fifty years or more. He is an uncle of the Adams county Erwins, seventy-eight years old, and if he lives until next year he will celebrate the golden wedding with his second wife, an event happening to but few people. Dore B. Erwin and family and D. N. Erwin and family of this city were in attendance, as was also R. K. Erwin and family of Fort Wayne. About fifty in all were present and enjoyed the day at the home of this hospitable family. The Decatur Erwins have returned home and they pronounced the meeting Sunday the best of the many previously held by them. Early history of this and Allen counties was the principal theme of the day, and it was entertaining to all the younger members of this family, who are now scattered over all portions of this great country.

Miss Pauline Cole of Garrett, Ind., is in the city the guest of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Brokaw and family.

## ADAM AND EVE SET EXAMPLE.

Rev. L. G. Morrill, pastor of a Minneapolis church, in a recent sermon, in answer to a public appeal made by the city authorities to stop "spooning in the parks," said:

"Adam and Eve were placed in Eden to spoon, and their children have been at it ever since. Mingling winds, nodding flowers, hills that kiss the skies, creeks that mingle with rivers, and waters that clash each other, are but a commentary on Solomon's words that 'two are better than one.'"

"The rich have palatial parlors or private parks in which to make love, or they go to ocean or mountain by auto, train and ship, where they plan marriages that often end in divorce and death."

The poor walk or go on street cars to parks and lakes, where they read books of nature, and learn lessons of repose, cheer, humility, economy and beneficence, then meet and mate and make happy marriage and home. Love-making, which is proper in the home or parlor, is just as proper in a public park. What is wrong is wrong everywhere, in public or in private."

## NOT A CANDIDATE

Judge Joseph G. Leffler Refuses to be the Congressional Sacrifice.

### HOPES DESTROYED

Regarded as Logical Candidate and Only Republican With a Chance.

Muncie, Ind., July 25—According to word received here from Judge Joseph G. Leffler of the circuit court, who is spending his vacation at Lake Webster, he has come to a positive decision not to be a candidate for the republican nomination of congressman from the Eighth district and will not accept the nomination if tendered him. This decision of Judge Leffler, politicians say, destroys the chief republican hope of victory, as Judge Leffler was regarded as the logical candidate and possibly the only republican who stood a chance against Congressman John A. M. Adair. Judge Leffler had been promised the undivided support of former Congressman George Cromer and the latter's district political organization and at least one of the two avowed aspirants for the nomination, I. P. Watts, of Winchester, had declared that if Judge Leffler would be a candidate for the nomination Watts would not allow his own name to be presented. It was generally conceded that Judge Leffler would receive the nomination, if he asked it. New names were sprung today when the news of Judge Leffler's decision leaked out. Among them are the names of former State Senator Walter L. Ball, Judge Leffler's former law partner, and Rollin W. Warner, a local attorney, who has been prominent in civic and political life here for many years, and who was formerly city attorney. It is not known that either of these men will consent to be a candidate, however. As it stands, there are only two republicans in the district who are avowedly for the nomination. One of these is Albert Vestal of Anderson, the young attorney, who two years ago at the district convention held his home county delegation solidly for him throughout the nearly 800 ballots before Nathan Hawkin was finally named. Another candidate is the Rev. I. P. Watts of Winchester. Frank Snyder of Portland would not be averse to accepting the nomination, it is said, but is not an avowed candidate.

### PASSED BAD NIGHT.

William Sellemeyer of Magley was in the city this morning. He stated that his mother, Mrs. Christen Sellemeyer, aged ninety-two years, who fell last week and suffered what was thought to be a dislocation of the hip, passed a very restless night. It is thought now that the hip was not dislocated, only badly bruised, which, added to rheumatism, with which she has been suffering, and in the infirmities of her many years, makes her case a very bad one. She was resting somewhat better today.

## LAST LONG JOURNEY

Remains of Leyton Potter Taken to Carmichael, Pa., For Burial.

### BY HIS SWEETHEART

Grandmother and Father of Deceased Both Give Consent to Disposal.

Accompanied by the betrothed, Miss Martha Armstrong, and her aunt, Mrs. Lincoln, of Carmichael, Pa., and A. F. Donaldson, of Medina, Ohio, an intimate friend of the deceased, the remains of Leyton Potter, the Oberlin music professor, who committed suicide here last Tuesday afternoon, left at 5:15 o'clock Saturday over the G. R. & I. for Fort Wayne, thence by way of the Pennsylvania railroad for Carmichael, Pa., the home of Miss Armstrong, where they expected to arrive Sunday noon, where the body will be laid to rest. Thus ends a life romance and tragedy, which for depth of sadness has never been equalled in this city.

It had been the intention to leave on the 4 o'clock train Saturday over the Erie, should the message of consent for the removal of the body to Carmichael come in time Saturday afternoon from the grandmother, Mrs. M. Z. Hudson, at Lansing, Mich., but this did not come until train time—4 o'clock—and there was then barely time to make the connection with the G. R. & I. and Pennsylvania, the best accommodation. The message from the grandmother was as expected: "If you cannot bring him here, take him to Carmichael." As the grandmother had already signified her willingness to Miss Armstrong that she should have the consolation of burial of the body, there was very little doubt as to what her message would be, but the formal consent was desired by Coroner Grandstaff for his protection in case of controversy, the grandmother being after the father, H. W. Potter, the next of kin to the deceased, and the one to decide as to the disposal. It was not until after the body had been turned over to

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## DECATUR SPEAKERS

On Program at Big Picnic to be Given Along New B. & C. Traction Line.

### ON AUGUST SEVENTH

Attorneys J. C. Moran and D. E. Smith Scheduled For Speeches.

At the same time that Nelson Bricker was in the city arranging for the old settlers' reunion to be held August 21st in the Long grove north of Geneva, he also made arrangements for the securing of speakers for a picnic to be given August 7th, west of Linn Grove. This will be in a pleasant grove along the new B. & C. traction line and can be easily reached from various points connecting therewith. While here he made arrangements for the securing of Attorneys John C. Moran and D. E. Smith to speak on that date, and the two gentlemen, who are quite noted orators, and are in demand on all such big occasions, will doubtless accept. There will also be the cream of speakers from Bluffton orders and other cities of this district and the day will be a great one in all respects.

### MARSHAL KILLED DOGS.

Marshal Peterson employed part of his time this morning in shooting two dogs belonging to the Counts and Breiner families of the east part of the city. The dogs, it is said, had been chasing cattle and otherwise cutting up capers much to the detriment of mankind and beast, and it was thought best to get them out of the way.