

DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT.

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Price, Two Cents

A JASPER GIRL WINS

In State Spelling Contest--
Adams County Contestants Made

A GOOD SHOWING

Marion Michaels Was Twenty-sixth to go Down--
Best in District.

After a three hours' contest, Miss Ardella Rose Salb of Jasper, representing the Third congressional district of Indiana, was declared the champion speller of the graded schools of the state, Thursday over thirty-seven other contestants selected from the best spellers of all the grades of the state. Naomi Frank of Greenfield was second and Levin Litzenberger of Middletown was third.

The Adams county delegation which had two contestants from the three of the eighth district entered in the contest, returned home this morning, and while not gaining the highest honors, Professor L. E. Opliger, county superintendent of the Adams county schools, stated that he was well pleased with the way his contestants acquitted themselves. Marion Michaels of Monroe township, this county, who was the champion speller of this county, as well as one of the three from the eighth district, was the twenty-sixth to go down in defeat at the state contest, there being only twelve of the thirty-eight contestants left standing when he went down. The word on which he met defeat was "ogre." This word is spelled both "ogre" and "oger," but the former way is recognized as preferable and was so spelled in the list from which the words for the contest were given out, therefore his spelling it as "oger" was not recognized as correct. Miss Catherine Waid of Union City, another eighth district contestant, was the twenty-third one to miss, and Miss Clara Gilbert also of Monroe township, this county, was the third to go down, so that Marion Michaels, the Adams county boy, has the honor of being the best speller from the eighth district, being the last one to miss. The word missed by Miss Gilbert was "illum," a proper name, taken from an extract from Homer, and one not listed in the regular spelling list.

Adams county people in general will agree with Professor Opliger that our contestants made a good showing and everybody here is mighty proud of them. Those from Adams county who attended returned this morning, Professor Opliger going to Linn Grove to join his family in a visit there with relatives.

Miss Salb, the winner, is fourteen years of age, and an eighth grade pupil.

As a final test, after all her opponents had been forced to their seats, Miss Salb spelled "falsetto" correctly and was awarded a gold medal and a dictionary by John I. Huffman, deputy state superintendent of public instruction.

"Hereditary" was the stumbling block of Miss Frank and "recurrence" proved the undoing of young Litzenberger.

The Indianapolis Star gives the following account in detail of the state spelling match:

"For more than three hours, from 2:30 to 5:30 o'clock, the thirty-eight children, ranging in age from ten to 15 years, and representing Indiana's school children in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades, held an audience which packed the house chamber, while they battled for the spelling honors of the state. Approximately 5,000 words were pronounced by Miss Anna Brochhausen of the Indianapolis public schools and J. Walter Dunn, state manager of the Indiana Reading Circle, who gave out the words, before the long line of 'best spellers' dwindled to the three last children.

Miss Georgia Alexander of the Indianapolis public schools was referee of the match and Lee L. Driver of Winchester, superintendent of public schools of Randolph county, served as bookkeeper. The Alexander spelling book of which the referee of the contest is the author, was used to start the fray, but a long list of words

misspelled throughout the state in the district word battles, the winners of which contested Thursday, was used and then the pronouncers had to turn to several fifth readers before they could find words hard enough to thin the line.

"Few misunderstandings marred the contest, though in several cases parents and teachers of the children who missed a word questioned technicalities in its pronunciation or definition. In all these cases the matter was cleared by the decision of Miss Alexander to the satisfaction of the parties concerned.

"Such words as 'prerogative,' antecedent,' 'sovereignty,' 'felicitous,' 'avardupois,' 'fatiguing,' 'dilect,' 'Israelites,' 'Achilles,' and 'radil,' came glibly from the tongues of the children, with scarcely a falter, and the audience applauded vigorously when the child succeeded in spelling an unusually hard word.

"Jennings Gordon of Napanee was the first speller to miss a word. He spelled the word 'traveler,' and put an additional 'l' in, which is permissible in practically all dictionaries, but which is barred by the Alexander speller. This first break in the long row of children came after twenty minutes of successful spelling.

"Bertha Howard of Bridgeport was the next to go down. She faltered on 'predictpous' seven minutes after Gordon had been spelled down, and was

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SCHOOLS CLOSING

Several County Schools End Term Today--Much Festivity.

ATTY. C. L. WALTERS

Spoke at Election School Taught by Frank Mills--
Other Mention.

The Magley school of which Miss Theresa Baltzell and Miss Anna Fruchte are teachers, closed today with much festivity, the entire day and evening being given over to the same. Besides the events of the day a good program will be given this evening. The school, District No. 1, in Washington township, also closed today. The teachers are Melvin Maloney and Ray Smith.

Among the many schools of the county that closed today was that two miles south of Peterson, known as the Election school, taught by Frank Mills of this city. There was a good, bounteous dinner at noon, in which all the patrons joined, and an excellent program this afternoon. Attorney C. L. Walters of this city was among the speakers, and among others who attended the festivities were Frank's parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. V. Mills of this city.

MILLER'S TRIALS EXPENSIVE.

Auburn, Ind., March 30--It will cost Allen county just \$3,984.54 for the expenses in connection with the trial of Herman Miller, tried in this county, who was accused and found guilty of murdering Marshal Croy of Woodburn, several years ago. Deputy Clerk Denison has been busy ever since the trial trying to get all the items of expense together so that he could make a formal demand upon our sister county for the amount. In compiling the figures it was found that \$987.90 of the amount is taxed up as costs for the jury and this added to the expenses of boarding and rooming these gentlemen brings the total up to \$1,525.25 for jury items alone.

At this was the fourth of the trials incident to the murder of Marshal Croy, it can thus be estimated what a great expense to which the county of Allen has been put in order to prosecute the guilty parties.

A COMMUNICATION

Mr. Editor:--
This morning's mail brought me a letter, signed, "A Business Man." Permit me through the columns of your paper to say that unless the writer reveals his identity to me the "important information" he conveys will be consigned to the waste basket. Facts, if they be facts, are useless unless the proof is at hand.
Respectfully,
CHAS. E. EHLE.

WONT LET HIM GO

Adams Express Co. Wishes to Retain Services of W. J. Archbold.

AS LOCAL AGENT

Representative Was in City, Squaring Affairs, and Finds Them O. K.

W. J. Archbold, who for the past seventeen years has acted in the capacity of local agent for the Adams Express company, and also caring for the city's business for a number of years, and who on account of a business deal which he made several weeks ago, whereby he becomes a partner in the firm of True & Runyon, and who some time since sent in his resignation to the express company's headquarters at Grand Rapids, Mich., to take effect Saturday, April 1st, has not yet been relieved of his duties with the company.

A. D. Harrison, route agent, with headquarters at Grand Rapids, was in the city Thursday all day, talking the matter over with Mr. Archbold, trying to compromise in some way, so that the company can retain his services as local agent. They know the value of him who has served them so faithfully for this period of time, and do not care for a change to take place, and have not as yet accepted his resignation. He went over all the business accounts up until yesterday, and found them clean and giving perfect satisfaction from one end to the other. No conclusion was reached on Thursday and the matter still remains to be closed.

Mr. Archbold wishes to resign that he may better devote his attention to the new profession which he will take up in a short time, and with the express business, he feels that he could not put in the proper time for all that he wishes to do. Just when satisfactory arrangements can be drawn up to suit both parties remains to be done, but it is thought a decision will be reached in a day or two.

THEY CELEBRATE

Ben Hurs Plan Happy Evening in Honor of Eleventh Anniversary.

A GOOD PROGRAM

Is in Order--Decatur Lodge Has a Happy Existence.

The Decatur order of Ben Hur is just eleven years old today. The years of its life in this city have been many and pleasant ones, abundant in happiness and prosperity and the order deems a glorious celebration appropriate for its natal day. This celebration has been arranged for this evening and all members are expected to be present tonight and join in the festivities. There will be a good order of amusements of all kinds, refreshments and the following program rendered:

Song--Audience.
Talk on the Anniversary--Mrs. Mary Dailey.
Instrumental Solo--Mrs. Nora Butler.

Talk--U. S. Cress.
Reading--Mrs. Morris Hay.
Instrumental Music--Marie Daniels.
Reading--Mrs. John Burke.
Reading--Mrs. Florence Bain.
Instrumental Duet--Gayly Nelson and Mrs. Fanny Yoder.
Reading--Miss Cramer.
Reading--Mrs. Earl Butler.
Vocal Solo--Miss Opal Harruff.
Reading--Mrs. Adam Weis.
Instrumental Solo--Miss Ruby Artman.

Madame Shumann-Heink, the famous German contralto, famed the world over, will sing in the Majestic theater, Fort Wayne, next Monday evening and many Decatur music loving people will hear her.

AMOS LIKES OHIO.

Writes Interesting Letter to His Adams County Friends.

Amos Light, a former Adams county man, who recently went to the vicinity of Newton Falls, Ohio, writes the following letter to his many friends here:

Newton Falls, Ohio, Mar. 30, '11.
Decatur Democrat, Decatur, Ind.:
Quite a number of my people and acquaintances wanted me to write them concerning us and our new home, and I will take this method to inform them through your paper, if you will do me the kindness to do so.

We are well pleased with the country, and people. The country lies about the same as our country, and I have done considerable plowing at present. We find the country very healthful and have plenty of good water. The land is one-half cheaper than there and we raise just as good crops, with better markets. You can buy good farms in this section from \$35 to \$80 per acre, with good improvements, and with little tilling is better land than out at our old home.

If any of our old friends and acquaintances desire to change their location, would be glad to have them come and look at farms in the vicinity of Newton Falls, Ohio, and would be glad to have all them come and see us. We are all well and hope this letter will meet you all the same.

Will be glad to answer all letters concerning this country.
Yours truly,
AMOS LIGHT.

DAY FOR JOKERS

April Fools' Day at Hand, So Don't be Too Inquisitive at This Time.

OLD JOKES RETURN

While a Few New Ones Appear and All Are Anxious to Bite.

Saturday--April 1st--is All Fools' day, and as usual the practical jokers will be up and doing early in the morning with all sorts of ruses and ploys to catch the unsuspecting. Many of the stock of jokes in store are old and threadbare, but occasionally some fellow is taken unaware and "bites." Then each year some joke-genius studies up a neat new one which he springs on his friends early in the day and before nightfall it has gone the rounds. Aviation being a new mode of travel is a favorite with the practical joker.

The April fool joke while of olden time origin and repeated each year works differently on different people. Sometimes they pull the cork under and when they see what they have done they join in the merriment. Then there are others. Once in a while the victim resents the inference that he is an easy mark and is ready to "lick" somebody. The old adage "a little nonsense now and then," doesn't appeal to some folks.

If you don't want your name to go down in local history as a slow one, you want to have your wits about you Saturday morning. Don't let any friend take you off to one side and confidentially pour into your ear any fairy tales or send you off on a wild goose chase. But, after exercising due caution and prudence, you should fall a victim, don't let your temper get ruffled. Laugh out loud if you can, and if you can't laugh, smile--EX.

WIDOW RETURNS HERE TO LIVE.

Mrs. Isaac Weaver of Devil's Lake, Michigan, arrived here and is the guest of her sister, Mrs. A. D. Artman, of this city. Mrs. Weaver accompanied her widowed daughter-in-law, Mrs. Ernest Weaver, and babe, to this city, where they will make their home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alva Henderson. Ernest Weaver, who was a former resident of this city, was well known here, living here before he went to Michigan several years ago. His death occurred January 27th from measles. The widow was Miss Nellie Henderson of this city before her marriage.

Leo Yager returned this noon from his regular trip and will remain over Sunday with his sister and brothers.

HAVE AN EXHIBIT

Decatur Public Schools Will Show Penmanship Display at Teachers' Meet

DURING NEXT WEEK

Work of the Students in the Various Grades Prepared in Neat Form.

The Decatur public schools will be boosted at the meeting of the Indiana Teachers' association at Indianapolis next week. Heretofore the larger cities have been making a display of their penmanship, art work, etc., and realizing that the work here is just as high class as in any of the schools of the state, a display of penmanship has been prepared and will be taken to the meeting this year. It is assured that Decatur will this year make a showing that will compare with any of them. For this purpose the penmanship work of all the grades have been arranged in neat book form, with a handsome cover, designed and made by Cecil Cole, a high school student. The cover is finished in scroll design, in the high school colors, with the words "Decatur," at the top of the page and "Penmanship" at the bottom, making it very attractive. The books are numbered as per grade from one to nine, the last being that of the first year high school, with an extra copy showing the special design work. The display includes various kinds of writing, with special exhibits of full arm movement work and is almost wonderful. On each page the age of the student who prepared that sheet is given, but no name, and it would surprise you to look at the wonderful writing of the pupils of all grades, particularly the children of from six to ten years. The entire exhibit is excellent and will show well beside any in the state.

John Sprunger of Berne returned this morning to his home after being in the city yesterday looking after some business affairs.

A CLOSE MARGIN

Union City Voted "Wet" by Just Two Votes--Went "Dry" Before by 178.

REDKEY IS "DRY"

Martinsville, Danville and Brownsburg Join "Wet"

Towns of State.

Indianapolis, Ind., Mar. 31--By a majority of two votes Union City in a local option election Thursday declared for the readmittance of saloons. Two years ago, in the Randolph county option election, Union City went dry by a majority of 178. The returns from the election, which closed a hotly contested campaign, showed the wets had polled 376 votes and the dries 374.

Martinsville, the seat of Morgan county, vote wet under the new city and township option law by 130. The county had been dry under the old county option law. In Hendricks county, Center township, including the town of Danville, and Lincoln township, including the town of Brownsburg, voted wet by majorities of thirty-seven and seventeen, respectively.

The dries were successful in Gill township, Sullivan county, in which is situated the college town of Merom, and in Richland township, Jay county, which includes the town of Redkey. The majorities were 13 and 118 respectively.

ELKS' MEETING.
The regular meeting of the Elks will be held this evening and the usual routine of business will be carried out. A good attendance is desired and all that can should avail themselves of the opportunity to be present.

REGARDING PAYMENT

Of Teachers While Attending Conventions.

Charles A. Greathouse, state superintendent of public instruction, has received many inquiries concerning the power of trustees and school boards to pay teachers for attending teachers' meetings.

"Such payments formerly were not authorized by law," said Mr. Greathouse yesterday. "However, the last legislature passed a law permitting trustees and school boards to adjourn school to enable teachers to attend educational meetings, and to visit model schools under the direction of proper school officials. The number of days which may be paid for in that way is limited to three. This law contained an emergency clause, and is now in force. The law is of peculiar interest at this time for the reason that the Northern Indiana Teachers' association will meet in Indianapolis April 6th, 7th and 8th.

"A number of school officials have written to the state superintendent, to the board of accounts and to the attorney general inquiring whether in paying their teachers for attending such meetings they should be paid out of the tuition fund or the special school fund. After carefully investigating the law it has been decided that such payments may be made from either the tuition fund or the special school fund."

WAS REAL BATTLE

A Thousand Soldiers Lost Their Lives in Battle in Mexican Revolution.

SAYS REPORT TODAY

Town of Sans Rasael Burned to Ashes and Many Women and Children Dead.

(United Press Service.)

El Paso, Tex., March 31--(Special to Daily Democrat)--Considerable anxiety resulted today from the report from Nacales, Sonora, that from 800 to 1,000 men had been killed in a battle which has raged for three days between the federals and insurgents near Sans Rasael, resulting in that town being burned. The report has not been confirmed, but it is given credence. It is said that the insurgents dynamited the hill near the town and the fire resulted. The battle progressed while the town burned and the federals could not leave the battle field to take care of the women and children who suffered from the conflagration. It is also said that many people perished as a result of the terrible fires.

San Antonio, Tex., Mar. 31--(Special to Democrat)--Premature news of the report that the Mexican government had agreed to treat with the insurgents is declared today to be responsible for the delay of the plans and all future movements will be kept secret. The insurgents have been regarded as outlaws by the government and to treat publicly with them would be to give them recognition.

NEW FLOOR
Put in the Fred Mutchler Meat Market on Monroe Street.

The Fred Mutchler meat market on Monroe street made quite a change from Thursday evening until the doors were opened for business this morning. A new floor was placed in the entire room, the carpenters commencing their work shortly after supper so as to have things in readiness for the carrying on of business today.

NOT MANY THERE.

Only a few witnessed the play, "Jim and the Singer," at the opera house Thursday evening, the audience being scarcely large enough for them to carry out their performance. The play was very good and well pleased the few present, and the company was deserving of a much better crowd. The company is first-class, and their playing pleasing, and no excuse can be offered for them not having a good and appreciative audience to show to. They left this morning for Portland, where they have an engagement for this evening.

GOT HIM AT LAST

Manager of Lee Minstrel Show Was Arrested at Fort Wayne.

TAKEN TO HARTFORD

To Answer Board Bill Beating Charge--Officers Notified Here.

The Hartford City papers give the later chapter in the "hard times" story of the Lee Minstrel show which arrived here Tuesday from Hartford City and wanted to give a performance that evening at the Bosse opera house, and were turned down because they had not been advertised. While here the sheriff was telephoned from Hartford City to arrest the manager for beating a board bill, but he let them proceed on their way to Fort Wayne, as he did not have the proper warrant. It seems that at Fort Wayne the manager ran up against the proper warrant and was taken back Wednesday to Hartford City, a paper from that place giving the following:

"Harry L. Lee, ex-rough rider, theatrical manager, and at present a guest of Sheriff Clamme, will make an effort to effect a settlement with the proprietors of the Interurban restaurant, whereby he can pay the board bill, which he is charged with jumping, by the installment plan.

"The time for Lee's trial has not been set. Before Justice Lucas Wednesday Lee entered a plea of not guilty and declared that he wanted a trial. He told his side of the story to the authorities and the latter are not inclined to be hard with the actor. It is thought that an arrangement will be made whereby Managers Herman and Surface of the Interurban hotel will be given some show paraphernalia as security. Lee claims that once he gets out of jail he can easily raise enough money to liquidate the bill, which he is charged with trying to beat. He had already applied \$10 on the account, which originally was \$54. His trial has not been set."

"GINGER" GASS WAS "HOT."

Trouble Grew Out of Hot Bed--The Seed Was Stolen.

Frank Gass, manager of the Fullenkamp store, was a "hot" man Thursday afternoon and he was pretty "gingery" about it, too, all the trouble growing out of his hot-bed, the making of which is an annual event of much importance to him. He had gotten about three dollars' worth of fine seed from a New York firm and had laid the package out near the hot-bed behind the Fullenkamp store while he raked and raked the earth into a fine condition for the reception of the seedlets. Just at a critical point he was called into the store to see a customer and was gone about two minutes. When he returned to the hot-bed his seed was gone. He thought at first he was the victim of a joke, but as the seed has not turned up yet, he is convinced that it was deliberately stolen. What provokes him is the delay occasioned necessarily by ordering more.

HAS SORE EYE.

Clem Voglewede is going about with a very sore eye as a result of a mishap which befell him the other day while performing some work about his home. He was trimming some trees and in some way a branch struck him in the eye, causing it to become very irritable and causing him much inconvenience. He endured the pain for several days and on last Wednesday it began to pain him so much more than before, he having taken cold in the member, redoubling the pain. No serious injury was done to the eye itself, but it is very sore and care will have to be taken to allow it to heal.

WOMEN TO VOTE IN WISCONSIN

Madison, Wis., March 31--(Special to the Daily Democrat)--The senate today passed the bill granting the right of suffrage to women in state elections. The bill has passed the house and will become a law providing a referendum is endorsed at the next general election.