

# DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT

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Price Two Cents

## MUST RETURN TO WORK SATURDAY

Or the Railroads Will Open Books for Re-employment of Labor at Noon

## BROTHERHOODS MEET

And Will Try to Induce Men to Return—End in Sight by Monday

(By The United Press)

The general situation in the strikes of railroad switchmen and yardmen was reported improving in many parts of the country today.

College students and business men volunteers were joined by small groups of "outlaw" strikers, returning to work in operating trains throughout the east.

All lines announced increases in service and some reported efforts to move freight.

Strike leaders failed in Chicago were said to be ready to propose a compromise by which they would call off the strike in return for recognition of their organizations throughout the country and their own release from jail.

Workers were still out in some cities on the Pacific coast and in the west but the situation was reported as easier.

Hundreds of thousands of workers were thrown out of work by the strike and were still idle in industries crippled by the walkouts.

Further arrests were predicted by federal authorities.

Members of the Railway Labor board were hastening to Washington to meet as soon as possible the request by President Wilson to take up the strike situation.

Cleveland, O., Apr. 16.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Heads of three of the big railroad brotherhoods went into conference here on the ultimatum of the railroad general managers association of New York which called for the return of strikers by noon tomorrow. Unless the brotherhood has the men back at that time the managers say they will open their books for reemployment of strikers who are acceptable.

At the conclusion of the conference shortly after noon President Lee of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, announced that a reply to the ultimatum had been dispatched to the railroad managers headquarters in New York.

"It would be unfair to the managers to make it public here," said Lee. "I feel confident the strike will be over by Monday."

Chicago, Apr. 16.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—A "protest strike" will be launched against government interference in the outlaw railroad strike by the latter leaders it was announced today.

The two big chiefs in the strike movement it was stated planned to surrender themselves to federal authorities, refused bail and forced the government to place them in jail where they said they will remain until released. This would also serve the strike leaders said to notify strikers throughout the country that their leaders have not given up.

The two "martyrs" who offered themselves for the "protest strike" are John Grunau, president of the Chicago yardmen association and H. Reading, head of the United Engine-men association. Both men are out on bail but will ask to have this cancelled, it was said.

Grunau declared the strikers will continue to stay out until they have been assured of a living wage.

## MUST WALK UP

(United Press Service)  
New York, Apr. 16.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—There's a puff, puff, elevator strike in New York today.

Tens of thousands of workers who daily commute between—puff—the earth and top floors of the skyscrapers on lower Broadway were thrown back several cents in civilization by the walkout of scores of elevator operators and scaled the heights to their sylvan in the mountains of steel and granite to an altitude that no self-respecting cliff dweller ever attempted.

L. A. Graham made a business trip to his farm south of Monroe this morning.

## THREE KILLED IN WRECK

Mobile, Ala., Apr. 16.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Three trainmen were reported killed in a head-on collision between two passenger trains on the Louisville & Nashville railroad near Bayminette, 23 miles from here early today.

The trains were numbers 2 and 3. No. 2 was bound from New Orleans to Cincinnati and No. 3, the Cincinnati-New Orleans limited, was south bound.

The dead reported were two engineers and a fireman.

## HOFFMAN WILL

Admitted to Probate in Court Today—Property is Given to the Widow

## DURING HER LIFE

Then Appraised and Sold—Herman Buuck and Anton Hoffman Executors

The will of the late Daniel Hoffman of Preble township, who died a few days following the cyclone recently, was admitted to probate in court today. It consists of a will and codicil thereto. The will was written April 29, 1915, and was witnessed by Dore B. Erwin and Henry S. Michaud. The instrument is in five paragraphs. The first provides for the payment of all just debts and funeral expenses. The second paragraph grants bequests of \$50 each to the daughters, Emma Melcher and Mary Hagerfelt, same to be paid within one year after testator's death. The third paragraph provides that the residue of personal estate after the payment of debts and bequests mentioned in items one and two shall go to the widow, Mary Hoffman.

Item four gives the real estate situated in Preble township, Adams county, to the widow during her natural life.

Item five provides that the real estate after the death of the wife shall be appraised and sold, and the proceeds divided in equal shares among the daughters, Rosina Smith, Bertha Melcher, Emma Melcher, Mary Hagerfelt, Hulah Hoffman and son, Anton Hoffman, and son, Otto Hoffman, his wife, and their daughter, Olga Hoffman, now an adopted daughter of J. T. Kerby.

The codicil to the will was written September 13, 1918, and was witnessed by Dore B. Erwin and D. J. Mercer. The codicil withdraws that part of the bequest to the son, Otto Hoffman and his wife, and gives their share entirely to the granddaughter, Olga Hoffman. In case she die before the testator, the estate is then to be divided among Rosina Smith, Bertha Melcher, Emma Melcher, Mary Hagerfelt, Hulah Hoffman, the son, Anton Hoffman, and Herman Buuck act as executors of the will and they qualified today.

DAILY CENSUS REPORTS		
(United Press Service)		
Washington, Apr. 16.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—The census bureau today announced the following 1920 population results:		
Battle Creek, Mich.	36,164	10,897
Enid, Oklahoma	16,576	2,777
Bowling Green, Ky.	9,638	465
Hillsdale, Michigan	5,476	475
Owosso, Michigan	12,575	2,936
Oxford, Mass.	3,820	459
Norwich, N. Y.	3,269	847
Moorehead, Minnesota	5,720	880
Whittier, California	7,397	3,447
South Pasadena, Cal.	7,648	2,999
Bedford, Indiana	8,963	247
Hammond, La.	3,855	913

## CORN AND OATS ARE HIGH

Chicago, April 16.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—New high records were made in corn and oats futures on the Board of Trade today when heavy realizing and reports of bad weather throughout the grain belt shot prices up an average of half a cent over yesterday's high marks. May opened at 170, up 1/4. September corn opened half a cent up at the high record of 158 1/2. July oats climbed to its top mark of 88 1/2, up 3/4 over yesterday's close. September oats reached its high level at 75 1/2.

## THE WEATHER FORECAST

Probably rain tonight and Saturday, cooler in south portion.

## DELAY BUILDING

County Unit Road Law Constitutional But Sixty Days for Rehearing

## DOES NOT AFFECT

Road Building Under Three Mile Law—Approval of Road Bonds Held Up

Indianapolis, Ind., April 16.—The construction of millions of dollars worth of hard surface highways in Indiana under the 1919 county unit road act will probably be delayed until late in the summer, according to an announcement of the state board of tax commissioners. Although the law has been found constitutional by the Indiana supreme court it now develops that the appellants have sixty days in which to file a motion for a rehearing. Therefore, the tax board will not pass on the county unit bond petitions now on file until the expiration of the sixty days or until the appellants sign a waiver for the rehearing.

If no action is taken by the appellants, action on the bonds will be delayed until June 1. Taking into consideration other delays many counties will be too late in obtaining contracts and selling the bonds to get the construction work under way this year.

The aggregate of the county unit bond petitions now on file with the tax commission is in excess of \$3,000,000. Many counties are preparing to file petitions for additional construction under the county unit law.

Should the court procedure be hurried up it is probable that a large portion of the contracts will be let early enough this year to enable a great deal of construction. It is possible that \$5,000,000 will be spent by the counties for these roads. This amount added to the \$5,000,000 that is being spent by the state highway commission this year for roads, will make the total Indiana investment in hard surface roads amount to \$10,000,000 during 1920. This does not take into consideration the several million dollars that will be spent under the three mile road law.

## OPENING GAME

Decatur High School Nine Will Play the Monroe High Next Tuesday

## AND A RETURN GAME

Will be Played Here Week From Today—Fans are Going to Monroe

The Decatur high school nine will open the base ball season with the Monroe high at Monroe on Tuesday of next week. A return game here is scheduled for Friday.

The material this year will compose a speedy team with ten regulars from last year's squad out for team and some good material will be taken from the Freshmen and Sophomore squads. For the first sack Teeple and Kern are making a nice showing, at second Hyland, Peterson and Daniels; at Short, Keller and Myers; at third Baltzell and Hocker. Those who are scrapping for position on the outfield are Durkin, McConnehey, Hoagland, Schieferstein, Miller, Gay, Baltzell. Other players who have no definite position and who have the right spirit in making a better team are Beel, Kienzie, Thomas and Johnson.

The pitching staff will be strengthened this year to four pitches, Case, White, Myers and Fruchte. Behind the bat are Pat Costello and Herman Myers.

These men are taking great interest in the game and are out for practice whenever weather has permitted. The two points combined will serve the D. H. S. with one of the best teams in the state. The games will be supported this season by the high school students strong, with plenty of enthusiasm and yells, accompanied by the D. H. S. band led by Mr. Minch. Every means possible will be arranged to accommodate the fans who wish to go with the team to Monroe next Tuesday. If you wish to be on the list file your name at the high school office. The more the "pep" the better the team.

## FORCE IS BUSY

The force at the Decatur postoffice is busy since the uncertainty of freight and express deliveries have caused many shippers of small parcels to use the mails. Packages that reach the limit in size and weight specified in the parcel post department are arriving daily and it keeps Carlyle Flanders and his little push cart on duty most of the time. Decatur shippers are also using the parcel post system as much as practicable and the government way of sending parcels is decidedly popular.

## TO GIVE LECTURE

Dr. Don D. Tullis Will Give Illustrated Talk at the Presbyterian Church

## SUNDAY EVENING

Interchurch Movement is Subject—A Good Program Will be Arranged

Rev. A. H. Saunders, of the Presbyterian church, is arranging for a special service Sunday evening. Efforts have been made for the past several days to get slides here showing some of the work and needs as set out in the Interchurch World movement being brought before the people by a great number of workers during this month, in preparation for the big drive for funds from April 25 to May 2. Rev. Saunders was slated this afternoon to receive the following telegram:

Indianapolis, Ind., April 16.  
Rev. A. H. Saunders,  
Decatur, Ind.

I will deliver my illustrated interchurch lecture at your church Sunday night if you desire. Wire immediately.

DON D. TULLIS.  
Dr. Tullis is one of the best informed men on the interchurch movement, is a noted lecturer, and with the slides, to illustrate his talk, will give one of the most interesting discussions given here in regard to the work.

Rev. Saunders and Dr. Patterson will arrange a good program of music to accompany the lecture, and everyone is invited to attend.

Dr. Tullis has many friends here, and this gentleman officiated at the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Patterson in Terre Haute several years ago.

## FUNERAL TODAY

Funeral services for Mrs. John Mayer were held this afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Monroe Methodist church. The Rev. Krider officiated. Many Decatur friends of the family were in attendance. Burial was made in the Decatur cemetery.

## MOTHER IS WORSE

County Auditor John Mosure was called to Bluffton this morning, the condition of his mother having taken a turn for the worse. He and Mrs. Mosure left immediately for her bedside.

## WORK COMPLETED

Spring Convocation of Fort Wayne Consistory Closed Thursday Evening

## MANY TOOK DEGREES

Six Hundred Two Candidates Take Eighteenth to Thirty-second Degree

The spring convocation of the Fort Wayne consistory of the Scottish Rite Masons came to a close at the Scottish Rite cathedral last night with the working of from the eighteenth to the thirty-second degree on a class of six hundred and two candidates. There were 1262 Masons in attendance at the semi-annual meeting.

Yesterday afternoon right after the noon luncheon, the class had their pictures taken in front of the cathedral by Photographer Perry. Later the following officers were elected: Kenneth Call, Gary, temporary chairman; Charles W. Yarrington, Gary, president; Henry Jordan, Fort Wayne, vice president; W. J. Nivens, Rochester, orator; and Dr. Grossnickle, Elkhart, secretary.

There were eighteen from this city to take the work.

## THE GAS SUPPLY

In Decatur Believed to be Ample—T. J. Durkin has Sixty-day Supply

## OTHERS RUNNING LOW

Standard Oil Company has Enough to Supply Dealers Until Monday

An investigation this morning into the supply of gasoline in this city disclosed the fact that Decatur was much better off than some of her neighbors. The Standard Oil company which supplies several of the stations in this city, is said to have enough to last until Monday with the ordinary consumption of gas, but there is no shipment in sight for the company. J. E. Elbersson, one of the largest users of Standard gas in the city, says he will keep his 1,500 tank full at all times that he may take care of his many customers.

The Service company which has a refinery at Fairmount, and which company supplies gas to the Durkin Modern garage, informs Mr. Durkin not to worry in the least, as they have enough to supply their customers at least sixty days. Mr. Durkin states that he will sell gas to the people of this vicinity in any amount, and to tourists and trucks needing the fuel, but that he will not fill tanks for cars driving in here from outside cities just for the sake of giving them a few hours' pleasure over their neighbors.

The Lee Hardware company and the Knapp Hardware company each use Indian gas, and they are supplied from Elkhart. Their supply this morning was getting low, but the company promised delivery during the day and also made the statement that their supply would last several days.

However, automobile drivers are asked to conserve as much as possible, and as it is believed the strike will last but a few days longer, the supply will again be normal. Failure to make shipments is the cause given in other cities. It is believed with the promise made to Mr. Durkin of a sixty-day supply that Decatur will tide over the situation in fine shape.

## BUYS PROPERTY

Charles Christen Buys the Spencer Property on North Second Street

## SOLD MODERN HOME

Christen & Smith Will Install Plumbing in Decatur Castings Works

Charles N. Christen, well known contractor and architect of this city, today became the owner of the Spencer property on North Second street, including two lots and the brick two story house on one of them. The Spencer property is one of the oldest landmarks in this city and its location is ideal, it being considered one of the best residence locations in Decatur. The price paid for it was \$7,000.00. The Spencer family will move to Fort Wayne and Mr. Christen with his most excellent family will move into their new home this month. Mr. Christen proposes later on to build a modern house on the other lot and then move into it. The present brick house will be remodeled to some extent for the time being.

Sometime ago Mr. Christen sold his modern home on West Monroe street to Mr. and Mrs. Chris Bleberick who will occupy it as soon as the Christens move into the Spencer property. The consideration for this property was \$6700.00. It is one of the fine homes in this city.

The plumbing firm of Christen & Smith have been awarded the contract for the installing of the plumbing in the Decatur Castings company's building and will begin work on it next Monday. The total job will run about \$1500.00 and Mr. Christen stated at noon that the work would be rushed to completion. The contract was awarded to Christen & Smith by Supt. Magel of the Vaughn Constructing company, general contractors for the remodeling of the Decatur Castings company's building.

## THE CHEESE CLUB IN NEW YORK

(United Press Service)  
New York, April 16.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Overalls were to make their first appearance on Broadway today when members of the Cheese club, an organization of dramatic writers, press agents and editors of theatrical papers, will stage a demonstration against the high prices for men's apparel.

Students and faculty of the Jamaica high school in Brooklyn voted to wear khaki "work garments."

## THEO. VAIL DEAD

Former President of American Telegraph and Telephone Co. Died Today

## AT JOHN HOPKINS

Returned From the South About a Week Ago—Known World Over

(United Press Service)  
Baltimore, Md., April 16.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Theodore N. Vail, former president of the American Telegraph and Telephone company, died at John Hopkins hospital here today.

Vail became chairman of the board of directors of the American Telegraph and Telephone company upon his retirement as president and held that position at the time of his death.

He suffered from heart trouble, according to his physicians.

He spent the winter at Jekyll island off the coast of Georgia and a week ago, when his condition became serious, was taken to John Hopkins.

The funeral probably will be held Sunday.

Vail was a pioneer in telephone and telegraph organizations and was known throughout the world.

He was born in Carroll county, Ohio, July 16, 1845 and educated in Morris town, N. J. academy and studied at Dartmouth, Middleburg college, Princeton and Harvard universities.

Vail married Mabel Rutledge Sanderson of Boston in 1907. His home was listed officially as Lyndonville, Vt. He maintained offices in Boston and New York.

Beginning life as a medical clerk student, Vail soon branched into general science with a particular bent for electricity. He was a friend of Thomas A. Edison.

Vail first entered the telephone business in 1878. He introduced the American system of electrical street railways in Buenos Aires in 1896 and installed telephone systems in the principal South American cities. He became president of the American Telegraph and Telephone company in 1907. He was also a director in several European electrical enterprises and was widely known in London where he was a member of the Royal Automobile club. He was a member of the American Academy of Politics and social science, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, the American Geographic society and many social clubs.

Funeral probably will be at Parsippany, N. J.

## BURIED AT CIRCLEVILLE

The funeral of Charles Downs, brother of Frank Downs of this city, was held Wednesday at Circleville, Ohio. Samuel Downs, a brother, came from Los Angeles to attend the funeral and is now visiting in the city with his brother. Mr. Downs died Saturday night at the Grant hospital, Columbus, following an operation. He was well known in this city.

## FORT WAYNE HAS "STILL"

What is understood to be the first of a number of raids by federal officers and police in Fort Wayne was made yesterday on the Aurbetz candy factory on Barr street, near the police station there. In the raid close to 100 gallons of home-made beer and wine were confiscated. Skelly P. Aurbetz and H. G. Muhler were arrested. They were placed under bond of \$1,000 and released.

## ASSISTANT RESIGNS

(United Press Service)  
Washington, April 16.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—R. C. Lessingwell, assistant secretary of the treasury, has resigned and his resignation has been accepted by President Wilson. It was announced at the white house today.

## TO MOVE THEIR REALTY OFFICE

Graham & Walters to Re-model Building Occupied by the Rex Theater

## THEIR OWN HOME

Theater Fixtures Being Removed—Building to be Modern in Every Way

The Graham & Walters real estate agency is to have new quarters, as soon as the building owned by them, and recently occupied by the Rex theater is remodeled. The fixtures of the theater have been sold to Andrew Fuelling of Root township, and it is understood he has a buyer living in Ohio who will take it over.

Work will begin at once on the remodeling of the theater room, and when it is completed will be one of the finest office rooms in the city, and situated on the ground floor, the Graham & Walters company will have fine quarters. The room and building will be modern in every way. The interior will be repapered and redecorated, a heating plant to take care of the entire building installed, and laboratories and wash rooms placed on either floor, making it modern and convenient throughout.

The real estate firm has occupied the Laman building for a number of years and have enjoyed a nice business, having a complete set of abstract books, and employing a large force of clerks.

Their new office quarters, arranged especially for their own use, will be as fine as any in the state, and their business is bound to increase where it can be handled to a much better advantage.

Work will commence at once, and the company hopes to occupy their own quarters about the middle of the summer.

## IN HANDS OF SONORA MEN

(United Press Service)  
Angus Prieta Sonora, Mexico, April 16.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Four towns in Sinaloa have fallen before the invading Sonora state troops, according to a report to divisional headquarters here today.

Following the first battle between the Carranza troops and the Sonora secessionists the Carranza garrison surrendered after one hour's fighting and joined the Sonora movement.

## CLAIM REDS ARE BACK OF IT

(United Press Service)  
Kewanee, Ill., Apr. 16.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—United States Attorney Clynne at Chicago, was today expected to start investigation of charges that bolshevism was behind a strike of 3,500 employees of the Walworth Tube works here.

Edward Johnson, president of the Kewanee Association of Commerce wired Clynne, stating the strike was fomented by 50 radicals who "intimidated the workers."

State troops, sent here when rioting broke out Tuesday, continued to control the situation quietly today. So far there has been no trouble. Strikers, assembling in small crowds to discuss the situation, dispersed on command without argument.

## TO BREAK RELATIONS

(United Press Service)  
Paris, Apr. 16.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—France, Great Britain, Italy and Belgium have agreed unanimously to notify Germany they will break off diplomatic relations unless immediate and complete disarmament is carried out as provided by the treaty of Versailles, it was announced today.

## AERIAL MAIL BILL PASSES

(United Press Service)  
Washington, Apr. 16.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—The house today passed and sent to the president the postoffice appropriation bill providing for the extension of the aerial mail from New York to San Francisco and giving the post master general power to make extension to St. Louis or other points that he may deem advisable.

It is reported that in some parts of the city mothers urge their children to play on the railroad tracks, where it is safe, and not to venture on the streets where automobiles may run over them.