

DAILY DEMOCRAT

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ENGINEERS' REPORT OF GREAT INTEREST:—

A study of the figures published in last evening's paper, from the engineers' report on the city power and water plant show interesting facts. The plant is now worth nearly six hundred thousand dollars, a wonderful advance in value and a real outfit for a town of 5,000 population. It will surprise many to know that the water plant is worth in replacement value, double the electric equipment, this being due to the value of the water mains. During the past eighteen months the plant has lost a net amount of about \$13,000, the electric department earning a fair amount while the water department lost a rather startling sum. To remedy this, the water rates will necessarily have to be increased.

The report of the engineers is complete and was evidently made with great care, the engineers doing their work in a very creditable manner. Those citizens who wish to study the problem, now have all the details needed.

While the plant here was operated at a loss it should be remembered that the past eighteen months have been filled with problems of high cost, with fuel, labor and every item at the highest point ever reached. Public utilities owned by private corporations have

met the proposition by asking and receiving increased rates. This has not been done here and in doing your figuring this fact should be taken into consideration.

The proposition of furnishing water is always and almost every where a very difficult problem. Every one who will be honest in the matter will admit that the rates for water here have been ridiculously low. The average person has paid but \$5.00 per year for water in his house. We know of one city, a county seat, about the size of Decatur where the minimum rate has been boosted to forty dollars per year and where \$52.00 was asked. That makes some difference and it is certain that we would be doing just about that under the same circumstances.

According to the figures of the engineers, we are losing money on the current furnished to outside meters and this should be adjusted as soon as possible. The convenience of electricity and water is worth much to the people and good service can only be given when the income more than meets the overhead. The report is voluminous and requires much time for consideration but at least we now have before us a thorough report from which we can convince ourselves on many points.

What the people of this community want is good service at the lowest cost, a good light, power and water utility well managed. The report gives the details and is worthy of your careful consideration.

Mr. Charles Coffin, president of the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, and one of the best authorities on business in the United States, is making a vigorous campaign for the commission form of government with a manager for the capitol city. He will ask the legislature for such laws necessary to make this possible and is supported by many of the best business men of Indianapolis. While it is not argued that the plan will necessarily reduce taxes, it is claimed that under the manager, the dollars

received in taxes should buy more and the entire administration be much more satisfactory to the citizens who are only stockholders in the municipality. Similar efforts will be made in many cities over the country and the commission plan is now being used successfully in 120 cities in the United States.

The fact that more than ninety per cent. of the employees of the local plant of the General Electric Works, subscribed for stock within two days after the plan was submitted, speaks well for the employees here. It shows the proper spirit of co-operation and means a greater interest on the part of every one concerned. It is well established that this must be the future plan whereby to solve the difficulties which arise in those concerns employing large numbers of people. The plan of the G. E. is simple, honest, carefully designed to meet every angle and the stock at the price offered not only means a good investment but a splendid way in which to save money. It shows the proper feeling on the part of those in authority with the company and this will be appreciated by those who assist them in producing goods.

The report filed by David and James McNaughton, engineers, employed by the city, is complete, well compiled and proof that they are competent experts in that line of work. That the compilation was necessary is proven by the showing made that we are losing on the current furnished to outside meters, that we are losing in the water department and that we are making money on the electric light and power schedule. The engineers have apparently performed their work well and if we use the facts thus given us, wisely, the investment will show a profit.

James Simpson, vice president of the Marshall-Field company, says the time is here for real competition in business and that only the "fittest will survive" the period of readjustment. That's true and business men big and little will do well to watch well each curve and each step during the next few months. There is no use trying to fool yourself. It will require all of your ability and efficiency to meet the problems sure to arise during the next year or two. We are getting back to normalcy rather rapidly.

A hundred ducks were loaded on Senator Harding's ship bound to Panama for a ten days' trip. What do you suppose the republicans would have said about President Wilson had he permitted such a reckless investment in "quacks"? Why, it would have been made a campaign issue and the color and size and sex and specie and all other specifications discussed for weeks and months. Even a president-elect has to eat, but a hundred ducks in ten days—some ducks!

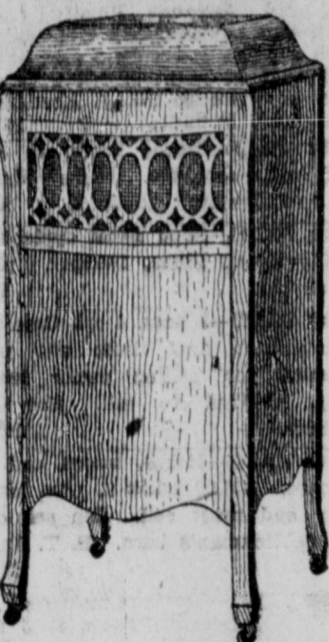
"Disarmament impossible until America ratifies Versailles treaty," says David Lawrence, a special writer of some reputation. But that was voted on in the recent election or at least that was the big issue as generally understood. Of course we can't disarm, but do the people want it according to the recent vote?

In the campaign in Adams county results in boosting the teachers to the place they deserve, we will be more than satisfied, for it will mean that this organization can solve every problem necessary.

"EATS" BAKERY
For Fresh Baked Goods.
Special Fruit Cake for your Thanksgiving Dinner at the Sign—"Eats."

KEMPS BALSAM
WILL STOP THAT COUGH
GUARANTEED

BRUNSWICK Phonographs



Many Are Presenting Themselves With A Brunswick

Phonograph This Xmas Why Not You?

There will be many hours of solid comfort and pleasure in the possession of this wonderful Phonograph. Morning, noon and night, always a source of delight—come in and pick yours out today.

PUMPHREY'S Jewelry Store

Souers vs. Moses, to recover commission on sale of real estate, set for January 9.

Harding Ship On Way to Zone

(Continued from page one)

General Obregon, it can be said, will assume power in Mexico with the best wishes of the incoming administration in the United States and there will be no attempt at interference from the northern side of the Rio Grande, other than such friendly assistance as may be desired by Mexico. Senator Harding's position has already been made clear to Mexico where it is generally understood that as long as American rights and lives are respected there will be nothing to fear. Senator Harding's view is understood to be that what Mexico needs is peace and an opportunity to develop her schools and good roads and build up her farms which have been neglected during the last decade of revolutionary disturbances.

Recognition of Obregon's government is expected from President Wilson soon after the inauguration Nov. 30.

Mrs. Lawrence Stannard and son, Lawrence, Jr., arrived this morning from Wellsville, N. Y., for a visit until after Thanksgiving with her father, A. G. A. Buxton.

One of the interesting features of the election was the evident disinclination of women to vote to put women into important offices.

EATS RESTAURANT

SPECIAL SUNDAY DINNER
Roast Chicken
—or—
Fried Rabbit
at the
Sign—EATS.

The newspapers in Fort Wayne are demanding a clean up of the soft drink parlors, but up to date have failed to excite the police to any great extent.

Stops Pain Like Magic

In grandmother's day the first thought was Lightning Hot Drops when some one had a pain—and pain vanished every time this old reliable remedy was used. New fangled and more costly things have won the younger generation away from some of the good old-fashioned remedies, but the demand for Lightning Hot Drops is greater today than ever.

Nothing else so quickly relieves cramps, stomach and intestinal pain, rheumatic and neuralgia pain, toothache, earache and similar distress.

Lightning Hot Drops, for internal and external use, costs only 30c and 60c a bottle. At drugists—guaranteed.

Lightning HOT DROPS

Now Is the Time to Make Arrangements For the Christmas Delivery of Your Columbia Grafonola



Because, it is said, that there is to be more Columbia Grafonolas used as Christmas Gifts than at any previous Christmas.

Last year we did not have enough to supply the demand and, although we are provided with an additional number of these popular Phonographs this year we advise an immediate selection if you wish to obtain the design and price you have in mind.

Come in and enjoy an hour or two hours concert on one of our Grafonolas. We know you will want one in your home.

Smith, Yager & Falk

"The Good Drug Men."

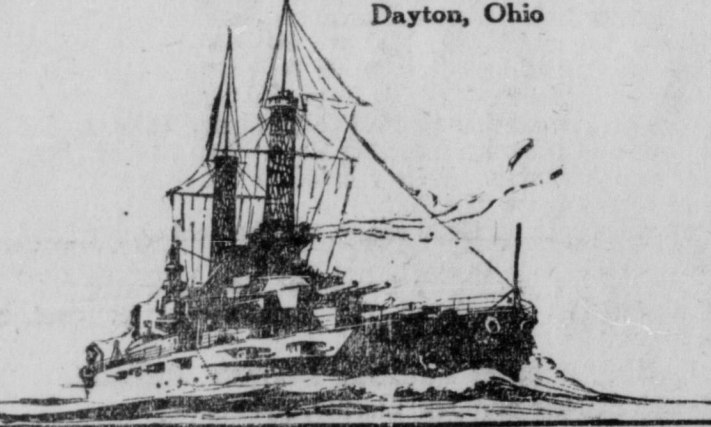
BATTLESHIP Coffee



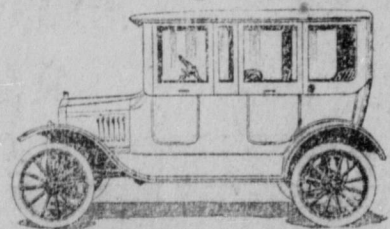
SOME folks doubt the wisdom of age. But there isn't a soul who ever drank Battleship Coffee who doesn't say that we have put our forty years of producing good coffee to wonderful account. An investment in one pound of Battleship Coffee pays you double dividends in all-satisfying coffee happiness. Ask your grocer today.

Coffee—The Perfect Drink

THE CANBY, ACH & CANBY CO.
Dayton, Ohio



DETROIT WEATHERPROOF TOPS For Ford Touring and Roadsters



For all models from 1915 to 1921. It's the top with the patented sliding door. More than 100,000 sets of these doors in successful operation today on Detroit Weatherproof Tops.

No hinges to work loose, no glass to rattle, no rollers to get out of order. A straight, smooth action, like raising a window in a room. Anti-breakable Pyralin, clear as a glass, is used in making up all windows in the doors—no glass to rattle or break.

Detroit Weatherproof Tops are quickly converted from closed to open type, or open to closed type.

Backed by the largest manufacturers of All-Season Tops in the world, they present a safe, sound and comfortable investment.

Shanahan-Conroy Auto Co.
FORD AGENCY
Authorized Factory Distributors for Adams County.

The Gift Shop

An Appeal to Buyers of Furniture Gifts

With the rapid approach of Yuletide, thoughts turn to the buying of Christmas gifts, and no doubt thousands of people are anticipating the purchase of some useful and practical article that will be lastingly remembered. This advertisement appeals to those in search of furniture gifts and those who are perplexed as to what they should give their friends. It is a message of interest to all gift buyers. This advertisement announces our readiness to serve you with gifts enduring. Here you will find hundreds of useful, practical and ornamental articles for the home; gifts that will be remembered throughout the years to come and which will add to the beauty and comfort of the home. We invite you to come in at your earliest convenience and inspect our large assortments. We will gladly hold any article you select, until Christmas.

Practical and Lasting Gifts

Check Them Off—Then Come In and See How Little They Cost.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Card Tables Smoke Stands Sewing Chairs Sewing Cabinets Fancy Rockers Furnerics Pedestals Mantle Clocks Candle Sticks Boudoir Lamps Artistic Lamps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mahogany Stands Gate Leg Tables Telephone Stands Jardiniere Stands Cedar Chests Rugs Kitchen Cabinets Bookcases Baby Carriages Bedroom Suites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Living Room Suites Dining Room Suites Davenport Bicycles Costumers Doll Cabs Kitchen Sets Framed Pictures Kiddy Cars Baby Swings Mattresses
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Beavers Furniture Store

The Store With a Conscience.
Decatur, Ind.