

FEW CHANGES IN OFFICES IN COURT HOUSE

Two New Officials Terms But Both Former Officials

SEVERAL RE-ELECTED

Ed Green, Recorder
John T. Kelly, Clerk
ecutor, New One

Two new county officials were sworn in today, but no new faces were seen at the Court House. Ed Green, county recorder and John T. Kelly, prosecuting attorney, the new officials who assumed their offices today, being former officials. Mr. Green served as sheriff of Adams county from 1915 to 1919. Green has appointed Miss Al. Shart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Burt Lehart of this city as deputy. She started to work in the recorder's office the first of December.

Mr. Kelly, who assumed office today as state's prosecuting attorney, served as county clerk 1920 to 1924, was deputy clerk three years, and also held office of county clerk by appointment for several months in 1919.

Thurman A. Gottschalk, Berne, will begin his third term in the legislature when it convenes Monday.

Dick Boch began his term today as county surveyor. Mr. Boch will not have a deputy in the office this year, he dispensing the assistant surveyor more a year ago.

Martin Jaberg began his second term as auditor of Adams county today. Mrs. Jaberg continues to assist him in the office.

Dr. L. J. Mattox, Leava, began his third term as coroner of Adams county today.

John Baker began his second term as sheriff of Adams county. Mr. Baker has been re-appointed. Hower as his deputy.

B. F. Breiner begins his second term of three years as commissioner from the second district. The other two commissioners, Conrad and George Shoemaker, hold over. Mr. Shoemaker will begin his second term until 1926.

Louise Kleine, who now serving his first term of two years as county treasurer will not in his second term, to which he has been elected, until 1926.

Miss Anna Smith, new deputy in the county treasurer's office, being appointed by Kleine on December 1st.

John E. Nelson, in his second year as county clerk today. His daughter, Miss E. Nelson, will be his deputy. Nelson's term does not expire December 31, 1927.

Judge Jesse Cron, who was (Continued Page Five)

FIVE TOWNSHIPS MAY BUILD ROADS

Have Sufficient Credit To Issue Bonds For Road Construction In 1925

Five of the township will have sufficient credit available during 1925 to enable them to issue bonds for the building of macadam roads if they were according to the table of figures made up by County Auditor Martin Berg. The five townships which have a credit sufficient to build or more miles of road in 1925, Root, Preble, Kirkland, Washon, and St. Marys. Monroe townships a small credit, but not large enough to build a mile of road.

The other townships, Union, Blue Creek, French, Tford, Washash and Jefferson, will be able to issue any bonds due 1925, they being over the 2 per cent limit already, the maximum fixed law.

The credit road building is figured by taking 2 cent of the assessed valuation of the township and deducting from it credit the amount of the bonded indebtedness outstanding on January 1, 1925, less the amount to be paid during the year. In (Continued on page two)

Sunday Schools Elect Officers For Year 1925

The annual election of the Pleasant Mills Sunday School held last Sunday resulted in the following officers for the coming year: Superintendent, Lowell Smith; Assistant Supt., O. J. Suman; Secretary, Ralph Smith; Assistant Secretary, Juanita Evans; Treasurer, A. W. Gulick; Pianist, Midge Davis; Assistant Pianist, Velma Dillard; Chorister, Orab Steele; Cradle Roll, Mary Teeple; Assistants, Ada Maulier and Capitola Clark; Librarians, Mable Smith and Merle Foor; Home Department, Mrs. Geo. Foor; Correspondent Secretary, Albert Maulier.

FIELDMEN WILL HOLD MEETING

New Sugar Beet Contract To Be Announced At Meeting Jan. 7

A meeting of the twelve fieldmen of the Holland-St. Louis Sugar company will be held in this city next Wednesday, January 7, at which time the new 1925 grower's contract will be announced and plans made for securing the best acreage for the 1925 campaign.

The new contract will not vary to a great extent from the one under which beets were grown in 1924, John Carmody, local manager stated today.

The price will be about the same, it was stated. This year sugar beet growers had the advantage of growing beets under either one of two contracts. The one contract guaranteed a minimum price of \$7.00 per ton, plus what ever bonus might be paid, based on the price of sugar, up to February 15, and the other contract was called the "participating contract," whereby the grower was paid a guaranteed price of \$6.00 per ton for the beets and a bonus based on the sugar content of the beets.

This year the sugar content of the beets ran high and those who grew beets under the participating contract benefited by it.

On January 3 and 9, the fieldmen, together with Mr. Carmody, will attend a conference of all the sugar beet fieldmen in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan at Toledo. Subjects of interest to fieldmen will be discussed and a general short-course in looking after the interests of the grower and the company will be given.

COMMISSIONERS RE-ORGANIZED

Ernst Conrad Re-Elected President Of Board; Visit Infirmary

The board of county commissioners met at the court house this morning and organized for the year by re-electing Ernst Conrad, commissioner from the First district, as president of the board. Mr. Conrad has served two years as president of the board, being elected in 1923. The other two members of the board are B. F. Breiner from the Second district and George Shoemaker from the third district.

Following the organization the commissioners went to the County Infirmary where they will have charge of taking the annual inventory. Chris Elcher and Jess Michaud acted as appraisers in taking the inventory.

The county commissioners will meet again on Monday, January 5, it being their regular session. At this meeting a trustee of the Adams County Memorial hospital will be appointed and a county health physician to care for the inmates of the County Infirmary will be selected. Dr. J. N. Miller is the present county physician.

Mr. Breiner began his second term of three years as commissioner today. Mr. Shoemaker, who was re-elected last November, will not begin his second term until next year. Mr. Conrad is now serving his second term.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gentis and son, Don, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Gentis and son, and Miss Eola Gentis, of Fort Wayne, are the guests of Mrs. Esta Liddy and daughter, Mildred, today.

Ready for the Kick-off



K. OF P. LODGE HOLDS ELECTION

Officers For 1925 Elected Last Night; Spend To- day At Home

The annual election of officers of the Knights of Pythias lodge was held last night. Cover McClure, who was in line to be elevated to the office of Chancellor Commander, is a patient at the Irene Byron hospital at Fort Wayne and was unable to take office last night. A Chancellor Commander to serve for six months will be chosen at the meeting next week.

The officers elected last night were: Fred Hower, master of work; Howard Weller, vice-chancellor; Charles Brodbeck, prelate; Ed Beery, master of arms; Marvin Hoagland, inner guard; John E. Nelson, outer guard; Joe Hunter, keeper of records and seals; John R. Parrish, re-elected master of finance; W. A. Lower, re-elected master of exchequer; and Fred Blosser, re-elected trustee for two years.

The installation of officers will be held next week by James Bain, the (Continued On Page Four)

W. C. Duell Named Deputy Surveyor In Allen County

W. Carlisle Duell, a deputy county surveyor under Dick Boch here for about three years, has been appointed chief deputy by A. W. Grosvenor, newly elected surveyor of Allen county.

Mr. Duell has been associated with Mr. Grosvenor during most of the last seven years. He was a deputy in the office under previous terms held by Mr. Grosvenor. He was graduated from Indiana university in 1917. He joined Mr. Grosvenor's staff of assistants shortly after his graduation, but resigned in order to volunteer for service in the army.

He was in overseas service during the war and was employed by Mr. Grosvenor after he was discharged from the army. He has been assisting Mr. Grosvenor in his private practice during the last two years. He was assistant engineer for the construction of the Lima road north of Fort Wayne. He is married and has two children.

Weather

Snow probable Thursday and Friday; not much change in temperature.

LEAP YEAR IS JINX TO CUPID

Number Of Marriage Li- censes Issued Here Shows Big Decrease

Leap Year, with all its inducements, did not help Dan Cupid in Adams County during 1924. In fact, the year was a jinx, when it came to marriage business. During 1924, only 140 marriage licenses were issued by the county clerk as compared with 166 during 1923, a decrease of about 19 per cent.

The month of June continued to be the month of brides, however, 22 marriages licenses being issued during that month in 1924. This is largest number for any one month during the year.

Adams County had many hunters and fishermen this year. During the twelve months ending December 31, 1924, a total of 1,210 hunting and fishing licenses were issued by the county clerk, an increase of more than (Continued On Page Five)

Wedding Bells Ring In New Year For Two Couples

Wedding bells rang in the year 1925 for two Adams county couples. County Clerk John E. Nelson issued a marriage license to Tilman Fluckiger, farmer of Monroe to wed Miss Clara Edna Gilliom, daughter of Christ Gilliom, of Berne. The groom is the son of Emil Fluckiger, of Monroe. A license was also issued to Martz Auburn Thomas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel Thomas, of Portland, formerly of this city, to wed Miss Gertrude Linda Sprunger, of Berne. The bride is a daughter of Christian Sprunger, of Berne. The best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year is extended to the couples. A coincidence connected with the four persons, is that each one was born in 1903.

NEW YEAR GETS USUAL RECEPTION

Ushered In Amid Blowing Of Factory Whistles And Ringing Of Bells

The new year was ushered in in Decatur last night amid the blowing of factory whistles, ringing of bells and other activities characteristic of New Year's Eve. The factory whistles blew for about ten minutes, starting shortly before midnight and continuing a few minutes after the hour.

Watch parties were held in the churches, homes and lodges. Many merry-makers were present at the annual Charity Ball given by the Tri Kappa sorority at the Masonic hall.

Today the business district of the city was nearly deserted and business was at a standstill. Practically all business houses were closed.

Two basketball games were scheduled for today by the Decatur Leaders. The team was scheduled to meet the Mission House College team of Plymouth, Wisconsin, at the high school gym at 3 o'clock this afternoon and again at 8:15 o'clock this evening. No other public events were scheduled for today.

PROSPERITY AND PEACE PREDICTED

Secretary Hoover Predicts Better Times During Year 1925

(UNITED PRESS SERVICE) Washington, Jan. 1.—World economic forces already set in motion promise almost universal peace, prosperity higher standards of living and less unemployment in 1925, Secretary of Commerce Hoover said in a New Year's message today.

Secretary of the Treasury Mellon's recent prediction that this will be the most prosperous year since the World war was supported by Hoover, Secretary of Labor Davis and Secretary of the Interior Work in New Year's messages to the nation.

"The year begins with the economic structure of the world upon more solid foundation than any since 1913," Hoover said. "The only exceptions are China, disrupted by Civil war, and Russia."

"The dawn of a new year could not be more reassuring or promising," Work said. "The old year was epochal in the nation's history; it was marked by a national political battle in which the American people expressed confidence in their institutions, repudiated doctrines of radicalism and theories of no sense and upheld common sense."

Fresh Blanket Of Snow Covers Southwest Today

Kansas City, Jan. 1.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—A fresh blanket of snow over the southwest greeted the new year today. The fall ranged from one inch in Kansas City to three and four inches in western Kansas, and was expected to continue today and tonight the weather bureau stated. Train and wire service was not affected, according to reports here.

WILL IMPROVE ROAD TO FORT WAYNE IN 1925

State To Start Improvement As Soon As Right-Of- Way Is Secured

BOOSTERS TO MEET

County Highway Associ- ation To Meet Jan. 9 To Take Action

Right-of-way for the improvement of the state road from Decatur to the Allen county line and then north to Fort Wayne is wanted so that the work of constructing the road can be started early this spring, C. W. Sniff, superintendent of the Fort Wayne sub-district of the state highway commission, and V. C. Lee, district engineer of the Fort Wayne district, stated today.

These two men, representing the state highway commission, visited here today and stated that the improvement of the state road from Decatur north to the Allen county line was included in the 1925 program of the state highway commission and that the expense of doing the work was included in the budget for the new year.

According to the plans of the highway commission and the amount of money allotted in the budget for doing the work, the road will be improved with a bituminous macadam or water-bound filler, to be laid on the present road bed, which in recent years has been prepared for this improvement, the district state road officials stated. In 1926 the road will be improved from the Adams county line to Fort Wayne, it was stated.

A fifty-foot right-of-way is required by the state before any steps will be taken towards the improvement of the road. The district road officials stated that the right-of-way is figured from the center of the present road to twenty-five feet on each side. As the track and grade of the Fort Wayne-Decatur traction company are located on the west side of the road, the right-of-ways would have to be obtained mostly from the east side of the road. The road, besides the main track, which would be approximately 18-feet wide, will be improved with a berm or shoulder on both sides so that pedestrians can use it. The present road, including the right-of-way, is about 40-feet wide and it was stated that it would take only five to ten feet to improve the road.

To Meet In January

A meeting of the members of Adams County Highway association and others interested will be held at the Decatur Industrial Association rooms on Friday evening, January 9, at which time plans for securing the (Continued On Page Four)

TWO INSPIRING SERVICES HELD

Young People Hold Uplift- ing Service At Baptist Church

Last night the two services at the Baptist church were inspiring and uplifting to all that were privileged to be present.

Mr. Bennett dealt with his subject, "Life's Supreme Resolution," in an unusual way, but in an original way which was pleasing and effective. Before he was through the people had a clear conception of the message and its aim.

Mr. Bennett not only preaches the gospel but he sings the gospel as well. Those who failed to hear the solo which he sang last evening missed a real blessing. He sang the song entitled, "I Know."

The Watch Night service was a service of power from start to finish, from the first hymn to the benediction. The presence of God was manifested.

The young evangelist will bring a message this evening on the subject, "A Glorious Freedom." These meetings are not for the young people alone but for all. The young people have charge of the services.

"Facts About Decatur, Indiana" Is Title Of Survey Published By The Decatur Industrial Association

Pamphlet Contains Thirty Pages Of Interesting Facts And Data Pertaining To Decatur And Adams County; Books To Be Distributed At Annual Meeting Of Association On January 12.

"Facts About Decatur, Indiana," is the title of the survey book of Decatur and Adams County, published by the Decatur Industrial Association, the pamphlet containing 20 pages of interesting facts, figures and data pertaining to this community.

The material for the book was compiled by L. F. Conter, secretary of the Association, assisted by other members of the board of directors of the association and the data contained therein was obtained from reliable source and from those persons who could give the facts as they were.

The book has an attractive front and back cover. The front cover contains a picture of Commodore Stephen Decatur, the naval hero of the battle of Tripoli, in honor of whom this city was named. The back cover contains pictures of five of Decatur's industries and of the Adams County Memorial Hospital.

Community Spirit And History

The foreword in the book deals with the excellent community found in Decatur and Adams County. The second page tells of the early history of Decatur, when it was estab-

lished and where it is located. The story of Decatur reads as follows:

"Decatur, the county seat of Adams county, is located in the eastern tier of counties, in the northeastern part of the state along the Indiana-Ohio line. It is situated in the heart of one of the most productive and progressive agricultural communities in the state and industrially its location is equalled by few cities. Three main railroads connect it with all parts of the country and place at its door the markets of the east, west, north and south. In recent years its growth has been due to the expansion of the splendid industrial concerns which have located here.

Early History Of Decatur

"As the name implies, Decatur was named in honor of that brave naval hero, Commodore Stephen Decatur, here of the battle of Tripoli and of other conflicts in the Mediterranean.

"The spirit of unselfishness, progressiveness and public spirit, which our people are at all times willing to demonstrate, was handed down by the founders of this commonwealth. In 1836 the town was platted by

Thomas Johnson and Samuel L. Rugg and sites for the court house, schools, churches and city park were donated by the founders. For 46 years the town struggled along, fought the battle of the pioneers, progressed and in 1882 was incorporated as a city, the first mayor and city officers being elected on September 5th. Flanked on the east by the St. Marys river, Decatur was, for many years, an important trading point between Fort Wayne and St. Marys, Ohio. The Winchester trail, now one of the principal highways through the county, was used in the pioneer days in traveling from one point or fort to another during the days of the Indiana fighting.

"In 1871 the first train on the Grand Rapids and Indiana railroad (Pennsylvania System) passed through Decatur, to be followed with the building of two other main trunk lines, through the city within a few years. From the time that the railroads opened the gateways to all parts of the country the growth of the city has been steady and its (Continued On Page Four)