

HAWKINS DEFENDANTS SENTENCED

EARLY IMPROVEMENT OF FT. WAYNE ROAD SEEN

BETTER ROADS BOOSTERS HOLD FINE MEETING

Land Owners And Business Men Hear Plans For Improvement Explained

EXPECT EARLY ACTION

Committee Named To Get Signatures of Land Owners Along Road

About twenty-five property owners along the Fort Wayne road between this city and the Allen county line were supper guests of the road committee of the Industrial Association in the association rooms last evening at six o'clock, at which time C. W. Smith, superintendent of the Fort Wayne district, and V. C. Lee, assistant engineer of the state highway commission, made a clear and understandable statement of the probabilities of securing improvement of the road during this year.

President Aron Burk of the Industrial Association presided and, after supper, made a short talk in which he emphasized the purpose of the association which is to assist the community in every way possible and invited the farmers to become members. He introduced Attorney Clark J. Lutz who acted as chairman of the meeting and explained that the session was one called to talk important business—that of discussing plans for better roads. He explained the cooperative interest of the property owners and the business men of the city and read a letter from Mr. Earl Crawford, of the state commission, in reply to an invitation to attend the meeting and in which he said:

"I do not think there is any doubt but what the type of improvement we are using on that road will be adequate for the situation and I believe will be an economical proposition in the long run as it does salvage the old base and in this partage"

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MARY HOFFMAN DIES AT PREBLE

Widow Of Late Dan Hoffman Dies At Daughter's Home This Morning

Mrs. Mary Bly Hoffman, age 67 years, widow of the late Dan Hoffman, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. John Smith, at Preble, at 8 o'clock this morning. Death was due to bowel trouble. Mrs. Hoffman having been ill for the past five weeks.

Mrs. Hoffman was a daughter of Adam and Rose Bly, and was born in Preble township, Adams county, May 25, 1857. She spent her entire life in this county. She is survived by the following children: Mrs. John Smith, of Preble; Otto Hoffman, of Indianapolis; Mrs. William Melchior, of Indianapolis; Mrs. William Melchior, of Indianapolis; Mrs. Gottlieb Melchior, both of near Hoagland; Tony Hoffman, Mrs. William Bulmeyer and Mrs. Fred Hagfeldt, all of Fort Wayne. Two brothers, William Bly, of Cable, Missouri, and Lew Bly, of Madison, Nebraska, twenty-two grandchildren, and two great grandchildren also survive.

Funeral services will be held from the home at 1 o'clock and from the Friedheim Lutheran church at 1:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. Burial in the Friedheim cemetery.

W. C. T. U. To Observe Prohibition Anniversary

The Decatur chapter of the Women's Christian Temperance Union will observe the fifth anniversary of National Constitutional Prohibition with a special program at the public library next Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. The Rev. R. W. Loose, pastor of the First Evangelical church, will deliver the address. The presence of all members of the Union is desired and all friends are invited to attend.

GIVES RULING ON BURIAL PERMITS

City Health Officer Says Cemetery Sexton Must Keep Permits on File

Dr. J. M. Miller, city health officer, at a meeting of the trustees of the Decatur Cemetery Association, told of the regulations relative to receiving a body for burial in the cemetery. He explained that instead of the burial permit being left in the hands of the undertaker for file, that this certificate, which is issued by the city or county health officer, must be delivered to the sexton of the cemetery before the body can be received.

Heretofore the physician's and health officer's report of the death and permit for burial have been left in the hands of the undertaker. Dr. Miller explained that the burial or removal permit, which is issued by the Indiana State board of health, through the health officer having jurisdiction in the respective district, must be filed with the sexton of the cemetery. The trustees of the cemetery association request that local undertakers take notice of the regulation which will be enforced, they say. The burial permits are to be presented to the sexton and not kept by the undertaker, it was pointed out.

MORE ASSESSORS WILL BE NEEDED

No Appropriation Here For Assessors To Appraise Real Estate

With the ordering of the appraisal of real estate in Adams County and throughout Indiana in 1925, by the state tax board commissioners, several problems are confronting local authorities when it comes to doing the work.

The first of these problems is that no additional appropriation for the paying of additional assessor's salaries, \$3.00 a day, was made last year when the budget for this year was prepared. According to law the real estate would not have been appraised until 1926. Only enough money to pay the regular assessors who will assess the personal property has been made and it will be necessary to call the county council in special session to make the appropriations needed. Assessors to appraise the real estate in Decatur, Berne, Geneva and in probably one or two of the larger townships will be appointed. County Assessor William Zimmerman stated today.

The assessing of the real estate on the orders of the state board will begin March 1 and continue until May 15. Another problem which worries the county officials is how the new assessment of real estate will affect the total valuation of assessed property in Adams County. It is a foregone conclusion that the assess-

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STATE RESTS CASE FRIDAY

Court Adjourns In Trial Of Elwood Fry Until Monday Morning

The state rested its case in the trial of Elwood Fry, Adams county youth charged with grand larceny and robbery, about 3 o'clock Friday afternoon and court adjourned until 9 o'clock Monday morning. Six witnesses for the state were heard Friday. They were Homer P. Crum, storekeeper at Honduras, who was the victim of the holdup of which Fry is charged; Cleho McClester, who was charged jointly with Fry for the robbery and who was sentenced to the state Reformatory more than four months ago after pleading guilty to the charge; Dan Death, Charles Magley, Sheriff John Baker and Deputy Sheriff D. M. Hower.

Dan Death and McClester proved to be strong witnesses for the state. Death testified that Fry approached him in a local pool room on the night of the holdup, and asked him for McClester's revolver, which Death had. He said he asked Fry what he wanted with it, and said that Fry replied that he had to have some tires for his automobile. Death then testified that McClester, Fry and himself went to Death's room where they got the revolver. He said he met the two youths in this city the following morning and said Fry told him that they pulled the job alright.

Sheriff Baker and his deputy, Mr. Hower, told of arresting McClester and Fry and what the youths had told them. One of the three counts in the affidavit against Fry was squashed yesterday morning. The three counts charged grand larceny, robbery and automobile banditry. The court sustained a motion to quash the third count. The affidavit did not specifically name the location of the automobile while the robbery was being committed, it was said.

The penalty for grand larceny is a sentence of from one to fourteen years in the state reformatory. The penalty for robbery is a sentence of from ten to twenty-one years in the reformatory.

Mrs. J. R. Tillotson Dies At Her Home In Lima, O.

Relatives in this city today received word of the death of Mrs. J. R. Tillotson, age about 40 years, which occurred at her home in Lima, O., at 6:25 Friday evening. Death was due to typhoid fever, which was contracted by Mrs. Tillotson while she was in New York City with her husband, who was taking a post graduate course in medicine, nine weeks ago. Dr. Tillotson is a surgeon in Lima. Mrs. Tillotson was a daughter of Mrs. Ella Freidline, of Lima. She was reared at Delphos, Ohio. Mrs. Tillotson was a niece of Mrs. Hugh Hite and Mrs. John Shafer, of this city. She is survived by her husband mother and one brother, Claude Freidline, of Toledo, Ohio. Funeral services will be held in Lima, Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Hite, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Lankenau and Mr. and Mrs. John Schafer will attend the funeral.

Motorist Who Killed One Man Surrenders Today

Evansville, Ind., Jan. 10.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—While police were hunting the driver of the automobile that early last night struck and killed George Axmiller, 26, Vincennes athlete, on the Dixie Bee highway, Russell Jackson, Port Branch, Ind., coal mine superintendent, returned here and surrendered to authorities.

He did not realize he had killed the man until he read about the fatal accident in the morning newspapers, he declared. He was released pending the coroner's investigation.

COUNTY PHYSICIANS NOTICE

All physicians of Adams county are urged to attend the funeral services of Dr. L. L. Matfax, a Geneva, at 1:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

Hotel Framework Collapses Killing Three Workmen

(UNITED PRESS SERVICE) New York, Jan. 10.—Three men are dead, a fourth is reported dying and three others are in hospitals as a result of injuries received today when the skeleton structure of a new hotel being erected here collapsed.

Lives of scores of pedestrians were endangered when tons of steel and cement came crashing down after an arch support on the eighth floor gave way. All those killed or injured were employees.

WARREN PICKED FOR STONE'S JOB

Michigan Man Nominated By President For Attorney General

Washington, Jan. 10.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Charles B. Warren, of Detroit, Michigan, today was nominated by President Coolidge to be attorney-general of the U. S. to succeed Attorney-General Harlan Stone, of New York, who was appointed associate justice of the supreme court.

Training School Classes Will Meet Tuesday Night

The Community Training School began its second term last Monday evening under very favorable conditions. The enrollment was good and the students were pleased with the splendid courses that were offered. An excellent course for teachers of adult classes is being offered which has not the proportionate number of students enrolled for the churches represented. The churches of Decatur have in their schools a proportionately large enrollment of adults. The teachers of these classes all should, if possible, enroll in this class. The next session will be next Tuesday evening and it will be possible still for new students to enroll then.

Publicity Costs Kokomo Young Man Sum Of \$100

Kokomo, Ind., Jan. 10.—Publicity in New York city newspapers hailing him as the scion of a wealthy Kokomo family living in New York to win a stage career cost King Kennedy \$100 he revealed in a talk here. Kennedy said two husky men entered his New York apartment and, prodding a gun into his ribs, forced him to go to a bank and cash a check. He said he was able to assure the men \$100 was all he had in the bank. The men also took a quantity of jewelry.

Weather

Cloudy and unsettled tonight and Sunday. Probably snow or rain in south portions. Not much change in temperature.

"Ginger" Didn't See The Basketball Game, But He Had Plenty Of Thrills

Although E. F. "Ginger" Gass didn't get to see the Decatur Catholic high school cagers defeat the fast Cathedral five from Indianapolis last evening, his evening was not void of thrills and excitement, for, on "Ginger's" own statement, he played nurse and daddy to 126 children of the neighborhood at his home last evening.

"Ginger" was taken up on his statement to a certain well-known citizen yesterday that he could not attend the basketball game, but that he would take care of all the children in the neighborhood so that the mothers and fathers could attend the game. The friend to whom "Ginger" made his proposition saw that due publicity was given to it in the columns of the Daily Democrat and a few minutes after the paper was published last evening the telephone at the Gass home, which is across the street

EXPECT DECREASE IN LAND VALUES

Appraisal of Real Estate This Year Expected To Drop Greatly

What will be the loss in the taxable valuation of Adams county following the appraisal of real estate in Decatur and Adams county between March and May of this year? This is a question being widely discussed here now.

The state board of tax commissioners has ordered an appraisal of real estate throughout Indiana in 1925 instead of in 1926, as provided in the Goodrich tax law, and it is taken for granted that there will be a noticeable decrease in the value of farm lands and other real estate. The value of assessed real estate and improvements thereon this year is \$28,586,680, of which \$21,695,690 is the value of farm lands and lots in the incorporated towns and cities in the county. The value of farm lands and other real estate has not changed since 1920, when it was assessed. The average net assessable value of the farm lands, together with the improvements for this year is \$110.33 per acre.

The total net assessable value of the property in the county is \$40,475,730, the mortgages and other indebtedness being deducted. Estimates of the loss in the real estate assessments run as high as twenty per cent. If such is the case, Adams county will suffer a loss of from four to six million dollars this year, which deduction would reflect greatly on the tax duplicate of the county and in making the tax rates for 1926.

It is admitted that farm lands and city real estate are assessed higher in many cases than the actual value of the property and following the appraisal of real estate next March a loss will more than likely be suffered in the total valuation of assessable property in the county. Last year the county suffered a loss of more than one-half million dollars in the personal property assessments.

Illinois Man Shoots Wife And Ends Own Life

Rockford, Ill., Jan. 10.—J. K. Vandy, 58, Seymour, Iowa, shot his wife through the head and probably fatally wounded her at the home of E. H. Conrad here early today and then committed suicide by firing a shot into his brain. The double shooting is said to have resulted from a quarrel.

British And American Delegates Reach Agreement

Paris, Jan. 10.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Winston Churchill, British chancellor of the exchequer announced today he has reached provisional agreement with Col. James A. Logan, American representative regarding the claim of the U. S. to a share in the Dawes payment.

ALL MOTIONS FOR NEW TRIALS ARE OVERRULED

E. L. Of C. E. To Serve A Twenty-five Cent Supper

The Christian Endeavor society of the Evangelical church completed all arrangements Thursday evening, to serve a twenty-five cent supper in the church next Saturday evening, Jan. 17. A good menu has been prepared, and with the help of some of the ladies of the church the society expects to serve a real meal for such a small sum that nobody can afford to miss it. The young people will have tickets for sale next week. The public is cordially invited.

CAR WRECKED NORTH OF CITY

Roy Baker Has Narrow Escape In Accident On Fort Wayne Road

Roy Baker, of this city, narrowly escaped serious injury last night when his automobile slid off the Decatur-Ft. Wayne road about six miles north of the city, and stood on end in the ditch at side of the road. Mr. Baker was returning to this city when the accident occurred. The car was running in a rut in the road and when Mr. Baker attempted to steer it out of the rut the front wheels came out but the rear ones refused. The car ran a short distance with the rear wheels in the rut and then the car slid off the embankment near a culvert, the rear end going down first and when the car came to a stop the radiator was protruding in the air. Mr. Baker who was riding alone, held to the steering wheel until the car came to a stop and was not injured. The car, a Maxwell coach, was badly damaged.

CHICAGO GRAIN CLOSE

Wheat: May \$1.80½, July \$1.54½. Corn: May \$1.28½, July \$1.29½. Oats May 62½c, July 61½c.

DENY ROBBERY OF OHIO HOME

Three Alleged Bandits Plead Not Guilty To Robbery Near Van Wert

Van Wert, O., Jan. 10.—Pleas of not guilty were entered Friday in the common pleas court here by Martin Walsh, 28; Frederick Miller, 32, and Samuel Gallagher, 30, to charges of burglary brought against the trio in agrand jury indictment for ransacking the home of Jacob Sluterbeck located on a farm near here.

Prosecutor Miller informed the court that he would be ready for trial by January 26. Gallagher indicated that they would be able to secure, counsel and the court granted a continuance until Saturday morning at 9 o'clock. Under the Ohio law the defendants must have counsel, either procured by themselves or appointed by the court.

Sheriff Johnson, assisted by several deputies and police, brought the prisoners into court this morning for arraignment. They were returned to the county jail and are being heavily guarded.

John Harmon and his wife, living near Wren, who were attacked several months ago by bandits, were in the courtroom yesterday, but stated that none of the men were among those who attacked them.

Sluterbeck, his wife and daughter were bound and gagged while their home was ransacked on the morning of December 27. The bandits secured \$100. The bandits were arrested in Terre Haute, Ind., last week.

FOURTEEN GET SENTENCES IN FEDERAL COURT

Most Of The Defendants Sentenced To Serve Five Years In Prison

GET HEAVY FINES

Several Portland Men Are Among Those Sentenced In Mail Fraud Case

Indianapolis, Jan. 10.—After overruling all motions for new trials and arrest of judgment, Federal Judge Ferdinand A. Geiger, in the Hawkins mail fraud conspiracy case in federal court today, passed these sentences and fines:

Mord Carter, of Indianapolis, 2 years in the Leavenworth, Kansas, prison on one count and 5 years on each of the remaining 15 counts in the indictments and a fine of \$2,000. This means a total prison sentence of 5 years for Carter, the sentences running concurrently.

William Jones, Indianapolis, two years on one count, 5 years on the others and \$2,000 fine, sentences running concurrently for 5 years.

Frank J. Haight, of Indianapolis, two years and \$1,000 fine.

Frank C. Willis, of Indianapolis, two years and \$1,000 fine.

Anthony Scheib, Portland, Ind., two years on one count, five years on the others and \$2,000 fine, sentences running concurrently for five years.

Harry J. Rovard, of Pittsburg, Pa., two years on one count and five years on the others, running concurrently for five years, and \$2,000 fine.

William Sacks, St. Louis, Mo., two years on one count and five years on each of the others, running concurrently for five years and \$2,000 fine.

Carl B. Anderson, Portland, Ind., one year and a day on each count.

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DRAMATIC CLUB TO GIVE PLAY

Dramatic Section To Have Charge Of Woman's Club Program Monday

The Woman's Club will meet Monday evening in the Library auditorium with a committee from the Dramatic department in charge of the program.

Little nine-year-old Virginia Beverford, popular young reader of Fort Wayne, will give several readings. Virginia read before the Woman's Club last year and greatly pleased the large audience present.

The second part of the program will be the play, "The Fascinating Mr. Denby," by Selwyn Sage and Howard Munford Jones. The play is a new and popular one and was published in The Drama Magazine last February. The characters are Grace, Mrs. Raymond Kohne; Nita, Josephine Myers; Doris, Mrs. Chalmers Porter; waitress, Miss Helen Dugan. Mrs. A. R. Holthouse is in charge of the first part of the program and Mrs. Raymond Kohne is chairman of the committee in charge of the play.

All members of the club are urged to attend.