

'PHONE SERVICE OBJECTED TO BY BERNE CITIZENS

Petition Bearing 100 Names
Filed With Public Ser-
vice Commission

SEEK INVESTIGATION
Claim Service Is Not Better
If As Good As Before
Rate Increase

Indianapolis, Jan. 19.—A petition signed by 100 residents of Berne, Ind., and surrounding territory objecting to the service furnished at the Berne exchange of the Citizens Telephone company, of Decatur, Ind., and asking an investigation, was filed with the public service commission today.

The petition said the patrons were not getting "any better service, if as good, as before the rates of the company were increased."

Nomination Of Stone Is Approved Today

(UNITED PRESS SERVICE)
Washington, Jan. 19.—The senate judiciary committee today unanimously approved the nomination of Attorney General Stone to be supreme court justice.

Four Children Burn To Death In House

(UNITED PRESS SERVICE)
Waterbury, Conn., Jan. 19.—Fire last night in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Loomis took the lives of four of their children while the Loomis, nine year old son Alvin and their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Loomis, set downstairs listening to the radio.

EMANUEL SUMAN IS BURIED TODAY

Brother Of Decatur Man
Dies At Portland;
Poisoned Recently

Funeral services for Emanuel Suman, age 73, of Portland, brother of Otto Suman, of Pleasant Mills, and Dawson Suman, of this city, were held at two o'clock this afternoon from the Portland Evangelical church and internment was made in Green Park cemetery. Rev. Boyce, of Portland, assisted by Rev. F. S. Erne, of Berne, officiated at the funeral services.

Mr. Suman's death occurred Friday evening at his home, following an illness for three weeks. Death caused by capillary bronchitis, which resulted when Mr. Suman was poisoned by carbon monoxide while working at the J. A. Long Packing plant at Portland.

Mr. Suman has been a resident of Portland for 38 years. He was born in Frederick County, Maryland, March 17, 1851. Besides his brothers in this county Mr. Suman is survived by his wife, Mary J. Suman, to whom he was married on March 13, 1873, one son, Walter, and a daughter, Mrs. Cora Renner, of Portland. Two other brothers, Josiah, of Calmar, Iowa, and George Suman, and two sisters, Mrs. Jane Reichard, of Ft. Recovery, Ohio, and Mrs. Flo Allen, of Kansas City, Kansas, also survive.

Symphony Orchestra To Appear Here February 19

It was announced today that the Gibson-Plectrum Symphony orchestra, of Port Wayne, will give a concert at the high school auditorium in this city on Thursday evening, February 19. The orchestra gave a concert at the Y. W. C. A. in Fort Wayne Sunday afternoon and a large audience enjoyed the splendid music. There are between thirty and forty members of the orchestra. The program to be given here by the orchestra will be interspersed by several numbers by Leah and Wilda Barr, juvenile entertainers, daughters of the director of the orchestra. The little girls are readers and entertainers of great ability.

WILL ASSIST IN FILING RETURNS

Deputy Internal Revenue
Collector To Be Here
Feb. 16 To 19

J. O. Banks, deputy internal revenue collector, writes that he will be in Decatur February 16, 17, 18 and 19 for the purpose of assisting local income tax payers in filling out their blanks for last year. He will be located in the Decatur Industrial Association rooms and anyone wishing his services are asked to call on him on either of the above days.

Income tax returns for the year 1924 must be made out and filed not later than March 15 of this year. Mr. Banks urges local income tax payers to avail themselves of his service during the four days he will be in Decatur and gives out the following hints about the payment of income tax:

"Who must make returns? Single persons who had net income of \$1,000 or more, or gross income of \$5,000 or more, or married couples who had net income of \$2,500 or more, or gross income of \$5,000 or more file returns.

"When? The filing period is from January to March 15, 1925.

"Where? With collector of internal revenue for the district in which the person lives or has his principal place of business.

"How? Instruction on form 1040A and Form 1040; also the law and regulations.

"What is the Tax? Two per cent normal tax on the first \$4,000 of net income in excess of the personal exemption and credits for dependents; four per cent on next \$4,000; six per cent normal tax on balance of net income. Surplus from 1 per cent to 40 per cent on net incomes over \$10,000 for the year 1924.

"What are the Exemptions? \$1,000 for a single person, \$2,500 for a married person, or the head of a family, with an additional \$400 for each dependent."

Ticket Holders May Have Money Refunded

The members of the E. L. of C. E. of the Evangelical church wish to thank the public for their liberal patronage at the twenty-five cent supper served in the dining room of the church Saturday evening. A large number of people had to be turned away because of lack of food and anyone holding a ticket who did not get served may have his money refunded by seeing Robert Garard.

"Death Trap" Crossing Claims Three More Lives

Cleveland, O., Jan. 19.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—The "death trap" crossing at Solon, near here, claimed three more victims.

Perry Hawkins, 35, Cleveland; Carl Hawkins, seven, his son, and Mrs. Sarah Young, 25, Kent, O. were killed there last night when an Erie train hit their automobile. Mrs. Louise Hawkins and Harvey Hawkins, 19, were injured seriously.

Eight persons have met death on the crossing in the last five years. It is known as a "death trap."

THAT FIRST ROBIN

Jesse Beery called the Daily Democrat today and reported that he had just seen a Robin perched on a fence post at his home, 316 East Oak street. Mr. Beery is the first to report sight of one of the well known harbingers of spring.

FLOODS SWEEP OVER SOUTHERN STATES TODAY

Nine Lives Lost And Prop-
erty Damaged Greatly
In Five States

TEN DAYS OF RAIN
Georgia, Alabama, S. Car-
olina, Louisiana And
Mississippi Suffer

(UNITED PRESS SERVICE)
Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 19.—Nine persons have lost their lives and enormous property damage resulted from flood waters sweeping sections of five southern states today.

Swollen rivers caused by ten days of heavy rains have flooded vast areas in Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, Louisiana and Mississippi, caused two trains wrecks and hundreds homeless.

C. L. Dunham, engineer and T. F. Foster, postmaster, were killed and several persons injured when a Southern passenger train plunged through a trestle weakened by flood waters near Selma.

Engineer H. V. Hartzell was killed and Fireman J. M. Gosner injured when a Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis passenger train struck a slide near Cartersville, Ga., and overturned.

At Albany, Ga., Will Tift, 31, and Ara Tift, 25, were reported drowned when a boat overturned in the Flint river.

Four negroes are believed to have drowned near Hammond, La., when their automobile overturned on a flooded highway and was swept away. Lowland section of Selma, Ala., were covered with water and highway traffic to Montgomery, Ala., was at a standstill.

More than 100 persons were homeless in West Point, Ga., where the Chattahoochee river is running rampant, flooding lowlands, streets and homes.

Julius Haugk made a business trip to Fort Wayne this morning.

PLANS MADE FOR FARM INSTITUTE

Kirkland Township Farm-
ers Make Arrangements
For Sessions Jan. 28

At a meeting of the officers of the Kirkland township farmers institute in their township, arrangements of a preliminary nature were made for the annual sessions which will be held during the entire day of January 28. At both forenoon and afternoon sessions, Mr. J. P. Prigg, a noted agricultural speaker from the central part of Indiana, will speak. An evening session of an entertaining as well as instructive nature is being planned. A basket dinner, which feature has met with so much favor at institutes held here during the last few years, will be enjoyed at the noon hour.

In order to give farmers and their boys of the township an opportunity to display seed corn, a corn show is being planned. Ten-ear and single ear samples of both yellow and white corn will be exhibited and prizes of one dollar for first prize and fifty cents for second prize will be awarded. Separate classes for men and boys are provided and the committee is urging that all those eligible come to the institute with the corn and swell the show.

It is also hoped that women and girls of the township will enable even a better display of canned goods and other domestic science products to be shown than the excellent exhibit which was shown last year. Practically the same classes will be made for women and girls as were used last year and they also are urged to bring something from every kitchen to make the display of this nature the greatest ever held.

Various committees have been appointed to look after the details of the institute which will be in general charge of Homer Crum, chairman of the institute. The complete program, premium list and names of committees will appear within a short time.

QUICK, WATSON! A BARREL

Hanftington, Jan. 19.—A railroad man in the Erie yards here paused in his duties Saturday, stared—and then he swore off on post-prohibition stuff for good and hunted a policeman.

"Do you see what I see?" he inquired.

The officer took a look, rubbed his eyes and looked again. He had plenty to look at.

Toward him walked a man correctly costumed in shirt, coat, vest and shoes—but between the flopping shirt tail and the shoes there was missing that most necessary of garments, his trousers.

A closed car was called and the man now reposes in the county jail and probably will be subjected to examination by a sanity commission.

Oh, yes! He's wearing trousers now.

TO ATTEND STATE HIGHWAY SCHOOL

Commissioners And High-
way Superintendent To
Attend Purdue Meet

County Commissioners Ernst Conrad, R. F. Breiner and George Shoemaker, and Charles E. Magley, county superintendent of highways, left this morning for Lafayette, Indiana, where they will attend the state road school at Purdue University. The school will be in session today, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and subjects of interest to county commissioners and highway superintendents will be discussed.

An interesting program has been prepared for the four-day session and the course given in road building is interesting as well as educational. County commissioners and highway superintendents from all parts of the state will be in attendance. Several of the foremost authorities in road building will address the meetings and several state officials will also give talks.

Five Scottish Miners Killed In An Explosion

Kilmarnock, Scotland, Jan. 19.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Five Scottish miners were killed today in an explosion in the Portland colliery works, two of them dying in a heroic attempt to rescue the others from a pit, 420 feet deep.

W. F. RICE DIES IN GIDEON, MO.

Former Decatur Man Found
Dead Early Sunday; Re-
turning Body Here

B. J. Rice, of this city, received a message Sunday, stating that his brother, W. F. Rice, had been found dead at his home in Gideon, Missouri, early Sunday morning. The cause of death has not been learned here, but it is presumed that it was heart trouble. Mr. Rice visited here last fall and was not in the best of health at that time.

Mr. Rice was a son of W. P. and Frances Rice, and was born in Adams county, April 5, 1859. He lived in Decatur and Adams county until twelve or fourteen years ago when he went to Gideon, Missouri. He was connected with the Gideon-Anderson Lumber company in Gideon. He is survived by two sons, Kenyon, with whom he lived in Gideon, and Jesse, of Ohio; one brother, B. J. Rice, of this city; and two sisters, Mrs. Jeff Bryson, of Portland, and Mrs. W. R. Smith, of this city.

The body will be returned to this city for burial. It is expected to arrive in this city over the Nickel Plate railroad early Tuesday morning, and will be taken to the B. J. Rice residence on North Fifth street. Funeral arrangements have not been made.

Weather

Unsettled tonight and Tuesday. Probably snow or rain. Rising temperature tonight in north and central portions and in northeast portion Tuesday.

87,000 RAIL EMPLOYES GET WAGE INCREASE

Increase Ranges From One
To Two Cents Per
Hour

OTHERS DENIED BOOST
Classes Affected Include Ex-
press And Station
Employees

(UNITED PRESS SERVICE)
Chicago, Jan. 19.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Eighty-seven thousand employees of fifty railroads today were granted wage increases of from one to two cents an hour by the U. S. railroad labor board.

Application for similar increases for 75,000 other workers was denied. The wage increases total approximately \$3,000,000 annually.

Classes of workers affected are clerks, freight handlers, express and station employees, janitors, elevator operators, truckers, stevedores and stokers.

Time and a half pay was allotted for Sundays and legal holidays. Sick leave pay is to be allowed unless substitute workers are engaged.

A reduction in working hours was denied.

Lines affected include: Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railway Co., Chicago & Western Indiana Co., Chicago, Indianapolis & Louisville, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul lines running east and west; Indianapolis Union Railway Co., Lake Erie & Western district, including Fort Wayne, Cincinnati & Louisville railroad.

Pound Sterling Reaches Post War Record Today

(UNITED PRESS SERVICE)
London, Jan. 19.—The pound sterling reached \$4.80½ on the London exchange today a post war record. Par is \$4.87.

SENIOR CLASS PLAY JAN. 28-29

D. H. S. Seniors Rehearsing
For Farical Comedy
Entitled, "Billie"

Rehearsals are in progress for the annual class play of the Decatur high school seniors, which will be given in the high school auditorium on Wednesday and Thursday nights, January 28 and 29. The title of the play to be given this year is, "Billie," a three-act farical comedy, written by George Cameron. The play has enjoyed long runs on the professional stage and only recently was released for amateur actors.

The scene of the play is laid on the Steamship Florida, enroute for Havana. The plot discloses many unusually amusing scenes and hinges entirely around a set of false teeth belonging to Billie Hargrave, a young college student who lost four of his front teeth in a football game and had to purchase false teeth. Billie takes passages on the S. S. Florida for Havana, hoping to escape the humiliation of associating with his friends until he has become accustomed to his false teeth.

Billie is surprised to learn soon after boarding the ship that his sweetheart, Beatrice Sloan, and her mother are also passengers on the ship. While Billie is in the act of proposing to Beatrice, the captain of the ship bumps into him and jars his false teeth out of his mouth. Many amusing scenes follow as Billie searches for his teeth and tries to talk without them.

The play is being staged under the direct supervision of Miss Agnes Sellemeier, class guardian, and is being directed by Mrs. J. R. Blair. Rehearsals have been in progress for one week and already the members of the cast have their parts well in hand. The cast for the play is as follows: Billie Hargrave, a football hero, Don Hunsicker.

Alice Hargrave, his sister, Mary (Continued On Page Four)

To Have Basket Dinner At Bobo Farmers Institute

A change has been made in the plans for the dinner at the St. Marys township farmers institute to be held at Bobo next Wednesday. The dinner will not be served by the Ladies Aid of the Bobo Methodist church, as originally planned, but a basket dinner will be served instead. Each family is asked to bring dinner in a basket and the food will be spread on a large table in the school house at noon. There will be three sessions of the institute, to be held in the morning, afternoon and evening. The principal speakers in the morning and afternoon sessions will be H. R. Muller of Cedar Grove, and Mrs. Carl Tuttle, of Pleasant Lake. A miscellaneous program will be given in the evening.

PASTOR'S WIFE HURT IN WRECK

Rev. L. C. Wisner And Fam-
ily And Evangelist In
Auto Accident

Mrs. L. C. Wisner, wife of the Rev. Wisner, pastor of the Decatur Methodist circuit, suffered a fracture of her collar bone and other less serious injuries, when the automobile in which she, her husband and two children, and Mrs. Wilmer E. Griffith, of Hamilton, Ohio, were riding, skidded on the icy road and turned over, one quarter of a mile east of the Washington M. E. church, in Washington township, about 7 o'clock Sunday evening. Mrs. Griffith suffered painful bruises and Margaret Ann Wisner was bruised about one hip, but Rev. Wisner and daughter, Elizabeth, escaped uninjured.

The members of the party were enroute in Rev. Wisner's car from this city to the Washington church where an evangelistic campaign is in progress. Mrs. Griffith is the evangelist in charge of the services. When they reached a point in the road in front of the Gallagher Mallonee residence, the car skidded on the ice-covered road and struck another automobile, owned by Jay Minger, which was parked in front of the Mallonee home. Mr. Minger's car was moved several feet and Rev. Wisner's car turned over on its side. The minister and his one daughter, Elizabeth, were riding in the front seat and escaped without a scratch, although the windshield was badly broken.

The injured parties were brought to this city where they received medical attention. No service was held at the Washington church last night, on account of the accident, although a large audience had assembled there before the accident happened. There will be no service this evening, but the meetings will be resumed Tuesday evening and continued each evening for the remainder of the week. Mrs. Griffith is feeling none the worse for her accident today and will be ready to resume her work tomorrow evening. The evangelistic services began on January 4 and splendid meetings have been held.

"King Of The Ivories" Likes Vaudeville Work

Evansville, Ind., Jan. 19.—With folks from Illinois, Kentucky and all over this section of Indiana traveling miles just to see him, Harry M. Snodgrass, the "king of the ivories," was beginning to like vaudeville today.

On his second day behind the footlights, the barrage of congratulatory telegrams continued to pour in.

Snodgrass' act is an exact duplication of a radio program broadcast by station WOS, Jefferson City, Mo., even to the famous "Missouri melodeon," which pens and closes the program. All previous records were smashed for single performances and total daily attendance yesterday at the Grand theatre, where Snodgrass made his vaudeville bow.

Thousands were turned away.

Christian Science Lecture At Ft. Wayne

There will be a Christian Science lecture Friday evening January 24, at 8 o'clock in the Majestic Theatre, Ft. Wayne, by Miss Margaret Murney Glenn, C. S. B. of Boston, Mass. member of the Board of Lectureship of the Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass. Admission will be free.

GUNMAN HELD FOR FEDERAL AUTHORITIES

Muncie Police Capture Ger-
ald Chapman, Notorious
Mail Robber

ESCAPED FROM PRISON

Had Several Thousand Dol-
lars Worth Of Loot On
His Person

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 19.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Gerald Chapman, notorious mail robber and criminal of sorts, will be held by federal authorities under heavy guard in the Marion county jail here until they hear from Atlanta federal prison regarding what disposition shall be made of him. U. S. Marshal Linus P. Meredith announced today.

The suave, mannerly criminal, who escaped twice from the Atlanta prison, and who was recaptured late Sunday by a squad of police at Muncie, Ind., will be taken before a federal judge unless this word is received soon, it was said, to determine what shall be done with him.

Chapman, the brains of a \$1400,000 mail robbery in New York three years ago, maintained his scholarly demeanor as he paced the runway in jail. Immaculately attired, he refused to make a statement to newspapermen and to pose for a newspaper photograph.

"I'm very sorry that I can't oblige you but I haven't anything to say," he said as he turned away from reporters.

Muncie, Ind., Jan. 19.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—The arrest of the "million dollar bandit" resulted from the work of Captain Fred W. Puckett of the Muncie police department, who has been working with federal officers in the case for several days.

"Certain attractions," the nature of which has not been revealed, has drawn Chapman here several times. It was learned. He had been going "in and out" of the city, while working in the central states, Captain Puckett said. From time to time the evidence of his whereabouts was learned but he managed to keep a sufficient lead. Several weeks ago his automobile broke down near here and was towed in and repaired and he made his getaway without his identity being learned.

At one o'clock Sunday morning, Captain Puckett placed three picked officers in certain parts of the city. The officers remained at their posts for more than ten hours and it was 11:35 o'clock before he was "spotted" on the streets.

Chapman was driving down the street where the police car, bearing (Continued On Page Four)

CHICAGO HAS 14 VIOLENT DEATHS

Guns, Poison Liquor And
Automobiles Take Toll
Over Weed-End

(UNITED PRESS SERVICE)
Chicago, Jan. 19.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Guns, poison liquor, and automobiles took a toll of fourteen lives here over the week end.

A boy, accosted by a policeman, after stealing a radio loud speaker, was shot and killed. The officer was carrying out the orders of Chief of Police Morgan Collins to "shoot to kill."

An alleged black hand bomber was murdered at his dinner table by men who suspected him of betraying his confederates.

The two shootings raised the death list in Chicago by guns to 17 since January 1. Five men, including a youth of 18 died in hospitals Sunday from the effects of moonshine liquor. Mrs. Margaret Mineola 23 is held on a charge of selling the poison. These five deaths raised the toll of death by liquor since the first of the year to 11.

Seven persons were killed by automobiles, most of the fatalities being caused by machines skidding on slippery streets.

Twenty-six persons have been killed by automobiles in Chicago since January 1.