

DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT

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RURAL MAIL SERVICE AND ITS GROWTH:
Few institutions in the history of American progress can be credited with a more salutary effect upon the march of that progress than the Rural Mail Service of the Post Office Department.

No other single instrumentality has done more than the Rural Mail Service toward "bringing the city to the country," and relieving the prosaic existence of farm life, or has been as effective in establishing closer contact between the farmer and his markets. It has been the most important factor in making agriculture an exacting business instead of its one-time precarious classification which conveyed no broader meaning than "tilling the soil."

Twenty-nine years ago the farmer, and his wife, and children, led an existence of almost complete isolation, living upon widely scattered farms, some of them miles apart. They had comparatively little communication with their neighbors or the outside world, except that derived from weekly trips to the adjacent village. More often than not the farmer lost a full day's work and his crops were neglected in order to obtain expected mail at the village post office.

In those days the farmers' mail consisted largely of communications from relatives and friends. Today the daily mail includes, usually on the very date of publication, the daily newspaper, containing market reports and agricultural news; the weekly and monthly farm journals and magazines, and business letters from the village merchant and the more pretentious establishment in the distant city. All of these are now brought to his door or to the box a few yards away.

The rural carrier is the farmer's post office and his agent. Through him he conducts transactions for the sale of his live stock, grain, and other farm produce. From him he buys stamps and pays his bills by postal money order. In short, the letter carrier is the medium that has trans-

formed the once secluded habitant of the rural district into a cosmopolitan citizen, conversant with current affairs and occupying a larger place in the destinies of a great nation.

It was Postmaster General John Wanamaker who first officially suggested in 1891 the rural mail idea to Congress. The plan was fought in the legislative branch of the Government for five years before it was given a try-out.

Illinois leads the nation both in the number of rural routes and in mileage, there being 2,637 routes covering a distance of 70,677 miles in that state. Ohio is second with 2,542 routes and a mileage of 63,820; Missouri third with 2,252 routes covering 56,074 miles; Iowa fourth with 2,229 routes covering 60,734 miles; Texas fifth with 2,193 routes covering 59,998 miles; Pennsylvania sixth with 2,036 and 53,385 respectively. Kansas seventh with 1,902 and 55,464 respectively; and New York eighth with 1,863 and 47,130, respectively. Indiana has 1,845 routes, covering a mileage of 54,795 miles.

Build your city upon a hill so that

it can be seen, is the way Rev. White-sell expressed his thought on community activity to the Rotarians last evening. He is right. Let's put old Decatur on top of the highest hill in Indiana and it can be done with every one working towards that end.

After the Ponzi, Kozetz and other swindlers did their work, a young beau-brummel worked his game in New York and ended up by getting about three million dollars. And New Yorkers thought all the time that they were immuned.

The legislature has killed the bill aimed at prohibiting the auto races on Decoration Day at Indianapolis. Plans will now go forward for the race.

Are you one of the thrifty persons who is putting aside a certain amount of money each week or every month for a "rainy day?"

Decatur Circuit
Preaching at Mount Pleasant on the morning of Jan. 25. Mrs. Griffith will preach both morning and evening at Washington.
The Fourth Quarterly Conference

will be held at Beulah, February 3. Rev. Lester L. C. Wisner.

Pleasant Mills & Salem
Sunday School, 9:30.
Morning Worship, at Salem, 10:50.
Afternoon service at Bobo, 2:00.
Epworth League, 6:30.
Evangelistic Service at Pleasant Mills, 7:30.

The church election will be held February 1 at both Pleasant Mills and Salem during the morning services. Every member, 21 years of age and over has a vote. We hope a good representative will vote.
Give God a Chance and see what

He can make out of your life. F. A. Sphley.

POCAHONTAS LUMP COAL
Off car Saturday and Monday.
\$8 delivered.

Kentucky Lump \$7
Virginia Lump \$7
Egg size or cook stove coal..... \$6.50

MY NEW SPRING HATS have arrived. Prices from \$4.00 to \$5.50. Winter hats to be closed out at \$1.00 each. Mrs. Maud A. Merriman, 222 S. Fourth st., Decatur, Ind. 2912
FOR RENT—Strictly modern living apartment. Possession at once. Call 57. 2912

FOR WORKING PEOPLE

The best of workers get out of sorts when the liver fails to act. They feel languid, half-sick, "blue" and discouraged and think they are getting lazy. Neglect of these symptoms might result in a sick spell, therefore the sensible course is to take a dose or two of Herbine. It is just the medicine needed to purify the system and restore the vim and ambition of health. Price 60c. Sold by Holthouse Drug Co.

DANCING

Billy's Syncopator's

Tonight at

Masonic Hall

introducing that

new fox trot

"Doo-Wacka Doo"

Park Plan

Public Invited.

Coney Island Sandwiches

Hot Dogs

at

FRICKLE'S PLACE

Try our home-made chilli made by "Sammy" Yong, the new chef at Frickle's.



Today -- Friday, Jan. 23rd -- Is Safe Investment Day

It is not enough to be Thrifty and to Save. That is very fine, but what are you going to do with the money you have saved?

With most people the most complete joy of SAVING is in order to SPEND—you should save to spend—but you must spend Wisely.

Invest the money saved, so that it will earn a larger amount for you than it could earn at your bank. Invest—in what? That is the question.

It is approximated that about a billion dollars a year is wasted through fake investment schemes—the savings which it took years to accumulate are then gone.

The Thrifty, who Save should be helped—so that their Savings will be Safely Invested, and will continue to Increase.

Our Organization will tell you what Safe Investments are—they will tell you how to invest your money so that (it may earn one percent less than what you could get through the Friend or Stranger who gives you a tip) it will be safe for all time.

WE want to help you to make SAFE INVESTMENTS.

Our services are always at your command whether you do business with the "Old Adams" or not—don't hesitate to call on us—we're always glad to see and serve you!

Old Adams-County Bank

THRIFT

WEEK

ADAMS THEATRE

TOMORROW

MATINEE and NIGHT
A Warner Bros. Classic

"CORNERED"

with

Marie Prevost

and a Special Cast.
Replete with Action,
Thrills, Comedy, Pathos
Intense Drama.

A dual role played by
Miss Prevost that has
never before been equalled.

Special Comedy
"MEET THE MISSUS"
Matinee 5c and 20c
Night 20c

Sunday and Monday
"The Tenth Woman"
Another
Warner Bros. Classic

Also—
Added Attractions
Matinee and Night
10c—25c

Special FOR Fri. & Sat.

Your first opportunity to buy a high grade

Spark Plug

at such a low price

A C Plugs

for Fords

48c

Sell regularly at 75c and worth it.

A C Plugs

For all other cars

60c

Sell regularly for \$1

THRU THE WIND-SHIELD Spot Light

Sells regularly

for \$12.50.

BUY NOW!

Installed for

\$8.90

DON'T FORGET OUR

TIRE SALE

is still on

for the

balance of

the month

BIG REDUCTIONS

Porter & Beavers

Phone 123

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