

WEATHER  
Rain probable to-  
night and Thursday.  
Warmer tonight and  
colder by Thursday  
afternoon.

# DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT

ONLY DAILY NEWSPAPER IN ADAMS COUNTY

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State, National And  
International News

Decatur, Indiana, Wednesday, April 18, 1928.

By The United Press and  
International News Service

Price Two Cents

YOUR HOME  
PAPER—  
LIKE ONE  
OF THE  
FAMILY

# INTERNATIONAL AUTO SPEED RACE ON

## HOOPENGARDNER BELIEVED TO BE ALIVE AND WELL

Missing Decatur Man Told  
Brother-in-law He Was  
Going To Michigan

### SAID HE HAD JOB OFFERED HIM THERE

Belief that John Hoopengardner, missing Decatur man, was safe and at work in Michigan, probably at Centerville, was given credence today by Clyde White, of near Ossian, a brother-in-law of Mr. Hoopengardner.

Sheriff Harl Hollingsworth and Chief of Police Sephus Melchi went to the White home yesterday evening, after learning that Mr. Hoopengardner had been there visiting last Tuesday before mysteriously disappearing that night.

Mr. White stated that Mr. Hoopengardner came to his home Tuesday afternoon and told him that he feared that he could not continue to make a living in the gasoline filling station business in Decatur and had decided to leave.

#### Promised Job In Michigan

He also told his brother-in-law that he was assured of a job in Michigan and that he was going there to work. He asked Mr. White to look after some business matters for him.

Mr. White stated that he believed that Mr. Hoopengardner took the early morning train Wednesday, for Kalamazoo, Michigan. Hoopengardner was last seen in Decatur Tuesday evening.

Fear was first expressed that the man had become temporarily deranged and had walked into the river. Some held to the theory that the man had met with foul play and possibly had been killed.

#### Police Chief Gets Call

Tuesday morning, Chief Melchi received a telephone call from a Mr. Slobe, at Centerville, Michigan, asking that members of the Hoopengardner family come to that town at once if they desired information concerning the missing man.

Members of the family went to that town yesterday and reported to local officials that there was nothing to the report. Police officers, however, believe that the mysterious call was from Hoopengardner and that he wanted his sons to know that he was

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX

## NINE PERSONS BURN TO DEATH

Seven Children And Two  
Adults Lose Lives In  
Three Fires

Sistersville, W. Va., Apr. 18.—(UPI)—Four children were burned to death and two others burned seriously when fire following a gas explosion destroyed the Denton Tennant home near here today.

The dead are Brooks, 10; Vonda Bell, 8; Garnet, 7, and Betty Lee, 3, all children of Mr. and Mrs. Denton Tennant.

Charlie Tennant, 23, and Dennis Tennant, 17, were injured.

Gas, leaking through a defective stove hose connection, ignited from an oil lamp and caused the blaze. The small children were in bed and perished despite frantic efforts of the parents to save them.

#### Gasoline Explodes

Presque Isle, Maine, Apr. 18.—(INS)—Three children were burned to death and their mother and a half brother of their parents were seriously injured here today when gasoline was mistaken for kerosene in kindling a fire in the kitchen stove. An explosion rocked the country side, shattered the house and set it afire.

The dead: Beth Farley, 6; Phyllis Farley, 3; and Georgia Farley, 1.

Those in the hospital, Donald Farley, 5; the mother, Mrs. Hazel Farley and her half brother, Archie Farley.

#### Two Men Lose Lives

Philadelphia, April 18.—(INS)—Risking their lives by entering a burning shack firemen today carried out the charred bodies of James Lindsey, 32, World war veteran, and Andrew Gornley, 35, of Maple Shade, N. J.

The wooden structure in which the men had been trapped while asleep was burned to the ground. Origin of the blaze is unknown.

## HOTEL MAGNATE DIES SUDDENLY



The man who rose from the position of bellboy to millionaire chain hotel proprietor, Edward M. Statler, (left) is dead in New York. Mr. Statler is shown above with his son.

## VELMA THIEME DIES TUESDAY

### Union Township School Girl Dies Of Acute Neu- ritis; Age 13 Years

Velma Thieme, 13, died at her home in Union Township, at 11:30 o'clock Tuesday evening, April 17, 1928. She had been ill for about three weeks and death was due to acute neuritis.

Velma Thieme was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Thieme, and was a pupil at the Immanuel Lutheran parochial school. She would have been confirmed next year, had she lived. She was born in Union township, February 22, 1915.

Surviving, besides the parents, are one brother, Herman; one sister, Paula and the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Hockemeyer, and Mrs. Fred Thieme.

Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock. Standard Time at the residence, and at 1:45 o'clock at the Immanuel Lutheran church. Rev. Frosch will conduct the services. Burial in the church cemetery. The pall bearers will be chosen from among the classmates of the little girl.

### French Quinn To Speak At Fort Wayne Friday

Fort Wayne, Ind., April 18.—(Special)—French Quinn, prominent business man of Decatur, will speak at the Friday morning chapel service at International Business college April 20. He will speak on "The Spirit of Lincoln."

Mr. Quinn is being brought to the International Business college by J. C. Trich, principal of the school, formerly of Decatur.

### Edward Koeneman Accepts Position In Fort Wayne

Fort Wayne, April 18.—(Special)—Edward Koeneman, of near Decatur, has accepted a position with the National Cash Register company's branch office, at Fort Wayne. He is a graduate of the general business course at Fort Wayne.

## FORMER LOCAL RESIDENT DIES

### Mrs. Robert Boyd, 83, Dies At Home In Mt. Vernon, Ohio, Monday Night

Mrs. Robert Boyd, 83, widow of Robert Boyd and sister of Fred V. Mills, of this city, died at her home in Mt. Vernon, Ohio, Monday night at 11 o'clock, it was learned here today.

Mrs. Boyd had been in failing health for some time and her death was said to have been due to infirmities. Pneumonia was said to have been the immediate cause of the death.

Mrs. Boyd was well-known in Decatur, having resided here many years ago. No children survive. Funeral services will be held Thursday afternoon at Mt. Vernon.

## Bulletin

El Reno, Okla., April 18.—(INS)—Elwin F. Allen, 28, held in the county jail here on a burglary charge, has confessed to the Hall-Mills murder in New Jersey, Sheriff T. C. Shacklett, announced here today.

In a detailed confession implicating himself as the murderer of the couple, Allen said he received \$500 and an automobile for the crime, but refused to say who hired him to do the killing, Sheriff Shacklett said.

Efforts to check the confession of Allen, who says he is a citizen of Mexico, were being made by Oklahoma officers this afternoon. Sheriff Shacklett said he could not be sure Allen was sincere in his confession, but that the man had reiterated his statement.

#### Favors Extension Of Limit

Sullivan, Ind., Apr. 18.—(UPI)—Extension of the time limit of the statute of limitations to at least five years or perhaps its total repeal, was advocated by Thomas H. Adams, republican gubernatorial candidate, in a speech here.

#### Oplicher Gives His Platform

Decatur Congressional Candidate Issues Statement To Public

Lawrence E. Oplicher, of this city, today issued his first statement concerning his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for congressman from the Eighth congressional district. Mr. Oplicher will make an active campaign and said today that already he was perfecting organizations in each of the counties in the district.

He issued the following platform in connection with his official statement:

"My duty is to support the U. S. Constitution, federal laws and Monroe doctrine and its principles.

"I favor economy, law enforcement, and clean, sound just government.

"I favor laws for the relief of the farmers, favorable to labor, flood relief and just representation.

"I believe in free speech and free press; equal suffrage and proper relief for all our war veterans.

"Opposed to enter League of Nations, to political corruption and vice.

"Not in sympathy with legalized murder, life imprisonment in preference for all our war veterans."

Mr. Oplicher is making his campaign on the slogan "The office belongs in the north." He contends that in the last 100 years, the northern part of the congressional district has never been represented in congress and he feels that Adams county is entitled to the office for four years.

#### Methodist Bishop Dies

Louisville, Ky., Apr. 18.—(INS)—After an illness of several weeks Bishop James Edward Dickey of the Methodist Episcopal church south, was dead in a local hospital today.

Mrs. Boyd was well-known in Decatur, having resided here many years ago. No children survive. Funeral services will be held Thursday afternoon at Mt. Vernon.

## Lindy Sees Aid To Aviation In Bremen's Flight

St. Louis, Mo., April 18.—(INS)—Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh was warm in his praise here today for the achievement of the Irish-German Bremen aviators in making the first east to west flight across the Atlantic.

America's flying ace said that unquestionably the westward flight was more hazardous than an eastward one. Lindbergh classified the fear of the foreign aviators as another notch in the advancement of aviation.

Col. Lindbergh was back home here following his flight from the Pacific, as uncommunicative as ever in regard to his future plans.

## DAYLIGHT SAVING PETITION TABLED BY CITY COUNCIL

### Councilmen Vote To Defer Action On Petition Signed By 165 Persons

### REFERENDUM IS DISCUSSED

The petition, signed by 165 individuals and business firms, asking that "daylight saving time" be established in Decatur this summer, was filed with the city council last evening and motioned to be tabled.

The petition asked that the council place the city of Decatur on daylight saving time to conform with Fort Wayne and the cities in Ohio, which operate on eastern time. As Fort Wayne has not definitely decided on the matter, Councilman Joe Hunter moved that the petition be tabled. The Fort Wayne city council passed the daylight saving time ordinance, but Mayor William Geake has not yet signed it and sentiment exists there to have the voters express their opinion on the matter at the primary election on May 8.

#### Small Minority Signs Petition

Several of the Decatur councilmen expressed the opinion that if a majority of the people did not want the daylight saving time here, that a minority should not be permitted to change the clocks. The petition with 165 names represent only a very small part of the minority, councilmen state, and unless some sort of an expression from the majority can be obtained it is doubtful if the ordinance will pass.

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#### Contract Between City Of Decatur And John M. Barnett

Engineer Orval Harruff filed a report from the state board of health which showed, after examination that the city water is good. The report read, "that sample of water is of satisfactory quality for drinking purposes."

A contract between the city of Decatur and John M. Barnett, for furnishing water and street sprinkling, was filed with the council and approved. Mr. Barnett agrees to pay the city \$30 a month for the water furnished and the city is to pay Mr. Barnett \$10 per month for sprinkling the street and alley intersections.

The contract runs for 5½ months.

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