

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

DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT

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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 Earl 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. Sloba, 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.—(U.P.)—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 Dennie 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 Grockmeyer, 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. Froesch 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 \$5,000 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.—(U.P.)—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.

OPLIGER GIVES HIS PLATFORM

Decatur Congressional Candidate Issues Statement To Public

Lawrence E. Opliger, of this city, today issued his first statement concerning his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for congressman from the Eighth congressional district. Mr. Opliger 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."

Mr. Opliger 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.

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 feat 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 motion, tabled until a further date.

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 here.

Questioned as to the legality of the proposition of having the voters vote on the question at the primary election next month, City Attorney J. Fred Fruchte expressed an unofficial opinion that the voting would have to be done outside of the regular election booths. Voters going to the polls on May 8, would be presented a ballot outside of the election booth and then they could vote their sentiments on the matter and the ballots would be placed in a booth outside of the election booth. However, Mr. Fruchte has not given a definite opinion in the matter. It is not known what plan the city of Fort Wayne will use, in case the matter is placed before the voters on election day.

Decatur Aviator Flies Plane Over City Today

A new Eaglerock airplane, in which Verne Bohnke, Decatur aviator, is believed to have been the pilot, passed over Decatur this morning and headed toward Fort Wayne, after circling over this city a few times. Mr. Bohnke, who is flying for the Stoney City Airways, Inc., of Bedford, Ind., was scheduled to fly from Bedford to Fort Wayne this morning in a new Eaglerock plane, to join the Indiana delegation of fliers to attend the All-American Aircraft Exposition, at Detroit this week. He was to be accompanied on the flight by the president of the Stoney City Airways, Inc. Planes from many Indiana cities were to meet at Fort Wayne this morning, before departing for Detroit this afternoon.

Train Kills Motorist

South Bend, Ind., Apr. 18.—(INS)—Robert Hartman, 17, son of a prominent local coal dealer, was instantly killed here today when his automobile was struck by a Grand Trunk train. Hartman's death was the twenty-first automobile fatality here since Jan. 1.

MORE PAVING ORDERED BY CITY COUNCIL

Nuttman Avenue Petition
Granted; More Orna-
mental Lights Granted

CITY WATER PASSES STATE HEALTH TEST

In the absence of Mayor George Krick, who is confined to his home on account of illness, Councilman O. L. Vance presided as mayor at the regular meeting of the city council last evening.

The petition of property owners for the Nuttman avenue improvement in connection with the building of the Wemhoff road, was allowed by the street and sewer committee. The street will be improved with sidewalk and curb and three additional feet on each side of the main track, making the street from Fifth street west to Twelfth street, 27 feet wide. Engineer Orval Haruff was instructed to prepare plans and specifications for the street.

Bids for the furnishing of electric light posts on West Adams street and Fifth street will be received by the council on Tuesday, May 1. The Fifth street improvement was ordered by the council last night and, as no bids for posts on Adams street were received by the council last night, it was moved that notice to bidders on both improvements be given.

City Water Good

Engineer Orval Haruff 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 5 1/2 months "during the year."

A contract from the Indiana Public Service Corporation, agreeing to remove the old interurban ties and rails from North Second street and place the street back in good condition.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE)

BANK PROTECTION FULLY DISCUSSED

Elkhart Man Is Speaker At
Meeting Of County Bank-
ers And Vigilantes

Jay G. Wallick, of Elkhart, was the chief speaker at a joint meeting of the Adams County Bankers' association and the Adams county vigilantes organization at the industrial rooms in this city last night. About 50 men were in attendance and all reported a very successful meeting.

Mr. Wallick explained that a sham meeting concerning bank protection had been held a few weeks ago at Gary by means of an airplane and that the robbers were caught in very little time.

Every bank in the county, with the exception of one was represented at the meeting. Several other persons also spoke few words following the chief address.

Herman Ehinger, manager of the Citizens Telephone company, a special guest at the meeting pledged his concern's co-operation in the matter of aiding the banks in case of a robbery. He explained the value of the double alarm system, with the Telephone company.

A county shoot will be held April 27 at the Fred Schurger farm, west of Decatur, and all vigilantes will receive practice for the annual state meet which will be held at Fort Benjamin Harrison, in Indianapolis, June 11.

A new system of competition at the state meet will be started this year. Sharpshooters will not be permitted to win first individual prizes two years in succession. This gives each shooter more opportunity to score points. Recognition will be given the 10 highest shooters in each event.

New Arkansas Chief



Succeeding Governor John E. Martineau, who accepted an appointment as Federal District Judge for the eastern district of Arkansas, Lieutenant Governor Parnell (above) assumes the gubernatorial chair.

D. H. S. PUPILS TO STAGE CARNIVAL

Annual Event To Be Held
Thursday And Friday
Nights This Week

On Thursday and Friday nights of this week, the students of the public high school will hold their annual Carnival, which is given each year to help in financing the high school annual, Revelings.

Thursday night's features will be held in the gymnasium. No admission fee will be charged, but small charges will be made for those who participate in the various features. There will be booths, confetti, dancing, fortune-telling, bingo stands, a Court of Justice, side shows, a den of horrors, fishing pond, country store, "hit your favorite teacher" booth, and eat stands of all kinds. There will be entertainment aplenty for both young and old and anyone desiring an evening full of fun is invited to attend.

On Friday evening, the entertainment will be held in the high school auditorium. Starting at 7:30 o'clock, each class of the high school will present a stunt program. The Freshmen are planning a fashion show; the Sophomores, a song and dance stunt; the Juniors, a revue; and the Seniors, a doll show. Following these "our numbers, the Royal Family will be crowned. Each class, for the past several weeks, have been getting votes at one cent each for their royal family, which consists of a King, queen, Prince and Princess. The class having the largest number of votes will be the one whose Royal Family will be crowned. The class also will receive a purple and gold honor banner and each member of the winning Royal Family will receive an individual gift.

Following the program, dancing will be enjoyed in the gymnasium. Music for the dance will be furnished by Don Farr's orchestra. An admission fee of 15 cents will be charged for the entertainment and crowning. Admission for the dance will be 25 cents each or fifty cents per couple.

The high school carnival is a big event in the school year to which every pupil looks forward from year to year. The patronage of the public is solicited.

LIONS ENJOY TRI KAPPA PROGRAM

Young Ladies Present Play-
let Entitled, "The Fatal
Necklace"

The program at the weekly luncheon meeting of the Decatur Lions Club held in the basement of the Christian church last night was furnished by the Tri Kappa sorority. Herman Myers was chairman for the evening.

A group of Tri Kappa girls present a playlet entitled, "The Fatal Necklace." Members of the cast were: Kathryn Dowlin, Gretchen Schaefer, Mildred Liddy, Marcella Hower, Josephine Myers and Mrs. Herman Myers. The entertainment was well given and greatly appreciated by the Lions.

FRENCH CAR IS LEADING ENTRY FROM AMERICA

Speedway Record For Stock
Cars At 100 Miles Broken
At Indianapolis

LEADER AVERAGES 85 MILES AN HOUR

BULLETIN

Indianapolis Speedway, April 18.—(INS)—At the end of 125 miles the French car's average speed was 85.03 miles per hour. The Stutz's average was 79.73 miles per hour.

Indianapolis, April 18.—(INS)—The twenty-four hour speed race for a \$25,000 purse, between a Stutz Black Hawk roadster and a Hispano-Suiza speedster, to determine the world's fastest stock car got underway at 1 o'clock this afternoon at the Indianapolis speedway.

The French car was entered by Charles Weymann, noted body builder, who claimed for it the speed record of Europe.

The day was sunny and warm and a large crowd of spectators was present. The weather man forecast rain for tonight, however. The race will end at 1 p.m. Thursday.

Gil Anderson was driving the Stutz entry. C. T. Weymann drove the French machine. At the end of the 20th lap, the Hispano car was 1 minute in the lead.

Averages 85 Miles An Hour
At the end of the 30th lap, which represented a distance of 75 miles, the Hispano speed average was 85.31 miles an hour. The Stutz average at this stage was 82.52 miles an hour.

On the 29th lap the French machine travelling 90 miles an hour topped the American entry.

At the completion of the 100th mile, both cars had broken the speedway stock car record. The French machine was still leading.

Spencer Man Convicted On Charge Of Blackmail

Spencer, Ind., April 18.—(U.P.)—Ralph Meek, 30, today faced sentence on a "blackmail" charge as the result of the verdict of a jury, which found him guilty of writing a letter to Mrs. Morris Halm, of Cataract, threatening to "steal the body of your husband from its grave if you don't place \$200" in a designated spot.

Ora Turner, also arrested in connection with the case, was exonerated because of "lack of evidence."

RECITAL PLEASES LOCAL AUDIENCE

Meredith Stewart, Former
Decatur Boy, And Verne
Rothaar Win Praise

After the audience had been delighted with an hour and a half program given at the Decatur high school auditorium last evening, they refused to leave until Mr. Meredith Stewart, violinist, and Mr. Verne Rothaar, pianist, rendered an extra selection, the finest tribute of appreciation that could have been given.

The concert, under the auspices of the Woman's Club, was one of the most pleasing ever given here, due perhaps to the fact that Mr. Stewart, formerly resided here for many years, and it is felt that a return engagement at some future time, would pack the auditorium. Mr. Stewart is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Stewart, residents here prior to moving to Dayton, Ohio. Meredith has taken violin lessons in Cincinnati, Dayton, Chicago and other cities and is planning to complete his education abroad. Last night's concert was dedicated to the memory of Mr. Ralph Moser, who was Mr. Stewart's first violin teacher.

The program was wonderful, opening with Sonata, F. Major, in three parts by Beethoven, followed by three selections by Mr. Stewart, three by Mr. Rothaar and concluding with three by Mr. Stewart. The attendance was not as large as the club had hoped for but everyone there was impressed with the ability of the artists, who received many sincere congratulations. These young men are stars in their profession and their friends predict many successes in the next few years.