

# LETTERS FROM EX-DECATURITES

Tacoma, Washington, Sept. 5th, 1928.  
Greetings to the Boys that learned their acrobatic stunts on Shaker's sawdust pile:

And greetings to the Girls that fought the boys in a three days battle over the high board fence on the old school grounds:

I have no particular desire for a return to my boyhood days, yet pleasant memories crowd my mind as I reflect on the early history of Decatur.

My early school days were brightened with an unfading light that shone from the face of a certain teacher, and when through the conspiracy of Mr. Quinn and Dan Cupid I was deprived of my greatly adored teacher, I felt like going to war. About a year later, on hearing that a baby had arrived in the Quinn household, I seized upon the inconsequential event to once again bask in the smile of Mrs. Quinn. I rapped at the door. It opened. There was the smile, the light of those wonderful brown eyes and the kindly word, I said "How is Frenchie?" There was an explosion of laughter which I couldn't very well account for and then I was invited in to see the child in his crib. I lied like a lot of other Decaturites when I said "he's nice" and got out feeling that maybe I did something I shouldn't. But I suspect that I was the first if not the last to call your distinguished citizen that endearing, if not dignified name—Frenchie.

If time would permit, I should like to describe to the benighted citizens of the present day the process by which Mike Smith used to convert the wood ashes which farmers sold and delivered to him at six cents a bushel into lye—black salts and pearl ash. But I will forbear and store my memories of the old ashery at the north end of town for another occasion.

Hoping the finest of weather may be afforded the people of Decatur through the week of your celebration I beg to be remembered by my many friends of Decatur's yesterday.

Respectfully,  
J. C. Dorwin.

Cleveland, Ohio Sept. 10, 1928.

Mr. Roy Archbold,  
Chairman of Invitation Committee,  
Decatur, Indiana.

My Dear Roy:  
"The Old Home Week" invitation arrived while I was on a vacation. I am planning on being at Decatur the latter part of this week.

Thanks a lot for letting me know about this.

Charles L. Archbold.

Dr. Roy Archbold:

I am a little slow in knowing what I want to do about Old Home Week—and not living so many miles away. I distinctly remember 16 years ago—my oldest son—then a baby—now a big six footer—cut two teeth that week—and I was up with him every night.

Am going to try and come over Friday. If you have any banquet of any sort going on that day, will be glad to sing for you and all Old Homeers. Just drop me a line about it.

Sincerely,  
Florence Sprunger Starr.

Jackson Heights, N. Y. City.  
Dr. Roy Archbold, Sept. 3, 1928  
Chairman Invitation Committee,  
"Old Home Week,"  
Decatur, Indiana.

My Dear Doctor:  
Your letters of invitation to "Old Home Week" were received and I thank you and your committee for having been remembered. It will be impossible for me to attend but hope that my father and perhaps a sister or two may be able to be there to represent our family.

We left Decatur in 1893 moving to Lafayette, Indiana, and although I have lived in three other states before coming to New York, Decatur seems more like home to me than any where else. Decatur, with its well knit social ties between the families who have always lived there, seems to me, more like a southern town than one in the north. Southern people have learned more of the philosophy of living than we of northern traditions, who seem, many of us too busy for the cultivation of friendships. Yet you in Decatur have gone to the trouble and the expense of looking up all the people who ever called Decatur home, and inviting them back to an "Old Home Week."

It makes one proud to have been born in such a town.

It gave me quite a thrill to drive through Decatur the last Sunday evening in July and to stop for about two hours at the home of my cousin, Mrs. Fred Smith. Time was limited and I missed seeing my old school day friends yet the fact of being again in old Decatur was a great treat.

Allow me to wish you a most successful "Old Home Week" and again to thank you.

Most Sincerely,  
O. J. Dorwin.

Dr. Roy Archbold,  
Chairman Invitation Committee,  
"Old Home Week,"  
My Dear Dr. Archbold:

The cordial invitation to attend "Old

Home Week in Decatur, has been received. It would indeed give me pleasure to be present and join with old friends in celebrating the interesting occasion, but it is with regret I write you, I can not come. It has often been said that our school days, are the happiest days, and in many ways I think this is true—I know the memories of my school days, during the four years spent in Decatur, when my father was pastor of the Presbyterian church are fragrant.

Sending greetings to those who perhaps will remember me as a school girl of long ago, and with many good wishes for the success of "Old Home Week."

I am yours sincerely,  
Grace A. Reynolds.  
Blaystown, N. J.

Tacoma, Washington, Sept. 5th 1928.  
Mr. Roy Archbold,  
Decatur, Indiana.

Dear Friend Roy: I am envious of the people who shall gather at Decatur to celebrate the days of yore in good old Adams County.

I am writing you rather than my esteemed friend French Quinn, the secretary, because I fear the letter would never be scanned by other eyes, should I send it to him because of his extreme modesty or madness and what I have said about him.

I am sending these letters to you through my daughter Mrs. Margaret Asperstand who will be in Decatur during the week September 10 to 15.

There is also a possibility of my son J. R. Dorwin meeting her and enjoying the festivals

Very Truly Your Friend  
J. C. Dorwin.

Mansfield, Ohio August 14, 1928.  
Mr. Roy Archbold:

Dear Friend I want to thank you, and the committee and all the kind friends in Decatur, for the loving invitation you have given me to attend Old Home Week in Decatur. Sorry I can not be with you at that time.

Again I thank you.  
Mrs. Ida M. Suttles

Pittsburgh, Pa., Sept. 1, 1928.  
Dr. Roy Archbold,  
Chairman of Invitation Committee,  
"Old Home Week in Decatur",  
Decatur, Ind.

Dear Friend Roy: This will acknowledge receipt of your kind invitation of the Citizens of my old boyhood home to spend the week of September 10th to 15th inclusive, with them, and enjoy "Old Home Week in Decatur".

At the present time, I do not believe it will be possible for me to spend more than one day with you, if that much, as it so happens that the week of September 10th to 15th, will be a rather busy week for me. I can assure you that if there is any opportunity to get to Decatur and participate in this celebration, I will be only too glad to do so.

Very Truly yours,  
R. A. Knoff.

San Bernardino, Calif Aug. 30 '28.  
"Old Home Week in Decatur."  
Decatur, Indiana.

Mr. Roy Archbold, Chairman:

It was quite a pleasant surprise to receive an invitation to attend the "Old Home Week" back in Decatur, my old home town, and I wish to thank you very kindly for your remembrance of me. Perhaps there are still some one living there who knew me; my maiden name was Martha Fritze. I lived with my widowed mother, two sisters and four brothers in Decatur for some time.

As I scan the names of the various committees I recall this and that face, and would certainly be very glad to attend your "home coming", but the distance, and many other circumstances make it impossible to be with you, however, you have our best wishes for a happy re-union of as many as can attend.

My husband joins me in extending to you all severally, and collectively, continued success. Sincerely,  
Rev. and Mrs. W. J. Lankow

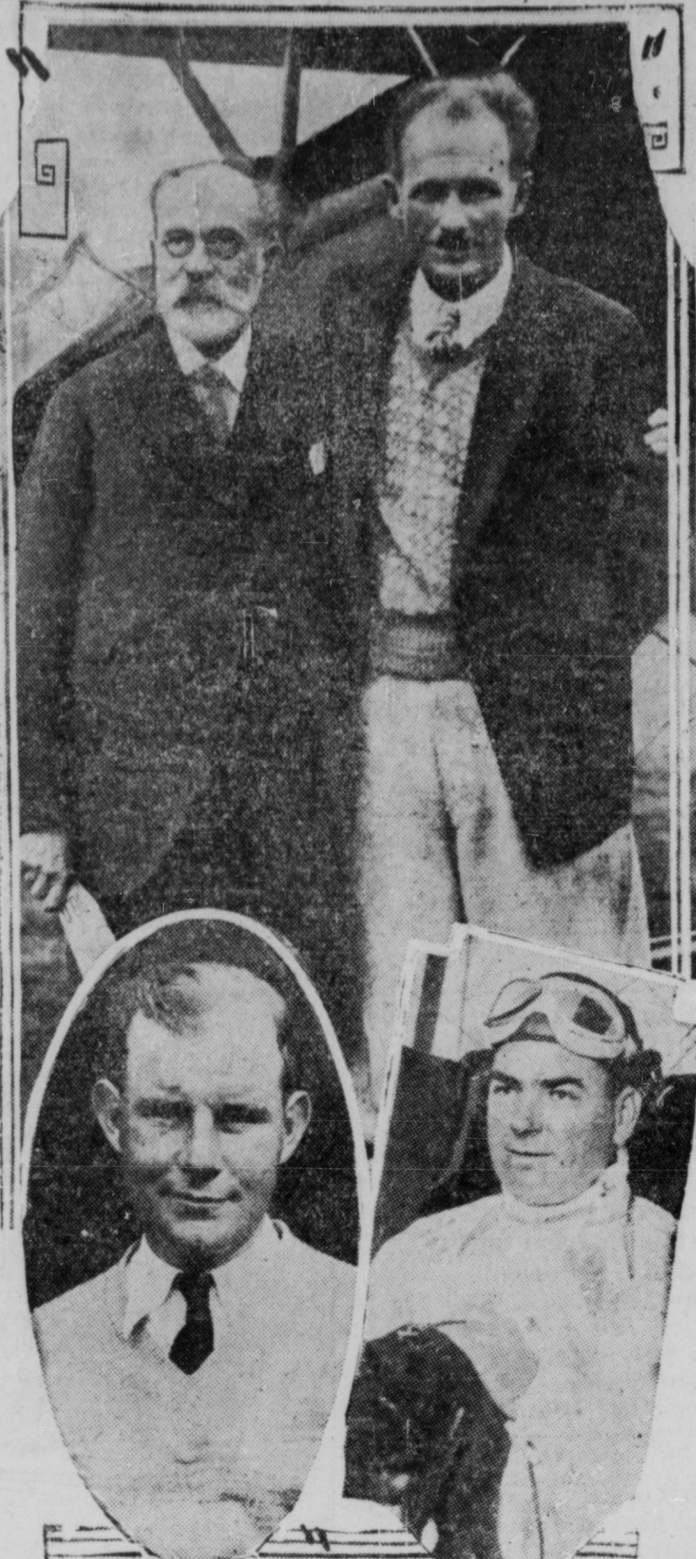
Nampa, Idaho Sept. 7, 1928.  
Dr. Roy Archbold  
Dear Sir:

As am not able to be at the "Old home week in Decatur" my childhood home, will write a few lines. I was born and raised at what was known at the "Old Limberlost" or old Buffalo in 1857, May 26, I am 71 years of age. Moved in '65 to Decatur with my parents T. L. Wilson, who formed a partnership with Wilson and Jackson lumber and milling company. Likely some of the old timers will remember the 3 rafts loaded with heading and Walnut lumber. One had 25 thousands heading, one 75," and 100 thousand shipped to Fort Wayne to Hemphill and Argo, if Clate Dorwin is living he can relate the affair to you all as he went over the "mill dam" or Beaver Dam in a skiff, the Captains of these rafts were Dan Jackson, Manwel Woods and my father.

One of my most vivid remembrances was the explosion of the "Hi Shackley Wheel Co. plant as we lived directly across the street. One man who had worked for father; "Tobacco

**BILE FLOWS**  
Freely  
When  
You  
Take  
**LANE'S PILLS**  
Sold by Zimmerman Drug Shop

## Wins in National Derby



Top, Ed Ballough, of Chicago (right), pilot, and 71-year-old Capt. Dickinson, "Santa Claus" of the air, who were first of Class B air racers to arrive in Los Angeles. Lower left, Bob Cantwell, who led Class C into Oklahoma City, and lower right, Tex Rankin, who lost his cat mascot, but nevertheless led the Class A field at Yuma, Arizona.

Burt" was killed another Mike West-berger was also in the explosion. I was working under Charley Baker a few days before this happening. My father, uncle Joe Burdge and myself were there within a few minutes after to help rescue the injured and dead. I have one sister Mrs. Ida Shank who now lives at Monroeville, whom I have not seen for over 50 years. Would like to speak of a few school mates Jim and John France, Dick Townsend, Jessie Allison, Lina Lythle and an old teacher Frank Crabbs, and if any of these are living would love to hear from them.

A few older ones at that time were Jess Nimblet, and son John. John Crawford and son, Billy Niblick. Dr. Sourg, John King "Sheriff" Dave King Pennelton Rice, Dave Studabaker, Phill Stoops, John Shubb, John Blood, Jud Hill, Editor of Decatur paper.

My brother and myself helped to haul the pressed brick for the Court House also hauled brick for Catholic Church, also hauled one slab that went into the vault of the Adams Co. Bank.

I have now a cousin there Al Burdge a barber.

I would like to hear from any of

these old time friends, will be glad to answer and do want to be remembered by all. I do hope there will be more such gatherings and may be I can enjoy being there some day.

I like to mention of being present at the time of the sad death of Dave Studabaker by drowning, there are many more things that come to my mind but cannot mention all if it is possible surely would appreciate a copy of the Decatur paper.

I would surely love to be with you all.

Yours for an enjoyable time  
C. B. Wilson  
R. R. 4 Nampa, Idaho.

Warsaw, Ind., August 14, 1928

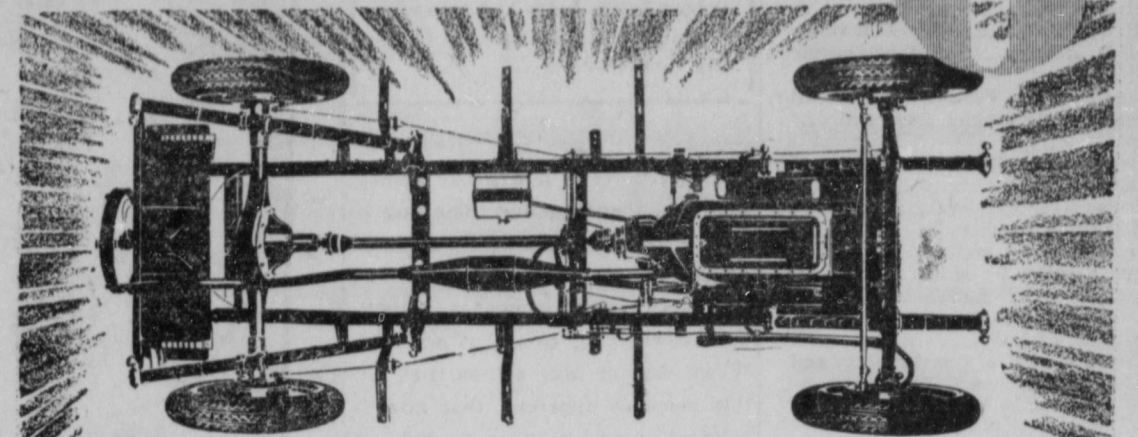
Dear Friend: We thank you for your kind invitation to your "Home Coming and we are glad to know that we have some friends back there that haven't forgot us.

We would be pleased very much to attend your home coming and we will try at least to come for one day.

Sincerely Yours  
E. H. Nidefinger and Wife.

Get the Habit—Trade at Home, it Pays

# ESSEX Super



See this special **ESSEX** chassis display  
and the costly car way it is built

The most important part of your car—is the part you never see! But now we are especially displaying an Essex chassis to show the costly, fine-quality way it is built.

If you could place it—first, beside a \$3,000 make of chassis—and then beside a chassis in the Essex price range—you would have dramatic, visual proof of the fine-car Essex construction, as distinguished from the practice of cars in its price field.

You would find the same steering wheel of hard rubber and steel core in Essex and the \$3,000 car. You would find the same Timken tapered wheel bearings, the same roller tappet bearings, the same use of five cross members in the rigid frame. Cars of Essex price class usually economize with mushroom tappet bearings, ordinary roller bearings in the wheels, and three cross members in the frame.

Aside from such self-evident superiorities as its brilliant performance, beauty and quality that you can see and feel in the very upholstery, the wheel you handle and the hardware you touch—please compare with any car—the advantages we have itemized here because they speak for the complete quality way in which the new Essex Super-Six is built—things seen or unseen.

**\$735 and up**  
f. o. b. Detroit

D buyers can pay for cars out of income at lowest available charge or interest, handling and insurance

**P. KIRSCH & SON**

Corner Second and Jackson Sts.

Phone 335

## Get Your Dollar's Worth

GRANDMOTHER reads the latest market prices—"Lands sakes alive!" she exclaims, "why, when I was young we didn't have to pay half so much." Yes, in "the good old days" milk sold at five cents a quart, potatoes at forty cents a bushel, sugar twenty-five pounds for a dollar, and so on. And, in "the good old days" a laborer was paid a dollar a day or possibly a dollar and a quarter. But who wants to go back to "the good old days"? Not you—not me.

Prices are higher now, but wages are higher too. You pay more, but the goods you buy are of better material, they are better made, they last longer. Even footstuffs are better. Inspection and extra care insure their quality.

The dollar can still buy a dollar's worth. Read the advertising in the newspapers and you will find that they will help your dollars go a long way. Advertising tells you where you can get full value for your money. The young housewife of today shops even more intelligently than "grandma," for the advertisements are her guides, they make her a competent judge of values.

Merchandise must be good or it couldn't be advertised. Read the advertisements and get your dollar's worth.

**Decatur Daily Democrat**

**YOUNG, WITH A LITTLE MONEY**

—you have a greater opportunity than the man of 60 with many times as much. First National money-guarding and money-growing facilities make time multiply capital, for you.

**First National Bank**  
Capital and Surplus \$120,000.00  
**Decatur, Indiana**