

Early County History Is Detailed In Letter

Much early history of French and Hartford townships was contained in a letter received recently by Bryce Thomas, president of the Adams county historical society, from Miss Fancy Mac Reynolds, a school teacher now located near Wheeling, W. Va.

The letter follows: "Dear Mr. Thomas: I noticed by the Berne Witness that you are organizing an Adams county historical society in which I am very much interested—because my mother's great-grandfather, Joseph French, for whom the township was named according to the early historical records of Adams county in the Decatur library, was the first white settler of the southern part of French township along the Wabash river.

"According to family history Joseph French came to that area before 1827 and bought almost all the land from the Wells county line to Linn Grove along the Wabash river from the government." (As was customary in those days, Joseph French, according to records in the county recorder's office, did not enter his land at the federal land office until 1835, during which period he entered nearly 1,000 acres.)

"While he was building a log cabin he slept in a hollow log to protect himself against bears and other wild animals. My mother, who is 85 years old and lives on road 116 in French township, tells me that after he had his house completed he rode horseback back to Madison county, New York, and brought almost all his children and their families along with some other families such as the Morrows of Bluffton, Haugh-

tons, Sheldons, and Dunbars, to live in that area.

"One of these daughters was the mother of L. L. Dunbar (deceased) for whom the Dunbar factory was named.

"I do not know the exact date that they came to Adams county—but if you are interested you could find it in the records of Adams county when the land west of the Wabash river was purchased from the government.

"I do know that the French family lived there before 1827 because I have an old newspaper, 'The Madison Observer' (N. Y.) which published a list of unclaimed letters and one letter was for George French, who was living here with his family in French township at that time.

"George French was the ancestor of many of the Runyons—however, one of his brothers or nephews was the ancestor of Mrs. Verl Meshberger, owner of the Meshberger stone quarries.

"An interesting item in this newspaper is the death of Adams and Jefferson.

"Another unusual event which occurred was the birth of the first white child—a Mrs. Hall, mother of Chester Hall (deceased) of Hartford township when the Wabash river flooded their house. She was born in a boat in the old orchard of our home farm. Mrs. Chester Hall, of Hartford township, may give you 'leads' on this.

"Near that farm is the oldest cemetery in French township where all these early settlers are buried.

"Mrs. Ervin Lochner and some DAR ladies from New Haven

came to check "markers" in the cemetery in late August. This cemetery has markers dated 1842 and some unmarked graves which were buried earlier. This cemetery has been used but once since 1900.

"This cemetery was deeded to French township. The only care it gets is a meager amount from the township.

"I noticed in one of the old histories of Adams county in the Decatur library about 25 years ago where the first French township election was conducted at the homes of my great uncles and cousins. I asked my mother about it, and she says it was at the Elroy Stauffer and Frank Myers (Risley farm) in French township. I believe that history was written by a Snow at Geneva—because he was one of the early educators and pioneers.

"My mother tells me that her older brothers, who would be over 100 years old, used to carry the mail to Murray and in the winter they carried it by skating on the Wabash river from Linn Grove.

"My mother's father was the first Linn Grove postmaster—but the post office was known as Buena Vista and it was located on the farm in the house where I & M electric substation on the road 116 near Linn Grove is now.

"Some years later another French who was of no kin to Joseph French; a few Swiss French families which included the Michauds of Berne, Schafers, Merrilets and others; and some Virginians such as the Reynolds families and Brickers settled in Linn Grove.

"Minerva Shoemaker, about 10 years ago the oldest person in the southern part of the county, and mother of Mrs. Farlow of Geneva, was the last surviving granddaughter of Joseph French. The Farlows may have some historical records.

"One day there was an old mill race, quarries in the river, and I'm told an old Indian burial place near the island in the river on the Tonner farm—owned in early days by George French and the Runyons.

"My mother tells me that the road was along the river instead of where Road 116 is located now.

"There are many legends concerning the settlement of French township on the west side of the river that I am unable to tell at this time due to space.

"I thought that I'd write this letter since I notice that the society wished any material concerning the pioneer days of Adams county.

"We do have some relics of these early pioneers—as my mother has a half-penny which

was left in the post office when it moved to Linn Grove.

"Andrew Gottschalk, a few years before he died, gave some history of the town of Linn Grove and mentioned Ellugh Sheldon, my grandfather, as being the first postmaster, in the Berne Witness. If you could get that issue from the Witness you may be able to get some history of Linn Grove since there are very few people around who would know much about its history.

"Homer Neaderouser or his sister at Berne may know something of the early history of Linn Grove.

"I am wondering whether I would be eligible to become a member of your society. Of course I've been away from home teaching—and would be unable to attend meetings—since I'm located near Wheeling, W. Va., during the school year. I'd like to become a member."

Stolen Berne Auto

Found In Kentucky

Youth Is Arrested For Vehicle Theft

A car stolen from Berne Friday night has been recovered near Paris, Ky., according to word received here from Kentucky state police.

Kentucky officials said that they have arrested William Manor, 18, of Elizabeth, Pa., in connection with the vehicle theft. Details of his capture are not known but it is understood that the Pennsylvania youth is being held in Kentucky.

Meanwhile, local authorities have recovered a car apparently stolen by Manor in Elizabeth and abandoned in a woods about one-fourth of a mile east of Berne.

The car, which bore no license plates, was discovered early Sunday morning by Adams county conservation officer Jack Hurst. Manor apparently left that car and then stole the one from the used car lot of the Berne Oil company to continue his flight. Local authorities are continuing the investigation.

Fire Drill Wednesday In Schools Of Area

FORT WAYNE — For the 12th year, schools in the tri-state area of Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio, will participate in a fire drill conducted by radio station WOZO at 9:45 a.m. Wednesday. This three-state school evacuation is conducted annually by WOZO to help the local schools promote their fire prevention programs during the annual nation-wide fire prevention week.

A 15-minute program originating from the principal's office of the Maplewood school in suburban Fort Wayne will feature short fire prevention talks by Fort Wayne fire department officials, and school officials from the public, Catholic, and Lutheran schools.

Wabash Policeman Is Heart Attack Victim

WABASH (UPI) — Sgt. Robert Cox, 38, a Wabash city policeman, died of a heart attack Sunday night at the scene of a train-car accident a block and a half from the police station. Cox was driving to work when he came to the crossing where a car had been struck by a Wabash Railroad freight train. He stepped from his car to investigate and collapsed. Fred Curry, 69, Tipper, driver of the auto hit by the train, escaped injury.

Mathews didn't make a hit in the first three games, but he had rapped a solid double in the fourth inning and he put a 2-2 pitch into the right field bleachers that turned County Stadium and perhaps all Milwaukee into a bedlam of noise.

It was the big hit of a big ball game and it could just be that it was the one that put the Braves on the glory road.

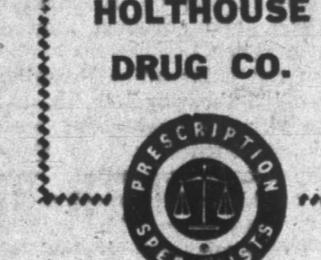
ANNUAL
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Much enthusiasm was shown at the meeting, and the large organization expects to contact almost everyone the first day of the campaign. The rest of the week will be spent collecting pledges.

Your Doctor knows

• Yes, your doctor knows the importance of prompt action in battling illness. So he suggests an annual health check-up. Make your appointment today—and of course, bring us your Doctor's prescriptions for our fast but precise compounding.

HOLTHOUSE DRUG CO.



Bluffton Guard Unit

Receives Citation

High Proficiency In Summer Maneuvers

Bluffton's battery C of the Indiana national guard has received the Ben H. Watt trophy and citation for showing the highest degree of proficiency of any unit of the 38th Indiana infantry division during summer maneuvers.

Capt. Cecil Lockwood Jr., battery commander, was notified of the award following the division's association meeting at Indiana.

The citation read that battery C, 138th anti-aircraft artillery (automatic weapons) battalion (self-propelled), "distinguished itself by attaining a performance index of 86.69, highest in the 38th infantry division, during field training Aug. 3-17 at Camp Claybanks, Mich.

"The outstanding record of battery C, 138th AAA battalion, established during the 1957 field training period, reflects great credit on the 38th infantry division and is worthy of emulation."

Adams county residents who are members of the unit include:

M/Sgt. Otto Fuhrman Jr.; SFC Ervin Ewell, SPC Donald K. Flowers, SPC Arco C. Girod, Sp3 Dale W. Fosnaugh, Sp3 John C. Geels, Sp3 Roger F. Hawkins, Pfc DeWayne L. Beer, Pfc Loren L. Ellensberger, Pfc Robert E. Fosnaugh, Pfc. David E. Smith, Pfc Donald D. Balle, and privates James L. Baumgartner, Robert E. Durbin, Gery R. Girod, Richard L. Hirsch, Daniel Mendoza, Terry L. Shoaf, Marvin Zurcher, Frederick L. Fox, Vernon Barber, Robert L. Reinhard, Robert D. Steury and Roger L. Haines.

HELLER

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423; Ford, \$36,899; Rockefellers, \$152,604; Mellon, \$100,000; Polins, \$33,550; Pews, \$216,800; Vandebilt, \$54,800; and Whitneys, \$121,450.

To offset this, Mrs. Vizard pointed out, "each person who sincerely believes that America needs a two-party system, is asked to give \$1 to the present campaign. This will insure a campaign fund for the little candidates to use against the candidates of big business and the vested interests," she said.

BURDETTE

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Braves Rip Back
But the Braves—who have read those "choke-up" stories every time they lose a game—ripped right back. Tommy Byrne gave them the opening when he hit pinch-hitter Nippy Jones and the Braves suddenly were in business because the next two hitters were Red Schoendienst and Johny Logan.

Of all the Braves, these are the two most versatile players—the sort that abound on the Yankee squad. Haney, of course, was bunting and Schoendienst laid it down like the book says it should be.

Then came the scrappy little Logan and he showed 'em why he's known as a clutch player with a solid double into the left field corner that tied it up.

Now the Yankees had their backs to the wall and Stengel had to play for defense all the way to stop the run. He moved Kubek to center, took out Mantle, and inserted 41-year-old Enos Slaughter in left field.

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It was the big hit of a big ball game and it could just be that it was the one that put the Braves on the glory road.

Hit-Run Accident Reported To Police

A hit and run accident was reported to city police Sunday by Donald Eugene Strickler of Decatur. Strickler told police that his car was hit while it was parked in the alley at the rear of the Equity store. There was no estimate on the damage.

SALE CALENDAR

OCT. 7—6:30 p. m. Viola Scheiderer, owner, 218 S. First St., Decatur, Ind. Furniture auction. Gerald Strickler, D. S. Blair, auctioneers. C. W. Kent, sale mgr.
OCT. 7—10:30 a.m. Mrs. Melvin Scheumann, owner, 9 miles north of Decatur on U. S. 27, 1st farm west. Cattle, tractor, implements, etc. Ellensberger Bros., auctioneers.
OCT. 10—6:00 p. m. Henry B. Heller, Admr. Estate of Jennie G. Archbold, 603 North 5th St., Decatur. 7 room house. Roy & Ned Johnson and Peter Schwartz, Aucts.
OCT. 12—Mr. & Mrs. Clarence L. Davis, 3 miles north of Linn Grove, Ind., or 4 miles west of Berne, Ind., then 2 miles north. Well Improved 80 Acre Farm. 1:30 P. M. Midwest Realty Auction Co., J. F. Sammann, Auctioneer.
OCT. 12—2:00 p. m. Violet Smith, Executive Estate of Wm. E. Clouse, 227 South 7th street, Decatur. Modern 3 bedroom home. Roy & Ned Johnson, Aucts.
OCT. 16—Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Turco & Sons, East of Brookville, Ind. on Highway 52 across river bridge to first right turn, then 3 1/2 miles to the farm. (Follow signs) Turco & Sons Orchards—104 acre Fruit Farm. 1:30 p. m. Midwest Realty Auction Co., J. F. Sammann, Auctioneer.
OCT. 16—12:30 p. m. (EST). Earl Moser, north edge of Wren, Ohio on Ohio road 49. 100 head of Holsteins and Guernseys. Roy & Ned Johnson and Don Mox, aucts.
OCT. 16—11:00 a. m. CST. Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Crowe, owners. Location Montpelier Sale Barn, Montpelier, Ind. 150 head of Hereford Cattle. Ray Elliott, Auctioneer.
OCT. 17—10:30 a. m. CST. Manifold and White, owners. Located 1 mile north and 1 1/2 miles west of Geneva, Ind. Dairy Cattle and General Farm Sale. Ray Elliott, Auctioneer.
OCT. 17—6:30 p. m. Mr. & Mrs. Sheldon L. Egley, owners. 915 W. Marshall St., Decatur, Ind. Real estate and personal property. Gerald Strickler, D. S. Blair, auctioneers. C. W. Kent, sale mgr.
OCT. 18—7:30 p. m. Fred and Donald Bohnke, owners. 3 1/2 miles east of Hoagland. Bohnke's 4th Annual Chester White Boar and Gilt Sale. H. Earl Wright, auctioneer.
OCT. 19—10:30 a. m. Ervin R. Schwartz, executor Martha Reinhard estate. 6 1/2 miles west of Coppess Corner on St. Rd. 124. 101-Acre farm and personal property. Ellensberger Bros., Herman Strahm, auctioneers.

BRAVES EKE OUT 7-to-5 WIN OVER YANKS



HANK AARON of the Milwaukee Braves is forced at second base in the second inning on Covington's grounder to McDougal, whose relay to Coleman registered the out, as umpire Jocko Conlan calls the play. A capacity crowd witnessed one of the most exciting games in World Series history, when the Yankees tied the score in the ninth inning on a three-run homer by Elston Howard, went ahead 5-to-4 in the tenth, only to lose the game in the last half of the tenth by virtue of a score tying run by the Braves followed by Eddie Matthews' two-run homer. The win knotted the series at two apiece.

Driver Unhurt As Train Hits Truck

Fined For Failure To Observe Signal

Claude J. Dennison, 42, of Monroe route one, escaped injury when his truck was hit by a train at the Monroe street crossing of the Pennsylvania railroad Saturday afternoon.

According to the police report, Dennison proceeded across the tracks against the flasher signals and the truck was hit on the right side. Damage to the truck was estimated at \$350. L. R. McDowell, of Decatur, was the engineer of the train and J. J. Bowling of Fort Wayne, was the conductor.

Dennison, who was arrested on a charge of crossing a railroad against the flashers, appeared in city court this morning and was fined \$1 and costs.

Also in city court today was Glen Dagoe, 26, of Decatur route six, who was arrested on charges of reckless driving and driving without a license following a minor accident in Geneva Friday night. He was fined \$1 and costs on the first count; \$25 on the second count and given a six month suspended sentence.

Larry Allen Insel, 19, of Fort Wayne, arrested Tuesday following an accident at the corner of First and Monroe streets, was to appear in city court today to answer a charge of driving a truck without registration plates. His case was continued to next Monday.

Monroe Lions Hosts To Junior Leaders

The Adams county junior leaders will be the guests of the Monroe Lions club Tuesday night in the annual appreciation banquet.

Kelso Wessel, an IFYE exchange student who visited in South America, will speak on his trip to that area. The dinner will be held in the Co-op building in Monroe, and will be a regular meeting for Lions.

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SALE CALENDAR

TERMS & CONDITIONS—One-third cash down and balance cash on delivery of Executrix Deed & Merchantable Abstract of Title brought down to date of sale. Immediate Possession (house is not occupied). Statements made on day of sale shall take precedence over any contained herein.

Not Responsible for Accidents.

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