

DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT

ONLY DAILY NEWSPAPER IN ADAMS COUNTY

Decatur, Indiana, Thursday, August 18, 1960.

Vol. LVIII. No. 195.

Six Cents

Monmouth Students Detail Root Township History

(Editor's Note. This is another of a series of historical articles written by the Monmouth speech class of Mrs. Hugh J. Andrews last spring.)

War of 1812

Although relations between the Indians and whites were gradually peaceful following Wayne's treaty of Greenville, this area did not hear the last of the Indian in his attempt to defend his remaining land.

In 1800 Indiana was made a territory with Wm. Henry Harrison as governor. His series of treaties between 1801-1809 only added fuel to the fire.

The conflict with the Prophet and Tecumseh, Shawnee Brothers, led to the War of 1812. The area now forming the state of Indiana suffered more in this war than in any previous conflict. The heaviest battle was along the Tippecanoe River near Lafayette. The American garrison at Fort Wayne was besieged but not captured by the Indians.

The treaty ending the war had important consequences for the "Old Northwest." There were no more Indian wars in Indiana. British influence in the Northwest ceased to be a menace. A tide of eager Americans flowed over the mountains to settle the "Buckeye Country" and eventually to take over the entire "Old Northwest."

Camp Built Here

We would like to mention at this point that the second trail in the county was made sometime after Wayne's march and prior to 1818. Known as the Piqua Road, it ran from Piqua, Ohio, through Willshire, to Fort Wayne. Military supplies were transported over the trail, and sometime before 1818 a camp was established and about an acre cleared at the springs in Root Township on what is now known as the "old Reynolds farm."

Actually it was the same Indian trail as the one followed by Anthony Wayne, but it left Monmouth to the northwest following somewhat the route old highway 27 takes into Fort Wayne while, as we mentioned before, the Wayne Trace followed almost the course that the Pennsylvania Railroad takes through Root Township into Allen County. Many people speak of these trails synonymously.

Boats On River

B. J. Griswold's "History of Ft. Wayne" tells of one Major Jenkins in the year 1813 bringing three companies of militia from Newport, Kentucky, to Fort Wayne. When they reached the St. Mary's at the above mentioned site, they used iroquois and flatboats for the transportation of their goods while most of the troops followed the trails bordering the river.

It is probable that many successive homeseekers and travelers pressed on as near as possible

Zwick Ambulance Hit On Emergency Run

An emergency ambulance was involved in an accident Wednesday afternoon at 3:46 o'clock, when another car made a left turn in front of the ambulance.

The Zwick & Son ambulance driven by Elmer (Chalky) Winteregg, 40, 132 Limberlost Trail, was headed south on Thirteenth with the red light and siren on when a car driven by Anna Eva Moyer, 62, 328 Oak street, which was in the lane next to the ambulance and going south, made a left turn and was struck by the emergency vehicle. Damage was listed at \$250 to the ambulance and \$150 to the Moyer vehicle. The Moyer lady was arrested for failure to yield the right of way to an emergency vehicle.

The next was made by John (Continued on page six)

to the post at Fort Wayne, using the river and trails we have described, not realizing that as good or even better opportunity was being passed by right here on the banks of the St. Mary's in Root Twp.

Quaker Trace

Wayne County Quakers cut a road from Winchester in 1818 to the military road just described. This road was known as the Quaker Trail, or Winchester Road after 1833, and it struck the military road in this county near the mouth of Yellow Creek.

When Indiana was admitted to the Union in 1816, practically the entire population was settled along the Ohio River. What is now Adams County was part of Knox County. From 1818-1823, Adams was a part of Randolph; from 1826-1836 the territory of Adams County was a part of Allen. It became an independent civil body in January, 1836.

Douglas Settler Here

In 1820, Robert Douglas, finding about an acre of cleared land at the springs on the St. Mary's River in what is now section 20, Root Township decided to make that locality his stopping place. His land formerly comprised one of Wayne's military camps and it later became a part of the Reynolds farm. Mr. Douglas added a few acres to the old clearing, built the second cabin in Adams County and in the summer of 1820 raised a crop of corn upon his little farm. But he soon tired of his country life and moved to the hamlet of Fort Wayne, which had been abandoned the previous year as a military post and was busy growing as a village.

The cabin of Henry Lowe and Robert Douglas plus two more in St. Mary's Township were the

only four cabins to house settlers within 336 square miles. They represent the only known residents to have settled in what is now Adams County prior to 1826.

Early Traveler

An early traveler in Indiana about the year 1821 describing a journey into the wilderness reported in his notes on the 11th of July—"Came to the St. Mary's River—This is a handsome river flowing northwest with a slow current. It is about 25 yards wide—the road runs nearly parallel with it. Three miles farther is the house of Robert Douglass, where I stopped. There was formerly an Indian village here—the ruins of eight cabins are still visible. Douglass is building a raft of logs to float down to Fort Wayne, and as he will be ready to start tomorrow, I accepted his invitation to accompany him.

On the 12th while we were at breakfast, a Miami Indian and his wife and child came to the house. They were on their way up the river. Douglas held a broken conversation with them in the few words of their language. I accosted him in English and French, but he shook his head. They breakfasted with us, and after breakfast we all went down to the river. The Indian had left his canoe near our raft. It was made of hickory bark, stripped from a log in one piece, about ten feet long, the ends sewed up with filaments of bark, and the sides stiffened with ribs of wood sewed in the same manner. I was told that they would make a canoe in a couple of hours. By twelve o'clock we were ready to get under way. We went a short distance but because of the low stage of the water—the trip was impossible so we returned to the Douglas house where I received a supply of jerked venison and left on foot. About six miles further, I passed the remains of a large Indian hunting camp."

Survey Root

In 1822-23, James Riley, and Benjamin Bently, government surveyors, laid out Root Township, Allen County, (now Adams County) into sections. The surveyors camped in the woods and had their provisions brought to them on pack horses generally over the Wayne Trace. Fort Wayne and Willshire were laid out at about the same time.

In 1824 the first land entry made in Adams County was recorded by Benjamin Kerchaville and comprised about five acres above the Rivare Reservation in St. Mary's Township.

The next was made on the 15th of December, 1824, by Benjamin Bently. This comprised 145 acres including the improvements made by Douglas.

The next was made by John (Continued on page six)

William Jones Injured In Wreck

William (Casey) Jones, 52, 119½ North Second street, suffered broken bones, bruises and abrasions Wednesday afternoon when he apparently stepped in front of a car on U.S. 27, ½ mile south of Decatur at 3:36 p.m.

The driver of the car, Henry Allen Meyer, 42, Craigville, said while heading north on 27 the car in front of him passed a slow moving vehicle and he passed also. Apparently Jones saw the first car pass, but not Meyer, and started to step out on the highway. Meyer swerved to miss Jones but not in time.

Jones was taken to the hospital where he was found to have a compound fracture of the right femur bone, a fractured right wrist, bruises and abrasions.

Deputy Bob Meyer and state trooper Dan Kwasnieski investigated the mishap, estimating only \$7 damage to the Meyer vehicle.

106 Dairy Farmers

Visit Decatur Area

A total of 106 farmers and wives from New York toured Central Soya's Decatur plant Wednesday, one group getting lost from the others, and then spent an hour on the Hugo Bulmahn farm in Preble township, observing minimum tillage at work.

The group, led by their county agent, was composed of 53 couples, all dairy farmers from the same county in New York. Cliff Spies, Purdue agronomist, was present at the farm to talk with them. They were also interviewed over WOWO on the program PM upon their return to Allen county.

Interest in minimum tillage in Indiana has centered on the work of the Bulmahn brothers, who have had a large part in convincing the Purdue experts that minimum tillage is practical for every farmer.

Help Improve City

In it, young men join together in a friendly spirit to gain civic consciousness and help improve the city, area, state, and nation, he continued.

Construction action is the watchword of the Jaycees. Powers of initiative, originality, and ingenuity are developed, together with a sense of responsibility.

Formed In 1916
The Jaycees were formed in 1916 as the Young Men's Progressive Civic Association. In 1920, the name was changed to the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce. At that time there were 45 clubs and 8,600 members in the U.S. Today there are 3,700 clubs, and a membership of more than 200,000.

If Decatur is organized, it will be the 128th club in Indiana. Previous Junior Chambers in Decatur were organized under the local Chamber of Commerce. This organization would belong to the Indiana Junior Chamber and the U. S. Jaycees. It would not be connected with the local or Indiana Chamber of Commerce.

In Region B

Decatur would be located in region B, one of six regions in the state. A national service officer visits each club annually in the region. In club, the region has three vice-presidents, each of whom must visit his third of the

Jaycees Plan August 30 Meeting Here

All young men between 21 and 35 years of age in Decatur are invited and urged to attend an organizational and explanatory meeting Tuesday night, August 30, at 7:30 p.m. at the Decatur community center concerning a Junior Chamber of Commerce for Decatur, Steve Winner, chairman of the Fort Wayne Jaycee committee appointed to help Decatur form a group, said this noon.

Winner and several members of his committee met informally with half a dozen Decatur young men to explain to them the purposes of the Jaycee organization, and just what it would mean to young men in Decatur.

Not Another Club

This will not be another "meet and eat" group, Winner explained. The group itself will plan when it is to meet. The Indianapolis group meets informally for lunch once a week, with no business discussed. Committees handle all business, and meet when necessary.

The Jaycee program attempts to help you build for yourself and your community a life instead of a living, Winner said. The group would help improve and develop the Decatur area, and train its members for business advancement and civic leadership.

Construction

Construction action is the watchword of the Jaycees. Powers of initiative, originality, and ingenuity are developed, together with a sense of responsibility.

Formed In 1916

The Jaycees were formed in 1916 as the Young Men's Progressive Civic Association. In 1920, the name was changed to the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce.

At that time there were 45 clubs and 8,600 members in the U.S. Today there are 3,700 clubs, and a membership of more than 200,000.

If Decatur is organized, it will be the 128th club in Indiana. Previous Junior Chambers in Decatur were organized under the local Chamber of Commerce. This organization would belong to the Indiana Junior Chamber and the U. S. Jaycees. It would not be connected with the local or Indiana Chamber of Commerce.

In Region B

Decatur would be located in region B, one of six regions in the state. A national service officer visits each club annually in the region. In club, the region has three vice-presidents, each of whom must visit his third of the

Manley Barn Leveled By Fire Monday

A large barn on the Glen Manley farm, several miles east of Monroe on state road 124, was completely destroyed by fire Monday morning at 10 a.m. All that was inside the barn, including 35 hogs, weighing more than 200 pounds apiece, was destroyed.

Combustion in freshly baled straw is believed to have been the cause of the fire. In addition to the straw, which were ready for market, the barn contained hay, straw and some farm implements.

Neighbors discovered the fire but flames spread so fast that the barn collapsed in a matter of minutes. No one was home at the Manley farm at the time of the fire.

The Monroe rural firemen were called but there was no chance of saving the barn, no other buildings were damaged though.

The loss is partially covered by insurance.

(Continued on page six)

Republican Campaign Opens With Ristine At Berne Aug. 25

Richard Ristine, Republican candidate for lieutenant-governor, will officially open the Adams county Republican campaign Thursday night, August 25, at a carry-in supper at Lehman park in Berne. John M. Doan, GOP county chairman, said this morning. Dinner will start at 6:30 p.m.

A letter, mailed August 10 to all Republican precinct committee men and women, and to precinct workers, asked for 100 per cent attendance, and for each worker to bring as many others as possible.

Young Republicans

Curtis P. Jones was appointed president of the Young Republicans club for Adams county, and other officers will be elected. Doan asked that every precinct leader bring at least four young Republicans between the ages of 18 and 35 to the meeting.

Berne precinct committee men will furnish the entertainment for the evening.

A 20-minute talking movie of Richard Nixon's world travels is also available to precinct workers for use in service clubs or community meetings. It is non-political.

Republican Women

Mrs. Glen Neuenchwander, of Berne, was elected president of the Adams county Republican club Tuesday evening. Other officers elected were: 1st vice president, Mrs. Waldo Neal, of Geneva; 2nd vice president, Mrs. Ralph Snyder, of Geneva; secretary, Mrs. Ed Tricker, Monroe; treasurer, Mrs. Ben McCullough, route 6. Mrs. Mennio Lehman of Berne and Mrs. Willard Wulliman, Berne, were appointed to the executive



Richard Ristine

committee.

A total of 117 were present for the meeting. The ladies plan to affiliate with both state and national organizations.

Mrs. Ralph Snyder, Republican vice chairman for the past 22 years, was introduced by the temporary chairman, Mrs. Annabelle Doan Heller of Decatur.

Mrs. Mary Burnheimer of Albion spoke on "How to get out the vote and our duty to vote" and Mrs. Mary Lyons of Auburn spoke on "The power of the woman behind the man."

Florence Zimmerman Treated After Wreck

Mrs. Florence Zimmerman, 61, of 1209 Madison street, was treated Wednesday at Parkview memorial hospital in Fort Wayne when a car driven by her husband was involved in an accident there.

The car, driven by Sherman O.

Zimmerman, 64, collided with one operated by Florus E. Wilson, 69, of Dayton, O. on the U.S. 30 bypass at Anthony Blvd. Zimmerman was arrested and charged with failure to yield the right of way.

INDIANA WEATHER

Partly cloudy and a little warmer this afternoon and to-night with scattered showers and thundershows most sections tonight, possibly beginning west this afternoon. Friday considerable cloudiness with scattered showers, turning cooler west in afternoon. Low tonight 65 to 70. High Friday 80 to 86 northwest, 86 to 92 southeast. Sunset today 7:37 p.m. Sunrise Friday 6:01 a.m. Outlook for Saturday: mostly sunny and cooler. Lows 60 to 68. Lows 60 to 68. Highs 75 to 85.

Kennedy Underdog In Fall Race

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Sen. John F. Kennedy said today he is the "underdog" in the presidential race with Vice President Richard M. Nixon. But the Democratic candidate predicted he would come from behind to win. Kennedy described himself as "hilling" in the campaign after a new nationwide poll said Nixon was favored by a majority of the voters questioned.

Kennedy attributed Nixon's apparent lead to the fact that the poll probably was taken just after the Republican nominating convention when the GOP nominee was in the national spotlight.

Indiana Has Coldest Summer Since Records Kept

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI) — It has been a chilly summer, relatively.

The Weather Bureau reported Wednesday that its records show this is the first year since records were kept in 1871 that the Indianapolis temperature failed to reach 90 degrees before Aug. 17. The top capital city reading, recorded several times, is 89.

Advertising Index

Advertiser	Page
------------	------