

# DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT

ONLY DAILY NEWSPAPER IN ADAMS COUNTY

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SEVEN CENTS

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**JOYFUL REUNION** of mother and daughter after being separated 23 years took place Monday in Chicago between Mrs. Katie Lehr, of Union township, and her mother, Mrs. Sara Wiebe, who was finally granted permission to leave the Soviet Union. The mother and daughter were separated during the early days of World War II, in 1941, when the Germans invaded Russia, and Mrs. Lehr did not learn of her mother's location again for 19 years. The first word she received was through the International Red Cross, and the local Adams county chapter of the American Red Cross in 1960. Since then she has been working with the Red Cross and government agencies to get her mother into this country.

— (Photo by Cole)

## United With Mother After Over 20 Years

Mrs. Katie Lehr, former refugee brought to this country by the Immanuel Lutheran church with her husband and son in 1952, was made very happy this week by the arrival in Decatur of her mother, Mrs. Sara Wiebe, 69, of Russia, whom she's not seen since 1941.

In fact, from 1941, when the Germans swooped down on the area where she was vacationing, Mrs. Lehr did not hear from her mother again until Nov. 30, 1960, when the American Red Cross, through the local chapter here, informed her of her mother's address.

**Husband Killed**  
Mrs. Lehr's husband, Fritz, was electrocuted accidentally in a tragic accident in 1954, while moving a shed to the rear of their property on state highway 101, in Union township. She and her husband met and were married in Germany, and had a son, Hans, who was two years old when they came to America.

Today, Hans is a 14-year-old freshman at Decatur high school, and is quite busy now learning German so that he can talk with his grandmother. When a little boy he spoke German, but after his father died, and his mother went to work, he spoke English with his baby-sitter, and

then English at church and school. The Lehrs are devoted members of the Lutheran church, and Mrs. Wiebe was sustained through her many years of absence from her daughter by her Mennonite faith.

Since her husband's death, Mrs. Lehr has kept employed, and is presently on vacation from the Wayne Novelty to be with her mother.

The tiny little lady missed her daughter very much during the 23 years that they were separated. After her husband died, she lived with other family members, working in the home.

### Word In November

Word was received in November that Mrs. Wiebe would be granted an exit visa from the Soviet Union to come to the United States and live with her daughter. Various complications kept her from leaving until this week, and she arrived in Chicago Sunday evening, and following clearance by health authorities, came to Decatur Monday.

Mrs. Lehr was radiant and in for aid in locating her, and in assisting in preparing for her mother's exit from Russia and arrival here.

### Co-Chairmen Appointed For Spring Drive

David J. Schwartz, Gordon Liechty, and Roy Aschliman have been named co-chairmen for the annual spring Adams county Friendship Acres drive, according to the county Christian Rural Overseas Program committee, which met at the Mennonite church in Berne Wednesday morning.

Liechty, who formerly worked overseas and knows the value of CROP food distributed by various Christian workers in Africa, Asia and other needy areas, was chosen to succeed Brice Bauserman as CROP board chairman. Bauserman will serve as vice chairman and treasurer.

### Officers Re-elected

Mrs. Elmer C. Beer was re-elected secretary; Karl Kipfer was chosen commodity manager, and Dick Heller was chosen publicity director.

Names for township chairmen throughout the county were proposed, and they will be contacted soon. Among those attending the meeting were Wayne Dubacq, Brice Bauserman, Menno Augsburger, Erwin Bauman, William Almandinger, Liechty, Schwartz, and state CROP director Rev. Gerald L. Wilson.

### Friendship Acre Explained

A Friendship Acre is an acre set aside by a farmer to help feed hungry people overseas. For example, in Hong Kong, if a worker makes less than \$5 per family member per month (\$25 a month for a family of five) he may apply to a Church World Service sponsored agency there, and receive a ration card, permitting him to receive food for his family.

Farmers who are interested may dedicate an acre at this time, tend it carefully during the growing season, turn over the yield to the local CROP committee in the fall.

Sometimes a young farm animal is given and raised for CROP. City people may give a Friendship Hour of work.

"When your Friendship Acre grain is harvested, or when your animal is ready for market, it should be marketed in the regular way, and the proceeds turned over to the county CROP treasurer, Brice Bauserman."

### Friendship Farms

In many counties, including neighboring Wells county, farmers have gotten together and rented a Friendship Farm for CROP, on a share basis, turning over the workers' share to CROP in the fall. This was especially effective in Elkhart county last year, and four farms are planned there this summer.

Last year there were 625 Friendship Acres in the state, a real growth from the two in 1959.

**Almost \$1 Million**  
And Adams county can be especially proud of its part, with 60 Friendship Acres, one-tenth of the state total. Last year Adams county was second in the state in the CROP drive, and Indiana was first in the nation, with \$203,664.77. Of this, \$40,455 went to transporting and distributing government surplus foods.

Thus, Indiana farmers alone sent 18,932,940 pounds of food overseas through government surplus channels in 1963. Their \$40,455 contribution distributed \$966,874 worth of food, nearly \$1 million worth! This was one-fifth of the entire national Church World Service contribution — just from Indiana farmers, and Adams county ranked second in Indiana.

Dean explained that at present Decatur is a regular stop for four trains: 1, 2, 7, and 8; and that trains 5 and 6 stop on request made in advance through the local agent. It had been proposed to make train 1, which is now scheduled to arrive at 5:44 a.m. westbound, a conditional stop, or flag stop, and to stop mail pickup by train 2, the eastbound night train arriving here at 12:01 a.m. at present.

It was feared locally that if mail pickup were stopped by train 2, it would also be made a conditional stop, as no railroad savings would result otherwise.

The railway officials are very pleased that Decatur citizens appreciate their stopping here, but feared that the number of letters they were receiving might snowball, and asked that future objections be worked out through the local agent, Bumgardner.

### Assistant Superintendent

Shortly before noon, H. A. Dean the assistant superintendent of the Erie-Lackawanna Railroad Co., Chicago office, arrived with the station agent, W. B. Bumgardner. Dean made it very clear that the Erie-Lackawanna railroad was in the transportation business, and that they want to do everything they can to increase business, including passenger and mail service, and to give better, more effective service.

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### Assistant President

A letter received by the newspaper this morning from George C. Frank, assistant to the Erie president, stated in part, "Presumably you have received by telegram of yesterday indicating that Trains 1, 2, 7 and 8 will continue to stop at Decatur as heretofore. Happily, our operating people received word today that the post office department has changed its mind about alternate mail service, which means that there will be no change as far as

parents bringing the children to the school for the roundup, are asked to use the front entrance.

This is the last roundup scheduled for the children living in the North Adams community school district, and anyone unable to attend this one is asked to call the elementary principal in the area concerning the child.

### INDIANA WEATHER

Fair and warmer tonight. Friday mostly fair. Low tonight in the 30s. High Friday 48 to 58 north, 55 to 64 south. Sunrise today 7:17 a.m. Sunrise Friday 6:16 a.m. Outlook for Saturday: Fair and mild. Lows in the 40s. Highs mid 60s north and central and low 70s south.

## Adams County Blood Program Honored

The annual meeting Wednesday noon of the Fort Wayne regional blood program of the American Red Cross recognized the Adams county chapter, and the people of Adams county, for their record in obtaining 104.6% of its blood quota during the year.

Mrs. Ferris Bower, blood program chairman, and Mrs. Robert Johnson, staff aide chairman, represented the local chapter, and received the thanks of the county's fine job. If blood is not available when it is needed, those needing it may die. Therefore, those chapters who regularly provide their share are deeply appreciated by the counties in the district.

Doug Hadley, region public relations chairman spoke on the subject, "How to fail in public relations without really trying." Hadley is an employee of radio and TV station WKJG.

Alfred Schell, administrative director of the blood center, conducted the business part of the meeting, in which 22 counties were represented. The meeting was held at the regional blood center this year.

### Northwest School Roundup Tuesday

The pre-school roundup for the school year 1964-65 will be held at the Northwest school Tuesday from 8 to 9 a.m. Children who will be five years old on or before September 30 are eligible to enroll in kindergarten this fall.

This is a change from previous years.

Children living north of Monroe street and in the rural area will attend the Northwest school roundup. Each child will be given a free examination by one of the local doctors and should have a large towel or robe to wear. Parents are to bring the child's birth certificate, have information available as to the diseases he has had, and the dates of his immunization shots.

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# Secretary Wirtz Works Feverishly To Prevent National Rail Strike

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Labor Secretary W. Willard Wirtz, striving feverishly to flag down a national railroad strike one minute after midnight, conferred with union and management leaders today and reported "both want an agreement very badly."

But the railroads announced they were imposing a freight embargo at 12:01 a.m. EST Friday in anticipation a strike will be called by the rail unions.

Wirtz met for more than an hour with representatives of the five railway unions who have threatened a walkout if the railroads impose their controversial new work rules at the midnight-plus-one (local time) dispute on a voluntary basis.

He recalled his opposition to the arbitration bill but added that if the unions and carriers "pull down the transportation system ... Congress will resort to legislation."

The government's regular remedies for preventing a railway strike have been exhausted during the 4½-year battle.

In between the meetings, Wirtz told newsmen that it was "impossible to measure" any progress toward averting the showdown. But he commented: "They both want an agreement and want it very badly."

On Capitol Hill, Sen. Wayne

Morse, D-Ore., appealed to both sides to settle their differences and prevent their prolonged dispute from being subjected to "the cauldron of legislative politics."

day led the railroads to announce they would impose new work rules at 12:01 a.m. local time Friday. Union leaders have declared this would bring an immediate strike.

### Seven-Hour Recess

Wirtz resumed his emergency mediation efforts after a seven hour recess. Talks Wednesday night broke off in the wee hours today because two top union leaders had not been able to get to Washington to join the meeting.

H. E. Gilbert, president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, arrived today to join the meetings. Charles Luna, president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, was expected about noon EST.

High officials of the Engineers, Conductors and Switchmen's unions already were here for negotiations.

A nationwide rail strike would seriously disrupt the economy and imperil free collective bargaining, Wirtz warned when he began his peacemaking efforts Wednesday night.

A union walkout against the Illinois Central early Wednesday

### Jaycees To Conduct Air Needs Survey

In cooperation with the aeronautics commission of Indiana, the Decatur Jaycees will conduct a survey of the area's air transportation needs, it was announced this morning by William Zwick, chairman in charge of the Jaycees project.

Zwick, who will serve as survey director, pointed out the survey is an uncomplicated, commonsense approach to the task of determining the community's place in the fast-growing era of "general aviation."

The survey is aimed at developing facts at the local level which will be brought together in a "feasibility report" written by the aeronautics commission staff.

### No Tax Cost

James J. McManus, aeronautics commission director, was quick to point out that the survey will be made at no cost to the taxpayers. "We believe no city, town or county should build an airport until the extent of need has been clearly demonstrated," he said.

McManus told local officials that general aviation aircraft outnumber the airlines 35 to 1. He said the smaller, personal airplanes last year flew a total of 13 million hours and carried 45 million passengers.

He explained that about half of what flying was done by business and corporate aircraft, and added that when business and industry begins to look for new plant sites, one of the chief considerations is the availability of community-owned airport facilities.

The engineer said Decatur is on the national airport plan, and therefore is eligible for matching funds under the federal aid airport program. "There is a great deal of planning to be done, even beyond the survey stage, before we can talk about cost," Houterloot said.

## Zone Updating Hearing Set

### House Okays Farm Bill By 8 Votes

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The House, in a long and often hectic session, approved President Johnson's controversial farm bill by a bare eight votes today to give the Chief Executive a double legislative victory.

Passage of the wheat-cotton measure, which now goes to the White House, came only a few hours after the House approved, 229 to 189, the President's proposal to expand the railroad department as to the feasibility of this change.

The vote on the farm bill was 211 to 203 and it climaxed a 13-hour session that lasted past midnight and featured loud and cutting debate, ruffled tempers, and parliamentary fencing of a nature seldom seen.

Both bills were passed by votes that generally followed party lines. Voting for the farm bill were 201 Democrats and 10 Republicans; voting against were 36 Democrats and 167 Republicans. On the food stamp measure, 216 Democrats and 13 Republicans voted for the bill; opposed were 26 Democrats and 163 Republicans.

The wheat-cotton bill would affect wheat-growers who limit acreage higher price supports through use of redeemable marketing certificates, thus heading off a predicted \$600 million drop in farm income this election year. It also provides payments to cotton farmers who limit planting and indirect subsidies to U.S. textile mills.

The food stamp bill would expand nationwide an experimental program now providing some needy families with stamps to be used for buying food. It now goes to the Senate where no action has been scheduled and none is likely for some time because of the civil rights debate.

Under this system, if a person asks for a permit to build a garage, and then suddenly turns up living in the building, he will be in violation, and the plan commission will be able to check and enforce the city ordinance. It will protect the guilty party's neighbors from having someone

Whether Decatur should become an integral part of the nationwide success story of general aviation remains to be seen, according to McManus. "The survey will tell us many things we must know to make reasonable judgments," he said.

Among the items the survey results will show are: 1. If a need exists. 2. The extent of that need in terms of airport type and size. 3. The potential use of the airport in terms of aircraft operations and economic value to the community. 4. Possible means of financing the airport.

Information gained in the survey will be made available to the public. "We believe the public must be fully informed from the beginning," Zwick said. He added that "We are digging into an area that could be vital to this area's economy. We want everybody to know what we're doing and why."

In preliminary meetings, McManus and Donald R. Houterloot, the commission's chief engineer, explained that the state offers no direct financial aid for local community airport projects. But Houterloot pointed out that guidance in a step-by-step procedure aimed toward possible public airport facilities is an important time and money-saving service of the aeronautics commission.

The engineer said Decatur is on the national airport plan, and therefore is eligible for matching funds under the federal aid airport program. "There is a great deal of planning to be done, even beyond the survey stage, before we can talk about cost," Houterloot said.

Any person who desires to find out more about the proposed changes is invited to inspect the map, and the written changes, and to appear in person at the hearing.

The original plan, which was approved in 1949 after publication in full, is now 15 years old, and needs revision. The plan commission explained. The plan will be updated to include the experience of the commission and the planning consultant during the past 15 years, and changes in the city