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The North Indiana Conference Theological Institute is announced for October 19, at Auburn. This is the meeting of the conference board of examiners of which Rev. J. C. White has been a member for six years, where all the younger ministers pass their annnual examinations. Rev. White is to preach the opening sermon.

Several are wondering what will become of promissory notes which they gave strangers a week or so ago. The men represented that they were traveling for a Chicago mail order house and sold them goods taking in turn promissory notes for payment. Since that time they have heard nothing from the strangers nor the goods. They represented to the farmer that they had an office in Frank Adams building here and referred them to him. Mr. Adams says that they rented a room there but have not used it and farmers are making inquiry of him as to who the strangers are. Some of the farmers are getting nervous about the matter and are afraid that they may have been swindled out of their money.—Bluffton News.

The new officers of the Tribe of Ben Hur were installed at their rooms in the Studabaker Friday evening by the retiring Past Chief Harvey H. Harruff. The following officers were installed: Past Chief, Henry Laughery; chief, James Gay; Teacher, Mrs. Artman; Judge, Mrs. Laughery; Scribe, Mrs. C. T. Daily; Keeper of Tribute, Ed Brushwiller; Captain, Earl Butler; Guide, Mr. Sparr; keeper of Inner Gate, Miss May Spuhler; keeper of Outer gate, Miss Irene Weaver. At the finish of the installation services refreshments consisting of ice cream and cake were served. These came as a surprise to the court as they were prepared by a number of the Ben Hur ladies of their own free will. Officers of the Ben Hur lodge are elected every six months and the term just closed has witnessed a big growth of the local organization. At the present their membership numbers 186 with 156 beneficiary members and thirty social members. The Decatur court was organized April 3, 1900 and has prospered from the start. All beneficiary members are insured from $350 to $3,000 which are the limits of the order policies. The 156 members of this city have $193,750 insurance which averages about $1200 apiece.

The Pocahontas lodge Thursday night entertained the Aeolian club and their friends at the Red Men's hall. The club boys furnished music during the evening. Games and other amusements were offered during the evening and everyone had a good time. Aeolian boys have not yet recovered from the magnificent luncheon given them and they all declare the Pocahontas ladies the "best what is."

It has developed that the horse and buggy which policeman Fisher picked up near the Washington church had been used by the same robbers who secured $800 in cash at the home saloon in Montpelier. The outfit belonged to C. H. Cheney. He was in this city and returned with his property Friday night after paying policeman Fisher a reward. The horse evidently had not been driven hard and it is presumed that the robbers were experienced professionals as their calmness goes to prove.

Wednesday night Mrs. A. E. Rose and Miss Bessie Congleton charmingly entertained the Friday night club in honor of Miss Harriet Burns, whose marriage to Mr. Louis Voglewede which occurred last Tuesday, July 28. Miss Harriet is the well known and popular daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Melan Burns of this city, and has been a leader in Decatur society for several years. She is a graduate of the local high school and was a student at Indiana State University, being a member of one of the leading sororities of that institution. The Democrat joins congratulations with her host of friends in this city. Mr. Louis Voglewede needs no introduction to Decatur people as he has always been prominent in business circles here. He is a young man of grit and integrity and is assured of success in whatever he undertakes. Their marriage Tuesday evening was a very quiet affair, and only immediate members of the families were present. Immediately after their marriage the couple left for St. Louis, where they will visit some time. They wlll then go on to Kansas and the west, which will be their future home. The affair Wednesday was a farewell party for Miss Burns. The guests gathered at the home of Mrs. Rose, which was appropriately decorated and where everything was prepared for the amusement of those present. Progressive pedro was the principal amusement and in this Miss Bessie Congleton proved the best. As hostess, however she very kindly presented first prize to Miss Burns, the guest of honor. Miss Nan Peterson was the successful competitor for booby. A wedding present, a very beautiful and exquisitely carved rose-bowl was presented by the Friday night club to Miss Burns. Refreshments were served to the guests by the hostess. Miss Nan Peterson of Albion, Ind., was the out of town guest.

William Sheets left for Chicago Friday evening where he looked after some business matters. Mr. Sheets stated that he was looking over several different makes of machines for his new electric light plant, and that a purchase will soon be made. "So far as I know now," Mr. Sheets said, "the Berne electric light plant will be ready within six to ten weeks."

The Paragould & Memphis Railroad which is controlled by J. W. Vail, W. H. Niblick and Don L. Quinn of this city is prospering and no doubt will in the future become one of the great railways. At the present time trains are in operation between Cardwell, Missouri, and Manila, a distance of twenty five miles and by next year the extension between Osceola and Rector, Ark. will probably be completed. With this addition the road will be about eighty miles long and will have a terminal point at the Mississippi river. This a very important advantage, as it makes the Paragould & Memphis railroad a carrier and disributor of freight for a big stretch of territory. Lumber and wood products are hauled to the interior. While the construction work was in progress for the extenison almost five hundred men were given employment. The road is not built in the usual hurry-up way but is made substantial and first-class in every particuar. Rails that weigh sixty five pounds to the yard are being laid and the ties are placed in good gravel ballast which is at a premium and hard to get in Arkansas country. The extension of the road will cross the St. Francis river a navigable stream, and a $60,000 bridge is to be constructed. The equipment of the road is also first-class. Although vestibuled trains cannot be seen their passenger runs will compare with the accomodation trains that pass through this city, as will their time schedule. They have but two engines in commission at the present time, but will add five or six more when the extension will have been completed. The Paragould & Memphis road connects with three different roads, the St. Louis & Gulf, Paragould Southhern, Jonesboro, Lake City and Eastern and soon will cross the Cotton Belt and the St. Louis and Southern. A ride on the road convinces one of its importance. The train rushes along at the different stations, new and well designed depots meet the eye. The conductor and trainmen are all uniformed in the regulation railroad blue and in the cars can be found all the conveniences that go to make a first-class railway coach. The company even have their own shops which are located at Cardwell. Almost any kind of railway repairing can be done at this place, as the shops are well equipped with up-to-date machinery. The operating offices are also located at Cardwell, but the auditing of all accounts is done in this city.

Bosse's opera house will open the season August 20th with the Chandler-Sturgeon repertoire company. Mr. and Mrs. T. N. Sturgeon and John Chandler arrived in the city Friday and registered at the Murray. They will be busy a week or two arranging the stage and other details here and collecting their company. The plays they present are of the highest class and the troupe is heralded as one of the best on the road. They will play here three nights August 20, 21 and 22. Manager Bosse told a Democrat reporter that nearly all dates for next season were filled and that some good plays had been booked.

Deputy Clerk James Haefling is still about the busiest man in Adams county and his vacation time has been even busier than when court is in session. He has been making a new index of all cases and other legal papers on file in the county clerk's office, he having been hired to do the work by the board of county commissioners. It is a tiresome, tedious job as anyone with half an eye can see by watching him a few moments. He has to go over scraps of paper old and new, covering a period of over fifty years. He places these papers, each case seperate in a file box, labels and designates it properly on the box. Then he places every name in the new docket arranging them so anyone can turn to any case almost in a moments time. He is about half through and it will require the constant time of Jim and an assistant for the next month to complete the big job.

A feeble old soldier got off an Erie train in this city Friday morning and very early was found wandering aimlessly about the streets in search of a telescope. His dress proved him to be an old soldier and he was taken in tow by George Woodward, a member of the G. A. R. of this city. His talk showed him to be slightly deranged and greatly bewildered. He was hunting for the restaurant where he had left his telescope and after a long search the missing property was found at the postoffice. This discovery quieted him considerably and in an unconnected and rambling discourse he told his story. He gave his name as Samuel Smethers of New Baltimore, Fairfield county, Ohio, and some papers that he had on his person indentified him as the very same. Thursday morning he bought a ticket at his home town for Columbus O., and after reaching that place he bought transportation to Marion, Indiana. The old man does not know what railroad he was to take but it is presumed that the ticket was sold over the Pan Handle. At the union station in Columbus he very propably was directed to the Marion, Ohio, train instead of the Marion, Indiana, and was consequently carried over the Hocking Valley and the Erie railroads to this city. This seems the best supposition but it is weakened by the story of the soldier, who claims that the conductor of the train took his ticket. The Erie conductor would hardly take up a Pan Handle ticket and the probability that the old fellow was sold a ticket by the way of Decatur is destroyed by the fact that he paid $5.90 for the same, which is two dollars more than such a ticket would cost. All that the man knows is that he was put off at this place. When questioned the old fellow said, that he was on his way to visit with his sons who live near Marion, Indiana. He gave the names of several and stated that one, Henry Edson Smethers lived at Pleasant Plain Indiana, which is seven miles west of Warren. Marshal Cordua telephoned to the Marion police and a messenger boy was dispatched to the home of Mr. Smether's son. The old fellow was sent to Marion at noon where he will be under the care of the police until his relatives arrive. The lost man had sufficient money to pay his way, but said that he must keep that so as to get back home after his visit. With this idea in his head he had determined to walk to his son's home and it required considerable argument to convince him of the impossibility of such an endeavor. He is past seventy-five years old and served one year in the Mexican war and three in the war of the late rebellion, being a member of the 18th Ohio Volunteer Infantry during the latter. He was quite feeble and said that an attack of mountain fever had impaired his mind.

According to Traveling Passenger Agent Brown of the Clover Leaf the forthcoming change of time on the T. St. L. & W. R. R. will go into effect about the first day of August. The change will be almost as the Daily Democrat predicted some time ago and the addition of the two new trains will make this city a passenger division point. The different trains will arrive at Decatur, approximately as follows: East Bound—No. 2, St. Louis to Toledo, 11:50 a. m.; No. 4, St. Louis to Toledo, 6:30 p. m.; No. 6, St. Louis to Toledo, 5.25 a. m. No. 10, Charlestown to Decatur, 10:30 p. m. West Bound—No 1., Toledo to St. Louis, 9:56 a. m.; No. 3, Toledo to St. Louis, 9:57 p. m.; No. 5, Toledo to St. Louis, 8:05 p. m.; No. 9, Decatur to Charleston, 5:30 a. m. It has been said it is for the benefit of making connections with the Grand Trunk which recently purchased a controlling interest in the Clover Leaf but Mr. Brown says the new time card was arranged preparatory to handling the World's Fair business into St. Louis for next year. With Decatur a passenger terminus it will be one of the most important stations on the road and other benefits are to follow. It means the employing of ten railroad people who shall reside here and it gives the place a commercial air which we all enjoy.

Fred Murphy, the man who although but in this city since Monday, has become quite familiar on account of his peculiar actions, was locked in the county jail Wednesday for safe keeping. In the early part of the night he had gone down Third street and made such a noise around the home of Michael Wertzberger that the entire family was awakened. The police were sent for and located the prowler near the residence of John Niblick. He was immediately taken into custody and marched off to jail. Murphy, who is well known by several people in this city, formerly managed at different times the Home, Wayne and Randal Hotel Billiard rooms at Fort Wayne. Trouble recently came his way and as a result his nervous system was completely shattered. On last Monday Dick Townsend received a letter from Murphy which announced that he would arrive in this city on that day. It also told of a rollertop desk that had been shipped to this town. Mr. Townsend thought the letter sounded strange but did not know of the actual conditions until the Fort Wayne man arrived. Mr. Murphy sold the desk and since his arrival here has been continually on the go. At times he seems sane but is very nervous and cannot sit still or talk about one thing for any length of time. While his case is not plain insanity it can be seen that the unfortunate fellow is not just right. He cannot be considered dangerous yet his prowling trips although harmless cannot be tolerated. Mr. Murphy's mother lives at Hamilton, Ohio and he has a wife at Fort Wayne. Marshal Cordua telephoned to Gorsline, superintendent of police at Fort Wayne and asked about the prisoner. The Ft Wayne official replied Thursday afternoon that he could make no arrangements towards taking care of the fellow and it looks as though Murphy would have to lay in jail until something turns up. Late that afternoon another message was received from Fort Wayne police which gave the information that no relatives of Murphy could be found, not even his wife. Those people whom he said were his sisters were located but they denied that they were his relatives. They said that Murphy and his wife had once boarded at the place but had separated and left several days ago. Dr. D. D. Clark visited the jail and had quite a talk with the prisoner. The doctor says that Murphy is undoubtedly insane and that he is not a user of opium or whiskey. A representative of Soliday, Hite & Company, a Fort Wayne furniture concern arrived here this afternoon and claimed the desk which Murphy had sold to George Tester and Mell Butler for twelve dollars. The representative showed a bill of sale for the same and will return with his property while the other fellows lose. The officers are in a quandary to know what to do. It is probable that they will take him to the county farm for several days and if his condition does not improve and the Fort Wayne authorities remain indifferent he will have to undergo an insanity inquest.

A. P. Beatty's law office certainly bears the earmarks of prosperity. New wall paper and linoleum have transformed its appearance and new office furniture has been added. Mr. Beatty now has everything up to date and cozy.

Wm. Doehring of Goshen has just received letters of patent on a new grain shocking device, which will doubtless solve the question of harvest help. It is designed to take the place of a bundle carrier on a self binder, and will carry eight or ten bundles as operator may desire and automatically deposit them on the ground in shocks. The shocking device can be used for small cereals, rye, wheat and oats.

Burglars entered the back door of Will Harding's saloone Thursday and secured between six and seven dollars in small change. The door was fastened with three locks, one of which they broke with a chisel, loosened the second latch, and then pried the door open. The operators were either green hands or in a big hurry, as they touched only the cash register, leaving a cigar box full of change on the counter. No clue has as yet been found.

...Legal Advertising...

APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed administrator of the estate of Elias Barkley, late of Adams county, deceased. The estate is probably solvent.

JOSEPH D. BARKLEY, Administrator.
July 25, 1903.
D. B. & D. N. Erwin, Attorneys.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

Office of Comptroller of the Currency.

Washington, July 16, 1903.

Whereas, by satisfactory evidence presented to the undersigned, it has been made to appear that the First National Bank of Decatur, located in the city of Decatur, in the county of Adams, and state of Indiana, has complied with all the provisions of the act of congress to enable national banking associations to extend their corporate existence and for other purposes approved July 12, 1882.

Now, therefore, I, Thomas P. Kane, deputy and acting comptroller of the currency, do hereby certify that the First National Bank of Decatur, located in the city of Decatur, in the county of Adams, and state of Indiana, is authorized to have succession for the period specified in its amended articles of association, namely until close of business July 16 1923.

In testimony whereof, witness my hand and seal of office this sixteenth day of July 1903.

20-4 T. P. KANE Deputy and Acting
No, 3028. Comptroller of the Currency.

NOTICE OF HEARING OF DITCH PETITION.

In the matter of the petition of J. N Kerr number 5.

Notice is hereby given that a petition has been filed with the Auditor of Adams county state of Indiana, and viewers appointed who have viewed and reported said view, which is on file in my office. The hearing of said petition upon its merits will be on

Monday, September 7, 1903,

the same being the first day of the September term, 1903, of the Board of Commissioners of Adams county, Indiana.

The prayer of said petition is that a ditch be constructed on the following route to-wit:

Description of the J. N. Kerr ditch.

Commencing at a point forty (40) feet east of the northwest corner of the northwest quarter of section thirty-six (36,) township twenty-six (26) north, range fourteen (14) east in Adams county, Indiana.

Running thence north eight and one-half (8½) degrees, west six (6) rods; thence north ninety-five (95) rods, and terminating in the J. N. Kerr ditch number three (3) at a point fifty-eight (58) rods south and one (1) rod east of the northwest corner of the northwest quarter of section twenty-five (25,) township twenty-seven (27) north, range fourteen (14) east in Adams county, Indiana.

Passing through and affecting the lands of C. B. Tyndall, Margaret Eley, Silas Oliver, A. N. Jack, Amos McCune, J. N. Kerr, Catherine Lawson, Mathias Miller, R. M. Buffenbarger, David J. Habegger, Clayton McCune, Monroe township and Blue Creek township.

ABE BOCH.
Auditor Adams County.

NOTICE TO NON-RESIDENTS,

The State of Indiana, County of Adams, } ss.

In the Adams Circuit court, September term, 1903

Martha A. Dutcher vs. Lucinda Cline, et al } Complaint to Quiet Title. No.—

It appearing from affidavit filed in the above entitled cause, that David Aber, Susan Aber, John K. Grier, Lizzie Mack, —Mack, husband of Lizzie Mack, whose christian name is to the plaintiff unknown; Ella Avery, —— Avery, her husband, whose christian name is unknown; Sarah Rifenburg, —— Rifenburg, her husband, whose christian name is unknown; Lucy B. Rice, Samuel F. Grier, —— Grier, his wife, whose christian name is unknown; Samuel Rice, —— Rice, his wife, whose christian name is unknown, James Rice, —— Rice, his wife, whose christian name is unknown, Della Rice, the above named defendants are non-residents of the State of Indiana.

Notice is therefore hereby given the said David Aber, Susan Aber, John K. Grier, Lizzie Mack, —— Mack, husband of Lizzie Mack, whose christian name is to plaintiff unknown; Ella Avery, —— Avery, her husband, whose christian name is unknown; Sarah Rifenberg, —— Rifenberg, her husband, whose christian name is unknown; Lucy B. Rice, Samuel F. Grier, —— Grier, his wife, whose christian name is unknown; Samuel Rice, —— Rice, his wife, whose christian name is unknown; James Rice, —— Rice, his wife, whose christian name is unknown; Della Rice, that they be and appear before the Hon. Judge of the Adams Circuit Court on the 14th day of September 1903, the same being the seventh Juridical Day of the next regular term thereof, to be holden at the Court House in the City of Decatur, commencing on Monday, the 7th day of September A. D. 1903, and plead by answer or demur to said complaint, or the same will be heard and determined in their absence.

WITNESS, my name, and the Seal of said Court hereto affixed, this 29th day of July, 1903.

(SEAL) ELMER JOHNSON, Clerk.
By James P. Haefling, Deputy.

Merryman & Sutton
F. M. Schirmeyer,
20-3 Attorneys for the Plaintiff.

THE BIG

Furniture Sale

IS NOW ON.

FROM July 15th to August 15th anything we have in our store you can buy NOW at a reduced price. We mean just what we say. Our stock is the largest, the best selected in style, quality and finish, as you know we are the experienced dealers in our business, which enables us to buy cheap and select only the BEST, well made Furniture that will stay together, the kind you always did and always will find in our store. It pays to buy quality at prices right. Call and be convinced as others have done. Do not forget the place, the "old place" opposite court house.

A NEW LINE OF GO-CARTS JUST ARRIVED

L. Yager & Sons
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