

SOME BIG PRIZES ARE OFFERED

Contestants From Five States Will Participate—Hans Richard, Pianist, is to be There.

On Friday, November 30, at the coliseum in Marion, Ind., the largest choral contest ever attempted in the middle west will be held. Ten hundred and forty-three singers, residing in five states, have entered the contest. Fifteen hundred dollars in cash prizes is offered, ranging from \$25 to \$500. Choruses, quartettes, duets and soloists have entered from New Castle, Pa., Columbus, Lima, Venedocia, Van Wert, Comer, Delphos and Ohio City, Ohio; Indianapolis, Muncie, Anderson, Elwood, Lafayette, Warsaw, Winona Lake, Crawfordsville, Matthews, Wabash, Peru, Decatur, Rochester, Portland, Richmond, Kokomo, Logansport, Van Buren, Fairmount, Jonesboro, Gas City, Indiana; Chicago and Charleston, Ill.; Covington, Ky., and Detroit, Mich. Every city represented by singers will send along a large number of friends to cheer them on to victory. This will be encouraged by the railroads and traction lines, who are offering excursion rates for the occasion.

There will be three sessions, morning 10 a. m., afternoon, 2 p. m., and evening at 8 p. m. The general admittance is one dollar, tickets good for all three sessions. Each session is to have a special drawing card. Morning session will include competition in male quartette, contralto solo, tenor and bass duet, mezzo soprano solo, ladies' chorus and grand mass ladies' chorus of five hundred voices. Afternoon session, ladies' quartette, bass solo, church choir, soprano and alto duet, tenor solo, mixed chorus and grand mass chorus of one thousand voices. Evening session, baritone solo, part song, soprano solo, male chorus and grand mass male chorus of five hundred voices. As a special feature at the afternoon and evening sessions Hans Richard, one of the greatest living pianists has been engaged. This celebrated European master will give two groups at each session. Local musicians and music loving people should encourage the managers of this big undertaking by attending in a body. Marion is preparing to take care of ten thousand visitors.

BETTER SCHOOLS IN COUNTRY

Are Needed in Indiana, Says Superintendent Cotton.

In his November bulletin to the teachers of the State, Fassett A. Cotton, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, discusses the rights of the country child, pointing out that the country children do not have the opportunities in the way of education that the city children do and suggesting some improvements in teaching that will help to give the country children improved opportunities. Superintendent Cotton says that there is still some poor work in the Indiana schools, notwithstanding that the system of teaching is much better now than it has been in the past. The superintendent asks for still better work on the part of the teachers.

"With short terms," he says in his bulletin, "and poor facilities, with inexperienced and often poorly prepared teachers overburdened with classes, and with little supervision, the country school, in its efforts to train the children for country life, has not been able to compete with the city school in its effort to train the children for city life.

"Put six months over against nine or ten months; put a poorly located, poorly lighted, poorly heated, poorly ventilated, poorly equipped single room school house over against a centrally located, well built, and well equipped, modern building; put a reasonable distance with good walks or streets over against a long distance with poor roads; put well qualified, experienced teachers, with daily supervision, over against meager qualifications, inexperience and one or two visits a year by the county superintendent; put the richness of social life, with libraries and lectures over against a dearth of these advantages and the real situation may in a measure be understood."

A Year of Blood.

The year 1903 will long be remembered in the home of F. N. Tackett, of Alliance, Ky., as a year of blood; which flowed so copiously from Mr. Tackett's lungs that death seemed very near. He writes: "Severe bleeding from the lungs and a frightful cough had brought me at death's door, when I began taking Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption with the astonishing result that after four bottles I was completely restored and as time has proven permanently cured." Guaranteed for Sore Lungs, Coughs and Colds, at Blackburn Pharmacy. Price 50 cents and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

THE MOORE LAW IS HELD GOOD

Supreme Court Stands by the Blanket Remonstrance.

The Supreme court holds that the Moore law, providing for "blanket remonstrances" against granting saloon licenses to any and all applicants in a township or ward is valid. The court also holds that such a remonstrance may be signed by an attorney holding separate powers of attorney from each of the voters he represents, which have been sent to him by letter or postal card; that after the remonstrance has once taken effect voters cannot afterward withdraw their names to favor an applicant for license at a future term, and that a sufficient remonstrance, once filed, cuts off all right of the commissioners to issue a license to anybody for two years.

TO RESCIND FORMER ACTION

Decatur Ladies Not in Sympathy With the Move—Shakespeare Ladies Favor a Union.

The Shakespeare Club of this city met with Mrs. S. Dorwin Wednesday and this club took the same action as did the Historical Club the evening before, confirming Mrs. Sherman's decision and favoring the consolidation of the two State organizations.

MUNCIE, Ind., Nov. 22.—Apparently, a knockout blow has been given the movement to prolong the life of the Indiana Federation of Women's Clubs by the recognized authorities in clubdom, but notwithstanding this fact, a convention of delegates to what is called an adjourned meeting of that organization is in session here today.

Mrs. Sarah F. Kinsey, president of the Indiana Federation of Clubs, which was formed by the amalgamation of the Indiana Union of Literary Clubs and the Indiana Federation of Women's Clubs, issued a circular to all the clubwomen of the State, asking that they neither attend nor send representatives to the Muncie convention, and denying the existence of any such organization as the Indiana Federation of Women's Clubs. In this she is supported by another letter issued by Mrs. Mary Belle Sherman, of Chicago, corresponding secretary of the National Federation of Women's Clubs.

Mrs. Sarah Platte Decker, president of the National federation, was appealed to by the club women who bolted the action of the Fort Wayne conference that resulted in the amalgamation, and Mrs. Decker promised to render a decision, but instead she hurried to the Pacific seashore, where she is now in seclusion and unable to be communicated with. Mrs. Phillip M. Moore of St. Louis, first vice president of the National federation, and next in authority to Mrs. Decker, is here, presiding over the meeting.

DITCH LAW TO BE REPEALED

The Representatives Will Fight for the Honor.

There are one hundred members in the Indiana house of representatives and it is predicted that on the morning of the first day of the session about ninety-five of them will introduce bills to repeal the present ditch law. There will doubtless be intense rivalry between the authors of these repealing measures and the one whose name is attached to the bill that runs the gauntlet of the legislature will consider himself a candidate for a Carnegie hero medal. Denunciation of the ditch law is now one of the most popular performances in which a public man can engage.

It is expected also that there will be some important legislation on educational matters, particularly in regard to the teachers of public schools. A commission appointed by Governor Hanly at the request of Superintendent Cotton has been wrestling with this question. It is composed of B. F. Moore, superintendent of the Marion school; State Senator L. E. Slack of Franklin; Senator E. E. Moore of Connersville; Representative Thomas D. Slipp of Washington; Will S. Richie, president of the Lebanon school board; Edgar Webb, editor of the Attica Ledger, and John W. Lewis superintendent of the Wabash county schools.

The commission is a strong one and commands the confidence of educators. It will recommend a very material increase in the salary of teachers and along with that an elevation of the standard of qualifications, to the end that the pedagogical fraternity shall be composed of persons of recognized quality who shall be paid commensurate with their service.

AN APPROPRIATION TO BE ASKED

Two Hundred Thousand Dollars for a Hospital—Tuberculosis a Curable Disease.

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 22.—The State tuberculosis commission, appointed by Governor Hanly, two years ago to investigate the need of a State institution for the treatment of consumption, will recommend to the legislature that an appropriation of \$200,000 be made for the construction of a hospital for consumptives and the further suggestion will be made that action by the State be taken at once.

In a few days the report of the commission, which is now complete, will be filed with Governor Hanly. The commission, after nearly two years of research in every part of the country where the white plague prevails, reaches the conclusion that fully 75 per cent of those afflicted with consumption in its early stage can be restored to health. The tuberculosis commission was appointed by the governor shortly after the last session of the State legislature. The commission is composed of L. F. Gage of Grand View, chairman; Dr. Theodore Potter, Indianapolis, secretary; Senator C. Havens, Terre Haute; Senator Carl Wood, Seymour, and Representative R. N. Elliott, Connersville.

"The commission will recommend," said Dr. Potter, "that the State begin a vigorous combat against tuberculosis. We shall recommend not only the establishment of a State hospital for the treatment of the disease, but that the State take a decided attitude toward its prevention. Our investigations have impressed us with the fact that tuberculosis is a curable disease, and in a large measure a preventable disease. The purpose of the kind of institution suggested by the commission is not simply to restore a certain limited number of persons to health, but the plan is also to make an educational institution for the medical profession and for the people of the State."

FORTY GUESTS WERE PRESENT

Affair in Honor of Fort Wayne Ladies—Progressive Pedro Was the Favorite Pastime.

About forty ladies enjoyed a most delightful afternoon Thursday at the home of Mrs. E. X. Ehinger, playing progressive pedro. The party was complimentary to her guests, Mrs. Frank Ehinger, Mrs. Cocke and Mrs. Cramer of Fort Wayne. Thirteen games were played at the end of which the following ladies carried off the favors, Mrs. Frank Ehinger of Fort Wayne and Mrs. O. M. Snellen, first, Mrs. J. H. Gerard and Mrs. J. H. Heller, second, Mrs. A. Kohn and Mrs. C. Meibers, third, while Mrs. J. H. Meyers and Mrs. H. L. Conter received the consolations. The favors were very beautiful china plates. Mrs. Jennie Studabaker assisted Mrs. Ehinger in scoring the games and Mrs. Henry Schulte assisted in receiving the guests and serving a most delicious lunch. The guests all enjoyed themselves most thoroughly and expressions of delight from the departing guests were numerous.

BRIDE AND GROOM SURPRISE

Mr. Teeter and Mrs. Springer Will Wed this Evening.

A marriage license was issued at noon Thursday to J. F. Teeter, Jefferson township and Mrs. Martha E. Springer of this city and this evening at five o'clock at the groom's home in Jefferson township will occur their marriage. Mr. Teeter came to this city this morning and with Mrs. Springer went to the office of Harvey Harruff to transact some business. They left at noon, promising to return at one o'clock. In the meantime Mr. Harruff telephoned around to a number of Ben Hurs and they assembled in the lodge room which is in the same building. The couple returned soon after dinner and in some manner Mr. Harruff enticed them upstairs to the lodge room, where they were given the surprise of their life. The couple were the recipients of several beautiful presents and were showered with congratulations and best wishes.

There was a meeting of the official board of the Methodist church yesterday evening and at this meeting it was decided to allow the boys' club recently formed by boys in the church, to use the primary room as a gymnasium. The whole matter will be under the watchful eye of the pastor of the church. The project has been under way for some time and will no doubt serve to keep the boys interested. The club has been offered and is ready to enjoy a healthy growth.—Bluffton Banner.

KALVER & HURST ARE BUSY

Are Erecting Machinery for Fertilizer Plant.

The firm of Kalver & Hurst are at present, perhaps, the busiest concern in the city, as they are now pushing the erection of their fertilizing plant to the limit. The new machinery recently purchased by this concern arrived today and a force of men were put to work immediately, erecting the same and getting it ready for use. The work in all probability will take two weeks, when they expect to be running at full blast and expect to be able to handle any thing in the dead animal line that may come along. The plant will be located on the J. S. Covendale farm just north of the city and is being equipped with all the latest and up-to-date machinery on the market. Since work on the plant has been commenced they have been receiving calls daily from farmers and other citizens desiring to take charge of some dead animals, but they have been forced to reject all these solicitations owing to the fact that they were unable to care for them. In two weeks they expect to be ready for business.

TWO WEEKS TO FINISH WORK

Manager Fledderjohann Arranging for Their Car Service at Ft. Wayne.

Mr. W. H. Fledderjohann of Decatur, president of the Fort Wayne & Springfield Traction company, and Mr. J. H. Koenig of St. Marys, O., who is the general counsel of the company, were in the city Wednesday. Mr. Fledderjohann spent a part of the day consulting with Superintendent C. F. Shelton of the Fort Wayne & Wabash Valley Traction company, relative to arrangements for inaugurating service on the new Fort Wayne-Decatur trolley road.

No local representative for the company has yet been appointed and the handling of freight and passenger traffic in this city will be in charge of Mr. Shelton, the Fort Wayne & Springfield company have the same arrangement in this regard as the Toledo & Chicago company. The cars will come down town over the Calhoun street tracks and the union interurban station will be their terminus in the city.

The road is now rapidly nearing completion and Mr. Fledderjohann stated that two weeks of working weather is all that is needed to put on the finishing touches. In view of the present state of the weather, however, no date for the opening can be predicted. Brackets for the overhead wires have been put up almost to Fort Wayne and the wires are now stretched to a point this side of the Allen county line.

Mr. Fledderjohann was much displeased over a story recently published to the effect that the company required \$10,000 to complete the road and that it had been unable to secure it. He stated that there was absolutely no truth in the story, as he says the company still has \$50,000 of the sum secured for the completion of the road. The recent temporary cessation of work, he said, was due to a delay in the shipping of supplies from the Westinghouse works. Everything is now in readiness to turn on the power and start the cars as soon as the line is finished.—Ft. Wayne Journal-Gazette.

PREPARES INTERESTING REPORT

Senator Purviance Making Report on Epileptic Village.

Senator H. M. Purviance is preparing a lengthy report on the epileptic question and investigation. The senator will have his report ready before the legislature convenes that the State assembly may have the facts of the investigation as the committee found them two years ago. Senator Purviance was the chairman of the committee and he championed the bill through the legislature which provided the funds for the new institution that is now being built. He will include in his report the facts as he found them in other states where the institutions have been maintained for some time. The report is being made by request of many men in the State who have become interested in the matter of building the asylum for epileptic victims in this State.—Huntington News-Democrat.

A letter from W. K. Gross, who is now located at New Aygo, Mich., and who was a former resident of this city, states that as yet they have not had cold weather enough to kill the mosquitos. He says potatoes are worth only twenty cents a bushel, but apples are scarce, as they were killed by freezing early in October. He is getting along nicely and likes Michigan fine.

RETURNED 27 INDICTMENTS

Praises for Manager Graber—Recommend New Heating Plant for the Jail.

The grand jury concluded their duties at two o'clock this afternoon and immediately reported to Judge Erwin who, after reading same, discharged the jurors. The report filed reads as follows: "We have been in session seven days. We have examined during that time 110 witnesses and we return herewith twenty-seven indictments. During our session we visited the county farm and found everything in excellent condition. Large and abundant crops were raised upon the farm during the past year and Mr. Graber's management meets with our hearty approval. We commend very highly the board of commissioners for the good buildings erected on the farm. The farm and inmates are in good hands and the inmates are being clothed, kept well and are receiving the right kind of treatment.

"We visited the county jail and found the sheriff is doing his duty well. The jail is in good condition with the exception of the system of heating in use there at this time. It is almost impossible to keep the prison department as warm as it should be kept and we recommend to the board of commissioners that a new heating system be inaugurated. We visited the different apartments and rooms of the jail and found them cold. We examined both furnaces now in use at the jail and though a good fire was burning, the plant did not seem to furnish the necessary heat. Under the system of heating now in use at the jail, it is impossible to keep the different apartments as warm and comfortable as they should be.

"We have done our work as expeditiously as possible and now ask to be discharged.

"HENRY STETTLER,
"Foreman."

OBITUARY.

J. W. Place was born at Willshire, O., on November 7th, 1859, and died at Decatur, Indiana, Sunday evening, November 18th, 1906, of dropsy, at the age of 47 years.

When but a lad he came to Decatur, Indiana, where he found employment and later entered business of his own and here he made for himself a good home. He was looked upon as one of Decatur's successful and substantial business men. He was genial and cordial in his intercourse with his fellow citizens and business associates; and while he had his weaknesses, his faults and failings, as all have, yet those who know him best, say that he was always ready to help a needy cause, and to support with his money the interests of Christianity.

His parents are both dead and an only sister, Miss Alice Place, who is an invalid and at present living at Gallipolis, Ohio, is the only one of his own family now left to mourn his death.

During his long sickness he was waited upon night and day by his loving wife, to whom he was married (Miss Katharine Niblick) on the 16th of November, 1881—the silver anniversary being on the 16th—and who now mourns the loss of a husband.

He was a member in good and regular standing of the Elks Lodge and also the Knights of Pythias of the city of Decatur.

Some years ago he united with the Presbyterian church of Decatur, with his wife. He was not a regular attendant of late years at the Sunday services of the church, but during the past five months, he became greatly concerned about his soul's welfare; he became penitent and humble before God; he truly repented of his sins and sought the Lord with all his heart. He spent much of the closing hours and days of his life in prayer, "looking for the mercy of our Lord, Jesus Christ unto eternal life." He died in the Christian faith, earnestly and fervently committing his soul to the tender mercy and compassion of the Savior, who said: "Him that cometh unto me, I will in no wise cast out."

"And hear at times a sentinel who moves about from place to place, And whispers to the worlds of space, In the deep night that all is well.

"All is well, though faith and form Be sundered in the night of fear; Well roars the storm to those that hear A deeper voice across the storm."

A banquet was given last evening by members of the Presbyterian church for the members of the Sabbath school, in honor of their attendance at the Sunday morning Bible class of the previous year. Eighteen tables were spread which gave the room a very pleasing appearance. At seven thirty over a hundred were seated and before partaking of the feast they sang, "Blest be the Tie That Binds," after which Rev. Fowler pronounced the blessing. The classes of Mrs. Schug and Miss Byerly assisted in serving. At the close, the young men and women sang some of our most beautiful hymns, which along with the rest, shall never be forgotten by those who attended. The children returned to their home, wishing for many such happy occasions in the coming year.

An appeal in the Ernest Sanderson murder case was filed in the supreme court at Indianapolis Monday by Attorneys Hindman and Elchorn, who were the defendant's counsel during his trial for life, in the circuit court at Bluffton. Ernest Sanderson was one of the six accused murderers of his step-brother, Preston Sanderson, a well known Blackford county farmer whose body was found in the Croninger pond by a muskrat hunter on the morning of October 31, 1904.

RHODE ISLAND'S BOY GOVERNOR

He is Only Thirty, But Built of the Right Stuff.

Governor "Jimmy" Higgins of Rhode Island has had a remarkable career. A Democratic governor at 30 years of age, he was a newsboy at fifteen, selling papers to help his widowed mother and to keep himself in school; at 22 a bookkeeper, to enable himself to meantime attend Brown university; at 24 he was a clerk at Washington while attending a law college; at 26 he was a lawyer, and elected a member of the Legislature; at 28 he was elected mayor of Pawtucket. Last Tuesday, a week ago, he was chosen governor and announces he will fight to retire Senator Aldrich.

PENDULUM SWINGING HIS WAY

A Conference May Soon be Held in New York or Washington—Hearst a Factor.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—William J. Bryan's stock is looking up again. The keenest of the political prophets are now predicting that he will be the next nominee of the Democratic party for president. He seemed to lose to some degree his hold on the public just after his Madison Square Garden speech in which he mildly endorsed Government ownership of railroads, and some of the knowing ones were more than half convinced that he had taken himself out of the race for president. But the pendulum is now swinging back his way. The party has been scanning the field since the elections, and it does not discover anybody else within range of view except Hearst. The very fact that Hearst is a possibility will, it seems certain, strengthen the Nebraskan.

It is possible that within the next sixty days Democrats from all parts of the country will hold a conference either here or in New York to consider the future of the party. Prominent representatives of the party have been exchanging letters on the subject of such a meeting. If the conference is held, Democrats of all shades of belief will be invited to it. There seems to be a genuine desire on the part of influential men in the party to reunite it. Whether Bryan is the man around whom the various discordant elements can be rallied will be the most important question discussed at the conference if it is held. William R. Hearst is a large factor in the situation. The existence of such a man may have much to do with overthrowing the nomination to Bryan.

OBITUARY.

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