

THE DEMOCRAT

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SAVED

THE DAY

Here is an extract from the weekly letter of J. S. Bach & Co., New York bankers, that we take occasion to emphasize: Much criticism has been heard of the hoarding of money by banks in the interior. This is probably unjust. When the waves of panic receding from New York, surged through the country, the banks outside of the large cities had no method of combining for mutual protection. Each practically stood alone. What wonder then that each should quickly seek to protect itself against the oncoming storm, closing up tight every opening and standing in defense to meet danger. Self-preservation was absolutely necessary, failure meant disaster to the whole community. It is the fault of our money and banking system that these isolated banking concerns had no recourse to elasticity, no great General Bank to look to for relief. They were compelled to depend absolutely upon themselves, and that they have so well withstood disaster and so few banking failures have followed is greatly to the credit of American bankers everywhere. Interior banks—country banks if you please—saved the day.

IT IS

A CALAMITY

The Atlas engine works of Indianapolis has long been one of the big industrial concerns of the country. It was operated through the panic of 1893 and carried on its business as a solvent corporation without the aid of courts, receivers or trustees. Hugh H. Hanna then was at the head of the concern, and he has been at the head of it ever since. Mr. Hanna was terribly afraid in 1896 that Mr. Bryan might be elected president. He was one of the noisiest of the "country savers." He told his men—as was said at the time—that they might come back to work on the morning after the election if McKinley was successful, but that there would be no work for them if Bryan was elected. On the night of the election in November, 1906, when it was known that McKinley was triumphant, the Atlas engine works' whistles wasted much steam in celebrating the event. And now the Atlas engine works, after eleven years of republican rule and Dingley tariffs, has been put into the hands of trustees for the benefit of creditors. It is a calamity. No person will rejoice, but many will reflect. It may be remarked—for it is remarkable—that the Indianapolis newspapers have made no mention of the troubles of Mr. Hanna's company.

rumor that has been afloat for some time that the wiley George was again bestowing himself was largely confirmed by the last issue of the Munroe Observer, Cromer's own newspaper which announces that the once invincible G. W. will again be a candidate for the republican nomination for congress next spring, provided certain precinct committeemen are chosen in Delaware county.—Portland Sun.

The Chicago Inter-Ocean, although it claims to be "the only republican newspaper in Chicago," does not follow the example of other republican papers in concealing the business disasters which have resulted from the panic. Nearly a month ago it gave figures showing that at that time 307,000 men had been thrown out of employment by reason of troubles caused by the "money stringency." The figures were by no means exaggerated, and since they were given tens of thousands have been added to the idle list. All of the large industrial centers have been effected and most of the small ones.

Some statisticians are alarmed over the fact that the birthrate in the German cities of Berlin and Hamburg has decreased one-half during the past 25 years. Why worry over this showing? General conditions are certainly better than they were a quarter of a century ago. There is no scarcity of people—no diminution of inhabitants in the cities. Race suicide is not visible to the naked eye, despite the lamentations of statisticians. Families may be smaller than they were years ago, but can that be adjudged a positive evil, except as to individual cases?

A remarkably accurate characterization of Theodore Roosevelt is that made by the Wall Street Journal, supplemented by the New York World. The judgment of these two publications is that the present occupant of the White House is a combination of Lincoln, Bismarck and Cromwell. Certain it is that he is the most remarkable character of his day and generation.—South Bend Times.

Zimri Dwiggins, a Napoleonic of finance, who was the main squeeze in establishing about a half hundred banks in small towns in Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan and other states in the latter part of the last century, most of which came to grief, has gone the way of all things mortal. He had nothing to go on himself except his nerve and had little to lose, but a good many other well meaning men were taken in by his clever tongue and lost heavily.—Columbus City Post.

Secretary Taft invaded Boston to proclaim the guilt of the wicked trusts that caused the financial flurry and with spear that knows no brother he prodded and jabbed the "system" most ferociously. This plainly is a proposal to go ahead and wean Tom Lawson from the thirdtermites.—Fort Wayne Sentinel.

M. B. & E. MAY REACH MARION.

Looks as Though a New Franchise Will Be Granted.

The Marion, Bluffton and Eastern officials of this city are to be offered a new franchise into Marion immediately, according to the Marion Leader, and if it proves acceptable the terminal question there may be settled shortly.

In secret caucus Friday night at the office of Attorney Levi Todd, the councilmen decided upon a solution for the traction question, which they say is given as final. The matter had been relegated to the past, and it was generally supposed the traction mudle would remain unsettled until spring. With the approach of the new year, however, the councilmen revived the question, and it is now planned to permit the Marion, Bluffton and Eastern company to enter the city at once. They will be granted a franchise along east Fourth street to Branson, thence north on Branson to Third street, and then west on Third street to the public square.

This will enable the cars to reach the public square end at the same time as away with the double track, and the controversy with the Union traction company on Fourth street.

Fred Furin, of Fort Wayne, is visiting Fred Houpe, of St. John.

LARGE VOTE CAST

She Wins by Two Hundred and Seventy-Four Votes.

The gold watch contest that has been creating so much excitement for the past three weeks, closed last evening at the Pictorium and this morning Judges John C. Moran and C. O. France took charge of the ballots and made the final count, which resulted in a victory for Miss Frances Radamacker, who received a grand total of 1,199 votes, she winning over her nearest rival Miss Ada Murray by 257 votes. The contest was clean cut in every respect and the best of feeling prevailed throughout among the candidates. Miss Radamacker received a handsome complimentary vote and she certainly should feel proud of her many friends who so ably assisted her. Mr. Stoneburner by these various contests is making many friends for his place of amusement and so far every contest has been clean cut. The watch was turned over to Miss Radamacker today and she should feel justly proud of her New Year's present.

CLOSING VOTE.

Stella Ellis 527.
Frances Radamacker 1,199.
Dude Voglewede 409.
Nola Snyder 672.
Perle Burd 531.
Minnie Orvis 418.
Letta Kintz 495.
Joe Mylott 112.
May Shilling 112.
May Holthouse 412.
Rose Gleinhenz 615.
Joe Krick 404.
Ada Murray 942.
Mamie Cloud 113.
Anna Martin 103.
Mabel Hocker 100.

TO COLLECT SALARIES

Controversy Will Be Settled in the Adams Circuit Court.

Joel Reynolds and Samuel Frank, the two night policemen, will try to collect their salaries in the Adams circuit court. Through their attorney A. P. Beaaty, they filed separate suits today, demanding the sum of \$125 each. The cases are filed against the city of Decatur, a corporation, and each complaint alleges that said city, by its common council, on May 12, 1891, adopted an ordinance, giving the mayor of said city full power to hire and discharge special police when same is deemed necessary, that said ordinance has never been repealed and is, therefore, in full force and effect. The complaint further relates that on September 6, 1906, these officers were duly employed. They quit for a few days last October, but were again ordered into service on November 1st, and have served ever since, being on duty four days in October, thirty days in November and thirty-one in December, a total of sixty-five days. At \$1.50 per day, this amounts to \$75.00 each. A copy of the ordinance and an itemized bill is attached to the complaint.

A CARD OF THANKS.

We desire to express our heartfelt gratitude toward the tribe of Ben Hur and neighbors who so kindly aided us in the late illness of our father.

M. F. Hay and family.

Earl Snow, foreman in the daily department of this office, came in an hour or two late Saturday, but this unusual tardiness was overlooked when he announced the arrival of an early morning visitor at his home, a handsome little girl baby. Earl is already saving money for Easter bonnets and a few other trifles. Mrs. Snow, the baby and Earl are recovering nicely.

Herbert Bremerkamp, clerk at the Myers-Daily clothing store, has just completed dressing a window in this popular place of business, emblematic to the order of Elks, that speaks much for his ability in this line. The head of an Elk is neatly arranged in the midst of a cluster of electric lights and a representation of a clock with the hands pointing to eleven o'clock is placed in the background, making it appropriate in every respect to the coming show which will be put on by the B. P. O. E. Do not fail to see this window.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Vesey and family returned yesterday from Decatur, Ind., where they went to attend the forty-fifth annual reunion of the Studabaker family. There were twenty-six children and grandchildren who spent Christmas eve and Christmas day under the roof of the Studabaker home—Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette.

THE PLAINTIFF WON

In Case of Hamlin vs. Bolds—Jury Returned a Verdict Last Evening.

L. C. DeVos is attorney for the plaintiff in a new divorce case filed, the title of which is Dora Hower vs. Charles J. H. Hower. They were married in November, 1902, and lived together until about six months ago. However, their married life has been full of discord and unhappiness. Mrs. Hower says her husband mistreated her in many ways, abused her, failed to provide for her and the two children and frequently abandoned her. Recently Mr. Hower tried to get a divorce a few weeks ago and Mrs. Hower also asked for a decree on her cross complaint, but both were refused. Since that time one of the children has been adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Fin Bennett, of Portland. Mrs. Hower asks for the custody of the other child.

Marriage licenses have been issued to Webster C. Martz, aged twenty-three and Luetta Mae Mock, aged nineteen, both of Monroe township, also to William Kelley, aged twenty-one, a farmer from Van Wert and Sylvia Beltz, aged seventeen, of Blue Creek township.

Susie Connant vs. Louis J. Habegger a \$2,000 damage suit, rule to answer in five days recorded.

The case of Edward Hamil vs. Otto Bolds was concluded Tuesday night going to the jury about five o'clock. The following verdict was returned about 7:30 o'clock: "We the jury find for the plaintiff that he is the owner and entitled to possession of the property described in his complaint and that the same has been unlawfully detained from the plaintiff by defendant, and we assess the plaintiff's damages for such unlawful detention at \$8.00. John T. Myers, foreman."

Old Adams County Bank vs. John H. Yager et al disclaimed filed by Meyers and Gillig. The same entry was made in a similar case against H. S. Porter.

AT STEELE HOME

On West Monroe Street, Marked the Closing of the Old Year, 1907.

One of the most brilliant social events of the season occurred at the home of D. V. Steele on West Monroe street Tuesday night. For some years Mrs. D. V. Steele and Mrs. John Bolinger have been giving birthday dinners alternately—December 31st being the birthday of Master Pete Bolinger and Mrs. Steele. This year the six o'clock dinner was given at the magnificent home of Dayton Steele. Besides the two families Rev. Stangle and family and Father Peter Bolinger of South Whitley were present to enjoy the festivities incident to the tenth birthday of Master Bolinger and the fiftieth birthday of Mrs. D. V. Steele. Many beautiful and valuable presents added to the joy of the evening.

No sooner had the guests risen from the bountiful repast given by Mrs. Steele than a large concourse of people filed into the home and gave the principals of the evening's enjoyment a complete surprise. Among those who came were J. D. Wieshaupt and wife, J. D. Stults and wife, L. W. Frank and wife, Harry Wilkinson and family, James Hurst and wife, David Stoler and wife, Adam Deems and wife, C. E. Baughman and wife, John Hill and wife, Phillip Mehl's and wife, Mrs. Robert Perkins and Mrs. Martha Stephens. After spending a most enjoyable evening and wishing all a happy New Year the friends departed in time to get home by 1908.

TO ATTEND FUNERAL OF AUNT.

Messrs. Holthouse and Voglewede Go to Kentucky.

Messrs. Peter Holthouse and John Voglewede left yesterday for Covington, Kentucky, where they will attend the funeral of their aunt, Mrs. Lizzie Overman, who will be buried at that place Thursday morning. Mrs. Overman was the last aunt living of these gentlemen and since her demise, they have neither an aunt or uncle living and in fact many of their near relatives have gone to the great beyond. Mrs. Overman was quite well known here, she having visited with relatives in the city on several different occasions. She was preceded by her husband, who died several years ago. The relatives here are grieved over the sad affair. The deceased was eighty-six years of age, she having died from old age and a complication of ailments.

THREE FINE OFFICERS

Well Fitted for Their Positions and Will Prove Worthy of Trust.

The fact that yesterday was initial one of the year 1908 was evidenced in three offices at the court house, where new terms of office were begun. John F. Lachot succeeded himself as county treasurer, James P. Haefling began his four year term as county clerk and Hervey Steele followed Clinton S. Cloud as county recorder. The new officials have duly qualified and have filed the necessary bonds as required by law. Mr. Steele's bond being \$2,000, Mr. Haefling's \$10,000 and Mr. Lachot's \$200,000. While each of these three officials are men well known and we have on various occasions told of their special fitness for the offices entrusted to them, it may not be out of place to again give a few facts concerning them.

John F. Lachot, the county treasurer, who will succeed himself, has already served two years and has proven his worthiness. He has made a record that his friends and his party are indeed proud of and we haven't room in which to print the many good things we have heard of his administration. He has proven a faithful, efficient, honest and worthy officer and will continue to transact the business of the county treasury in a businesslike way during the ensuing two years. He was born in Wayne county, Ohio, June 9, 1860, moved to French township, Adams county, when eight years old moved to Berne when a young man, worked as a drug clerk, managed the cottage hotel and traveled for the Brooks Oil company, of Cleveland, several years prior to his election to office. He is one of the most popular officers ever in Adams county. He turns over to himself the sum of \$140,000.00 and you can bet your last red that every cent is duly accounted for.

James P. Haefling, the new county clerk, is another official of whose ability many are willing to vouch. He has been connected with various business enterprises, served several years as deputy clerk and knows thoroughly every detail of his office. He will personally look after the work as clerk of the Adams circuit court, where he is a favorite with courts, attorneys and the reporters. Mr. Haefling was born at Tiffin, Ohio, forty years ago, came to Adams county when a small boy and has lived here practically ever since. He was educated in the schools of the county and his career since maintaining his majority has been a very busy one. For several years he served as a railroad carpenter, did contract work and later became deputy clerk under Elmer Johnson. After four years at that work he engaged in the fire insurance business with Mr. Gallogly. After receiving the nomination for county clerk he sold his agency interest and soon afterward was appointed receiver for the Loch, Dicks & Co. business, a settlement requiring the proper kind of ability, about \$40,000 being involved. After disposing of that trust, Mr. Haefling assumed a position with the Kirsch & Sellemyer lumber yard, where he remained until two months ago, when he resumed his place at the clerk's office. His record as county clerk will be a clean and honorable one. Dan Roop, of Blue Creek township, will serve as deputy.

Hervey Steele is the new recorder. For a month he has been acquainting himself with his new duties, and for the present at least he will conduct the work without the assistance of a deputy. He is forty years old, and a native of Adams county. He is a son of ex-trustee John Steele of this township and was educated in the local schools. He lived for five years in Kirkland township and since has resided in Decatur. He taught school several years, traveled for Lyman Brothers and for some time conducted a grocery in this city. In all his career he has been industrious and honest, and being capable as he is he is sure to make a splendid record as a public officer.

Mr. Cloud, who retires, will resume his farm work. Miss Mayme Cloud, who has proven her proficiency as a deputy, will visit in Nebraska for several months. David Gerber, retiring clerk will continue in the stock business.

Marshal Bohnke arrested an umbrella mender yesterday and lodged him in jail to await a hearing before Mayor D. D. Coffee. The man was in a drunken condition and caused much excitement on Main street. In taking him to jail Bohnke experienced a little difficulty but after he was placed in the chain on his arm he was easily managed.

ELECTION NOT CINCH

A Hopeful Financial Note from Controller Ridgely.

Washington, January 1.—Just now republican politicians as a rule are devoting their time to trying to find out whether their favorite candidate for the presidential nomination can get the vote in national convention of this or that state. A little later there will be some thoughtful inquiry as to whether the republicans can elect the man to be nominated at Chicago next June, in their private exchange of views the old party wheel horses are saying that the remarkable victories of the republican party in both state and national elections since 1896 seem to have caused them to forget that the political pendulum must swing back sooner or later. Many of the far-seeing ones are somewhat puzzled with the outlook for next year. They are beginning to realize that conditions are changing. They speak of a good many clouds on the horizon. They hope the outlook will become more promising; they are disposed to believe it will, but they are impressed with the fact that the time is near at hand when the party in power may well pause and take stock—may well take a good square look at the situation as it exists today.

Washington, January 1.—William B. Ridgely, controller of the currency, sounds a hopeful financial note in a statement given out this afternoon. The new year, he is confident, will bring a general revival in business. The banks of the country, he believes, will soon find it advisable to return to normal cash payments. In a general review of the financial situation the controller reaches the conclusion that the blame for conditions that have existed the last two months cannot justly be placed on any man or any set of men. It is sufficient, he thinks, to know that conditions are rapidly improving.

ON LAST EVENING

Slipped While Throwing Switch—Left Arm Severely Fractured.

C. W. Ernst, a Pennsylvania brakeman, sustained a broken arm last evening at 7:30 o'clock by falling while attempting to throw a switch. The railroader had run ahead of his train in the east yards and seizing the switch lever gave it a jerk but slipped on the ice and fell over the stand, alighting on his left side, with his left arm doubled under him. The bone in the upper arm was fractured just above the elbow. He was placed aboard a switch engine and hurried to the station where a cab was waiting to convey him to the St. Joseph's hospital. He is the second trainman to sustain a broken arm as a result of the slippery condition of the ties and ground as Wilber Holly was the victim of a similar accident about two weeks ago. Mr. Ernst is single and rooms on Baker street. The fracture is said to be a serious one but there is no danger of the loss of the use of the member.—Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette.

Mr. Ernst is a son of Titus Ernst of this city and has many friends and acquaintances here who hope his injuries may not prove at all serious.

LEAVE FOR DALLAS TEXAS

Mr. and Mrs. Schafer Will Spend the Winter With Daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Schafer left last evening for Dallas, Texas, where they will remain for the winter with their daughter, Mrs. W. F. Britton. Mr. and Mrs. Schafer just recently disposed of their property and household effects and they may remain permanently in Texas, although they may return to this city some time during next summer for a visit at least. Decatur is loath to lose such an estimable family and it is sincerely hoped that Mr. and Mrs. Schafer will see fit to return to our midst and make their future abode before many months have passed.

Mrs. Horace Bothoff and daughter left this morning for Lorraine, O. where they were called owing to the serious illness of Mrs. Hellinger. A number of Decatur and Adams county Democrats will leave this evening for Portland to attend the district convention. Those who attend will all be enthusiastic Ellingham men.