

At a meeting of Post X. held at the Commercial Club last week the following resolution was adopted by the post:

Resolved that Post X. most cordially endorse the name of Frank D. Helmbaugh, of Post R. for membership on the state railroad commission.

Mr. Helmbaugh hails from Munie, is one of the best known newspaper men of state, and besides is one of the best men in the councils of the state T. P. A. having for years been identified with the great work that has been accomplished by them. The T. P. A. of the state intend to back him to a fare-you-well for the place, with the idea of getting the representation on this state commission in behalf of the shippers of the state. It is claimed that the shippers have heretofore not had the representation that their great and important interests entitle them to and they propose now to go out and get it. They are a lively lot of hustlers and usually get all that is coming to them, and this fact will make other candidates for this important place think that something has hit them in a soft place.

The entertainment committee of the Elks lodge Friday night held a meeting at the Commercial club rooms to discuss plans for the big annual minstrel show, and it was decided to hold same on the evenings of Thursday and Friday, January 7th and 8th. According to present plans this exhibition will exceed anything ever put on in this neck of the woods and from now on the boys will not lose any time in preparation. All the old stars will be there, including the world renowned (and that's no kid) Fred C. LaDelle; then there's Frank E. France, the best singer in Muskogee, Oklahoma, imported especially for this event once each year; there are also many other famous personages who will take part in the program, Prof. True Fristoe, composer and expert musician will have charge of the music and he has been busy for several weeks looking up appropriate ballads, etc. He will put on a full orchestra of eight pieces and will also drill the end men and the choruses and the soloists, a big job for a little man, but True can handle it. The end men will be Bart France, Kornie Conter, Dr. Coverdale, heel and toe artist, Bill Schrock, Fred Bell and Mayor "Bones" France. F. E. France will be interloper. Better speak for seats.

L. C. Helm, who recently concluded his office as grand patriarch of the State Encampment, has received the most beautiful badge which ever came to this city, the same being presented him by the grand lodge, as a token of the love and esteem in which he is held. The badge is about six inches long, with a large solid gold emblem, appropriately engraved. This is mounted on royal purple velvet, and this contains other gold pieces, the entire badge set with beautiful jewels. On the badge are five diamonds, turquoise, rubies and sapphire stones, the most valuable jewels known. The value of the beautiful badge reaches into the hundreds of dollars, but the real worth is in the fact that Mr. Helm has so far earned the same, and this he values more than any jewels of gold. You should see it to fully appreciate it. At the recent meeting Mr. Helm was elected grand representative to the sovereign grand lodge and next September will go as the Indiana delegate to the meeting which is to be held at Seattle, Washington, a delightful trip.

HAD HIS LEG FRACTURED.

Elmer Smith Injured—Fell from Horse.

Elmer Smith, one of the employees of the Frisinger & Co. horse company, was quite painfully hurt while exercising one of the big stallions. He was riding the animal about Steele's park, when it reared and as Elmer was not looking for anything of the kind he was thrown or rather fell off backwards. His left leg was hurt, but he was able to work the remainder of the day. Last evening, however, a physician was summoned and examined him. He discovered that the leg was slightly fractured just below the knee. The injury is not a serious one, and the man should be able to resume his work in a few days.

The Ward Fence company, Krick & Tyndall, Furnace company, Egg Case factory and all the other manufacturing concerns in Decatur are preparing for a big business for next year, and are busy just now closing up the year 1908.

F. P. Parmin, of Fort Wayne, the traveling passenger agent for the Nickel Plate, was in the city today looking after business for his company, which is one of the great railroads of the country. Mr. Parmin has just recently acquired his present position, and as he is a railroad man of long standing and experience, will fill the place all over.

THE KRUCKEBERG'S BETTER.

Fred Kruckeberg called today and informs us that his family are all getting along nicely after the siege of typhoid fever. It will be remembered that eleven were ill at the same house, including nine of the Kruckeberg children, the mother and Grandpa Kruckeberg. All are able to be up a part of the time, and to take their meals at the table excepting the old gentleman, and he will soon be able to be up. The two nurses who did such valiant work have returned to Fort Wayne, but another nurse is caring for Grandpa Kruckeberg.

William Woodward, of Ossian, met with an accident Saturday, that for a time looked pretty much like he was done for, and at that he is not feeling the best over his rough treatment, says the Bluffton Banner. Mr. Woodward had gone to the home of J. Orr, west of Ossian, with Frank Berger, a horse buyer from Decatur. Mr. Berger has been buying horses out of Ossian for the past several days and Mr. Woodward has been going with him in the country. At the Orr home this morning, there was a deal on for an animal, one that was thoroughly broke to drive and work, but not to ride. Mr. Woodward mounted on the animal's back to try him up and down the field to see whether or not his wind was good, and the animal, not used to that sort of thing, at once began rearing and plunging, finally throwing Mr. Woodward off. He fell on his left side and it was at once known that he was seriously hurt. Mr. Berger took him to Ossian as soon as possible, and it was some time before a doctor could be secured, and the fact that breathing was hard for Woodward, the report soon spread that he was very seriously injured. However, upon examination, it was discovered he was not so seriously hurt as was at first reported.

Mrs. F. V. Mills has received word that her mother arrived at Asheville, South Carolina, with no ill effects from the long and tiresome journey. She will spend the winter there with her daughter, Mrs. Reynolds, and it is thought that the change in climate will prove beneficial to her health, which has not been the best during the last few months.

"I do not love Charles Cotton, never did love him but I married him for his money," declared Mrs. Cotton in her divorce trial in the Wells county court in Bluffton Wednesday.

Bluffton society is all standing on its toes over the announcement of the engagement of Miss Aline Buck and Herbert B. Bender. The date of January 12 is given for the wedding day and friends of the contracting parties are preparing for the event and are expecting a great time.

The banks and other business houses in Decatur are arranging to send out their 1909 calendars and they will soon be very much in evidence. By the way, it won't be a great while any more until you need them. Have you thought of any resolutions, good or bad, that you might make for the coming year?

Hon. Levi Meek has returned from Winchester, where he was called to the bedside of his uncle, Enos Watson, father of James Watson, who is seriously ill. Mr. Watson cannot rise in bed and the end is expected soon.—Bluffton Banner.

With the grouping of counties in the new federal court division the first district is composed of the counties of Elkhart, Allen, DeKalb, Steuben, LaGrange, Noble, Kosciusko, Wabash, Miami, Huntington, Whitley, Wells, Adams, Blackford and Jay. The court of this division will be held at Fort Wayne.

On his way down to dinner this afternoon John W. Terrell, confined in the jail, got on the war path and kicked out two of the windows in the jail corridor. He was coming down the corridor when, without any warning, he suddenly shoved his foot through two panes of the glass. Sheriff Lipkey heard the racket and rushing up to the man forced him back to his cell.—Bluffton Banner.

The last word received from Charles Quick who is an inmate of the Plymouth sanitarium is to the effect that he is in good health and is well satisfied with his treatment. He wrote his son-in-law Godfrey Ashbaucher to that effect this morning. Mr. Ashbaucher also received a letter recently from the authorities at the sanitarium to the effect that Mr. Quick was able to take a long walk within the past few days and that he experienced very little fatigue as a result of his exertions.—Bluffton News.

Alfred W. Elzey, of south of the city, left at noon Tuesday for Trinidad, Colo., where he will visit his daughter, Mrs. Dora Meyers for about two weeks, enjoying the Christmas time with them. He anticipates a delightful trip and a happy time.

Only two more days for buying Christmas goods. Read the advertisements in today's issue and get buy.

Robert S. Peterson assumed jurisdiction in the case of John F. Colchin vs. Cyrus R. Mammeil, complaint on judgment, demand \$850. The defendant failed to appear and judgment was rendered for \$813.50 without re lief.

Henry A. and Sarah Tindall vs. Jacob Fogle, partition, answer filed in one paragraph, cross complaint filed, rule to answer cross complaint.

Essie L. Davies et al vs. Clarence Williman, final report filed and approved and commissioner discharged.

Charles F. Rinehart vs. Charles F. Rinehart admr. et al, default of several defendants, answers by C. J. Lutz, guardian ad litem for minors, demurrer overruled.

Fort Wayne & Springfield Ry. Co. vs. Andrew Miller et al, condemnation, motion to strike out exceptions overruled. Exceptions by plaintiff and twenty days given to file bill of exceptions.

R. W. Buckmaster has transferred lot 108 Decatur to Henry F. Schlickmann for \$1,200.

Andrew Wolpert, administrator of the estate of Theresa Wolpert, filed a report of the sale of personal property, approved. A petition was filed to sell all other chattel property at private sale and for cash. So ordered.

Charles F. True of this city has been chosen as one of the board of directors of the Winona Academy at Winona Lake, Indiana, and has accepted same. The honor is a worthy one and Mr. True is to be congratulated on same, while the school directors board may feel assured that they have secured the services of a valuable man. Mr. True will be glad to explain any points concerning this academy to any persons interested.

The letter notifying Mr. True of the honor is from the well known Winona leader, Sol C. Dickey, and reads as follows:

Mrs. C. F. True, Decatur, Ind.:

Dear Sir—At an executive committee meeting held a few days since the affairs of the Winona Academy were thoroughly discussed, and in accordance with instructions from the board at its last meeting the committee proceeded to nominate additional directors for the school. Your name has been heartily suggested and you have been unanimously chosen by the committee as a director, same was satisfied by the stockholders at their meeting held here December 16, 1908, at 3 o'clock p. m. It was the unanimous opinion of the executive committee that the outlook for the academy was brighter than at any time in its history. There are, however, matters of vital importance to the school, including its policy, to come before the meetings and I earnestly join with the other members of the executive committee in urging you to accept this position. You will doubtless be glad to know that all of the various Winona projects are progressing successfully, and if we can have the advice and assistance of a greater number of such friends as yourself, the academy will certainly make rapid progress.

Cordially yours,

SOL C. DICKEY.

SUIT OF PECULIAR NATURE

Horse Case in Jay County Causes Interest.

The case of Joseph Allen and Dr. W. D. Schwartz against Charles Bye, to recover damages in the sum of \$200 was taken up in the circuit court Thursday forenoon before Judge LaFollette and a jury of twelve men. According to the allegations made in the complaint filed Allen is employed by Schwartz as tenant on the latter's farm northwest of this city and on October 15th the two attended a public sale conducted by Bye. While there they purchased a brown work mare at \$170. Bye desired to use the mare for a few days and was granted the privilege. The following forenoon he was engaged in gathering corn from a field using the mare to haul the grain to the crib. While so engaged the mare was permitted to eat of the green corn which caused her to become sick with colic.

During the afternoon Bye came to this city and collected the purchase price of the animal from Dr. Schwartz and during the night the horse died. Bye refused to refund the money and the suit for damages followed.—Portland Sun.

If you know of any one who deserves a Christmas dinner and can't afford to buy it for their family, and will notify C. O. France, Nick Miller or D. E. Smith, they will see that they are taken care of. They form the committee from the Elks lodge who are looking after this work and they do not want to overlook a single worthy family in Decatur.

Messrs. Joseph Lower and C. S. Mumma have returned from Berne, where they made arrangements for the farmers' institute, which is to be held at that place January fourth. The skating rink has been selected as the meeting place, Rev. Cooper was engaged by the men to open the session which convenes at 9:30 o'clock. The Berne high school will render a song. The Mennonite chorus will favor the audience by a German selection and several recitations will be given. The promoters of the institute have started a movement by which they are making an effort to secure one hundred members to the institute at a fee of twenty-five cents each. By doing this \$25 will be raised and according to law the county will then donate the same amount to the cause. It will not be a difficult matter to secure one hundred Adams county men to contribute to such a worthy cause as is the farmers' institute. The institute at Berne will be ideal in every respect. It is urged that many ladies be in attendance as a goodly portion of the program will be dedicated to their interests. Let everybody join in making the event the best ever.

AGER ARRESTED IN TEXAS

Princeton, Ind., Dec. 16.—Henry E. Agar, former secretary and treasurer of the Princeton Milling company, who was reported drowned in the Wabash river twenty-three months ago, and whose alleged death thirty thousand dollars of insurance is in litigation, has been arrested in Hargrave, Texas, and confessed his identity. After his disappearance, Agar was charged with forgery and embezzlement, approximating \$100,000. He was a member of the Indiana legislature in 1905.

G. W. Fravel, who had the misfortune to lose the sight from his left eye by a piece of wood striking it while he was sawing wood, was in town Monday and is getting along as well as could be expected. He is wearing a covering over the injured eye.—Geneva Herald.

Lewis C. Justus and Dana W. Brown have acquired options on 1,600 acres of timber land in Mississippi and a \$50,000 stock company in which a number of other Bluffton men will be interested, is being organized to locate mills and to realize on the timber. C. N. Coverdale is one of those interested and is soliciting sale of stock.—Bluffton News.

Grace Cameron, who comes to the Bosse as the star of "Little Dollie Dimples" returned from a most successful tour of England, Germany, France and Africa in time to rehearse for her starring tour in "Little Dollie Dimples." Miss Cameron's foreign engagements were so successful that it was only the allure of "starlot" that brought the clever young lady back to the land of Uncle Sam.

Notwithstanding the fact that the day was rough and wild and stormy the ladies at the Presbyterian church did a flourishing business at their dinner today. The bill-of-fare was as good as advertised and pronounced by the many who tried it as even better. The ladies will also serve supper and those who missed the dinner should be sure to go for supper. The evening meal is all new and not the left over dinner and you are sure to be more than satisfied. The price is only fifteen cents. Don't fail.

Scores of farmers and hog raisers of Carroll county, Indiana, are convinced that hogs can be successfully vaccinated and immunized from hog cholera and swine plague by using the serum or anti-toxin treatment. Thousands of this season's pigs in Carroll county have been exposed to cholera without the loss of a single pig. The experiment was first introduced by Bennie Cornell, a farmer and hog raiser near Camden, Ind.

The Citizens' State bank at Napoleon assigned to D. D. Donovan last night. The failure is said to be due to overloans to Judge Donnelly personally. Cashier Croll, without authority of other officers, it is said, allowed the loans because of faith in Donnelly. The assignment was caused by the Ohio German Insurance company, failure of which Donnelly was president. The Citizens' bank was considered strong. Many depositors are on the streets and the closing of the bank has caused great excitement.

Invitations have been issued announcing the marriage of Miss Hazel Carr, of Rushville, and Harold E. Cantwell, a son of the late Sidney W. Cantwell, of Hartford City. The wedding will occur at the Carr home on December 30th. The young couple met while attending school at DePauw University. They probably will reside at Indianapolis where Mr. Cantwell will enter upon the practice of law. The wedding came as a surprise and recalls Mr. Cantwell's entanglement with a Hartford City girl a few years ago.

Congressman Adair of this district, is again busy at his duties in Washington. His first bill introduced at the present session was one to amend a present law so as to aid the widow of any ex-soldier to secure a pension of twelve dollars per month. The bill reads as follows:

A Bill in amendment of section two of an Act entitled "An Act to increase the pension of widows, minor children, and so forth, of deceased soldiers and sailors of the late civil war, the war with Mexico, the various Indian wars, and so forth, and to grant a pension to certain widows of the deceased soldiers and sailors of the late war."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled. That section two of an Act entitled "An Act to increase the pension of widows, minor children, and so forth, of deceased soldiers and sailors of the late war, and so forth, and to grant a pension to certain widows of the deceased soldiers and sailors of the late war," approved April nineteenth, nineteen hundred and eight, be, and the same is, amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2. That if any officer or enlisted man who served ninety days or more in the army or navy of the United States during the late civil war, and who has been honorably discharged therefrom, has died, or shall hereafter die, leaving a widow, such widow shall, upon due proof of her husband's death, without proving his death to be the result of his army or navy service, be placed on the pension roll from the date of the filing of her application therefor under this Act at the rate of twelve dollars per month during her widowhood; Provided, That said widow shall have married said soldier or sailor prior to April nineteenth, nineteen hundred and eight; and the benefits of this section shall include those widows whose husbands, if living, would have a pensionable status under the joint resolutions of February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-five; July first, nineteen hundred and two, and June, twenty-eighth, nineteen hundred and six.

Two divorce cases have been filed in circuit court. No. 7685 is entitled Alice Whitcomb vs. William W. Whitcomb and was filed by Attorneys Hooper & Lenhart. The charges are the usual ones of cruel and inhuman treatment, abuse and failure to support.

No. 7686 was filed by Attorney Temple, the plaintiff being Sarah J. Straub and the defendant no less a personage than Daniel Straub, who has on various occasions furnished sensational headlines for the newspapers and who is even now serving a jail sentence for wife beating. The couple were married just twenty-seven years ago today, and lived together until November 15th. Dan is charged with trying to kill his wife, of being an habitual drunkard, of so far failing to support his wife that she had to go to the county infirmary, of cursing and beating her and various other faults. Seven children have been born to them, three of whom are dead. All those living are minors except one. Mrs. Straub asks that she be given the household goods, the custody of the two younger children, \$500 alimony and \$15.00 per month for support of children.

Attorneys Denny, Jacque and McGinnis, of Portland, were here this morning, arguing various points in the making of issues in the Penina Silvers, ex parte, and from the earnestness displayed by the attorneys, the trial would have been interesting and important one. The cause is one concerning the vacation of certain streets and alleys in the city of Portland. Judge Merryman dismissed the cause.

Henry F. Schlickman 22, a farmer, and Ida Beineke, 17, daughter of William Beineke, have been granted a marriage license.

Fred Hoffman et al have sold to M. Kirsch et al, lot 4, Decatur, for \$2,000. The item that Kirsch, Sellemyer & Sons had transferred a property to Med Miller was an error made in copying.

Peterson & Moran filed a new case entitled James M. Rice et al vs. Chicago & Erie Ry. Co., suit for damages, \$2,000. The complaint says that on Jan. 17, 1907, plaintiff shipped a car of horses from Chicago to Decatur over the Erie, that at Crown Point, Indiana, the train was broken into and when re-coupled one part of the train was hurled against the other with such force that twelve of the horses, worth \$250 each, were badly bruised. A veterinary bill of \$300 and the loss of value to the horses totals the demand, \$2,000. At this same time Frank Berger, who was with the horses was quite badly hurt and a suit brought by him against the Erie is now pending in court.

The case of George E. Paille against Joseph A. Swartz, venued here from Adams county, has been set for trial beginning Tuesday, January 19. It is expected that it will require the greater part of the remainder of the week. This is the case of the Amishman who is suing the elders and leaders of the church at Berne for the alleged alienation of the affections of his wife, Katie Paille, following the insuring of Paille's property contrary to the teachings of the church. When he had a fire and accepted re-imbursement from the insurance company, the churchmen declared that he was trying to thwart the will of God, and it is alleged, persuaded his wife to leave him. Much interest attaches to the case throughout the southern part of Adams county, and it is expected there will be a large number of residents here during the hearing. Frank Cottrell, of Berne, A. P. Beatty and Judge David D. Heller, of Decatur, were here Wednesday, interested in the case, making up the issues.—Portland Commercial-Review.

NEW INDIANA CORPORATIONS

Fort Wayne, Dec. 17.—Papers incorporation were taken out in Indianapolis yesterday for the Agriculturalists' Company of America, capitalized at \$100,000, the directors of which are all prominent Allen county men. Its purpose is to eliminate the middlemen's profits on all necessities and a store will be fitted up in the city within the next six months. Mr. H. L. C. Thiel as manager, directors of the new concern, Henry A. Rockhill, of Lake Township; William J. Sterling, of township; Frederick Henschel, of Washington township; Jacob DeMeyer, of Cedar Creek township; Mel M. Wellbaum, of Pleasant town; Emanuel Decker, of Abbot town; Charles A. Springer, of Pleasant town; John G. Sterling, of township; William O. Brown, of township; C. L. Greenwell, of River township; H. L. C. Thiel, Edwin T. Jackson.