

# ADDRESS TO G. A. R. AND W. R. C.

Delivered at Entertainment Given at Sam Henry Post, April 22, 1909.

I must first express to you, my appreciation of this hour of my life. When asked to make a talk to the Grand Army, my answer was "Sure, tickled to death," and it was sincere, for I am never more at home or more in my glory than in this hall, your post home, and in your company. I count each of you a friend, a very dear friend—yes even more than that, for to you and to the W. R. C. there is a tie to me that holds firm. It is not only that one which the colors of this old flag make up—it though, is precious to me—nor is it the tie that is made of the blue suit and brass button and you know the very sight of a blue suit with those brass buttons shining on the front is so very precious to me, and they will attract my attention more than anything which meets me on our streets or can be worn by any passerby.

But, dear comrades, between you and me there is a tie that binds and that tie is this: My father was a soldier; my brother was a soldier, and my dear mother, gone on before us, loved her soldiers and shared and taught me that love. One of her dearest wishes for me to carry out was that "I should take her place and finish her work in the W. R. C. with the G. A. R., so that her work would not forget her and that her work might go on. A tie like this one will last, and last forever—for it is built of love, duty and honor. And while at Kokomo, several soldiers with whom I made friends and who could not remember my name, called me "The Soldier Girl." I felt that I could carry a gun, oh two of them for that matter and march all day to any old time just so it had soldier time to it. If you have never heard me say it, your wives have heard me, those who belong to our W. R. C., that I am more proud of my heritage as a soldier's daughter than I would have been had my father given me a legacy or money and not the other, and I mean it, for any man who is the father of a daughter of my age and was not a soldier in the civil war ought to have been—he ain't made of the good, solid kind that we like to grow from. You don't know how good we feel when we can say, "My father was a soldier."

Very well do I remember when you were more in number and the work of our post and corps was in greater demand. We had to work harder, but oh! we enjoyed it. It was my delight as a little child to help and some very pleasant childhood memories take me back to the hall over Schafer's harness store where we filled so many stockings on Xmas and carried them out to others, poorer children, where you gave dinners, and where I spoke little pieces just as my own little ones do now. Do you know I have been raised in this work, for I have been a member fifteen years next month, coming in the next meetings after I reached the age limit, and with my mother as the conductor. In this time I have witnessed so much sadness and withal some of the happiest time of my life.

In a talk I heard at Knightstown by a comrade to the orphans, he said: It made him happy to stand in their presence, for in looking in their faces, he could honestly assure his mind and heart that his fallen comrades had been well remembered and well loved, for with the help given by our state, we took up their work of caring and educating their children. In these bright faces of little children, the life of dead soldier is moving on.

The G. A. R. is the most honored body of men of the United States. Such great loved men as Grant, McKinley, Lincoln and so many other heroes that our nation honored and mourn as a nation, was but a "comrade" to you. Oh! that word implies so much.

Last year at Kokomo the days were glad ones for our Indiana boys, and you could have witnessed interesting meetings. Many who had not met before in years looked into each other's faces and clasped each other's hands. Some met who had not seen each other since they were mustered out of the service more than forty years. All of these meetings were interesting, but some of them were so touching with pathos, that I can scarce recall them save through a mist of tears.

I say this: "Comradship" is a grand and holy bond which only you can enjoy. Along side of the G. A. R. comes their auxiliary, the W. R. C., next to the grandest organization in this United States, and is made up of the dearest women of our country. They go side by side and hand in hand.

My heart throbs at the beat of the drum and yet comes with it a pang of sadness, which only seems to make it more sacred and more to be remembered. It is my ambition that

this year will be our best. I mean that your life—that of the G. A. R. and our life of W. R. C. will be most pleasant and beneficial and that you will help us to make it so. And believe us always ready and anxious to help and do for you. We appreciate your kind words and we feel that we are following in steps along side of the most noble and brave men. Your life has been one of love and sacrifice, one of war and hardships and now, while it lasts, may it be one of peace and happiness—would that I could help to make it more so than it is.

And tonight let me ask you, if you are looking forward to that one grand reunion, where you will have answered your Great Commander, and His bugle call, where your marching has ceased and your feet will never be weary—with that readiness and assurance in your heart (and if it is not, I pray you will "obey orders" and your captain will lead you on to victory) your remaining days ought to be the best and most peaceful of all men.

Slowly they come, with beat of drum, The flag with its scar above Shoulder to shoulder they come in view Side by side, in the dear old blue. A soldier, a soldier, your life you have given, A soldier, a soldier, your life you have given, On earth, your sufferings were terrible to bear, Up there! all joy all glory, not even a tear.

Some time ago we mentioned the fact that a branch of the American Woman's league was being organized in this city and that among other things which they expect to do for Decatur is to erect a waiting or ladies' club house in this city, where women who are shopping and become tired may go for a rest, where clubs and committees may meet, where ladies from the country may come when in town and feel welcome. At that time there were but five members here, and they expected to build a \$1,200 home. Now the list has grown to twelve and the ladies hope to erect a \$2,000 club. Among the original members of this association are Mrs. James N. Frisbee and Mrs. Charles Dicer. They have already started well upon their work, it being a duty that each member take subscriptions for various papers published by the E. G. Lewis company of St. Louis, amounting to \$52.00. When the twelve have done that the building will be started. The organization is a most wonderful one, and is headed by Mr. Lewis, a millionaire newspaper man, and the mayor of University City, near St. Louis, where the national homes are to be built. Others interested are L. V. Stephens, ex-governor of Missouri; Lewis Terbetts, T. F. Meyer, August Schaferly, H. L. Kramer, W. F. Carter, James Coyle, Edward Dickerson and others, all bankers and men of wealth and prominence. They will provide beside giving local club rooms, a home for the aged, orphanage, a great postal library, colleges, national exchange markets, and a hundred other benefits. It is a most wonderful plan and only the gigantic proportions make it seem impossible. The ladies here report good success. They have thoroughly investigated and are able to explain any point on which any person who cares to join or aid them may be in doubt. The organization is being built up by taking subscriptions for the Woman's National Daily, the Women's Magazine, The Woman's Farm Journal and the Journal of Agriculture.

## STATE SENATOR PARKS IS DEAD

Well Known Over State—Author of Old Cigarette Law.

Plymouth, Ind., April 24.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Senator John W. Parks, a member of the sixty-second, sixty-third and sixty-fourth sessions of the Indiana general assembly, and author of the prohibitive cigarette law which was repealed at the recent session, died here today of fatty degeneration of the heart. He was well known over the state, a republican and a successful lawyer. He graduated from the Michigan university in 1875. He was born May 25, 1852.

Sunday morning T. R. Moore received a letter from his daughter saying that the operation performed on his son, Charles, at Phoenix, Arizona, was a success. The operation was made in order to remove the pressure of the skull from the brain. On delivering mail to his patrons in the country last fall the afflicted man, who was riding a motor cycle, was overthrown by a dog, resulting in the fracture. On account of the pressure, the mind of Mr. Moore became affected. From the report in the letter, the relatives have reason to hope for the best. The many friends here will be very glad to hear of his recovery.

Decatur will probably have a team in the Northern Indiana Baseball league, at least that is the appearance of affairs at present. Mayor C. O. France and W. H. Fledderjohann of the Fort Wayne & Springfield company were at Wabash Sunday to attend a meeting of the men behind the league, and they report that much enthusiasm was displayed. There were present Mr. Hill of Kokomo, Mr. James of Huntington, Mayor Sweeney of Marion, Mr. Cummings, representing Bluffton and Hartford City, and Mr. Fledderjohann represented Decatur. Reports from the managers showed that all the towns had arranged for the financial part of the business excepting Hartford City and Decatur, and if Mr. Fledderjohann agrees to put a team in the field as now seems probable, there will be no trouble in raising any amount of money necessary. The association will meet at Marion on Thursday of this week to complete their arrangements, and to elect permanent officers. The fans here are delighted over the prospects of a team and will boost all they can for the success of same. The league season is to open May 15th, and if this city goes in there can be no time lost in securing players, as it is rather late now to begin. It will be a trolley league, and those interested believe that with such a compact circuit as arranged with these six cities, the league will live and prosper. Mr. Fledderjohann was not in the city today, and it was impossible to learn his intention or plans, but Mr. France said he believed that Decatur would be represented in the league.

Judge John M. Smith is not a believer in spiritualism. No, Sir! But when a man receives a letter like that below from a deceased friend, concerning mutual friends unknown to the deliverer of the message, he is set to thinking and in the judge's own words, "There must be something in it." A few days ago a Portland business man, a spiritualist, was at Indianapolis, and while there attended a seance. He was accosted by a phantom, a ghostly stranger, who called him by name and said that during life the two had met in this city. The spirit gave his name as Bayard Gray, at one time publisher of the Sun, and asked the man as to the health of Judge Smith. Knowing the judge to be a skeptic, the man asked Mr. Gray's spirit to indicate a few lines of slate-writing to the non-believer, and by the regular method—a blank slate on a table—the phantom fingers produced the following, which was duly delivered to the judge:

"To my dear friend Judge Smith, of Portland, I send greeting from my spirit side of life. I am pleased to tell you, Judge, that Senator Brick, Cortez, Ewing, Ex-Judge Dick, Congressman Stevenson and Billy Staley of Frankfort are here.

Bayard Gray, Pierre Gray. All the men mentioned were friends of both the Grays and Judge Smith during life. Senator Brick lived at South Bend; Cortez, at Greensburg, and, like the others mentioned were prominent in democratic state politics. The man who delivered the message to the judge did not know any of the men except Bayard Gray.

The judge is not yet convinced, but the receipt of the slate letter has caused him more thought than did the county option repeal bill in the state legislature, which is considerable.—Portland Sun.

Campers who sought shelter in the Steele school house last night were disturbed by the officers who accompanied two of the men to jail, where they remained until this morning. A new law which has but recently been placed on record and in force which makes it unlawful for any person or persons to camp on a public highway prompted the arrest of the men. Township Trustee Samuel Butler notified the sheriff of the violation, and he with Policeman Fisher went immediately to the school house. The campers are men who sell rocking chairs, and who have been traveling for many years, following this vocation. They vigorously protested innocence on the ground that they were unaware that such a law existed. Two of the men were not placed under arrest last evening, but were allowed to take charge of the wagons in which the chairs they sell were kept.

The men were arraigned before Squire Smith this morning at nine o'clock, where they pleaded guilty to the charge, asking leniency at the hands of the court on account of their ignorance of the law. The squire assessed a fine of one dollar each with the trimmings, amounting in all to eighteen dollars, which was promptly paid by the younger of the defendants, and they went on their way rejoicing.

M. D. Yontz, of Indianapolis, was here today representing the W. B. Burford public printers and stationery supplies.

July seventeenth this year Decatur will take on a gala appearance, when about two thousand Woodmen assemble in the city to observe the annual convention of the camps of the district and to observe it royally. The local camp has appointed its committees and heads of committees to arrange for the affair, and these men are already working hard in an effort to perfect plans which, if carried out, will make the occasion the most memorable held in the city for many years. A reception committee consisting of about sixty members, will take care of the visitors, and the beautiful Steele's park will be the scene of the rendition of one of the best programs ever enjoyed in Adams county. Head Counsel A. R. Talbot is expected to be present, and it is an absolute certainty that the special national lecturer, Mr. Whelan, will deliver the important address of the day. State Deputy J. D. Voltz, of Indianapolis, will also be on the program. There are eighty-two camps under this jurisdiction, and it is fully expected that two thousand Woodmen will invade the city on the above stated date. After a pleasant social session at Steele's park during which a delicious dinner will be served, the Woodmen will repair to the spacious hall in the city, where a banquet will be served followed by initiatory work which will be conferred by a team to be selected later.

Among the many social entertainments of the week, none will be more enjoyable than the one scheduled for Thursday evening in the parlors of the Methodist church, at which time a formal welcome will be given the new pastor and his estimable wife, Rev. and Mrs. Sherman Powell. In the short time they have been in the city both have strongly impressed those whom they have met, that the North Indiana conference knew what it was about when Rev. Powell was assigned to the pastorate of the local church. They are pleasant in the extreme, have the many qualities that endear them to their friends, and it is already foreseen that the admiration will soon be mutual between them and their congregation, which by the way is one of the largest and best in the conference. The welcome to be given them Thursday night is not confined to the narrow lines of Methodism. In fact the bars are down and ministers, their members and the friends of all churches are invited. It is thought that many, both in and out of the church, will go, taking with them their glad hand, which they will without restriction, hand over to the new Decatur pastor and his companion. A program will be indulged in, refreshments will be served, and a gala time will be enjoyed. The Epworth League with Mr. Jonas Trife at the head, will have charge, and they invite the public.

Geneva, Ind., April 26.—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Mrs. Henry Miller, for many years a resident of this part of the county, well known and beloved, died at her home three miles west of this place Sunday morning, after an illness of several weeks. She was born July 28, 1846, and was at time of death in her sixty-third year. Her maiden name was Margaret Beahm. She was married to Mr. Miller July 25, 1872. To them were born nine children, two of whom, a son and a daughter, have preceded her in death, while she is survived by five sons and two daughters. She also leaves three stepsons and two stepdaughters. She was an earnest member of the Christian church, and the funeral services will be held Tuesday morning at ten o'clock at the Elm Grove church, Rev. Aspy having charge.

The beautiful country home of Mrs. George Wilson, three miles west of here, was totally destroyed by fire at about four o'clock Sunday morning. The house was practically new and was nicely furnished. None of the contents were saved, and the loss is estimated at \$2,500. The fire started from a chicken brooder, which was kept in the house and had gained considerable headway before it was discovered. Mrs. Wilson was asleep in her room when the fire broke out, and had it not happened that her son, coming in the house, discovered the fire, it is probable that she would have been burned to death. As it was all the boy could do was to save his mother without giving any attention to the household goods or other articles of value. Mr. Wilson was buried on Easter day, and Mrs. Wilson is prostrated over the misfortunes which have come to her.

Julius Haugk is rushing the work on his Mercer avenue and Adams street contract, and this week will see the work well under way. The grade has been established and the two streets will soon be the best lookers in the city.

W. H. Fledderjohann has returned from a business trip to Chicago.

A birthday dinner party was given by Mr. and Mrs. Otto Berger, Sunday at their home in honor of the latter's forty-sixth birthday. The friends and relatives arrived early and spent the afternoon pleasantly, and at six o'clock dinner was served to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Berger and daughter Clara, Mr. and Mrs. Franz and daughter Elsie, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Fuelling and family, Mr. and Mrs. William Fuelling and family, Mr. and Mrs. Christianer and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Welder and daughter Marie, Messrs Louis Berger, Jacob Berger, Glammer Fuelling and Miss Amelia Fuelling.

Miss Nora Smith, teacher of science at the high school, was given a ghastly surprise Saturday evening by the seniors robed in white, two by two, a procession or ghosts carrying a corpse entered the Smith home on Mercer avenue. It was a great shock to Miss Smith to see the white robed figures before her eyes, for the ghastly group gathered about her and were very friendly as if she was a very dear comrade. However, she recovered and entertained her guests royally. At a late hour the graduates returned to their homes, thinking that one of their last class pranks was one of the most enjoyable.

Miss Hazel Sauers entertained a company of friends at her father's office at a fudge party Saturday evening. Miss Johnson was chaperon of the merry party. Those present were Misses Agnes Murray, Marie Jackson, Ada Murray, Margaret and Helen Walters and Frances Radamacher.

Mrs. F. M. Schirmeyer gave a delightful tea for a few lady friends Saturday evening, and the occasion was a very happy one. Those present were Mrs. F. E. France, of Muskogee, Oklahoma, and Miss Rose Christen and Mrs. J. H. Heller.

The nineteenth anniversary of the Y. P. C. U. of the United Brethren church was celebrated Sunday. In the morning Rev. Imier preached an excellent sermon, appropriate to the occasion. The local society has prospered during the last year. For years the Y. P. C. U. has been doing missionary work, and the main facts in regard to this work were given by Howard Wischaupt in the evening service held last night. Special music was rendered.

Attorney A. P. Beatty, representing the Grand Rapids & Indiana railroad company, has settled the \$5,000 damage case filed against them a year and a half ago by John D. Stults. The consideration being \$400, and the case now on the docket of the Wells circuit court will be dismissed. About two years ago Mr. Stults was injured while attempting to alight from a G. R. & I. passenger train. The station had been called and the train stopped and just as Mr. Stults and several other passengers were alighting, the engine bumped into the train throwing the passengers. Stults received several broken ribs and was otherwise hurt and in the fall of 1907 filed a suit demanding \$5,000. Later the case was taken to Bluffton on a change of venue, and has been postponed from time to time. It was set for trial once, but a continuance was granted and it never came up again. Finally Mr. Stults decided to accept the offer of settlement, \$400, and the case is at an end.

D. E. Studabaker who, during the past four years has made an enviable reputation as a breeder of fine Duroc hogs, and who has owned some of the most famous animals of that breed since launching into the business, has disposed of his herd to Mr. Steeman, of Middletown, the latter having been engaged in breeding this particular kind of hogs for more than seventeen years. Mr. Studabaker's herd consisted of about seventy-five head of the valuable kind, and the price he received for them would water the eyes of any one who appreciates the value of money. Mr. Studabaker is retiring from the business with the view of engaging in some other line, and he retires with a reputation as a Duroc hog raiser excelled by few in consideration of the length of time he has been engaged in the business. The acquisition of the Studabaker herd to his already famous herd, makes Mr. Steeman, of Middletown, the possessor of the biggest and best herd of Durocs in the state of Indiana.

The Monroe Grain, Hay & Milling company is doing a big business at present. They are meeting with much success in disposing of the flour made at their mill, and the farmers in that vicinity are selling much grain to the company.

Alva Buffenbarger has returned from Wabash, where he was given a tryout on the ball club of that place. Nothing has been heard from big Cal Robison since he left for Portsmouth to be given a tryout on the league ball team of that place.

The annual closing of the Ladies Shakespeare Club Friday night, the event this year being celebrated by a banquet at the Hotel Murray. The event was perhaps the most enjoyable in the many years of the club's existence and the guests who were permitted to attend are free in their expressions of gratitude for the pleasant evening given them. The members and their friends gathered in the hotel parlors and at 7:30 were escorted to the dining room, where plates were laid for fifty people. The dining room was very tastily decorated in red, white and green, the colors of Mexico, that country having been the study of the club for several months past. The banquet was a most delicious repast, daintily served by the bevy of young lady waitresses, and each course was enjoyed by the guests who were seated, five at each table. After the coffee, Mrs. Daniels, as toast mistress, took charge of affairs and a happy and entertaining literary program was given. In opening Mrs. Daniels announced that last December the club had started (mentally) on a four months' trip through old Mexico, a great country of vast resources and scenic grandeur, and having now reached home, and believing that their friends would be interested in knowing of the wonderful things they have discovered, this event had been planned. Mrs. Trout gave an interesting ten minutes story of the Aztec lands, describing the people, telling of their history and country, and pleasing her hearers immensely. Mrs. Tyndall told of the country of Oaxaca and the city by the same name, where are located a number of Decatur people. She claimed this land the greatest of that republic and told of its innumerable resources in rich lands, mines and otherwise, delighting all present. Miss Margaret Bell, accompanied by her mother, Mrs. Ella Bell, sang "Geography," a new and for this occasion, most appropriate song. The "Customs and Manners" of the people of Mexico were told charmingly by Mrs. Daniels. She described the methods of courtship, of travel, of work and of pleasure and a touch of humor made her account most entertaining. Mrs. Dugan told the story of "The Mexico of Today" comparing it with the past and showing the vast improvements made during the recent years, since the invasion of the country by capitalists from England and America, and giving President Diaz due credit for the advancements. Miss Margaret Bell sang sweetly "The Mexican Home Sweet Home," after which Mrs. Patterson and Mrs. Fuhman gave a comic sketch, "He Tried to Tell His Wife," which caused the merriment for which it was intended. Mrs. Daniels as presiding officer, with a few appropriate remarks, presented to Mrs. Furman a beautiful silver fern dish containing a pretty green plant and Mrs. Furman, though showing her feelings, replied in an appreciative manner. She has been a member since the club began twenty-six years ago, but will leave this city next week for Marion, Ohio, to make her future home, and is thus forced to sever her connections as an active member. The parting brings many regrets. The evening closed with a piano solo by Mrs. Bell. During the closing course of the banquet hot tamales, a Mexican dish, was served and at the same time the guests were given cards on which were printed eleven questions, in seeking the answers for which much pleasure was found. The ladies are very grateful to the management of the Hotel Murray for their assistance in making the event the success it was. The menu for the banquet was as follows:

- Chili Con Carne
- Young Onions
- Radishes
- Fricassee Chicken
- Spanish Noodles
- Mashed Potatoes
- Peas in Cream
- Escalloped Corn
- Spaghetti a la Mexican
- Banana Salad
- Strawberry Shortcake
- Metropolitan Ice Cream
- Spice Cake
- Caramel Cake
- Coffee

## RETURNED FROM SOUTHWEST

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Fisher Enjoy Visit in Oklahoma and Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Fisher returned Saturday from an extended visit in Oklahoma and Texas, where they enjoyed a splendid time viewing the beautiful country. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher left here more than two weeks ago and after visiting in Houston, Texas, where they had the pleasure of visiting Arley DeVoss, they proceeded to Oklahoma, going to Oklahoma City, for a short visit. At this place they were much taken up by the land, and in all probability Mr. Fisher will return to Chickapha to buy a tract.

The city school board will meet next Friday night in regular monthly session, at which time important business relative to the school will be transacted.