

Dr. W. N. Heath of Indianapolis, field agent for the bureau of statistics, held a session Thursday with a number of the township assessors, and from them received information upon the acreage of farm products. He is also getting statistics from boards of charities and while here visited the county asylum and was really amazed at the magnitude of that institution. He was also unstinted with his praise as to the manner in which it was managed, and threw several large sized bouquets at Mr. Graber the superintendent. From Mr. Heath we learn that the office of state statistician is making an honest endeavor to get statistics that are reliable and correct, and when that officer makes his next report, we will expect it to be different than the average stereotyped report of what Indiana really is what what she actually has. The session this afternoon covered the usual ground with several new lines upon which statistics are needed. That office expects to next year branch out into the manufacturing lines, and get a line on this important industry in this state, and when they combine that with the truth as to agriculture they will sure enough have something of value. It will also be the means of opening the eyes of a great many people even in Indiana, as to just how important we are in this world.

Harry R. Ward has at last found a place on the wide map of this country where he can live without the torment of asthma, from which he has been a sufferer for the last eleven years. He has traveled much in the hope of finding relief, having tried the climates in every part of this country and even took a trip to Europe, but without avail. Last year he landed in southern Florida, and the salt air and delightful climate of that region brought with it entire relief from the greatest torment and affliction that can trouble mankind. He was there the greater part of last winter, and has now decided that he will move there and stay. He will locate in Sanford, Florida, the county seat of Orange county, and a growing city of five thousand population. It is in the heart of the orange growing industry, but which for the past several years has retrograded owing to the frosts having killed the orange trees and ultimately the cultivation of this fruit. Recently the soil there was found to be especially adapted to the cultivation and raising of celery, lettuce, beans, cauliflower, strawberries, potatoes and corn, and at this time northern people are flocking there and buying up the land and engaging in the raising of vegetables. He purchased 4,268 acres six miles from Sanford and will begin the cultivation of a part of this purchase. The country is level, and Sanford is located one hundred miles from the gulf of Mexico and thirty-five miles from the Atlantic ocean. It is also situated on the St. John's river, and has river navigation to Jacksonville, which is located at a distance of one hundred and twenty-five miles. The country is booming and northern people are flocking there in numbers and soon that part of Florida will be a garden spot of the United States. Mr. Ward will retain his holdings in the Ward Fence company, and will keep in touch with the business of this great and growing institution. His family will join him at Sanford within the next few months and where they will likely live until the asthma leaves him free to go elsewhere.

Decatur is to have a league baseball team. This is no dream, no idle boast, but a fact. Of course we don't mean that we will be in the National or American leagues, but we will be represented in the Indiana-Ohio Elks league. This association was framed up by Harry Whipke, past exalted ruler of the Fort Wayne lodge, and he has the plans all worked out. The league will include teams from Marion, Fort Wayne, South Bend, Bluffton, Huntington, Lima, Ohio, and Decatur. Two games will be played each week, Wednesdays and Sundays, and the boys expect to secure much pleasure and to at least break even on the financial end of the game. The season will start in about two weeks, and the boys here are getting ready now. They have about fifteen candidates and will select a bunch who will give any of the visitors a run for the money and the most scores. They will play the first game this afternoon at Steele's park, when they meet the high school team. Several of these kind of games will be pulled off and the players who show the best form will be selected for the league team. It is believed much interest will be manifested before the season is over.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kern are the parents of a baby boy, born Monday evening. A nurse from Fort Wayne has been employed. Mrs. Kern was very ill, but is getting along all right now. Frank is all smiles, and is very proud of the new member of his family. He is telling everybody the good news.

Fred B. Tague, shoe dealer, is the recipient of a communication from Boston, Mass., in which he is especially invited to attend the First World's Shoe and Leather show to be held in that city from July first to thirty-first this year. Enclosed in the missive was a card which entitles Mr. Tague to enter the grounds and all other such privileges without additional expense. It is, however, expressly stated that none other than retailers of shoes will enjoy these privileges without cost. Those under whose auspices the affair will be conducted have engaged the use of ten thousand rooms in the aristocratic Back Bay district, to which shoe retailers who receive invitations will have access. These rooms are located near the exposition building and will be well furnished. The show is to be one of the most elaborate ever held in the country, and without a doubt many thousands of shoe retailers will be present. As yet Mr. Tague has not definitely decided whether or not he will attend.

Van Wert, Ohio, May 6.—George Tolman, a painter, 60 years old, left Van Wert April 13 to visit a brother in Fauna, Tex. It is now feared that he has been murdered. He carried \$300 in cash and a certificate of deposit for \$900 on the People's Bank of this city. He telegraphed the next day he had arrived in St. Louis. Nothing further was heard from him. April 15 a saloon keeper in St. Louis sent a certificate from that city to Louisville, Ky., to a salesman for a distillery, stating that he (the saloon keeper) did not do business with banks and therefore would like the distillery salesman to cash the certificate, take out \$157.42 due the distillery and send him the balance. The St. Louis saloon keeper claimed Tolman had purchased a half interest in the saloon. April 18 the body of a man was taken to the morgue in St. Louis, and it has just developed that it is that of Tolman. Detectives are working on the case.

Tolman was quite well known in this city. According to Van Wert and Lima papers he was a periodical drinker, but for three years past he had not touched a drop. Recently his favorite niece married a suitor whom he did not like, and taking this as an excuse, he went on a big spree, his trip to the west being a result. The case is a very sad one.

Mr. Edward Erwin Gilbert and Miss Edith Zereva Gilbert called at the United Brethren parsonage at four o'clock Wednesday p. m., presented the proper credentials and were united in marriage by the pastor, the Rev. Isaiah Imler. The young couple have a large circle of friends and will make their home in this city. They were accompanied by Miss Ruth Deem and Mr. Jesse Williams.

Mercer, Pa., May 7.—James Boyle, charged with kidnapping Willie Whitla, was convicted yesterday after a trial lasting but a few hours. No defense was made and the jury was out but a few minutes. Mrs. Boyle, indicted under the name of Mary Doe, with half a dozen aliases, was immediately placed on trial charged with aiding and abetting the kidnapping. Hardly had the jury been sworn in the woman's case when the lawyers became engaged in a legal argument regarding the admission of certain testimony and the case was adjourned till this morning. The first witness called by the state in Mrs. Boyle's case was Miss Ella Boyle, a sister of James Boyle. Apparently from the line of questioning the prosecution wanted to prove by her that the kidnapping conspiracy was formed while Mrs. Boyle was visiting in Sharon with her husband and that she was implicated in it. It is surmised the object of this is to overcome her contention that she could not have violated a law in this state while she was living in Ohio. Mrs. Boyle took a prominent part in the selection of her jury prompting her attorneys in numerous cases and evidencing a preference for young, unmarried jurors. The penalty for Boyle's crime is from one year to a life sentence in the penitentiary. Sentence has not yet been pronounced.

Logansport, Ind., May 7.—Fred Smythe, manager of the Nelson theater will throw the theater open Sunday evening for a moving picture performance, and if the police do not interfere afternoon and evening performances will be given on Sundays in the future. There are three other theaters in the city which have moving pictures as a part of the whole of their entertainment and will follow Smythe's lead if the police do not stop his show. Former attempts to do so were stopped by the police.

Rev. F. H. Vorn has been chosen pastor of the Christian church. He is a talented young man, and will no doubt do well here. He will commence the first Sunday in June to preach. He was engaged for one year.

On the morning of June ninth an impressive wedding ceremony will be performed by the Rev. Theo Wilken which will unite the lives of Thomas Haefling and Miss Mary E. Vogelwede, two of Decatur's most prominent young people. After the ceremony a delicious wedding dinner will be served, after which the happy couple will leave for a week's tour, visiting several of the large cities before their return. A newly furnished home on Seventh street will await their return. The contracting parties are well and favorably known in the city. The bride, a daughter of ex-Treasurer J. H. Vogelwede is a young lady of many accomplishments. She is held in the high esteem of those with whom she has been affiliated and a host of friends will extend to her their sincere congratulations. The groom is a clever young business man, having been engaged in electrical work for several years. He is possessed of business qualifications which mean for him signal success in the future. The many acquaintances of both parties concerned will extend congratulations in advance to them.

In his forty-four years of active service as a minister of the gospel, the Rev. Fred Stovenour, Portland's patriarch preacher, has officiated at between 3,200 and 3,300 funerals, more undoubtedly, than has been held by any other pastor in Indiana. On his birthday last October, Rev. Stovenour made an effort to ascertain from newspaper clippings and records, just how many times he had been called upon to perform the painful duty, and as near as he could approximate, the total was something over 3,200, an average of seventy-four services a year. Since January 1, last, he has conducted fifty-eight funerals, several times having two appointments in one day.—Portland Sun.

Rochester, Ind., May 7.—Fulton county expressed at the polls its desire to continue in the "dry" column for two years more. The majority against the saloons in the eight townships is unofficially given as 1,627, based on the full reports received last night. The total vote cast was 4,221, as against a total poll of about 4,800 shown by the figures in the last presidential election poll books. Every township gave a big "dry" majority. Rochester township, in which this city is situated, showed the largest "wet" vote. The "dry" workers were active in the one-sided contest. Many "drys" were out all day hustling the doubtful ones to the polls. The "wets" were not very conspicuous. Taking the day as a whole the town has been the quietest it has ever been known to be when an election was going on. The farmers drove quietly in, voted and went back to their work as quietly as they came, in fact a stranger would have hardly known that an election was going on.

Mt. Vernon, Ind., May 7.—If Black township (Mt. Vernon) casts a majority of 500 votes in favor of the licensed saloon Friday Posey county will doubtless add its voice against the prohibition movement in Indiana. But it is hardly probable that the "wets" will be able to carry the county seat by such a majority. The "drys" predict the county will vote "dry" by 800, an estimate given out by the Rev. Frank Werking, one of the leaders. There is not a doubt that seven out of the ten township in the county are "dry" but the remaining three will cast overwhelming "wet" majorities. The overwhelming "wet" faction is led by the best politicians in the county. Jacob Harlem Democratic boss of the county, and Postmaster L. B. Holleman, Republican boss, are the principals. Both are considered good politicians, and they are making no secret of the fact that they are leading the "wets."

Fort Wayne, Ind., May 7.—A police court jury fined Tom Baker, a saloon keeper, \$10 and costs on a plea of guilty to keeping his saloon open after 11 o'clock. Baker asked for a jury trial to escape a probable jail sentence from Police Judge Skelton, and as soon as his case came up before the jury for trial he pleaded guilty.

Having raised \$60,000 to secure a new factory the Angola Commercial club is now at work to raise \$40,000 in stock to finance the Angola Engine Co., already located there. It has been but a short time since the citizens up there raised a big bonus to keep the college.

Jonathan Hosler of Union township has sold his big grey team which has for three years won sweepstakes and firsts and seconds at county fairs at Huntington, Warren, Fort Wayne and Wabash. The team was perfectly matched, one being a six and the other a seven-year-old. They weighed 4,260 pounds. The buyer was James Rice of Decatur, and the consideration being \$750.—Huntington Herald.

The juvenile band boys earnestly solicit the patronage of their friends for the local talent entertainment at the Boisse opera house Monday evening, May 17th, when they will present the beautiful romantic comedy drama "In the Village by the Sea," with an entirely capable cast. The plot of the play tells a beautiful story of life in the most picturesque section of the country, the rock-ribbed coast of Maine, and portrays the life of one of our quaintest classes of people, whose homely good humor and cheerful views of everyday life make a glowing picture of contentment. The play is the strongest ever attempted by local talent here, and an immense amount of work will be expended in order that a smooth and finished production may be rendered. The band boys are canvassing their tickets. The price of admission will be a quarter, and the proceeds will be used to purchase uniforms. So get in the band wagon and help the boys out.

Trinidad, Col., May 7.—Jas. A. Patten is still on the Bartlett ranch in northern New Mexico and not in Chicago, as was reported. Apparently Mr. Patten has no present intention of leaving the "happy hunting grounds," he has found in the forests and mountains of northern New Mexico, and according to the reluctantly given information over a long-distance telephone he is having a fine vacation, spending nearly all his time fishing, hunting and riding.

The directors of the Berne Grain & Hay Co. held a regular meeting at the company's Geneva elevator Tuesday night and transacted considerable business, among which was the election of two new directors to fill the vacancies occasioned by the resignation of E. F. Lantz, who leaves for the west, and by the disqualification of W. T. Palmer, of Celina, Ohio, who sold all his interests in the company to farmers in the immediate community of Berne. The new directors are D. C. Sprunger and Eli A. Luginbill. There are at present thirty-four stockholders in the company. The following farmers and business men of Berne are new stockholders that purchased stock within the past several weeks: David Lehman, D. C. Sprunger, E. A. Luginbill, F. Sprunger, Emanuel Sprunger, Daniel Stuckey, C. C. Neuenchwander, C. C. Sprunger and Noah Luginbill.—Berne Witness.

During the progress of the severe wind storm Thursday the roof of a box car standing on the G. R. & I. railroad track was blown several hundred feet, alighting in the yard of Peter Amspaugh. The roof was heavy, and that the wind was so terrific as to force it so far is certainly mysterious. The G. R. & I. section gang were busy all morning unearthing a large piece of the roof which was buried deep in the ground in a commons adjoining the track. The people in the vicinity of the Amspaugh home heard the crash when the roof fell to the ground, and many were fearful that lightning had struck nearby. The occurrence is without precedent in this section of the country, and it is considered fortunate that no one was in the path of the wind tossed timber. A train stood on the G. R. & I. track near the Ward Fence factory while the storm raged and several trainmen fled to surrounding buildings in search of shelter. The storm was certainly the fiercest that has visited Decatur for many years.

Mr. C. E. Hitesman, who formerly conducted the newstand has opened a notion and music house at 214 Monroe street, in the room just north of the gas office, and is carrying a line of notions, musical instruments and supplies. His prices are said to be the lowest in the city and he will treat you courteously if you call on him. His store is known as The Fair, and he invites you to make it your headquarters. When you want something in his line call and inspect his goods.

Princeton, Ind., May 7.—For three years attempts have been made to get a \$70,000 sanitary sewerage system here under the area assessment law, but the vehement protests of property owners have always knocked it out. It now appears that the city or citizens will be forced to act. J. Herbert Brewster, state water chemist, was here a few days ago, and it is said he found conditions such that the city and county officials probably will be summoned before an inquiry of the state board of health to show cause why they have permitted the unsanitary drainage that now exists. An attempt may be made to install the sewer system here under the new law permitting the bonding of towns and cities for such purpose.

Bluffton is now certain of having a base ball team this summer, according to reports from that city, and two-thirds of the money has been raised. "Ducky" Ebberts is to have charge of the club and they expect to burn things up.

Geneva, Indiana, May 7.—Rev. C. G. Shannon, who has been conducting a series of meetings at the U. B. church, is having great crowds and, being a speaker of unusual merit, he is more than pleasing the people. Every evening the church is crowded and the meetings may continue for some time.

Mrs. Elizabeth Buhler, the wife of Christopher Buhler, and living six miles northeast of this place, died on Thursday morning, after a prolonged illness. The deceased was sixty-five years, four months and twenty-two days old, and was one of the most respected women of this part of the county. The funeral will occur on Saturday morning, the services to be held from the New Corydon church. A husband, son and daughter survive and are mourning the death of a devoted companion and mother.

Mrs. H. A. Fristoe and daughter, Marguerite, have gone to Lexington, Ky., where they will visit for three or four weeks with Mrs. Fristoe's brother, who lives in Lexington.

Quite a number of friends and acquaintances were in Portland on Wednesday, where they attended the funeral services of Otto Blocher, who died there on Monday. Mr. Blocher was for a long time a clerk in the Anderson & Knepper drug store, besides he at one time lived at Ceylon, and was known by nearly every one here. The deceased is a brother of Mrs. Mattox, wife of Dr. Mattox, of this place.

Rev. David Wells, now the pastor of a church in Marion, but a former minister of the Methodist church here, was greeting friends and acquaintances here for several days.

The third quarterly meeting of the U. B. church will be held at their church on next Saturday and Sunday. These services will be under the direction of Rev. F. M. Dawson, the presiding elder of this conference district. Preparations are made for an enjoyable meeting.

A band concert is the program for every Wednesday evening during the summer months, and just to show that Geneva is anything but slow, these concerts will be given by the Geneva Merchants' band, an aggregation of musicians thirty-two in number. They are being trained by Prof. Allen Bliss, a musician of great merit and who has trained the band into one of the best in this neck of the woods. The band is supported by the business men of Geneva, and they take a great amount of pride in them.

Misses Helen and Isabella Weeks have gone to Delavan, New York, where they will spend the summer with their grandparents. Their mother, Mrs. Matie Weeks, will leave in a few days for Bartlesville, Okla., where she will spend some time with her sister, returning by the way of New York, when they will all return to Geneva in time for school in September.

Mr. and Mrs. Berton Niblick arrived in the city Thursday to remain for several weeks as the guests of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Niblick. They will remain to attend the commencement exercises in which Miss Helen Niblick will participate. Mr. Niblick has been attending college at Quincy, Illinois, for some time and several months ago was united in marriage to a prominent Quincy girl. Although the relatives of Mr. Niblick were aware of the marriage, a public announcement of same has not been made in this city. Mr. Niblick by diligent work, has acquired an excellent college education, and will no doubt accept a lucrative position in Quincy in the near future, where he will make his future home. He and wife will enjoy the hospitalities of Decatur relatives for several weeks, before they return to their home. Although a little late, Decatur friends will extend to them, well wishes for their future prosperity and happiness.

The funeral and interment of the late Conductor Jesse O. Wagner are in progress at Decatur this afternoon. Short services were held at the family residence on Hayden street this morning and immediately at the close the remains were taken to the Pennsylvania depot and thence to Decatur on the train leaving this city at 12 o'clock. A large number of the members of the Fort Wayne lodge, No. 136 B. R. T., and several of the neighbors of the bereaved family accompanied the funeral party, completely filling an extra car supplied by the Pennsylvania company. The pall-bearers all of whom are members of the B. R. T., were Russell Cook, Frank Trim, Henry Hilker, W. L. Huguenard, Fred Switzer and Albert Linebury. The members of the order expect to return on No. 3 at 4 o'clock.—Fort Wayne Sentinel.

Mrs. French Quinn entertained the Young Matrons Club and a number of other friends in honor of her house guest, Mrs. Triplett, of Rome City, Ind., Thursday night and the party was most delightful. Being a "jabberwock" party which means as seen through a looking glass, everything was turned around, even the weather. The luncheon which was served as soon as the guests arrived was given backward, but the guests were not least backward about eating it. The tables looked very pretty, white and yellow being the colors for the evening. The decorations were crystal candlesticks with yellow shades and beautiful yellow carnations. The guests found their places by the aid of small mirrors. During the evening Mrs. J. Q. Neptune sang a very prettily solo. One of the contests was the guessing of names of flowers, the names having been "ditched." A most every one was successful and drew slips for the prize. Mrs. J. Heller was the lucky one, and was given a handsome bouquet of yellow carnations. Next Mrs. Don Quinn played a popular piece backward, and Miss Marie Patterson was the first to call the title of it. Then Master George Triplett gave an excellent recitation which was quite the hit of the evening. Mrs. Quinn was assisted in entertaining and serving her guests by her son and daughter, Robert and Miss Reba, and her sisters, Mrs. Myers and Mrs. F. Bell.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Roop and son of Berde, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Runyon at dinner today.

A merry birthday party was given for Miss Clara Sorg, of Hesse Castle, by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Sorg. The twenty-five guests enjoyed themselves immensely, and late in the evening refreshments were served. Some of the guests from the south and some from Fort Wayne, came to the party on the interurban.

Miss Emma Magley entertained the Sewing Club Thursday at her home. This was the first meeting, and proved a very pleasant one. The club will choose another name which will be suitable soon. Sewing and fancy work was in order for an hour. Music and games and conversation made the evening pass quickly, and late in the evening refreshments were served. The girls decided to meet next Thursday evening with Miss Ellen Krill. Those who belong to the Misses Alma Watts, Annie W. der, Saloma Rice, Irene Evans, Hel. Fonner, Edith Rice, Ellen Krill, Emma Magley, Erma Houck, Hattie W. der, Bessie Wilder, Fannie McCone, Florence Kunkle.

In a contest conducted by S. Cramer in his school room for the best poetry, Ireta Jackson was successful. Men famous in this country's history were the subject of the poems, which tested their knowledge of history. Ireta's poetry was as follows:

COLUMBUS.
Christopher Columbus sailed from Spain;

The people thought he was insane, And after they saw him come in sight They thought they were wrong as he was right.

BOONE.
Boone settled in Kentucky; They say he was so very lucky. He escaped from the Indians every time. And that is why I made this rhyme.

Frank Brown, for a year past inmate of the Wells county jail, who was held as a principal in the murder of Peter Poffenbarger, is drawn as his punishment for participation in the crime, a fine of twenty-five dollars. The counts in the indictment which charged Brown with murder were withdrawn, and through his attorney the accused man pleaded guilty to the charge of assault with a battery and was promptly fined. Unable to pay this amount, he will be compelled to remain in jail one month longer. Conscious of the fact that the prosecution found it a difficult task to convict him and that he was only convicted as a consequence of the fact that the jury expected to judge to suspend sentence, the attorneys on both sides decided that would be useless to attempt to convict Brown, hence the clemency was extended. Poffenbarger, the murdered man was well known in Decatur and many people here have watched the case of his assailers with interest.

Clark Coverdale went to Fort Wayne today on business.

The jury in the circuit court Lagrange, after deliberating fifty-four hours, returned a verdict finding Joseph Barcellona guilty of murder, the first degree and fixed his punishment at life imprisonment. Barcellona is an Italian laborer and he was convicted of having fatally stabbed Al. Tricht, who had ejected him from dance at Elmiria in February. The companions of Barcellona are in jail awaiting trial on the same charge.