

The consummation of a business Thursday conveyed the ownership of the Decatur Packing company meat market to Charles Pennington and John Baker, two gentlemen who need no introduction to the people of this vicinity. Negotiations for the transaction have been under way for several weeks and now that the deal is closed the new proprietors assumed possession of the business place last Monday. Mr. Pennington has been in the employ of the City meat market for nine years, is thoroughly versed in the business and enjoys the friendship of his every acquaintance while Mr. Baker is one of the best known men in the county. He has been a Decatur business man during the most of his life, having been engaged in the restaurant business for many years and his following of friends is large and unswerving. Both men are possessed of the qualifications which assure for them limitless success in the future and their many friends wish for them all the prosperity the future can hold.

RECOVERED HIS POCKETBOOK

Dallas Butler Found His Hanging on His Front Door Last Night.

When Dallas Butler arrived home Thursday night about 11 o'clock he noticed something queer looking hanging on the front door knob. He investigated and discovered it was his pocketbook, which he had lost Sunday evening. He lost the book while attempting to stop the runaway horse of Dr. Smiths, and which swung him around at a lively rate, the pocketbook falling from his pocket. He inserted an advertisement and the book came back all right, but an examination showed that the two dollar bill had been taken as a reward for their honesty in returning the property. Dallas is well pleased to have secured the book as it contained some important papers, but he says he would like to know who the fellow was that needed the money worse than he did.

Huntington, Ind., May 25.—Ex-Judge J. C. Branyan is in a critical condition at his home on Etna avenue as a result of an accident in front of his home yesterday. Three months or more Judge Branyan has been in failing health, much of the time confined to his home and bed. Recently he had been a little stronger and was able to visit his law office and the court house several times. It has long been a custom of the aged judge to hail a ride whenever possible from the vicinity of his residence down town and yesterday he stopped a traveling salesman who was driving toward the business section from the suburban districts. As Mr. Branyan attempted to pull himself up into the buggy, a sudden weakness came over him and he dropped to the pavement between the wheels of the rig and the horse, slightly frightened, began backing. The front wheel passed over his body and the horse trampled him several times. When he had been taken into his home, a physician was hurriedly called, as it was at once realized that the injuries were serious. On examination it was found that the judge had sustained a fractured rib and possibly internal injuries and a number of painful bruises on his body and limbs. The shock also affected him quite perceptibly and the reaction that may follow is feared by the family and attending physician. Judge Branyan is over seventy-one years old. Chronic kidney affliction in recent years and more so in recent months has torn down his former rugged constitution. More and more feeble he has grown and several times in the last three months his condition was critical. But slight hopes are entertained for his recovery at this time.

In his younger days Judge Branyan lived in this city, practicing law, and in later years he was frequently called here to serve as special judge. He has many friends in Decatur and Adams county and is especially well known to the members of the bar.

BONDS FOR TWO ROADS SOLD

Habegger and Sprunger Roads Will Be Built This Summer.

Bonds for the Habegger and the Emma Sprunger macadam roads have been sold and the money for the bonds paid into the hands of the county treasurer. It will be out upon the construction of the road upon estimates as furnished by the engineer as the work progresses. The macadam road building will be slim this year, owing to the fact that nearly every township in the county is up to the two per cent. limit, and they cannot exceed this for road construction.

Mrs. Haefling went to Bluffton today to attend the wedding of her niece, Miss Corrine Dailey, which occurs tomorrow morning at the Catholic church at that place.

Before returning to Washington, Congressman Adair gave out the following statement:

"If the members of congress think the work they have done so far in making a new tariff law is meeting with the approval of the people, they are mistaken. Since the house adjourned after passing the Payne bill, I spent a few days in Indiana, going over a large part of the Eighth district, talking with merchants, manufacturers, farmers and professional men, and I found almost to a man they denounce the Payne bill as it passed the house and are more than dissatisfied with the progress made in the senate under the leadership of Mr. Aldrich.

"Having voted in the house to either lower the duties on the necessities of life or to put them on the free list and having voted against the Payne bill for the reason that it was a revision upward, instead of downward, I was anxious to know how my action had pleased the people I represent. I found, upon inquiry, that my position was approved by practically everybody.

"So far as I know the manufacturers of my district are asking only absolute justice and in no case a tariff in excess of the difference in cost of manufacturing between this and other countries. The farmers are willing to have hides placed on the free list. The fact is there should be no duty on either hides or shoes and when the bill comes back to the house I am going to insist on placing both on the free list. I also find the people generally are very much dissatisfied with the sugar schedule. If all of the \$100,000,000 increase in the cost of sugar caused by the tariff went into the United States treasury it would not be so objectionable, but when fully half of this vast sum of money goes into the pockets of the sugar trust they have a right to object. In fact, the bill so passed, is a great disappointment to the people. They had been promised by both parties a revision downward. Any man who would have gone on the stump during the last campaign and advocated a revision upward would have been hoisted off the platform.

"I do not agree with Mr. Aldrich, that party platforms are made to get on and not to be carried out. I regard a campaign promise just as sacred as the most binding obligation and any public officials who fails to put forth every effort to carry out his pledges to the people, is not worthy of their confidence or respect, and surely not entitled to their support.

"What congress needs to do, and what the people demand shall be done, is to break away from the dictation of colossal trusts and special interests and revise the tariff downward to a point where it will produce sufficient revenue to run the government and properly distribute the burdens among the people.

"I am watching closely all the amendments made by the senate so when the bill comes back to the house I will be prepared to act intelligently. I believe I know what he masses want and if it is not given them it will be no fault of mine. I propose to live up to all the pledges I made, no matter what others may do."

VANCE WHITE'S TOUGH LUCK

Raffles a Ring That He May Reach Dying Mother.

In order to get money to go to his old home in Pennsylvania, where his mother is seriously sick, Vance White Barber, who is hardly able to work himself, is trying, with the assistance of friends, to raffle off a diamond ring. Last winter an operation was performed on White and three ribs and one lung were taken out. Since that time he has been at the home of his father-in-law, Mont Hardin, unable to work or do anything. A few days ago he received a letter stating that his mother is seriously ill at her home in Pennsylvania and the young man wishes to go home to his mother, that he may be there when she expires. The sick man has got a wife and baby who he wishes to take with him. Friends are nobly assisting him in raising the money and it will not be long until he will have enough to make the trip.—Bluffton News.

BOOMING GARY REAL ESTATE

Leonidas B. Boyd, of Gary, Was Here for a Time Today.

Leonidas B. Boyd was here Friday booming the booming city of Gary, Indiana, which has bloomed until now it is a city of no mean proportions. Some of the largest manufacturing plants in the country are located there and the future of Gary is hard to guess at. Mr. Boyd represents a large real estate firm and was here for the purpose of interesting Decatur capital in real estate investments there. W. H. Myers of this city has been appointed agent for this city and will hereafter join the boosters for Gary.

ASCENSION DAY SERVICES HELD

Beautiful Exercises of the Holy Day—Observed in this City.

Today is Ascension Thursday and the anniversary of the ascension of our Lord into heaven. Beautiful services were held at St. Marys church, and at each service the church was filled to its capacity. The morning services were held at eight and ten o'clock. In the afternoon, vespers, May devotions and benediction with the Blessed Sacrament was held at three o'clock. At the ten o'clock service Father George delivered a very interesting sermon, his subject being "The Feast of the Day."

In observation of the day, divine services will be held at the Zion Lutheran church at 7:15 this evening, when Rev. J. H. Klausning will have charge. The public is cordially invited to be present on this sacred occasion.

Race suicide seems to have at last reached Indiana, for the complete school enumeration, with the exception of the city of Evansville, and as made public by the state superintendent, Robert J. Ale, shows a decline over last year of 16,240. The great loss in enumeration is attributed by Mr. Ale to the fact that this year all the enumerators were employed by the day, according to an opinion by the attorney-general, and that consequently more care was used and there was less inclination to "pad" the returns. The agitation of the last five years toward a more accurate school enumeration, he said, is no doubt responsible primarily for the result. He estimates that the enumeration next year will show less difference between that year and this than between this year and last. There are 371,157 white boys of school age in the state and 346,644 white girls. The enumeration of colored pupils shows that there are 7,089 boys and 7,071 colored girls. Adams county shows a gain of eighty-one, and when you consider the fact that there are less than twenty-five counties in the state which shows any gain, it is certainly evidence that we have advanced. There were but eight counties in the state showing a better gain than Adams, and they were all larger counties. Some idea of how they run can be had from the fact that Wells county lost 232, Jay lost 105, Huntington 172, Grant 1,966, etc.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Robert J. Ale, of Indianapolis, will deliver the class address at the third annual commencement exercises to be held at the Central school lawn in this city on Thursday, June 10th. Superintendent L. E. Opliger is busy now arranging the program which will be a delightful one, there being several other interesting features, including besides the principal address, a number of musical specialties and readings. The Temple quartet of Huntington, and the Decatur City orchestra will take part in the day's exercises. The programs will be issued in about ten days, when the handsome invitations will be ready for the county graduates. The previous commencements have been very successful ones and from the present outlook the one of 1909 will provide a day just as happy as those of the past. Another large class has completed the common school work and will take their places in the world or will continue to advance in the educational work.

The premium list for the Great Northern Indiana Fair association are printed and ready for delivery to the officers of this association. The list is an announcement that this year the greatest attraction ever seen at a fair in this city will be seen at the beautiful park beginning on August 24 and ending August 27. Nearly two thousand dollars will be given in purses and some very attractive races will be seen on the last three days, and already the entry list indicates some fast company. The management of this year's event are making arrangements for the greatest attractions ever seen at a fair, and they hope to make it the best that ever happened. They can do this with the encouragement and assistance of every citizen in the county, and there is no one but what owes to this association this encouragement. Therefore, it is in order to begin now to boost the 1909 exhibit of the Great Northern Indiana association. It is but three months hence, and that is little enough time to make it the winner it ought to be, and deserves to be.

Mrs. C. H. Schafer, of Bluffton, Jesse Steele, of St. Louis, is visiting friends in the city. Jesse is prospering at St. Louis. He comes back to see his mother quite often.

House cleaning seems to be a regular fad in Decatur this week as nearly every house has the carpet on the line and furniture strewn all over the yard.

An examination was held at St. Agnes Academy last evening. Miss Genevieve Berling will receive the gold medal, she being the first pupil of St. Agnes Academy to graduate from the seventh grade. Miss Berling will continue studying harmony and also take up the eighth grade work, which includes Chopin, Rubinstein, Handel, Schubert, Gluck, Wagner, Beethoven, Schuman, Verdi, Bach, etc., compositions. The fifth, sixth and seventh grades took the most severe examination. Of these grades Agnes Kohne passed from fifth to sixth, and Naomi Niblick from sixth to seventh. Both of these pupils have great talent along the musical line, and are two of Decatur's promising musicians. The following pupils passed from the fourth to fifth and will receive diplomas in June. Mrs. J. Q. Neptune, Mary Deininger, Josephine Lange, Germaine Coffe, Leona Bosse, Agnes Melbers and Dale Payne. All these pupils are deserving of much praise for their efforts and good success.

The case of the State vs. William E. Smith, for neglect of his children, was dismissed last Thursday, the entry on the docket reading as follows: "Suggestion of death of the defendant, and he having gone to a higher court, where justice never miscarries, this cause is dismissed." 'Tis true. During his life time William furnished many a court entry, many a newspaper story, but he has gone before that Judge who knoweth best what the purpose of man is on earth.

Rosie Passwater vs. Charles Passwater, divorce, motion for allowance filed. The defendant is ordered to pay the sum of \$25.00 to the clerk for the use of the plaintiff within five days.

The Bank of Wren vs. Cardwell Box company and others, appearance by Lutz for John W. Vail, rule to answer. Appearance by W. J. Vesey for A. T. Vail, appearance by Peterson & Moran for R. K. Allison, rule to answer.

Ellen V. Louthan vs. Howard T. Louthan, divorce and alimony. Demurrer overruled to plea in abatement.

Attorneys Peterson & Moran and C. J. Lutz filed another lot case the title of which was F. M. Schirmeyer trustee, vs. Samuel Butler, demand \$125. The complaint says he is in arrearsages \$85.00. It is said that the complete list of these suits will reach twenty when they are all in, though several have settled and thus avoided the suits.

Superintendent and Mrs. W. H. Beachler gave a farewell party at their home on Fourth Wednesday evening for the '09 graduates, and a very pleasant time was enjoyed by the guests. The house was attractively decorated throughout with scarlet colors, which the seniors are very partial to. During the evening a spelling contest was the order. Each guest tried to make as many words from "Senior Class (Decatur High School)" as possible. In this contest everyone tried to get the most words for a handsome scarlet and gray class penant was the prize. Miss Marie Wackso was successful in getting the longest list of words and was given the penant. "Senior Class D. H. S." were the words on the penant. Music and a social hour followed very enjoyably. Miss Lulu Beachler and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Fruchte were present.

Mrs. Louis Holthouse and Mrs. Fred Bell entertained a number of their friends at a reorganizing party. Their purpose was to reorganize the old "Black Rag" Club which most of those present yesterday afternoon had belonged to. Plans were discussed and it was decided that the next meeting would be held two weeks from yesterday, June 2, at the home of Mrs. Jesse Dailey. The house was decorated in pink and looked very attractive. Six o'clock luncheon was served to the guests. The company was composed of the following: Mesdames Bob Allison, Bart, France, Bert Mangold, Fred Patterson, Tom Ehinger, Dan Vail, Jack Dailey, Wesly Huffman and Misses Midge Smith, Fannie Hite, Marie Patterson, Bertha Heller, Gertrude Moses, Faye Smith.

SHOT WHILE AT PLAY.

Serious Accident Occurred at Lafayette Today Causing Much Sorrow. Lafayette, Indiana, May 25.—(Special to the Daily Democrat)—While playing at their home today Frank Gibson, aged twelve, and Blanche Gibson, aged eight, were shot and seriously wounded by Willard Gibson. The children were playing and the serious accident has thrown the family into the deepest grief.

U. S. Drummond returned to Pleasant Mills on the noon train today.

Ernsberger Brothers and Ed Moses are planning extensive improvements in the Decatur greenhouse, which will not only add to the facilities of the concern, but will be a great improvement to the north part of the city. As the gentlemen are now negotiating the three houses now located on the north side of Decatur street will be moved away and in their place will be erected other greenhouses, which will be modern in every particular. The new ones will be twice the height of the ones now standing and will be surrounded by a concrete wall. A new ventilating system will be installed and all other conveniences which go to make the concern one of the best equipped in this section of the state will be had. It is not improbable that this improvement will be made in the near future. Mr. Moses has some beautiful bedding plants which are finding ready sale on account of Decoration Day being close at hand and he has a profusion of beautiful carnations and sweet peas which he invites the people to look at. Any floral design which may be desired Mr. Moses can furnish as, if he has not the particular kind on hand, he can secure them from the different wholesale houses and do it reasonably and quickly. The people will do well to visit the greenhouse and enjoy the fragrance afforded by the flowers whether you want to buy or not.

According to information which was received here this morning, Clint Deam got his last night at Decatur, and as a result this morning is carrying around bruises that will stay with him for some time. Clint always depended upon his size to keep any one from licking him when he pursued his bulldozing tactics, more than his ability to fight, but last night his size did him no good. According to a Bluffton man who was in Decatur, Deam called some one a vile name. This had no more than escaped his lips until the Decatur man landed on his face like a sledge hammer, putting him down without any more ado. This did not satisfy the Decaturite, who followed the blow up with others, grabbing the Bluffton Slim by the throat and hammering his face until the sidewalk was spattered with blood in every direction. Deam left this city the latter part of last week upon being faced with a prospect of being landed in jail for several weeks on some old charges. At the time he announced he was going far away, but evidently his idea of distances was not what the idea of the globe trotters would be.—Bluffton Banner.

On the morning of June ninth, at eight-thirty o'clock will occur the wedding of Tony Hackman of east of this city and Miss Bertha, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Miller of Washington township, the ceremony to be impressively performed at the St. Marys church by the Rev. Father Wilken. The bride and groom both enjoy an extensive acquaintanceship over the county and the announcement of their coming marriage will be received with surprise to their friends. After the wedding a delicious dinner will be served the festivities of which will be enjoyed by many friends of the contracting parties, after which the happy couple will take up their abode on a farm located near the home of the bride's parents, which will be given them as a wedding gift. Miss Miller and Mr. Hackman are exemplary young people, are held in the high esteem of all who know them and that their matrimonial career will be attended by happiness and prosperity is the sincere wish of all.

Thomas Haefling and Miss Mary E. Voglewede will be wedded on the morning of June tenth instead of June ninth as previously stated. The postponement of one day was necessitated.

EPWORTH LEAGUE CONVENTION

Fort Wayne District Meeting at First M. E. Church June 22-24.

The annual convention of the Fort Wayne district Epworth league will be held at the First Methodist Episcopal church in Fort Wayne June 22-24 inclusive. Leading workers in the league from all over the district will be present, as will also some of the state workers. An especially interesting announcement to the Epworth leaguers will be that Rev. M. J. Mills, the celebrated singing evangelist, will be present and will be in charge of the singing at the convention. The program for the meeting has not as yet been arranged.

MRS. CLEVELAND HASTINGS DIES

Hartford, Conn., May 25.—(Special to the Daily Democrat)—Mrs. Anna Cleveland Hastings, a sister of the late ex-president, died today.

Mrs. J. C. Sutton went to Geneva this afternoon to remain some time as the guest of friends and relatives.

Sam Ballor has been landed and will have to stand trial here for receiving stolen goods. He disappeared from here about a month ago and just a day or two before he was to answer in court. He had been arrested some months before, but was released on \$200 bond furnished by T. R. Moore, for whom he worked. He showed his appreciation to his employer by skipping out and it is likely that his actions will not assist him very much in making his defense. Immediately after his leave taking, a search was begun for him by Sheriff Meyer and Deputy Ed Green, the latter making several trips to the vicinity of Monroeville. At one time he was only a few hours behind his man, but he got away. The search was continued until this morning when the marshal of Scott, Ohio, a small town north of Van Wert, telephoned that he had his man safely locked up in the village lockup. Sheriff Meyer drove over after him and the reckless young man will likely be placed upon trial within the next few days, as after his actions he will have trouble to secure any one to go on his bond and he will have to remain in jail until tried, consequently he will want as early a hearing as possible. Ballor was caught at the home of a brother-in-law named Dan Brandyberry, where he had been holding forth for a week or two past.

Portland, Ind., May 19.—A demand has been made by George W. Crim, until recently agent of the Grand Rapids and Indiana railroad in this city, of officials of the company for the return of \$1,449.80, a sum which, it is alleged, Crim was compelled to pay to the company by force, coercion and duress. The demand is addressed to H. D. Lyman, president; R. R. Methany, auditor, and James H. Campbell, general counsel of the road, at Grand Rapids, Mich., and states that unless repayment of the sum is made suit will be brought for its collection in the Jay circuit court. The demand recalls the mysterious disappearance from the safe of the company's office in this city about two years ago of a package of money, receipts from ticket sales and other business of the office. The package, prepared for shipment to the general offices at Grand Rapids, when it reached there, was found to be a "dummy," containing instead of the money, old paper. The local office was at once notified, and the special officers of the company started to run down the thief. Weeks, and then months passed, but no clew sufficiently tangible was secured on which an arrest could be based. While the investigation was being conducted, Crim was relieved of duty at the station, it being in charge of Gail McFarland, of Grand Rapids, the company's relief agent. After the examination had proceeded sufficiently far to establish his lack of criminal responsibility, Crim was reinstated. For weeks and months afterward the company's detectives and private sleuths employed by Crim worked to locate the guilty party, but nothing has so far ever come of their efforts. Crim was held by the company as responsible on his bond as agent for the safety of the money and he was compelled to pay it the second time. Crim has always contended that the failure of the money to reach the office was not because of his negligence, and since some time ago, on complaint of a few local shippers, he was forced to resign his position, he is determined to have the money paid by him returned.

As a fitting climax to a series of neighborhood brawls, the last of which resulted in the infliction of an ugly wound in the arm of Mrs. Blazer, Mrs. Della Sampson had an inning in Squire Smith's court last week and after a plea of guilty to the charge of assault and battery, she was assessed \$9.85, which in a small measure at least atones for her misdeed. As is usually the case in neighborhood disturbances, the children of the parties concerned, disagreed on some fine points and the mothers of these, thinking the young folks were unable to properly discuss the point in question, offered their services and their disagreement was even more bitter than that of the children and in order to effect a permanent settlement they resorted to a fistie encounter, even more, they wielded broom sticks, the butt end of one striking Mrs. Blazer on the arm. The nature of the wound inflicted necessitated the attention of a physician. Mrs. Blazer, not to be outdone by her opponent, filed an affidavit against Mrs. Sampson with the above stated results.

Lee Miller, of Huntington, was accompanied to his home Sunday by the Misses Mamie Leonard and Bertha Smith. The girls witnessed the ball game between Lafayette and Huntington. Alf Buffenbarger pitched for the former team and did good work. The Misses Mamie Leonard and Bertha Smith returned home yesterday.