

The board of commissioners of this county went to Ft. Wayne Wednesday where they met the Allen county board to agree upon the amount of an appropriation each county will ask for the building of a bridge over the St. Mary's on the county line, two miles west of Williams. One hundred petitioners are interested in the improvement asked for, and some time ago the boards in the two counties agreed to ask the county council in their respective counties for an appropriation covering the cost of such an improvement. The meeting Wednesday is for the purpose of determining the amount of said appropriation. The meeting is not an official one, but is for the purpose of further agreeing upon the kind of improvement and the cost. Dore B. Erwin represents the petitioners and will present the matter before the board at their meeting this week. It is thought the total cost of the bridge will be something like ten thousand dollars and whatever it is will be divided and paid by the commissioners of the two counties. County Attorney Lutz will accompany the board and be present at Wednesday's meeting.

Attorney Dore B. Erwin is making up an issue of bonds amounting to ten thousand dollars, the same to be used in the improvement and extension of the public school building at Berne. Work on the reconstruction has begun, the present building being raised, a new foundation added and also quite an extended addition. When complete it will be one of the best school buildings in the county.

The County Board of Review have begun the inspection of the mortgage exemption blanks, a big job, requiring the comparing of every paper of this kind filed in the county. They started on Union Tp. Monday morning and the work will require all week.

County Clerk Haefling has begun a work that will require all the spare time of himself and deputy for two years to come, and that when done, will be the most complete index possible. He is indexing every paper ever filed in the clerks office, going back to 1840, and when finished, one can find any paper within a minute or two.

Delinquent tax collector is out after those who overlooked that duty from which there is no escape, the payment of taxes. He says he is getting along nicely and the returns are coming in quite rapidly.

Real estate transfers: Elizabeth Winger et al to John Winger, tract in French township \$3,000; William L. Keller to Monroe State Bank, part in lot 28, Monroe, \$225; Daniel Cook et al to George F. Cook, 53 acres, Jefferson township, quit claim deed, \$1,200.

A marriage license was issued to Benjamin F. Hill, 22, a laborer, to Charline Louthan, 22, both of Decatur.

Washington, June 28.—W. H. Taft, as president of the American National Red Cross, has sent a letter to Governor Marshall of Indiana, calling his attention to the facilities of that organization for dealing with "the relief and rehabilitation of communities devastated by fire, flood and storm," etc., and inviting him to make use of the Red Cross service whenever in his judgment "large and unusual relief measures" are required. The president also incloses a statement of relief expenditures of the American Red Cross from Jan. 5, 1905, to May 5, 1909, showing a total disbursement of \$4,472,893.62. The letter in part says:

"Sir—The purpose of this letter is to bring to your knowledge the facilities of the American Red Cross for conducting large measures of emergency relief or assisting in their conduct in any part of the United States. Its national director, Mr. Earnest P. Bicknell, who devotes his entire time to the executive duties of the Red Cross, has had an extended experience in the organization and direction of work of this character. Mr. Bicknell is prepared to proceed immediately to the scene of any great disaster and confer with the state or local authorities as well as the local representatives of the Red Cross in regard to the efficient organization of relief. This service is wholly free and is quite apart from any question of the source of the relief funds. The Red Cross is a national organization, the only one chartered by the United States and maintained for the sole purpose of relieving the sufferings caused by war or by calamities in time of peace. In the United States, fortunately, the Red Cross has been almost entirely free from the demands of war, but has found an important and growing field in the relief and rehabilitation of communities devastated by fire, flood, storm or other disaster of an extent or magnitude exceeding local relief resources.

Unconscious and seemingly constantly sinking, Mrs. Ella Snow of 215 east High street was suddenly revived Wednesday by a sharp clap of thunder with a brilliant flash of accompanying lightning. Her attending physician, Dr. Mincks, believes she now has an excellent chance for recovery. Mrs. Snow's experience presents one of the most peculiar incidents known to science, and one which has never been witnessed in this county. According to witnesses her constitution had grown so debilitated as to be in highly receptive state to a revivifying shock such as is obtainable from electricity. Her nervous system seemed to gather in the life-giving fluid from the air. Tuesday afternoon, directly after dinner, the first evidence of the influence was noticed. A roll of thunder followed by a flash of lightning caused her to scream aloud. She had evinced little indication of life for three days previous to this. In the evening though when a severe electrical storm hovered over Portland, a vivid flash followed by a deafening peal of thunder, aroused her to the first words she had spoken in some time, "My, what a thunder storm," she ejaculated. This was the turning point and indications now point to Mrs. Snow's recovery. Congressman Adair, whose aunt she is, has departed for Washington, now, having delayed his return fearing the worst.—Portland Commercial-Review.

Maple Grove Park, the pretty home of pleasures, located just north of the city and along the Fort Wayne & Springfield interurban lines will be opened tomorrow. The first event of the season is the St. Joseph schools picnic which will be held there tomorrow and which will be as it always is a day of happy remembrances for the young and old who attend. The Maple Grove company have just arranged the lease on the grounds so they will operate during the season and from now on the park will be kept open. The board will meet some time this week to perfect plans for the season, and the place will furnish happy hours for many people in this locality. They will have all the amusements, including shooting, bowling, dancing, etc., and special programs of music will be arranged for Sundays. This announcement will no doubt be received with pleasure by many for the park proved a very popular place last year and was well patronized. The association expected to get started earlier this year, but will try to make up for lost time from now on.

Washington, June 28.—That there is a joker of large proportions carefully tucked away in the corporation tax amendment as reported to the senate by Senator Aldrich Friday evening is asserted by able lawyers who have been analyzing its provisions. The particular feature of the bill which is attracting the attention of lawyers and which is described as a passable joker is found in the fifth paragraph of exemptions from the gross income of corporations that shall be allowed in ascertaining the net income. This paragraph exempts "all amounts received by it in the year as dividends upon stock of other corporations, joint stock companies or associations or insurance companies, subject to the tax hereby imposed." The point raised in connection with this provision, which is likely to create a sensation in the tariff woodpile, is that, if it is enacted into law, it will give legal sanction and recognition to a practice which public opinion long since condemned and which congress tried to legislate out of existence in framing the railroad rate law—namely the practice of one corporation holding stock in another corporation or corporations. It is not only possible but probable, some lawyers think, that under the language quoted above the courts would hold that a railroad, for example, would have a perfect right to own and control coal mines—a practice that in some notable instances has worked severe injury against coal companies not owned by the carrier, in the way of discrimination in shipping facilities.

Washington, June 27.—Failure to inclose unsealed or frosted post cards in tightly sealed envelopes to prevent the escape of particles of tinsel, mica and the like, as required by the postal regulations, is causing from fifteen to twenty thousand of such cards to be withdrawn from the mails and sent to the dead letter office of the postoffice department every day.

LaDUKE WILL GO FREE
Confessed Murderer Who Turned State's Evidence to Gain Liberty.

Color was given today to the presumption that Fred LaDuke will not be prosecuted for any part he had in the murder of Marshal Columbus Croy, at Woodburn, two years ago, when another term of the circuit court passed without any action being taken

in his case. Under the law this gives him the right to his freedom and it is likely he will be let go as he has been the principal figure in convicting the men who conceived the crime and executed it and he went along because he was under the influence of liquor and had no idea that there was a possibility of murder being done. LaDuke has been in jail since January 1908 and it is not unlikely that Prosecutor Thomas thinks he has been sufficiently punished in view of the fact that it would never have been known who killed the marshal but for his confession and the testimony he gave in the cases against Herman Miller, John Stout and John Baker.—Fort Wayne Sentinel.

Marshal Butler, assisted by Surveyor C. E. Ernst, made a dash after a man Sunday evening, who if suspicious were correct, and the men had been successful, would have made them famous. The suspect was believed to be no less a personage than Leon Ling, the Chinaman who killed Elsie Sigel, the missionary, in New York, ten days ago. It had been reported that a Chinaman answering the description of that man had boarded an interurban car at Fort Wayne, Saturday and had got off the car at the Nine Mile house and started west. Sunday afternoon the police were notified that a Chinese tramp was hiding near the G. R. & I. water tank. The marshal and Mr. Ernst immediately went there, but the fugitive had started east down the railroad track a short time before. They immediately started after him, but as they neared the C. & E. yards a fast freight pulled east and it is supposed that the man, whether he was Ling or not had taken that train, for though they searched the yards and the city thoroughly, no further word could be obtained of him. If he was the murderer, the Decatur officers would have written their name in the history of the country's police news, and their names and faces would have been printed all over the world. It is unusual to find a tramp Chinaman in this part of the country, and of course when one is seen now, the New York murder is the first thought.

The famous Stanislaus county exhibit cars from California will reach Decatur soon and will exhibit at the G. R. & I. yards on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, July 13th, 14th and 15th. They are sent out by the Stanislaus county board of trade to induce immigration to that country of wonderful climate and production. The display includes fruits of every kind, vegetables, etc., and includes a museum filled with wonders of the deep, in which is a monster elephant shark, caught in Monterey bay. A charge of fifteen cents is made, in order that only those who are interested will call. This is an opportunity for those who cannot go to California for here it is brought right to your doors. The children are invited because it is a wonderful educational lesson to them. Farmers are particularly asked to call and see the sights which we guarantee will impress you with the fact that we represent the garden spot of the world. Watch for further announcements in this paper and remember the dates—July 13th to 15th.

Mrs. Perry Ogg of this city died at Roanoke Sunday morning about eight o'clock. Mrs. Ogg was formerly Miss Lulu Durr and is known by almost all the younger people. Friday afternoon Mrs. Daniel Durr her mother, Mrs. Ogg and Mrs. Chronister, a sister, went to Roanoke to visit friends. It was thought that the sick woman was unable to stand the trip, but she desired very much to go. When they reached that place they drove to the home of her aunt, near the city. Mrs. Ogg took suddenly worse Saturday and died Sunday morning. During the last six months the deceased had been sick, her illness commencing with grippe and developing into tuberculosis. Mrs. Ogg was born June 15, 1839, in Decatur, and died Sunday, June 27, a few days after her twentieth birthday. She was married two years ago to Perry Ogg. Her father, Daniel Durr, died when she was a small girl. Her husband, mother and a sister, Mrs. Chronister, are the nearest relatives. The body arrived over the G. R. & I. Monday afternoon. Sometimes accompany the remains. Sometimes as in the life of Mrs. Ogg, great pain is borne without complaining and with peacefulness and resignation. Her life has been one well spent, and her many friends tell of her cheerful and happy life. Her husband and friends saw her Friday morning, the last time, when she went to Fort Wayne on the afternoon car on her way to Roanoke. At that time she did not look or feel any more tired than usual. Her death comes as a great shock to those who knew her here.

Next Sunday is the glorious Fourth. The event will be duly observed in nearly all the towns in this locality.

Most of them, including Geneva, Pleasant Mills, Monroe and other places will do the screaming on Saturday, while Berne will have a big celebration on Monday next. That day is the one which will be generally observed as the legal holiday, the banks, post-office and many of the business houses closing for the day. In Decatur plans are on foot to make it a general holiday, though there is to be no special observation of the big day. The dry goods stores will likely close during the day, as will also nearly all the other stores. There will be no paper published at this office on that day, and it will at least be a day which one can spend as he sees fit. The celebration at Berne is to be a whopper. The Sunday school picnic occurs there that day and immediately following there will be a program of much merit. The amusements include automobile and bicycle races, and other sports, not the least of which will be a fireman's battle. The company there will be divided into two teams, with hose, and the water will be turned on each other, to see which side will hold out the longest. This kind of contest always furnished much amusement for the spectators and is exciting to say the least. The day will close with a big display of fireworks.

Sunday's program of the St. Marys township convention was held at Bobo, U. B. church. During the services music was furnished by the Sunday school. Among those who took part in the session was Mr. Thomas Perkins of this city, Rev. Kohne and Rev. Marsh. Mission work was discussed by Rev. Hesser of the city. The evening session was held at the Methodist church. The program was as follows:
Music.....M. E. Sunday School
Music.....Baptist School and Methodist
Temperance.....C. L. Walters
Talk.....Rev. Marsh
Temperance.....J. W. Shifferly,
A. Van Camp.
The convention was interesting and attendance good.

A number of friends drove to the beautiful country home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hawkins, 5 miles south of town Sunday to spend the day with that jolly family. The occasion was surely one of pleasure. At 12 o'clock all were seated to a grand dinner of everything good to which each did justice. The afternoon was then spent in music, games and social conversation. At 4 o'clock ice cream and cake were served, closing a day of pleasure. Those who enjoyed the day were Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Fisher, Mrs. Annis Merica, Mrs. Emma Zerke, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Baxter, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Fuhrman, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Coppock, Miss Elva Zerke, Dale Payne, Muriel Coppock, Grace Baxter, Iola Fisher, Imogene Hawkins, Ireta Fisher, Eloise Hawkins, Bernice Fuhrman, Mr. Cal Myers, Flary Payne Orval Heath, Floyd Baxter, Pearl Hawkins, Glenn Fisher, Kenneth Hawkins and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hawkins.

Mr. and Mrs. Daton Hauer of near Craigville, entertained a number of people from this city at dinner at their beautiful country home Thursday and the event was a happy one. The dinner was a splendid one. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Gehring, Miss Susanna Young, Nellie Hauer, of Huntington, who are the guests at the Briner home on east Monroe street, and Miss Pearl Briner and Elgin King. Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Briner entertained at five o'clock dinner their guests of honor Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gehring, Misses Susanna Young, Nellie Hauer of Huntington and Miss Pearl Briner, Stella Niblick and Elgin King of this city. A very pleasant time was enjoyed.

Miss Blanche Dibble will entertain the Black Rag Club members, their husbands and sweethearts at her home east of the city. The beautiful lawn will be lighted by Japanese lanterns and a picnic supper will be spread out of doors. There will be music by several of the guests. Places at the table will be found by plain white cards with a small freeracker tied to it with red ribbon. The picnic party this evening promises to be very pleasant for all who attend. Miss Lillian Mye, the guest of Miss Faye Smith and Miss Glen Weaver of Fort Wayne, will be the only outside guest.

Mr. and Mrs. James Hobbs entertained a number of their friends at their home at Bobo on Saturday evening, the event being one of the most pleasant ever given. A social evening was thoroughly enjoyed by Oda, Eda and Ida Gay, Samuel Bentz, Clarence Chronister, Milton Chronister, Walter Springer, Lycures and Hazel Hobbs, Charles Brothers, Mae Troutner, Mae Brothers, Mr. and Mrs. Hoeneisen, Grace and Fern Hoeneisen, Owen Davis, Frank Gilpen, Wilson and Glen Chronister, Mabel Rachel and Maud Springer, Phillip and Joseph Rash, Samuel Cottrell, Nellie

Springer and Mr. and Mrs. Hobbs. Refreshments were served.

The senior class of the high school today hung in the halls of the central building a pastel sunset. The picture shows some trees and father away a grove, on the other side but near to the grove is a pool of water. In the background a great red sun is sinking and the sky is full of color. A silver plate engraved with the names of the graduates adds to the beauty of the picture. Twenty dollars was paid by the class for this memorial gift.

The Missionary Society of the Presbyterian church will meet with Mrs. Jacob Atz tomorrow afternoon. The order of service will be as follows: Hymn, devotional, mission study, music, round table, music, offering. Closing the afternoon a social hour will be spent.

All Lady Macabees are requested to attend the regular meeting at their hall this evening. It is important that you be there.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society will meet Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. C. V. Connell on Third street. All the ladies are requested to bring their thimbles and come prepared to work, says the hostess.

All members of the Yeomen lodge are requested to be present at their hall. Several candidates are to be taken in after which refreshments will be served. Ordered by Lady Rowena.

Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Kunkle are entertaining Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Fonner and daughter Vashti, of Fort Wayne today. Dinner was served at noon and the day passed most pleasantly by all.

The police hauled in five in their nets Saturday night, took them to jail, some in express wagons and some on foot, and Monday a. m. they were brought before Mayor France to answer the charge of public intoxication. William Wells, a young man from near Steele, was the first one to go free, upon a promise that he would go out to the farm and remain there for three months. Next came two hoboes of the genuine stamp. They had the usual line of talk, and of course said they were not drunk but that due to the fact that they had worn themselves out in searching for work, they had fallen asleep and were picked up by the police. They each got eleven days for sleeping at the switch, giving the names of John Jones and John Smith. Then came Ed Knaveel and Tom Stetler, who were up about a month ago and they knew they would get theirs so had little to say. The mayor fined them five and costs amounting to fifteen dollars in all, and the bunch were escorted back to jail where they will have a rest of as many days as the fines call for in dollars. It's a tough old world, nowadays for the man who casts his optics on the glistening wine.

The Sunday school board of the Methodist church held a meeting yesterday afternoon and took the initial steps for the annual Sunday school picnic will be held again at Robinson Park, Fort Wayne. The date was fixed at July 22, and arrangements will go forward to make this event eclipse any former effort in this line. Last year they celebrated this event at Robinson Park and over six hundred members of the Sunday school and others enjoyed the time their life at this beautiful place. At the meeting yesterday Winona was a competitor for this picnic and might have landed had not the distance been greater and the guarantee such as would have left the Sunday school holding the sack had the weather interfered and cut down the crowd. It is now their plans to carry more people there on July 22 than attended a similar event one year ago, and that will mean that not many less than seven hundred will have to buy a ticket for the big show on July 22.

A union picnic of all Sunday schools is being arranged for some time during the summer, the date not yet having been determined. This event should bring out a banner Sunday school crowd and quite likely it will be a most pleasant occasion. The time and place will be given the public at a later date.

Warsaw has a unique organization called "The Girls of Seventy," and at a recent meeting Mrs. Mary Ebersole, aged 87, sang a Dutch hymn. Ten of the members present on that occasion have a combined age of 864 years.

William Moore, aged 84 years, and the youngest of four children, died at his home near Lake Wawasee Tuesday morning. The elder brother, John C. Lammond, of Ligonier, is 94 years old, the sister, Mrs. Richard of Wawasee, is 92, and Joseph Moore, of Cromwell, is 87.

WAS CAUGHT IN A WHIRLWIND

C. W. Feasel of Blue Creek Had a Very Exciting Experience.

C. W. Feasel, a well known farmer of Blue Creek township, had an exciting experience a few days ago. He was driving to Willshire in a buggy when he was caught in a storm. While driving along the road, not paying particular attention to the weather, his rig was caught in a whirlwind and overturned. Mr. Feasel was dragged many feet and was badly bruised, though his injuries were not serious. One of the buggy shafts broke and penetrated the side of the horse to a depth of eight inches. Strange to say the horse will get well. A big tree nearby was caught on the storm and twisted into shreds, but no other damage is reported from the neighborhood.

MAKES SPLENDID STATEMENT

Statement of the Condition of the First National Bank.

The First National Bank publishes their statement today which gives the financial condition of the institution at the close of business on June 23. It is the same good news telling the prosperous condition of Decatur, and the important place the First National holds in the business transactions of this city. Their total resources and liabilities if given at \$662,423.94, and their deposits at \$463,215.63. The statement is a good one and clearly indicates that the First National is a most worthy institution and does its share of the banking business.

RE-ALLOTTED SHACKLEY DITCH

Many Union Township Farmers Met at the Surveyor's Office.

Quite a number of Union township farmers held a session in the surveyor's office today, and agreed on the allotment of the Shackley ditch, and will proceed to clean it. This cleaning makes the ditches of value and good for what they were intended. The ditch affected a large number of farmers in Union, but they re-allotted it in a satisfactory way to all concerned. Surveyor Ernst had charge of the division and he did it just right.

SHAMROCKS WON A VICTORY

Defeated the Woodmen's Team in a Walkaway—Score 13 to 3.

The Shamrock ball team rubbed one into the Modern Woodmen's team Sunday that will probably hold them for some time to come. The final score was thirteen to three and there never was any doubt as to the result, after the first inning when the Woodmen scored but one run and the Shamrock boys shoved seven across the plate. The batteries were for the Woodmen—Wolford, Peterson and Johns and for the Shamrocks Biffenbarger and Ault. Score by innings: Woodmen ..100010100—3 2 4 Shamrocks ..713020000—13 7 0

FUNERAL LARGELY ATTENDED

Many People from Out of Town Attended Funeral of Mrs. Hart.

The funeral services for Mrs. Elizabeth Hart were held at the St. Marys church Monday morning and were attended by a large number of the friends and relatives of the deceased. Among those from out of the city who were here to pay their last respects to the good woman were the following: Miss Nina Beahler, Bluffton, Ind.; Mrs. Frank Ahy, Mrs. M. A. Phalen, Miss Fern Phalen, Mr. Peter Cooper, of Ashland, Ohio; Sarah D. Adams, Mrs. Mat Ashbacher, Mrs. Elizabeth Beahler, Villa North, of Bluffton, Ind.; Mrs. J. A. Zahm, of Huntington; Mr. and Mrs. Peter Shaffer, of Willshire, Ohio; Miss Blanch Smith and Miss Dickenson, of Monroe; Miss Blanch Hart, of Fort Wayne, and Mr. Adolph Hart of Montpelier, Ind.

MANY OF THE FRIENDS ATTEND

St. Johns church seldom held a larger crowd of people than Sunday assembled there to pay their last respects to the late Henry Bolmann, whose death occurred on Thursday. The deceased was well known and had lived in Roof and Preble townships for forty or fifty years, where he made a name that will live for many years to come. Rev. Jaus preached a very impressive sermon and reviewed the life and character of the deceased.

Letters remaining uncalled for at the postoffice are: Cyrus Yoakum, C. M. Wolfe, Geo. E. Sullivan, Harry H. Smith, Isabelle Rinehart, Laura Anspaw, Katherine Miller, Mrs. Roma Merryman, T. R. McMahon, Flossie Pee, Janus Hughes, Ed Hoffman, H. C. Lammond, Chris Bruner, Ellen Chronister, John Bailey, M. A. Frishtinger, P. M.