

A. J. Peoples, a respected and well known citizen, aged about sixty, was almost instantly killed at 2:30 o'clock Thursday, when he was struck by a westbound freight on the Erie railroad. For sometime he has been working with the section men on that road, and that afternoon they were at work west of the crossing, near Tenth street. Mr. Peoples was bending over the north rail using a pick, when freight number seventy-seven came rolling along westbound at about ten miles an hour. At the same time two freights were running east on the Clover Leaf and this dead-ended the sound of the approaching train on the Erie and made so much noise that the unfortunate man failed to hear the cries of his fellow workmen, who were on the opposite side of the track and who made every effort to warn their aged companion. The pilot hit him on the back of the head, inflicting an ugly gash and knocking him over to the side of the track. He was cared for by the other workmen, but never regained consciousness and died about five minutes later. He was a pioneer of this section, and at present lived in the south part of the city.

Judge Edward O'Rourke, of the Allen circuit court, held a session here Friday, hearing the case of Emanuel Woods and Julius Haugk vs. E. Fritzinger and wife, to foreclose a street assessment, demand \$1000. The case was filed two years ago, following the construction of North Second street pavement and there is quite a little interest manifested in the outcome. In June, 1906, Woods & Haugk contracted to build the street and did so, completing the work that fall, the council accepting same December 12th. A month later the assessments were made and Mr. Fritzinger was taxed \$1,651.31. He did not file a waiver but paid \$962.60, refusing to pay the balance \$688.71. The later amount with interest is what the plaintiffs are now trying to collect. The plaintiffs are represented by C. J. Lutz and the defendants by A. P. Beatty and Judge D. D. Heller, while City Attorney L. C. DeVoss is watching the interest of the city of Decatur.

Real estate transfers: Edward F. Moser et al to Peoples State Bank, part lot 6 Berne, \$6,000; Rufus K. Allison et al to Moser & Liddy, part lot 6 Berne, \$6,000.

A marriage license was issued to Edgar Abbott, 22, a grocery clerk from Bluffton, and Nellie Stalter, 20, daughter of Abraham Stalter of Decatur.

County Superintendent Opliger is home from Indianapolis, where he attended a meeting of the county superintendents of the state and he declares it to have been the most pleasant and profitable meeting of the kind ever held. One of the main features that made the meeting such a success is given by the presence of Robert J. Ale, the state superintendent of public instruction, and who by the way is more than making good at the head of this important department of our state government. In an address made yesterday Mr. Ale said: "The state superintendent spoke upon 'The Course of Study,' and explained to the superintendents that he contemplated no radical changes, but would emphasize as strongly as was in his power the necessity for teaching the children to love the mother tongue. He also stated that the times were ringing with the necessity for more knowledge of physiology and hygiene, and that these subjects should be given great emphasis. He stated, however, that the course of study when outlined should not be followed as a fetish, but merely as a guide post for the teacher, that a study course was not so essential as the education of the child. The meeting concluded last evening after a thorough discussion of the new laws affecting educational matters, together with the new school books that have been adopted by the state board of education. It was an important meeting and was thoroughly enjoyed by Mr. Opliger.

Wesley Hoffman, who for several months has been an employee at the Schafer Hardware company store, resigned his position there last week and Thursday assumed duties in the Runyon store as chief clerk. Mr. Hoffman has also assumed an interest in the store and will be identified with the firm indefinitely. Mr. Hoffman is a young business man of ability and is well versed in the mercantile business, having had much experience in that line. He worked for some time for the firm of True & Runyon and proved his efficiency as a clerk. He is industrious, trustworthy and well equipped to enter into business for himself and his friends will wish for him a prosperous future. The firm name will not be altered for some time, as Mr. Hoffman will not become fully identified as a partner for several months. The Runyon store is well stocked and a full line of merchandise

is carried with which the wants of the patrons are well supplied.

A team of horses belonging to Auctioneer Frauhiger of Preble, became frightened Thursday near the Clover Leaf railroad and in their rampage hurled Mr. Frauhiger from the wagon and one of the animals kicked W. C. McKinney severely on the right leg inflicting an ugly wound. Mr. Frauhiger had been at the Decatur Packing company plant where he secured a quantity of meats and returning he pursued the road which winds alongside the Clover Leaf railroad. He approached the car where Mr. McKinney was unloading ice for the Conter Ice Cream company and stopped to get a few pieces of the frozen element. He had scarcely gotten the ice loaded a sharp turn, over the horses made a sharp turn, overturning the vehicle and hurling Mr. Frauhiger to the double tree of the wagon. He escaped unhurt. The animals proceeded down the track until they were stopped by a fence. Mr. McKinney hurried to the horses, and while attempting to remove a trace one of the horses kicked him on the knee. No bones were broken, but he is badly bruised and his leg is swollen. It is considered fortunate that serious injury was not inflicted.

The wedding of Miss Iva Steele and Mr. Albert Parker of Fort Wayne, will occur in the near future. The exact date has not been given out, but it will occur soon. The groom is a graduate of Indiana university, and is a talented teacher. Miss Steele until recently was head saleslady at Runyon store, where she was known by many. She is a very lovable and accomplished girl, having graduated from the Decatur high school with the class of 1900. Several years ago she became acquainted with Mr. Parker, and during the past several years he has frequently visited in this city, so the coming wedding was not a surprise to the relatives. It will be a very quiet affair, with just the immediate friends present. The happy couple will most probably reside in Fort Wayne, although the groom's teaching profession may demand a residence in another city. A shower was given last evening on Miss Steele. The best wishes for her future are extended by her friends in this city.

#### DECLARED ANOTHER DIVIDEND

Ward Fence Company Held an Important Meeting Yesterday.

The directors of the Ward Fence company held a meeting Wednesday and declared the second dividend for this year, all of which shows that the Ward Fence company is not half bad, and that those whose money is invested there are receiving a just return for the investment, and that the institution is a good one for Decatur. Their business for this year has been a steady grind and increase over that of any previous year, all of which is very gratifying to all the citizens of Decatur, whether stockholders in the company or not.

#### WERE MARRIED LAST EVENING

Edgar Abbott and Miss Nellie Stalter Surprise Their Friends.

Rev. I. Imier officiated at a wedding ceremony last Wednesday which united in the holy bonds of matrimony Edgar Abbott of Craigville, and Miss Nellie Stalter of this city. Both are well known young people and have many friends who will wish them much happiness and prosperity during their married life. They will take up their residence in Bluffton.

Many Decatur people are planning to go to Geneva, Pleasant Mills, or some other place for Saturday, while others will wait for the big celebration at Berne on Monday. Robinson park at Fort Wayne will also be an attraction for many.

Judge E. C. Vaughn and wife will go to Oden, Mich., for their annual summer outing and vacation about July 10th. The judge's partner, W. H. Eichhorn, will leave about August first for a trip to Seattle, Wash., where he will represent the Indiana estate board of charities at the national meeting of charities representatives in that month. He will give an address before the national meeting and he will also visit the Seattle exposition.—Bluffton News.

At the regular monthly meeting of the board of directors of the Studabaker bank last night Harry Studabaker, son of D. E. Studabaker, was selected to the position of assistant cashier, which place had been vacant for some time, since switches were made in the working force of the bank some time ago. Mr. Studabaker has had an experience of several years in the bank and is thoroughly experienced and well qualified for the position.—Bluffton News.

The case of Woods & Haugk vs. E. Fritzinger, to collect \$679 and the interest for about two years, was decided by Judge O'Rourke at 1:30 Friday afternoon, the finding being for the defendant and that he recover the costs in the case. The evidence was concluded that morning and the attorneys argued the case about an hour, the court asking until after dinner to render his decision. When the north Second street improvement was built, Mr. Fritzinger was assessed \$1,651 on his stone quarry property. He objected but the council did not reduce the amount, whereupon Mr. Fritzinger appealed to the circuit court. The court appointed three appraisers, who went over the street and reported that in their judgment Mr. Fritzinger had been assessed too high and reduced the amount to \$862, which Mr. Fritzinger paid. The contractors then filed suit to recover the difference between the amount paid and the assessment. Several close law questions arose during the trial but the court held that the Indiana statutes had been followed in the procedure and that he could only find for the defendant. Judgment was rendered accordingly and the plaintiffs asked exceptions which was noted on the docket.

Prof. Elmer E. Rice, of Bloomington, Ind., was here Friday and was circulating among the citizens of the town, getting acquainted and arranging some affairs preparatory to removing his family to this city early next month. Mr. Rice is the newly elected superintendent of the Decatur public schools and he has the appearance of being a scholarly and able gentleman. He was in hands of the board of trustees and met many of the patrons here Friday. At present Prof. Rice is taking a post graduate course at the state university, which will give him a masters degree before he comes to Decatur. He is highly educated, being a graduate of Valparaiso and Bloomington, and has had the necessary experience to make him a valuable man. He will devote his very best efforts to making the schools in this city the best in the state and will be able to do this with the assistance of the people here. No man can do it alone, as it takes the aid of every parent and every patron of the schools.

Col. Fred Martin, of Fairbanks, Alaska, was the guest of honor at a very pleasant social event given by his sister, Mrs. C. V. Connell at her home on Fourth street, Thursday night. Present were the members of the old Bon Marche club, fifteen in all, and of which association Fred was a charter member in the days before he started on his search for gold. The reunion of the boys was a happy affair. The dining room of the pretty home was decorated with steins and pretzels, and the other rooms in good taste. The amusement of the evening was pinneuche, and in this Mr. Frank Barthel proved his superiority and received as a gift a handsome gold nugget pin, from the Klondyke land. A three-course Dutch lunch was served to which each guest did justice, proving that the years that have passed have not stolen their appetites. Splendid music enlivened the hours, which passed too rapidly, according to the boys who were there. Mr. Martin will leave in a few days for his home at Fairbanks.

Squire James H. Smith Friday afternoon filed his report of inquest held last evening over the body of Alexander J. Peoples, who was killed on the Erie railroad Thursday afternoon, the squire being called on to serve on account of the absence of the coroner, J. C. Grandstaff from the county. It was the squire's first duty of this kind but he performed same in the correct form. His reports show the statement of Dr. J. M. Miller, who examined the body, and who said that he found the scalp cut in two places about two inches above the right ear, the skull fractured, also fracture of the spine, four ribs broken and loosened from the spine and the back badly bruised. The evidence of George McIntosh and Joseph Evanston, who witnessed the accident was given and the squire's report followed, the latter reading: I, James H. Smith, a justice of the peace in and for the township of Washington, Adams county, Indiana, having been called to hold an inquest on the body of Alexander J. Peoples and having viewed the body and heard the evidence and made all inquiry do find that Alexander J. Peoples came to his death on the first day of July, 1909, by being unavoidably struck on the head by the pilot of engine number 77, westbound on the Erie railroad, Decatur, Indiana.

The Huntington jury, out forty-eight hours, was unable to agree upon a verdict in the case in which Mrs. Mattie Petrey sued to recover \$2,000 damages from a saloonkeeper whom she alleges sold liquor to her husband when he was intoxicated, and that as a result the man fell and was permanently crippled.

Special services were held Thursday morning on the ground where the beautiful home for the aged members of the Methodist church will be erected near Warren when the first spadework was stuck into the ground to begin the work of excavating for the foundation of the memorial of Mr. and Mrs. William Chopson. The service was in charge of Rev. M. A. Harlan, the field secretary of the conference to whom honor and credit is due for working up an interest among the Methodists of northern Indiana to the extent that as much money has been raised by the church as that furnished by Mr. and Mrs. Chopson. His plan was to get as much cash as possible to help in the construction work and then to get pledges for future payments. The greater number of the pledges are in the form of notes payable out of estates of wealthy people when they die and also bequests provided in wills of prominent people. These sums aggregate thousands of dollars and insure annuities for the support of the home and the aged. Rev. Harlan has shown great business ability in getting this matter in such a shape that the home may be founded upon a purely business proposition so far as the support is concerned. Because of his ability in placing the institution on a financial footing the Methodists of the conference are giving Rev. Harlan much praise. Pastors of all denominations of Warren assisted Rev. Harlan in the special services this morning. As Contractor Jonas Griffith called his men to work the first shovel of dirt was lifted while prayer was being said. The work will then go on under the guidance of those who have so well planned the work and spiritual protection will be asked that the good cause may be carried on honestly and peaceably. Rev. Harlan and the Warren pastors planned this service at a late date, but they had extended a general invitation to all interested in the work.

#### ANOTHER COURT DECISION

Judge Paulus Rules on Time Local Option Law is Operative.

Marion, Ind., July 2.—Judge H. J. Paulus of the Grant circuit court decided that the word "passage" as written in the county local option law refers to the time the law became effective and that liquor licenses granted after Sept. 26, the date on which the legislature physically passed the law and the governor affixed his signature, and before Nov. 20, the date on which the acts were proclaimed, are valid and good for one year from the time they were granted. The decision affects nine saloons in Grant county. Judge Paulus is recognized as one of the ablest circuit judges in Indiana and his ruling on this question has been awaited with general interest throughout the state. The opinion contains more than 5,000 words. The prosecutor filed an exception to the ruling, but it is understood that no appeal will be taken, since the question already has been carried from Wabash county to the supreme court.

#### MEETING OF THE JOINT BOARD

What the Journal-Gazette Says of the Board Meeting.

County Commissioners Zwick, Laughlin and Miller, and County Attorney C. J. Lutz, of Adams county, were before the Allen county board yesterday proposing the joint construction of a bridge over the St. Marys river on the county line. The law provides that when a county line bridge is to cost not over \$5,000 the costs shall be apportioned according to the assessed valuation of the two counties, but where the cost exceeds \$5,000 the joint boards may compromise. The Allen county commissioners offered to compromise, but the visitors objected, as they wish to have the assessment based on valuation. This would mean that while the petitioners for the bridge nearly all live in Adams county, Allen county being the wealthier would have to pay four-fifths of the cost. The matter was deferred until next week.—Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette.

New York, July 6.—A special dispatch to the New York World from Vienna says that Prof. Adolph Struempell, one of the most eminent physicians of Europe, has pronounced E. H. Harriman, the American railway magnate to be a victim of paralysis. Mr. Harriman is spending the summer in the Austrian Alps and has been ill for some time. Mr. Harriman has difficulty in moving his legs and arms. At first it was said he was suffering from nervous prostration, but Prof. Struempell diagnosed the case as paralysis, and says he can be relieved but not cured. The nervous prostration will be cured entirely by the cold water treatment and the tonic air of Semmering, which is 3,000 feet above sea level. The partial paralysis will be relieved and Mr. Harriman will soon be able to resume work.

Dr. Harry Erwin, son of Judge and Mrs. Richard K. Erwin, and a native of this city, where he was born and raised, has been appointed interne at the St. Joseph hospital at Fort Wayne, and began his duties last Monday. Harry graduated a few weeks ago from the Chicago College of Physicians and Surgeons, through which institution he worked himself by his own efforts and this appointment places him where he will get a wide experience and a reputation that will insure his future success. He is a capable young man, industrious and his friends here know that he will more than make good in this splendid position. The St. Joseph hospital is one of the best in the land, and a few years there is even more valuable than a college course. He succeeds Dr. John McArdle, who has held the place for several years, and who now goes to the lakes for a few weeks rest before entering upon the practice of medicine at Fort Wayne. We certainly wish Dr. Erwin success, and in doing so we but voice the sentiments of the entire population in this locality.

#### IT WAS A REGULAR WESTERNER

The Cyclone That Passed Over Willshire a Week Ago.

The cyclone that passed through and over Willshire last Thursday evening had all the appearance of being one of the Kansas-Nebraska breed. Some of the dildoes it cut were on a par with some of the iron storms that made the western plains so notorious and undesirable in which to live up until a few years ago, when it became apparent that a cyclone could cut loose in any old place and tear th very Old Harry up all along its path. It did that very thing right here in Willshire, Thursday evening and Friday morning there were some wondrous tales being told of the capers the mad old thing had cut. Just as it was about to enter town on the pike past the Calvin Moore-head residence, it met Chas. Feasel who was on his way home. The meeting was so unexpected to both that they hardly knew what to do at first, but the cyclone was the first to get its breath, and then it went right after Charley something like voters went after the saloons in this and adjoining states, and left him in just about the same condition, only he wasn't sure of having the thirty or ninety days to run, before he was entirely put out of business.—Willshire Herald.

#### THE REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Real estate transfers: D. E. Smith to Mary A. Johnson, 10 acres Monroe township, quit claim deed, \$1,000; Joseph A. Dell to Frederick Hubner, 80 acres in Kirkland township, quit claim, \$1,000; Fred Scheiman to David P. Kenworthy et al, 47 acres Monroe township, \$4,000; Philippa Noler et al to Robert R. Stephenson and William Stephenson, 50 acres in Union township, \$5,000.

The Queen Esthers are having their picnic at the park Friday. A good program as follows was rendered:

Devotionals—By the president, Mazie Kellor.

Subject for discussion—"The Sunny South."

Talks "Concerning the Homes in the South," Mrs. Mills.

Echoes from the convention—Mazie Kellor, Neva Brandyberry.

Talk—Mrs. Daniels.

Talk—Mrs. Powell.

Paper—Mrs. O. L. Vance.

The program closely follows out that of the Women's Missionary Society. The Queen Esther girls have the same subject to study as the members who attended the Missionary Society yesterday, and the "echoes" by the delegates will be given by the girls, the same as the delegates of the Missionary Society reported their meeting.

Miss Ethel Ehinger gave an evening party Thursday evening and a very enjoyable time was had by her guests. The affair was for the Misses Vera Gocke and Adaline Keller of Fort Wayne, who have been visiting in the city. Games and music made the evening pass quickly and happily. The boys were Messrs. Greg Neptune, Arthur Kleinhenz, Clem Kortnerbr, Ben Tague, Lynn Shoemaker, Ben Lange, Free Frisinger, Herbert Fullenkamp, Felix Holthouse, Joe Kortnerbr, Charlie Weber, Tracy Nelson, Herman Ehinger, Leo Sprunger.

The Missionary Society of the Methodist church was entertained by Mrs. John Bowers Thursday afternoon, assisted by Mrs. C. D. Lewton. The program was given as published before. Every assistant hostess at all the meetings arrange for special music. The music yesterday was a duet by Rev. and Mrs. Sherman Powell. The meeting yesterday was well attended.

Rev. Fr. Eberly, of Goshen, is in the city the guest of Fr. Wilkens and Fr. George.

#### JOHN BRANYAN HOME AGAIN

Returns to Huntington After a Year in Canada.

Mr. and Mrs. John S. Branyan and children arrived in Huntington Wednesday afternoon, direct from Saskatchewan, Canada, where they have been making their home several months. They come to make this city their home. Mr. Branyan to resume the law practice. The effect of the climate and high altitude on people in that vicinity varies very much. Mrs. Branyan, essentially an invalid three years before leaving Huntington, comes back restored to health and feeling well. Mr. Branyan has been afflicted with heart trouble since going to the northwest and found it necessary to move to a different climate, though he was able to work up to Saturday evening, the time of the departure of the family for Huntington.—Huntington Herald.

#### IS NOW A STATE OFFICER

C. C. Deam, of Bluffton, is State Forester of Indiana.

Charles C. Deam, this city, left for Indianapolis this morning, where he will hold a conference with Governor Marshall relative to the appointment as state forester. He will probably receive his commission today and will remain at Indianapolis until tomorrow night, getting his office in shape. The governor told the Bluffton man that he would receive the appointment immediately upon his return from the south. Dr. Deam had some business in this city which needed attending to before he accepted the commission and he has been busy for the past two days which he has been home in getting this shaped up. The present state forester has been holding over two months owing to the inability of the Bluffton man to accept the appointment at the time that it first became vacant. He will step down and out today and Mr. Deam will get the place.—Bluffton Banner.

Judge Macy, of Winchester, has notified the attorneys in the case of Conrad G. Gallmeyer, trustee, vs. Wilhelm Gallmeyer et al, that he will arrive in Decatur likely on next Monday, at which time he will render a decision in the above mentioned case. The evidence was submitted to Judge Macy three months ago, but subsequently he was taken quite ill, hence the decision was indefinitely deferred. Many Adams county people are speculating as to the possible outcome of the litigation as the case is one in which disposition of much property hinges. Democrat readers will remember that Conrad Gallmeyer brought an action in the Adams circuit court by which he endeavored to set aside a conveyance to Fred Jaebker which transferred a farm to his possession. A contract was executed between Conrad and his brother, the latter being said to be a person easily influenced. Wilhelm, by his attorneys Peterson & Moran, filed a cross complaint in which Conrad was charged with securing the contract fraudulently. The decision of Judge Macy will be awaited with anxiety by those interested in the transaction.

#### ARE AFTER THE STANDARD

Mississippi Authorities After Violators of Trust Laws.

Jackson, Miss., July 3.—Charging that the Texas company and the Gulf Refining company, two Texas corporations, are subsidiary branches of the Standard Oil company, that both have violated the anti-trust laws of Mississippi and asking for penalties aggregating \$11,000,000 and perpetual injunctions restraining the concerns from further operations in this commonwealth, proceedings were filed today in the chancery court of Harrison county. The suits closely follow similar proceedings a few days ago in Clay county, against the Standard Oil company of Kentucky, making \$22,000,000 that the commonwealth seeks to recover from the corporation. The Harrison county proceeding was instituted in the name of the state.

#### BIDS FOR NEW SCHOOL HOUSE

New School Building for District One in St. Marys Township.

St. Marys township is to have a new school house and Trustee O. J. Suman has advertised in this issue for bids for such a structure, the same to be built in district one. The plans and specifications are at the office of Erwin & Erwin in this city, and bids will be received there up until noon of the 24th day of this month. The building is to be a one-story brick, with slate roof and when completed will be among the handsome and well lighted and ventilated school buildings of the county.

Mrs. Elizabeth Weber, of Indianapolis, is in the city visiting with friends and relatives.