

The motor cars to be purchased for use on the Bluffton, Geneva & Celina traction line, will not be purchased outright until they have been given a trial test, and show that they are good for the right sort of speed, and are otherwise calculated for the purposes for which they are to be used by the traction people. It is given out that the equipage with motor cars will stand the company four thousand dollars a mile less than any other kind of power. This is one of the inducements that is leading to their purchase, and if they stand the wear and tear of this line, they will doubtless be more generally used in this part of the interurban country, than they are at the present time. The managers of this line are pushing things with the purpose in view of putting the cars to running just as soon as the grade is completed and the steel is laid. The work of the grade is being pushed even faster than was at first thought possible, and those concerned with the work are counting the days until they will be doing business in the Bluffton, Geneva & Celina Traction line. The people along the line are equally impatient for the completion of the road.

Rev. Father Henry A. Hellhake, pastor of the Catholic church at Sheldon, and well known in Fort Wayne, where he often visited, died at his home in Sheldon at 11:30 o'clock Wednesday at the age of 60 years. Death was not unexpected, as Father Hellhake had been critically ill for some time and it was realized that the end was near. About two weeks ago Rev. Hellhake was taken ill with pneumonia. His physical portness and his age added greatly to the gravity of the case, and physicians were apprehensive from the first. The patient, however, made a heroic battle against the inroads of disease. Then on Saturday last, when there had been apparently a slight improvement in the condition of the patient, he sustained a stroke of paralysis. This turn in the case made it apparent that recovery was practically impossible, and Father Hellhake declined steadily from that hour. For almost precisely nine years Rev. Father Hellhake had been the pastor of St. Aloysius Catholic church at Sheldon, and its mission, St. Joseph's Catholic church at Bluffton. In all he had been thirty-seven years in the priesthood, and was one of the older clergymen of the diocese of Fort Wayne. Rev. Father Hellhake was born at Quincy, Ill., February 9, 1849. He studied the classics in St. Francis college at Quincy, and took his philosophical and theological course in St. Francis' seminary at Milwaukee. His ordination to the priesthood occurred at Quincy, and took his philosophical and Hellhake came to the diocese of Fort Wayne in 1875, and was appointed pastor at Columbia City, where he officiated from October, 1875, to May, 1886. He was then transferred to Remington until 1893 and followed with pastorates at Lebanon and its missions until August, 1898, and at Fowler until August 12, 1900, when he was assigned to the Sheldon pastorate, in which his earthly labors ended. The dead clergyman was a man of fine attainments and unfailing devotion to his work, possessing a kindly nature and a pleasing personality that won him many warm friends both within and without the circle of church boundaries.

The funeral will take place Saturday morning at Sheldon, interment to be made in the cemetery there. Bishop Alerding and a large number of the clergy from this diocese will attend the funeral.

Fred Reppert is now the owner of the old Wolfe farm, 160 acres located seven miles northeast of this city in Root township. The price paid was \$10,400, and possession will be given later in the year. The farm is a good one, and Fred will try his hand at farming by proxy as many other people now do. It is a mighty good way to make money as well as invest it, the price steadily advancing upon god realty here as well as elsewhere. The deal was made through the D. N. Erwin real estate agency, contracts being signed and everything closed and the transfer will take place later. Mr. Reppert has in view some extensive improvements on the farm in question and a year from this day and date this farm will take on a different appearance, and be among the best improved farms in the country.

Several other real estate deals are in the air and it is thought that this fall will prove a mighty good one for the purchase and sale of good Adams county land. The price is still soaring and if it continues land values will soon be out of sight. As the soil here is the best that is, there is no reason for the prices not to continue to increase.

Mrs. David Flanders who has spent the summer in Michigan, is expected to arrive home this evening.

John Christian Myers, aged ninety-one years, probably the oldest man in Adams county, died Wednesday at the home of his son, John Myers, after an illness dating back several years, during which the infirmities of a ripe old age played the important part. Death came as sweet release from the pangs of suffering and the aged man, having lived a long and useful life, was content to pass to the eternal world. The deceased while ailing for several years, did not become alarmingly ill until a few weeks ago, when his case became suddenly critical. His declines were gradual and all who were conversant with his condition knew that death was near at hand. Mr. Myers was born in Germany and about fifty years ago came to America, settling in Adams county. He has been a thrifty, trustworthy citizen, and was devotedly beloved within the circle of his acquaintanceship. As old age dawned upon his life, Mr. Myers was forced to inactivity and for some time he has resided with his son John Myers of Fourth street. The sad death will be deplored by a multitude of friends who found in the decedent almost a true type of manhood. The bereaved relatives will be joined by many in mourning the loss of the aged man. The funeral services were held from the St. Marys church Saturday morning at nine o'clock and interment was made in St. Joseph's cemetery.

The surviving children are Mrs. Mary Gross, Mrs. Peter Myers, John Myers and Mrs. Teresse Colchin of this city; Jacob Myers, Trinidad, Colorado, and Mrs. John Lichtle, Fostoria, Ohio.

According to a story printed in the Peoria, Illinois, Herald-Transcript, a large block of the stock owned in the National Hotel building has been purchased by several business men, and that great improvements will be made in the building, and that the hotel will be enlarged and radically improved. Dick Townsend who has leased and is giving Peoria the best hotel that the enterprising city ever had, will be given a continued lease by the new owners, and he too, will cut his belt in making the National still greater. It may be changed and run upon the European plan, at any rate there is no doubt about Dick Townsend making it the best and most popular hotel in that part of the country. The new owners seem anxious that the particular part of the city where the National is located shall also be the popular part of the city, and between Dick and the new owners, there should be no question of success. Since going to Peoria Mr. Townsend has gotten back into his old form, and is showing the people there how a good hotel is managed. He is a genuine success in the business, and by his methods and extreme popularity, there is no chance of failing.

Clerk Haefling has received the proper credentials from David C. Peyton, superintendent of the Jeffersonville reformatory, which fully and finally discharges Frank Touhey from that institution. Touhey was sent there February 18, 1904, and was paroled April 1, 1908, and now comes his final discharge. He was sent there for forgery, he having forged a check for several hundred dollars and secured the money on the check, he afterward being apprehended, tried in the Adams circuit court and sent to the reformatory for two to four years. Since being paroled he has lived with his wife and family near Warren, where he has been free from any other law violations, he has in fact been leading an exemplary life. He was at the time the forgery was committed a young man and perhaps easily influenced into the evil ways that led to his downfall. He is well known here and where he lived for many years during the early part of his life, he still retains the friendship of many people, and they will be glad to know that he has been discharged and that he is doing well.

Laura Rosetta, daughter of Willard and Cora Miller, who reside near the Ohio state line in Van Wert county, died Thursday after suffering for a few days from the flux. The deceased was taken ill several days ago and became worse with the passing of each day. Her condition was very serious last evening and it was then known that death could not be averted. Miss Laura was an ideal young lady and was possessed of those accomplishments which go to make one popular in social circles. Her kind disposition and devotedness to righteous principles won for her many friends who will mourn their loss. The decedent was the light of the home, and she will be missed by her every acquaintanceship, old and young. The funeral services were held from Clark's Chapel tomorrow afternoon, the cortege leaving the home at 1:30 o'clock. The decedent was fifteen years of age.

Miss Ireta Erwin will give a house party at her home on north Second street next week, in honor of out-of-town friends who will arrive in the city for a visit. Among several events of next week the party to be given by Miss Erwin promises to be one of the most pleasant. A picnic party is scheduled to occur during the week. A theater party will be given and the Misses Lulu Atz, Edith Green and Ireta Erwin will entertain at an evening party before the visiting guests leave the city.

Mrs. B. J. Rice, in charge of her Sunday school class of boys, is spending the day with them in a pleasant way at Maple Grove park. With baskets and boxes laden down with picnic goodies they left the interurban station this morning. Class members are Earl Archbold, Ralph Tyndall, Richard Reiter, Fred Butler, Winfield Maddy, David Orcutt, Miller Ellingham, Glen Sohl and Charles Amsbaugh. Several other boys of the class attended going to the picnic grounds a little later.

A picnic supper will be given tomorrow at Maple Grove park by a very large number of girls most of them leaving on the 5:30 car. This event Friday promises to be one of the most enjoyable given for some time.

Mrs. W. L. Gains who leaves the city to make her home in Michigan was given a picnic by the Royal Neighbors at the park this afternoon. Since living in the city Mrs. Gains has made many friends as in Kokomo her home before coming here, having always been a very pleasant woman. Her friends here and in her former home regret to hear of her leaving Decatur for Michigan. In the Pythian Sisters lodge Mrs. Gains is an esteemed member.

Miss Nellie Shrock chaperoned her Sunday school class today at Maple Grove park at a picnic. The girls of the class and Miss Jean Lutz and her guests, Miss Ruth Sloan of Urbana, O., and Miss Maud Shoaf composed the merry company. A picnic dinner was spread at noon. Members of the class are Misses Ireta Erwin, Lulu Atz, Frances Lehman, Naomi Dugan, Ruth Buhler, Stella Perkins, Ruth Miller, Frances Miller, Goldie Biggs, Edith Long, Frances Cole, Jessie Phillips, Louie Mackintosh, Grace Coffelt.

The Endeavor Society of the Christian church and friends of the society will please meet with Miss Dora Shultz August 13, Friday evening at her home.

The Ladies' Mite Society will meet Friday afternoon with Mrs. Wash Gilpen at her home on south Tenth street.

"I shall never speak to George Well-done again. I used to think he was a gentleman, but his wife and I had a confidential talk today and the things she told me about him have convinced me that he is not fit to associate with respectable people." "Oh, pshaw! Be charitable, Mary. His wife is more generous than you. I met her a few minutes ago and she spoke to me just as cordially as if you had never told her a thing about me."

George Schug was eight years old yesterday, the event being celebrated with a party last evening in which a number of young friends were entertained, by Mrs. G. W. Woodward. A happy time was had by the young America invited to participate in the event.

Mrs. Rice, a teacher in the Methodist Sunday school, took her Sunday school class to Maple Grove park today, where they enjoyed the day in true picnic style. Dinner and lots of fun were on the boards throughout the day.

The Misses Frances and Grace Butler gave a picnic party yesterday at Steele's park for the Misses Carol Wiltrout of Warsaw, and Wanda Young of Ohio City. Those that composed the party were Carol Wiltrout, Wanda Young, Flora Peters, Gladys Graham, Mary Erwin, Edna Steele, Mabel Harb, Cora Burk, Veva Hunsicker, Esther Shrank, Irene Eady, Catherine Omjor and Lucile Butler. After supper the party spent a pleasant hour at the Crystal Air dome.

Mrs. W. H. Nachtrieb entertained her Sunday school class last evening in honor of the Misses Leota and Mazie Kellor, who will leave the city soon to live in Canada in the future. Those present were pleasantly entertained and each wrote his autograph in a little book which the Misses Kellor will value in after years. Delicious refreshments were served. The members of Mrs. Nachtrieb's class are the Misses Mary Winans, Mazie Kellor, Leota Kellor,

Fannie McConnell, Lulu Beachler, Bessie Byers, Harriet Morrison, Leota Bailey, Lilly Teeple, Ethel Hilbrand.

Miss Wene Smith pleasantly entertained a number of girls and boys of this city at a party Wednesday evening. With music and games the time passed quickly. A delicious luncheon was served in the evening.

Miss Frances Merryman pleasantly entertained the Queen Esther Circle yesterday at her home. The excellent program rendered proved most interesting. Following a social hour was spent. Miss Jean Lutz and guests of her house party, Miss Maud Shoaf and Miss Ruth Sloan of Urbana, were among those present.

The Aid Society of the Methodist church will hold it meeting with Mrs. W. H. Gilpen, 110 N. Tenth street tomorrow afternoon. The members will please attend.

A quiet yet jolly picnic was held yesterday near the Brookside farm just south of the city. The day was spent in a real social way and all who attended enjoyed a very pleasant time. Those who attended were Hazel and Adda Love, Walter Love, Joe Burd and Fred Kell.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Zeser gave turtle soup dinner today, which was the greatest success of the season. The soup was excellent and a good time was had. Those present were Peter Zeser, Charles Omjor, Franklin Andrews, Martin Andrews, Henry Vian, Charles Zeser, Katharyn Smythe Mrs. Mary Durr, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Mougey, and Mr. and Mrs. John Schafer.

The Queen Esther girls will give a pastry sale and a good display of baked things—pies, cakes etc., are promised. The sale will be conducted by the girls themselves, and if you want anything in their line they can supply you.

Mrs. Fred Bell is entertaining the members of the Black Rab Club at the A. R. Bell home this afternoon. It is a chewing gum affair and the amusements attendant were funny and a good time was had. Refreshments were served.

The Waste R Club is holding its meeting with Miss Almie Watts at Monmouth, Miss Fannie McConnell of this city is in attendance.

Smith & Ullman with their beauty herd of show Herefords ought really to be ashamed of themselves. They showed them at the Henry county fair at Newcastle last week and cleaned the platter, getting eight first premiums and six seconds. This is their first try out too, and it but shows that they have some of the finest, and when it comes to showing Herefords everybody else wants to go away back and sit down. The same herd will be at the Delaware county fair next week, and then comes the Great Northern Indiana exhibit, and certainly every one, whether interested in good stock or not, ought to get acquainted with these enterprising Adams county gentlemen and their herd of finely bred Herefords. They should be appreciated at home at least, and as they have never undertaken to advertise themselves in any way, there is not many people in the county that really knows that Messrs. Smith and Ullman are engaged in the raising of such fine stock. The herd is a beauty, there being twenty-five of the most handsome cattle one would care to see, and you will miss the most interesting sight at the Great Northern, if you fail to see this herd of Herefords.

FAIR WEEK AT OPERA HOUSE

The Orpheum Stock Company Will Be Here.

Edward Doyle and his big company of players will open a week's engagement at the Bosse opera house on next Monday, Aug. 23. This is the celebrated Orpheum Stock Co., that you have heard so much about. Bluffton said last season that they were the best repertoire company ever in that city. This season they were four weeks at Terre Haute, Ind., and turned the people away, the S. R. O. sign was out every night. Kokomo, Ind., for two weeks to immense crowds. Last week at Logansport, Ind., and the house was too small to hold the people. This week at Peru, Ind., next week Decatur. Manager Bosse says you will not be disappointed in the Orpheum Stock Co. and with such an attraction expects to turn people away every night. This company carries all their own scenery for each bill, and change every night. Wait and see.

Don't fail to attend the Crystal air dome this evening. Mr. Biggs has secured some special films for tonight and are bound to please the public.

Auditor Michaud has received returns from the state tax board giving the assessments on all the railroads, and other corporate property of the county. According to the figures given by them the Chicago & Erie will pay on an assessed valuation totaling \$325,570, G. R. & Ft. W., \$386,803, G. R. & I., \$24,600; Clover Leaf \$278,762; Fort Wayne & Springfield \$58,861; Indiana Lighting company \$20,938; Indiana Pipe Lin company \$632,665; Indiana Pipe Line & Refining company, \$9,521; Ohio Oil company \$246,598. The Central Union Telephone company pays on 14 miles; American Telegraph & Telephone Co., 494 miles; Citizens' Telephone company 311 miles; Geneva Telephone company 40 miles; German Telephone company of Craigville 95 miles; Monroe Telephone company 53 miles; Monroeville Telephone company 50 miles; State Line company 44 miles; United States company 30 miles; United Telephone company 71 miles. This completes the list of contending assessments in this county and the auditor can now proceed with his duplicates for next year, as soon as the various levies are all made, and this will be done the first of next month. The township levies have been made, and the county and corporate levies will complete the list, and give the rate that will be made for the coming year.

OBITUARY.

Samuel Dolpheus Beavers was born June 18, 1832, in Rappahannock Co., Virginia, and at the time of his demise Wednesday morning, August 11, 1909, was 77 years, 1 month and 23 days of age. Moving from Virginia with his parents to Hocking county, Ohio, when fourteen years old, he there grew to manhood where he taught school for some time and in the year 1856 he was married to Miss Lydia Weldy, also of Ohio. On April 14, 1863, they, with their four eldest children, came to Indiana, settling on a farm in Kirkland township, where they together endured all the hardships and toil incident to life in a new country. The deceased was the father of twelve children six of whom, with the faithful wife, have preceded him to eternity; the latter departing this life about one year ago. The surviving children are: Seth D., Emerson A., Alpheus J., Middleton, Mrs. Ethel Zimmerman and Mrs. Rachel Buckmaster. There are surviving also eighteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

When a very young man Mr. Beavers was converted to God and united with the Methodist Episcopal church; when he removed to this state, there being no church of this denomination in his neighborhood, he became a member of the "Brethren in Christ" where he has been a most faithful attendant and church worker all the remaining days of his life, having served as a church officer the greater part of his time. All the church services were a delight to him, but especially did he enjoy the Sabbath school and was never absent therefrom unless detained unavoidably. His example was a constant inspiration to his family and friends and he will be sadly missed in the community as well as the home.

Being naturally of a cheerful, sunny temperament, he always looked upon life's brightest side and many can testify to his cordial greetings and whole-souled hospitality. Upon all occasions he was ready with a pleasant reminiscence or bit of humor, though not unmindful of the serious side of life. He lived for his home and family and was never happier than when in the midst of the little children in whom he found great delight. Ever since the passing of the wife with whom he journeyed for more than fifty years he has frequently expressed himself as perfectly willing and ready to receive his call and follow her to the life beyond, and we feel assured that today he is at rest. May we all be as faithful and emulate his many good qualities and some day meet him around the great white throne.

REFUSED RING; SHOOTS GIRL

Jilted Lover Wounds Sweetheart When She Retains Gift.

Portsmouth, O., Aug. 16.—Enraged because he had been jilted, Harry Bliss, 18 years old, today at noon shot and fatally wounded Miss Minnie Clarke, 17 years old. Miss Clarke was employed in a shoe factory, and shortly after the whistle blew Bliss stepped up to her and demanded his ring. When Miss Clarke refused, Bliss pulled a revolver and shot her through the back, the right lung being penetrated. Bliss was arrested.

J. H. Heller and family, Mrs. F. L. DeVilbiss and Mrs. Fanny Cole arrived last evening from a two weeks' outing at Rome City, all well and happy and ready for every day life after enjoying the freedoms of Lake Sylvan. At present there is quite a colony of Decatur people at the resort.

A marriage license has been issued to Michael Biberstine and Martha Neuenschwander, both of whom live near the Wells county line. They are well known at their home and have many friends who will wish them happiness in abundance.

Clerk Haefling is still busy with the reeling work in his office and by the time court begins will be about half way through with the deal. Many funny things are found among the many papers filed there and are part and parcel of the records of the office. In 1880 is a petition signed by the members of the bar and headed by the name of J. Fred France of Huntington, asking the board of county commissioners to remove the heating plant in the basement of the court house and replace it with one that is safe and sound. The petition avers that their lives are daily endangered with the plant in use. Most of the old plant is still doing business and is good for several more years usage.

Delinquents are bobbing in every day at the treasurer's office and making settlement of taxes due the county and the state, but which were unpaid at the time stipulated in the payment of the spring installment of taxes. Along with the delinquents are a few who are paying their fall installment, and in this they are beating the game by several months. Treasurer Lachot is taking the money just the same.

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT ENDS

They Will Meet Next Year at Atlantic City.

Salt Lake City, Utah, Aug. 14.—The forty-third national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic ended last night with a fireworks display on Emagin Peak. By the close vote of 307 to 298 Atlantic City was chosen over St. Louis as the place for the next encampment after a spirited fight. With New York to be heard from the vote stood 253 to 293 in favor of St. Louis. When New York was called the commander of that department announced the vote as 51 for Atlantic City and 1 for St. Louis. This gave the seacoast city a lead that could not be overcome. The vote showed the east arrayed against the middle west with the far west and south more or less divided. For chaplain the Rev. Daniel Ryan of Hymara, Ind., won the honor from the Rev. Thomas Harwood of New Mexico, by a vote of 330 to 233. After the final details of the convention were disposed of Commander-in-Chief Van Sant and his fellow officers, elective and appointive, were installed.

SOME OF THE LUCKY HOOSIERS

Decatur is Not in the List of Lucky Ones in the Land Drawing.

Up to date quite a number of hoosiers have been lucky in the drawings in the Flathead land claims at Spokane, Washington, in the list Logansport, Hartford City, Dunkirk, Richmond, Garrett, Huntington, Peru, Muncie, Marion, Gas City, Warsaw and New Albany are represented. Many other places are in the list of successful ones, but the places mentioned are the nearest to Decatur, which up to this time has succeeded in drawing a blank. It is said that there is a standing offer of seven thousand dollars for Number one, which was drawn by Joseph Furray, of Warsaw. The tract contains some valuable water power and the Warsawite can pull off a nice little sum without doing anything to improve it.

County Superintendent Opliger has completed his statistics giving a statement of the public schools and their work for the past year, and it all shows a gratifying condition of the Adams county schools. The report shows an average daily attendance of 4,096, the average length of the school term 150 days, reading circle of 720 volumes, high school enrollment of 271, graduates from the high school 146, and the average pay of the teachers \$2.89. The amount of money spent for the salaries of teachers was \$57,097.36, to which can be added for fuel, repair of school property and janitors \$37,063.40. These last two items but shows the voluminous work that is involved in the proper education of the American youth today. It is a great work and one too, in which we believe every citizen of the county is in thorough sympathy with. An increase is shown in the enrollment both in the high and common schools, as well as an increase in the number who graduated with honors from the public schools of the county.

Isaac Archer and Hazel Watkins Dessele Andrews, of Dewitt, Ark., and Fern Hendricks of Monroe, returned from Rome City where they spent Sunday with Miss Mabel Hocker, who is spending her summer vacation at their cottage.