

For the first time since its organization, the state board of health is able to present a table of death statistics for Indiana for a period of ten years, with averages for the various contagious diseases with which the board has been dealing since it took up the problem of disease prevention. Dr. J. N. Hurty, secretary of the board, says the tables are the most valuable the board has collected. He says a survey of a decade gives the public health official a sufficient grasp on conditions to enable him to see whether he is making progress.

Dr. Hurty says the figures show a marked advance in the work of the board. The ravages by various diseases have been decreased in some instances, and in others, they have been prevented from increasing. The rates of deaths for various diseases have been decreased in some instances, and in virtually all instances, have been kept from increasing. Dr. Hurty contends that the board's ability to prevent an increase in the rate with the increase in population in the cities and the consequent congestion of population, and the pollution of streams is a sign of successful operation.

#### Deaths From Tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis caused a greater number of deaths than any other disease during the ten-year period covered by the table, which is from 1901 to 1910, both inclusive. More than 45,000 persons died from this disease in that time. Diarrhoea diseases came next, with a total of more than 17,600. The long-dreaded disease, smallpox, killed fewer than five hundred persons.

The average death rate for the entire state for the ten years was 13.6 to each 100,000 population. The rate for cities of five thousand population or more was 15.4, and the rural rate, 12.9. The annual state rates for the period were as follows: For 1901, 14.5; 1902, 13.5; 1903, 13.4; 1904, 14; 1905, 13.7; 1906, 13.5; 1907, 13.4; 1908, 13.2; 1909, 13.3; 1910, 13.5. During the period, 360,016 deaths were reported to the state board. The month of March claimed the greatest number of victims on an average for the ten years, the average for that month being 3,599. The lowest average was for June, when the average was 2,747.

#### Death Rates in Cities.

The average death rates of some of the most important cities for the ten years were as follows: Indianapolis, 16.2; Evansville, 14.1; Fort Wayne, 14.4; Terre Haute, 19.3; South Bend, 16.2; Muncie, 16.1; Anderson, 14.3; Richmond, 15.6; Hammond, 16; New Albany, 17.

The statistics of the board in this case for the ten years show the following:

Pulmonary Tuberculosis—The total number of deaths from this disease for the period was 39,532, or an average of 3,953 a year. The greatest number died in 1901, when the total was 4,436. The averages for the ten years by months, showed the greatest number of deaths to have occurred in March and April, which is ac-

1872 deaths.

Violence—From 1908 to 1910, deaths from violence numbered 8,760. Accidents caused 4,953 deaths; suicide, 1,174; homicides, 352.

#### Typhoid Fever.

Typhoid Fever—Typhoid fever caused 9,899 deaths in the ten years or an average of 990 a year. The months of September, October and November had the highest averages, with February the lowest, the average being for the ten-year period.

The total deaths by years showed almost constant decrease from the beginning of the period, although 1910 showed considerable decrease over 1909.

By ages, the greatest number of deaths was of persons from fifteen to nineteen years, with the age of twenty to thirty following closely.

The highest average by ages was 141 a year.

Diphtheria—Diphtheria caused 3,900 deaths in the ten years, with October, November, December and January, early school months, having the highest average. The greatest number of deaths was of children from five to nine years old. After the forties year no averages were reported.

Scarlet Fever—Scarlet fever caused 1,430 deaths, with the highest monthly average in January and February.

The highest average by ages was for the same age period as that of diphtheria. No averages were reported for the period after the forties year.

Diarrhoeal Disease (under 2 years)—This class of disease killed 17,320 babies, with the highest averages for July, August, September and October, known as the microbe months.

Diarrheal Diseases (over 2 years)—Total deaths, 6,820; average as above.

The statistics of deaths from diarrheal disease by ages show that during the first year of life, the average was 1,182 deaths for the ten years. For the next year it was 451. From that period the average drops to 124 for the third year, and then to 60 until the age period of eighty to ninety years is reached, when it

Influenza—This disease killed 5,680 persons, with February and March carrying the highest averages. The highest average by ages was for the age period of from eighty to ninety years, when the average was 113 deaths a year.

Pneumonia—This disease killed 32,370 persons, with January, February and March having the highest averages. The highest average by age period was in the first year, when the average for the ten years was 744. The lowest was for the age period of from three to four years.

Measles—Measles killed 1,580 persons, with March and April having the highest averages. Most of the victims of this disease were less than one year old. No averages are reported for the age period after fifty-five years.

Smallpox—This which was formerly the most dreaded of diseases, killed only 455 persons during the ten years, or an average of 45 a year. The highest averages were for January and February.

#### NEWS FROM COURT HOUSE.

The case of the Chicago & Erie railroad company, for reappraisal and reappointment of appraisers, is set for December 29th.

Miles W. Hawhick vs. Maria Brandt et al., to abate nuisance, damages and injunction. Demurrer to amended complaint overruled; exceptions.

Henry F. Hemicks vs. Isaac D. Landis, true Christian name unknown, suit on contract. Demurrer to complaint overruled; exceptions; defendant admits in open court that his true name is Irwin D. Landis and the record and pleas are ordered corrected accordingly.

The \$10,000 damage suit of Rebecca Eady administratrix, vs. City of Decatur, is set for trial December 28th.

The Blazer divorce case will be heard December 1st, the Reber divorce December 15th, and the Mirle Myers vs. Frank Myers divorce case, December 6th.

Fred Homi vs. C. C. Schug et al., damages, \$300. Answer filed by defendants.

Florence L. McLain vs. J. R. Small et al., partition; decree for plaintiff. Upon finding of indivisibility the land is ordered sold at private sale, one-third cash, one-third in nine, and one-third in eighteen months, or all cash if desired. C. L. Walters appointed commissioner, bond fixed at \$500. Upon default of defendants, J. C. Sutton was appointed guardian ad litem of the minors.

Mary O. Christen, executrix of the Martha A. Dutcher will, was ordered to make distribution and discharged.

Aaron Bricker, guardian of Perry F. Miller, a person of unsound mind, was ordered to pay to Ida Miller, petitioner, \$150 for the support and maintenance of herself and children of the ward, this to be paid by the clerk out of funds in his hands, the balance of the amount in his hands to be paid back to the guardian.

Adam J. Bienz qualified as guardian of Christena Blitner, who was adjudged by court to be incapable of managing her estate. Bond was filed in the sum of \$2,700.

Fort Wayne, Ind., Nov. 24—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Whether William Walker, aged twenty-seven, really choked his wife to death, after she had threatened to kill him with a hatchet, as he confessed to the police, probably will never be known. The body, which was today taken from its grave in the family backyard, was so badly decomposed that it was impossible to tell what caused her death.

The police asserted that they believe the murder was more dastardly than Walker has confessed. He is being questioned in an effort to obtain a fuller confession. Walker pleaded not guilty when arraigned in court to-day.

Fort Wayne, Ind., Nov. 24—Taken into custody at 4:30 o'clock Thursday afternoon as he was preparing to leave the city for Columbia City, William "Buster" Walker, twenty-seven, of 152 Spring street, for five years employed as a lineman by the Home Telephone and Telegraph company, confessed to the police that he brutally murdered his wife, Katie Walker, on the morning of Sunday, September 24th, and buried her body in the rear of the little home, where it remained undiscovered ever since.

For several weeks Walker had been under police surveillance as evidence pointing to the crime had been in the hands of the authorities since the finding of a bundle of bloody clothes in the woods north of the city, which were identified as belonging to Mrs. Walker. When the woman's disappearance was reported a close watch

was placed on the man and three

times he was subjected to severe examination by Sergeant-Detective Papert and Chief of Police Dayton Abbott, but each time the man kept up his nerve and bluffed the matter through.

Thursday afternoon at 1 o'clock Sergeant Papert was informed that Walker had quit his job with the telephone company and he was immediately taken into custody. He was taken to the police station, and in emotionless language described one of the most cold-blooded, deliberate murders that have ever occurred in the annals of the city.

According to Walker's confession, he killed his wife, Katie Walker, to save his own life.

"On Saturday night, September 23, my wife accompanied my father, J. L. Walker, to the Pennsylvania railroad station, where he was to take a train for his home at Columbia City. At the station she met two men, and later I found her on Columbia street with them. I told her to come home with me, and we boarded the last Huffman street car at 11:30 o'clock. When we got to the corner of Franklin and Spring streets we had a fight about her going out with the men. She threatened to shoot me. I left her and went to my home and went to bed at midnight.

"My wife came at 2 o'clock Sunday morning and came in the house with a hatchet and started at me, saying she would kill me. I was in bed, and reaching up, struck her in the head. She fell to the floor and I got out of bed and choked her until she was unconscious.

"After she fell from my arms I went to the door and was going to call the officers, but changed my mind and came back and choked her again, and she died on my hands.

"This was about 3 o'clock Sunday morning; and an hour later I went out in the back yard and dug a hole in the ground on the east side of the grape vines. The hole was about three feet deep, and I carried Katie out and dumped her into it. She had on all of her clothes and I never took off a stitch. Just dumped her in and covered her up with the loose earth.

"I went back to the house and as soon as daylight came I went out and took a pick and worked all around the place where I put the body.

"I did not want to kill her. I asked her if she would be good, and she said she would not, so I just slugged her in the head and then choked her. When I left her lying there I intended to call the police, but when I got out of the house I thought how mean she had been, and by God I decided to go back and stick her in the ground."

Three weeks after he committed the murder, Walker filed a suit for divorce against his wife. Mrs. Walker was thirty-six years old and had been married four times. Her marriage to Walker occurred eighteen months ago at Van Wert, Ohio.

Prizes, valued at \$5,275, to be awarded to six cities and towns in Indiana, making the largest per capita sales of 1911 Red Cross Christmas seals, were announced today by the Red Cross Christmas Seals commission.

The prizes are a stationary vacuum cleaning plant and five electric and hand suction cleaners. The first will be installed complete in any school building designated by the city or town having the highest per capita sales, the value depending upon the size of the building. The five other prizes will be given to the school buildings receiving the largest vote in the five cities ranking from second to sixth for per capita sales of Red Cross Christmas seals.

Through the use of vacuum and suction cleaners, dust is removed absolutely, when a room is cleaned, and inasmuch as dust carries the germs of tuberculosis and disease, the vacuum system is highly conducive to sanitary conditions. The McCrum-Howell company of New York has offered these prizes to the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis, and the association has in turn offered them in Indiana through the Red Cross Christmas Seals commission.

This city will be included in the competitive seals sale and the agent will organize a committee on schools to direct the contest here.

The plan, which is new in Indiana, has been tried successfully in other states and great records have been made for the sale of the seals. Wisconsin and Illinois have both been successful in selling several million seals with the aid of the school contests.

In each city ballots will be distributed on which any person buying ten seals is entitled to one vote for a school building in his locality. And the school having the largest vote by January 1st will be a winner provided the city ranks as high as sixth in the Indiana per capita sales.

The first prize, which varies in value from five hundred dollars to

school building in which it is installed, will be awarded to the city having the largest per capita sales in Indiana, providing 10,000 seals are sold in that community. The other five prizes will be awarded in five towns or cities having the largest per capita sales without regard to gross sales. The school buildings receiving the highest number of votes in these five cities will be the winners.

The Red Cross Christmas seals agency in this city has been accepted by Miss Pansy Bell, of the Kappa, Kappa, Kappa sorority, and an active selling organization is being formed for the campaign.

To be able to understand the great works of art, music, and literature shows a cultivated mind and proves a source of extreme joy and contentment.—John Emery White.

Alma Kooken, Viola Gaskill and Zelma Stevens were guests besides the members of the Needcraft club entertained by Miss Mamie Kitson last evening.

The Ladies' Missionary society of the Presbyterian church will meet next Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. W. H. Lee. The meeting will be called at 2:30 o'clock and a good attendance is desired.

The Presbyterians' Aid will meet with Mrs. W. E. Smith next Thursday afternoon.

The Ben Hurs held a meeting Friday evening, when arrangements for the initiation of several candidates next Wednesday evening were made. The initiation will be done by the Fort Wayne degree staff.

The social given by the Christian Ladies' Aid Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Minnie Daniels, was a successful one, the attendance being unusually large, as each member brought a guest. At this time, the four sections of the society reported the sales from their pastry sales which they have been holding, the sum amounting to \$23.40. A musical program, consisting of a piano duet by the Misses Glennis Mangold and Leah Hensley, a piano solo by Irene Eady, vocal solos by Mrs. P. G. Williams and Nellie Daniels, was highly pleasing.

Mrs. Harry Fritzinger, who on Wednesday, accompanied by her husband, went to Fort Wayne, Thursday underwent an operation at St. Joseph hospital for removal of a tumor of the bowels. She was reported last evening by Mr. Fritzinger, who returned, as resting quite well, and the operation was considered most successful. She came out from under the influence of the anaesthetic all right, the operation being performed by Dr. Porter, assisted by a local physician. Miss Rose Conter, a sister of Mrs. Fritzinger, who was also at her bedside, returned home today and stated that she was resting much easier, and hope for a speedy recovery is now extended.

Mrs. A. J. Porter was hostess at a 12 o'clock dinner Friday. Those present were Mrs. Sam Chronister, Mrs. Mary Durr, Mrs. Annis Merica and Mrs. Jonas Fisher and son, Glenn. All declared Mrs. Porter to be a fine hostess.

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Coppock entertained the Decatur Motor Car company's office employees and their wives at a five hundred party Friday evening, a luncheon in two courses following the games. Mr. A. H. Barnard won the first honors and Mr. Brackett the booby. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. Snooks, Mr. and Mrs. Meyers, Mr. and Mrs. Shoemaker, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Barnard, Mrs. M. E. Brackett, Miss Anna Clark and Earl Brackett, Jr.

Denver, Colo., Nov. 24—(Special to Daily Democrat)—The questioning of Mrs. Gertrude Patterson, on trial here for the murdering her husband by shooting, continued here today by the state. The flood of questions put by the prosecution quickly involved the woman in a series of contradictory answers. Her past life which is said to have been one of ill repute, was gone into quite deeply.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 25—(Special to Daily Democrat)—A positive denial was today issued by Secretary Hillis at the white house to a story published in Ohio to the effect that President Taft "met the challenge of progressive republicans and would urge a presidential primary in Ohio."

Los Angeles, Cal., Nov. 25—(Special to Daily Democrat)—With the defense having only seven peremptory challenges left, and with eight permanent jurors in the box it was practically certain that the evidence-taking in the trial of James B. McNamara will begin within two weeks. It is certain that as soon as the seven peremptory challenges left to the defense to use on the four jurors remaining to be selected it will take but a short time to complete the jury.

Constantinople, Nov. 25—(Special to Daily Democrat)—It was stated at the war office here today that the government expects Italy to make good her threats to blockade the Dardanelles within twenty-four hours. Turkey believes by Italy carrying the war out of Africa will compel European intervention.

The first basket ball game of the

season for the Decatur high school white as if they had been daubed with could not have fared better, when on flour and then they pile on rouge and Friday evening they met the Liberty set forth for the matinee looking like Center team and defeated them by the rights." A small-sized riot occurred score of 25 to 22. Although it was the at the end of the lecture in the form initial game for the locals they went of an indignation meeting, at which right into the game with all their the lecturer was denounced as "per- fectionally horrid."

To the Charitably Disposed Citizens of Indiana:

There are in the state of Indiana approximately 1,100 blind women. There is in the city of Indianapolis a school and all speak in high praise of the for the blind where pupils are given work of the home boys, and it is the best ever pulled off in this city. In Indianapolis a work-shop for blind men under the control of ten citizens

referee for the first half, while S. Miller of the visiting team acted as referee for the last half. The game was fast throughout and the locals and lovers of the sport predict a successful season for the home boys. Their next game will be with Bluffton on December 1st, which will be played at that place. The team for Friday evening's game was as follows:

Liberty Center. Forwards, Gordon and Beerbower; center, Zimmerman; guards, Baker and Harold.

Decatur. Forwards, Gordon and Beerbower; center, Zimmerman; guards, Baker and Harold.

EMMA MCKINSEY, MATTIE EVANS, MIRANDA PRIBBLE, Directors. I. George S. Wilson, Superintendent School for Blind of Indiana, recommends these women to the people of Indiana.

I heartily endorse the purposes of the above appeal and hope that they may be crowned with success.

THOS. R. MARSHALL, Governor of the State of Indiana, and President of the State Board of Charities.

The first sermons of the Rev. T. L. Jones of Montpelier as pastor of the Decatur Baptist church delivered tomorrow morning and evening, the morning theme to be "Imitation of God," and the evening subject, "Two Ways." The Rev. Jones comes succeeding the Rev. C. E. Ehle, who the first of the month became pastor of the South Side Baptist congregation at Fort Wayne. The Rev. Jones is well qualified to carry on the good work begun by the Rev. Ehle, having had a wide experience, though he is still a young man. Rev. Jones is a native Hoosier, having been born in Jeffersonville, May 4, 1882, and grew to young manhood, receiving his education in the Indiana common schools, a Bible school of the south and U. S. Army and Y. M. C. A. Institutes. His experience has been a wide and practical one, beginning as a volunteer Sunday school and mission worker. He was licensed to preach by the First Baptist church of Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey, and was ordained a minister of the gospel at the Emmanuel Baptist church of Indianapolis. The Rev. Jones has had several years experience as a volunteer worker, several years as pastor of different charges in Indiana, among them being Cannelton, Ellettsville and Montpelier. While pastor at Ellettsville he dedicated a \$15,000 church, raising \$6,000 the day of the dedication. Rev. Jones' family consists of himself and wife, and they expect to move into their new field here in a few weeks. The people of Decatur, as well as the members of his congregation, will extend a hearty welcome to them.