

THE DAILY DEMOCRAT.

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ARGUMENTS HEARD TODAY

Big Law Suit to Go to Jury Tomorrow Noon

OCCUPIED EIGHTEEN DAYS

Fourth Trial of Famous Land Case Nearly Over

Brilliant Attorneys Are Putting on Finishing Touches With Their Speeches.

After nearly three weeks of hot legal battles the famous case of Thomas Faylor et al vs D. D. Studabaker is drawing to close and will go to the jury at about noon tomorrow. The trial began Monday morning, March 13, and as a verdict will probably not be returned before Saturday morning the case will have occupied eighteen days of actual trial or exactly three weeks. This is the fourth time the evidence has been gone over, being the third trial of this case while prior to the death of Aunt Katie Faylor the same questions were at issue in an action to declare her of unsound mind. When the case was first tried at Bluffton a verdict was returned for the plaintiffs. Defendant Studabaker took a new trial as of right and the case was brought here on change of venue. Tried here in January the jury failed to agree and the outcome of this hearing is awaited by many with interest. The action is one to set aside the conveyance of a large and valuable farm given to Mr. Studabaker by Miss Faylor on a contract that he care for her during her life, given her a decent burial and erect a monument for her. She lived only a year or so and the plaintiffs who are heirs claim the defendant was overpaid and that the contract is null because Miss Faylor was of unsound mind when same was made. The attorneys for the plaintiff are Judge Dailey, Levi Mock, C. E. Sturgis of Bluffton and Judge Heller of this city; for the defendant are W. H. Elchhorn, of Bluffton, John Burns of Hartford City, Lesh & Lesh of Huntington and D. E. Smith of Decatur. Mr. Mock opened the arguments at eight o'clock this morning and was followed by Mr. Lesh. Judge Erwin allowed each side six hours for argument, a total of twelve hours and which with the time required for the courts instructions will continue the case up to tomorrow noon when the jury will begin their deliberations. It is said the costs in the case will reach \$25,000.

BAD ROADS.

The recent heavy rains have placed the mud roads in an almost impassible condition and farmers who live along them are afraid to venture out as it takes extra horses to haul even a small load. This may be the cause of the falling off of the crowds in the city during the week and on Saturdays. It is hoped by all that the weather will soon settle and good roads will again be in order.

HORSE DEALS.

Mr. Bohnke Buys a Good One From Frysinger & Co.

Fred H. Bohnke of Root township has purchased of Frisinger & Co. Fransoe, a handsome American and Belgian stallion. He is one of the most perfect horses ever imported by this well known firm, is three year old and a beautiful sorrel. While the price has not been made public, it is known to have been a nice figure. Frisinger & Co. accepted on trade a three year old Belgian colt which they sold today to M. W. Southard of Union City. They also sold Mr. Southard a splendid road horse at a good price.

WIRE SPECIALS

Russians Flee in Wild Disorder

Awful Explosion in Powder Mill.—Miners of Iowa Out on Strike.

Special to the Daily Democrat.
ROME, March 31—Dispatches from Seoul state that the Russians retreated in much disorder after their repulse by the Japanese at Chwang Ju March 28. The fleeing Cossacks threw away their sabers and rifles in their haste. The retreating general Mishtenko narrowly escaped captured.

SCRANTON, PA., March 31 An explosion in a squibs powder factory occurred at Priceburg, a few miles from here this morning. Fourteen girls were killed, many being so badly mangled that could not be identified. Six bodies have already been taken from the building. The awful accident was caused by a girl throwing a squib into the stoves.

DES MOINES, Iowa, March 31—Miners and operators failed to agree today. Every mine in the state is closed and 13,500 men are out.

HEARST MEETING

C. F. Adlesperger Organized Club Last Evening.

A meeting of the W. R. Hearst admirers was held last evening at George McKean's office and owing to the inclemency of the weather not many were present. The meeting was addressed by Charles Adlesperger, president of the Hearst Club at Bloomington in which he brought out all the fine qualifications of Mr. Hearst in a pleasing manner.

MORE OF IT

Hick's Dose of Weather for April Gives a Headache.

As though the supply would never be exhausted Rev. Hicks has fixed up a batch of disagreeable weather for April. As the month comes in cold, northerly winds, with frosts and freezing northward, will follow about the 1st to 3rd. About the 4th to the 6th falls a reactionary storm period, during which time change to warmer, with more rain and storminess will be probable. Hail storms will be most natural at all April disturbances and sudden drops of temperature should not surprise any one after all well defined storm movements. The next storm period, central on the 10th, will bring a series of pronounced storms. The culmination of these storms will fall about Sunday the 10th, to Wednesday the 13th. Look for high temperature, with rain, hail and thunder on the 11th, 12th, and 13th. From the 14th to 17th it will become very warm and decided storms of rain, hail and thunder will occur and tornado disturbances are likely to occur. From the 19th to the 23rd the barometer will drop low and the temperature rise very high as this period progresses, resulting in many vicious thunder and hail storms on and touching the 21st, 22nd and 23rd. The normal tendency to April thunder showers will grow into decided and far reaching rain storms, with dangerous winds and possible tornadoes during the progress of these sudden changes.

OFFICE SECRETS

Fred Vaughn is Working at Maple Sugar Camp.

Fred Vaughn of the Herald office went to Angola, Ind., last Thursday where he joined his wife in a visit to his parents. As the maple sugar season is now at its best, they expect to devote no little attention to their father's camp. During their visit Gust C. May is employed on the Herald. Mr. May is an old veteran of the civil war, having went out in the 14th Ohio from Toledo, in 1861 and served four years, a few months of which time was especially devoted to the hard task of trying to keep alive while inside the walls of Libby Prison. Notwithstanding his age and war service, however, he is a master of the Art Preservative and is a rapid compositor.—Geneva Herald.

NEW CATALOGUES

The J. W. Place Company Print a Book.

The 1904 catalogues for the J. W. Place Company are being mailed to the trade this week. The new book is the handsomest piece of catalogue work ever issued by a Decatur firm, it containing one hundred pages of cuts and price lists and will certainly do the work for this very progressive firm. The J. W. Place Company are branching out and are now one of the largest houses of its kind in the middle west. This promises to be their banner year for business, and will no doubt far exceed that of any former year of the twenty-seven, in which the firm has been in business.

PROPERTY TRADE

A Deal in Business Houses Closed This Morning.

A deal in Second street brick buildings was closed up today. Fred Schafer & Son purchased the Voglewede building occupied by Henry Koenenman, the consideration being \$7,000. A few moments afterward they traded the building to Jacob Schafer for the south room on Second street of the block occupied by the Schafer Hardware Company. The deal has been on for several days but terms were not agreed upon until this morning.

OPEN AT NIGHT

All Stores Begin Old Plan Tomorrow

Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoe Stores and Others to Remain Open Until Eight O'clock.

Beginning with tomorrow night all stores in Decatur including dry goods, clothing, and shoe stores in fact all of them will remain open until eight o'clock. The hardware stores remain open as long as business demands. Since January first, proprietors and clerks have been enjoying life and becoming acquainted with their families. During the winter evenings and especially after holidays it is almost useless to keep the stores open after supper as but little buying would be done anyway. Consequently the plan of closing at six o'clock was inaugurated two years ago and has met with entire satisfaction especially among the store people. But this enjoyable feature is over and from now on until next New Years day down town forces will be busy until eight o'clock each evening. Decatur merchants have adhered strictly to the rule and no word of complaint is heard about competitors selling on the sly to customers after the hour agreed upon to close.

G. R. & I. WRECK

Several Trainmen Hurt in Smash-Up at Grand Rapids.

Passenger train No. 7 on the G. R. & I., which leaves here at 8:00 a. m., was wrecked in the yard at Grand Rapids, Mich., yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, the engine and a number of the cars leaving the track. The engine was turned over on its side, but neither the fireman nor the engineer was hurt. No one was killed or any of the passengers injured, but Baggageman George Hoateling, whose home is in Grand Rapids; Mail Clerks Fortner and Sweeny and Expressman McIntosh were all hurt. None of them received serious injuries except Baggageman Hoateling, who was bruised about the limbs and sustained internal injuries. His hurts however, are not considered dangerous. The exact cause of the wreck is not known, but as it occurred at a switch as the train was entering the yards, it is presumed that it was caused by a defect or by the switch having been misplaced. The wreck occurring in the yards, traffic was not seriously interfered with. The track was cleared as soon as a wrecking force could be gotten to the scene.

IS CRIME INCREASING?

New Government Department Trying to Ascertain.

Few social questions are asked more frequently than, "what is the increase of crime?" The national Census Bureau is seeking an answer to this inquiry. It is undertaking to secure a record of all persons who are sentenced to the various jails, penitentiaries, and other prisons in the United States during the year 1904. The various wardens of the state prisons and the sheriffs of the counties are being requested to act as special agents to report certain facts concerning every person delivered into their custody.

THE NEW RULES

Not Much Change in Base Ball Over Last Year.

There is a great deal of resemblance between the code of playing rules for playing baseball for 1903 and 1904, and the new rules, which are now being issued and which are being sent out in advance copies of Reach's Official American League Guide. These rules will attract considerable attention for a number of reasons, one of which is the fact that there was a great deal of dissatisfaction in the American league because of the foul strike rule, which that league has tried hard to have rejected. The National league delegates have stood solid however, for its retention and it appears in the new code of rules and will be observed this year by all the teams. The only change made in the whole playing rule, this year is the coaching rule, two coaches now being permitted on the lines instead of one. When men are on bases, they are not to incite the spectators to demonstrations and shall not use language which will in any manner refer to or reflect upon a player of the opposite side, the umpire or the spectators.

LEAVES GENEVA

Rev. Cain Closing Up His Several Years' Work There.

Rev. Cain will hold his last service for the year at the M. E. church in this city next Sunday and the Geneva Herald says it marks the close of his ministerial work in Geneva. He has been pastor of the church there now for four years, during which time the church has always been in the ascendancy. Among the many things that the church has accomplished while Rev. Cain has been in charge has been the wiping out a large church debt. Rev. Cain has most of his household goods crated ready to move to wherever the Conference appoints him to go. Let all who can, attend next Sunday's service and thus show your appreciation and kind regards to the reverend pastor on his retiring from a four years' work in our midst, during which time he has labored faithfully for the up-building of the church.

A DEAD ONE

Obituary of the Hopes of Two Eleventh District Politicians.

DIED—At Peru, Indiana, March 29th 1904, the congressional hopes and possibilities of Hon. Geo. W. Steele, late of Marion, Ind., and Dr. Chas. A. Goode, late of Warren, Ind. Of Mr. Steele it may be said that he was past master of art of politics, wily competitor, and at all times a candidate for anything that he thought possible to obtain. Of Dr. Goode we are constrained to say that he was as yet only a junior in the game of politics and that his daily political demise is particularly to be regretted since it was through no fault of his own that he shuffled off the coil. The political necrology of Dr. Goode began in Wabash in 1902 and was effectually completed in Peru, Ind., on the above named date.—Huntington Journal.

HORSE FUNERAL

"Bluffton Boy" Buried in Casket and Sermon Preached.

Dr. C. L. Landfair buried his horse, Bluffton Boy, yesterday afternoon and the animal which was the pride of the doctor's heart, got as good a funeral as many people. He was lowered into a grave by ten pall bearers and his remains repose in a hemlock coffin which is buried on the Abe Heshner farm. When the burial was going on the doctor preached a short sermon on the fine qualities of the beast and consigned his four footed friend to the ground with a few tears.—Bluffton News.

WORK COMPLETED

Numbering of Houses Practically Done

City Council Will Inspect and No Doubt Accept the Work of O. J. Bayes.

O. J. Bayes who received the contract some time ago from the city council to measure off the city and give to each residence and lot its correct number so as to fill all of the city's requirements of the government preparatory to getting free city mail delivery which will start May the first, informs us that his mission is almost completed and all that is left for him now to do is to measure two short streets and his work is complete in as far as he can go. He further informs us that he desires to thank the citizens of the city for so kindly assisting him in the way of being ready to accept their numbers and says that when the free delivery starts here that almost every house in the city will be numbered and in readiness. The method used by Mr. Bayes is one that is used by all the larger cities in the United States, being the old Philadelphia plan and the one that is most successful, every twenty foot constituting a number, and will not only be easy for the mail carrier but will also be beneficial to all of our business men who use delivery wagons for the benefit of their patrons. Mr. Bayes is certainly to be congratulated upon his work and the pleasing manner in which it has been done, as every inch of ground in the city has been gone over and the numbering is correct in every instance. His work undoubtedly will be accepted by the city council and Mr. Bayes complimented upon his work. L. H. Corbin also informs us that the lettering of the streets is almost completed.

"MY FRIEND FROM ARKANSAW."

It will be a bit strange if the beautiful comedy as presented by Robert Sherman's excellent company of players does not become another, Hazel Kirke. The generation that is now bound to the theatre has little or no recollection of the great vogue that the earlier player enjoyed, and is, in consequence, unmoved by the qualities that made a million for Hazel Kirke, are all present in "My Friend from Arkansas" with the added advantage of better scenic surroundings a pleasanter dialogue and more of novelty in personages and local. The play should prove decidedly interesting and it is a pleasure to note that the taste of the public in affairs of the theatre are again turning to the good wholesome plays that tell coherent stories. "My Friend from Arkansas" will be the attraction at the opera house Wednesday April 6.

BASE BALL MEETING.

There will be a meeting of all the aspirants for places on the Rosenthal Base Ball Club this season tomorrow evening at the Columbian Club rooms at which meeting the members will be drilled on a few signs and other things pertaining to the best interest of the team. All are specially requested to be present without fail.

LODGE NOTICE.

All members of K. of P. lodge are requested to be at lodge tonight that preparations may be made for instituting Geneva lodge. There will also be Third Rank Work.
J. C. Tritch, C. C.