

Crossroads Corner Store 'Has Everything'

Veteran's Annual Business Is \$70,000

If you run low on gas a few miles north of Westfield on U. S. 31, and happen to pull in at the station at East Union, get out of the car and go inside. You'll see the "biggest little store on earth."

The store is run by 210-pound, ex-sergeant William Frost who is usually found near his cash register which rings up something over \$70,000 a year.

After World War II, he opened a store "across the road." It burned down. He bought out his competitor and runs a complete grocery-butcher shop-hardware-working cloth and a farm implement-paint and drug store. He sells everything the rural heart has a right to desire, on a cash basis, too.

"Once in a while," he says, "when a customer is in hard luck, I let him run a week, but that's about all. This is a close-margin business, and it won't stand many losses."

Hours Are Long
The worst part of running a country general store is the hours. From early morning until late at night, he jokes with customers, bears their troubles and knows their problems.

His customers flip wisecracks at him from all angles. Humor crackles all over the store. For instance:
This winter, because it was mild, he was stuck with 400 gallons of anti-freeze.
"Run it through a still and make whisky," cracked a customer.
"Nope," he said soberly, "it was an act of God. Weather always is."

Prefers German Machine
He doesn't trust his addition too much. He has two adding machines, one a Burroughs, and one a little German machine he brought back from the war. "It's almost human," he says. "You can add, subtract, multiply and divide on it."

His wife teaches 42 second-graders at nearby Tipton.
He adds up his inventory to something like \$13,000, which he



This might be any crossroad corner in the wide U. S. but it happens to be the General Store of William Frost at East Union, Ind., just north of Westfield on U. S. 31. It's a wonderland of variety—name anything you want, and he has it.

says is high. He turns it as often as he can, moves everything in sight at least once a year.
Paul Pearson, his helper, also is a garage mechanic. The garage is attached. It has enameled oil and anti-freeze drums, a work bench and an assortment of tools which will take care of almost any emergency.

Too Much for Show Cases

He has a modern meat shop, handles fresh vegetables, patent medicines, small farm tools, overalls and work hats, a variety of headache medicines, candles and soft drinks. His store is packed. All of it will not go into show cases, so he hangs it on the walls, and has filled a little annex where you see shotguns for hunters lined up along with other hardware.

"What's the population here?" He loves that question and has a ready answer.
"About two hundred—dead ones," he replies, motioning to the cemetery back of the church across the road.

There's hardly a house in sight, but for miles around they know where to find Bill Frost's General Store and they bring their money to exchange for his goods to the tune of about \$70,000 a year.

Ask Mrs. Manners—Married Right Man And Happy About It

DEAR MRS. MANNERS,

I DON'T have the best looking husband in the world—or the wisest or wittiest—but I wanted him and I'm glad I got him. I think he feels the same way about me, and I make it my business to show him I couldn't get along without him.

Don't you dissatisfied wives know that your husbands sense disloyalty when you run to the neighbors with exaggerated tales about the "mean" men you married? No wonder they leave you entertainment up to the gossip lovers who listen to you pity yourself and run down the man you broke your necks to get?

Somewhere, when we set out the milk bottle at night, I feel pretty good that the man with his arm around me pretends my waist is no thicker and my faults no more noticeable than they were when I set out to catch him 30 years ago.

CONTENTED.

Running down a husband won't win back his love, or the neighbor's respect. The wife who does it admits she's falling and asks for pity because of her weakness and poor marriage tactics.

The neighbors didn't win him for her. More likely it was the undivided attention, affection and loyalty she gave him—the idea that she preferred him above all others—faults and all.

Raps State-Lovers

I'M FROM New England and I heartily disagree with those few "out-of-staters," now Hoosiers, who dislike Indiana. Almost without exception, I've found Hoosiers to be friendly, considerate people, and I'm sure that the majority of adopted Hoosiers aren't as unappreciative as the young women described by T. C.

When I arrived in Indiana two years ago, I hardly knew a soul. But Hoosiers quickly made me feel at home, and I found it easy to make friends. You're right, Mrs. Manners—an occasional case of homesickness for one's own state is quite natural, but those people who are unable to see any good in Indiana, or any other place except the home stamping grounds, betray an immaturity and provincialism which will undoubtedly cause them unhappiness in any new locality.

C. W. CITY.

Thank you, C. W., for saying so much so well.

Praying Helps

THE MEN who drink do not know how happy they would be if they would go to an altar and pray to God to make them different. They struggle with sin night after night to get a little pleasure, only to find that they are more miserable than ever. Prayer could make them love their mates and children. The whole world would smile with them as they would smile because "daddy" had become a man. I think you're a wonder and read your column every day.

MOTHER OF 10.

You aren't pleased with your family and friends when you aren't pleased with yourself, are you?

Tattling Hurts

I'M A single girl with many friends. I like my friends' husbands (though I wouldn't want them) but I'm sick of having those men know my business. It's hard not to exchange confidences with girl friends I've grown up with, but I expect them to keep my secrets as I keep theirs. I could cause a lot of trouble if I told their husbands things they've told me. Besides, the girls don't tell the stories straight. They make it sound like I'm hunting a husband.

Election Beard Finally Sheared

Fuzz-Bound Barbers Emancipate Voters

By CARL HENN

For Dennis Voshell and Albert Hall, both of Eminence, Ind., the Democratic landslide last November didn't slide far enough.

As a consequence, their faces are smooth-shaven today for the first time since the election, in which Morgan County crossed them up by voting Republican.

They were relieved of their election-beard in the biggest clipper-shop in Indianapolis—the International Barber School at 342 E. Washington St.

From Beards to Beards

And who should manager Walter Pfaller choose as the men to shave them but Jerry Hannah and Julian Gunn, two barber college students from Arcadia, Ind., each in the process of raising—of all things—a beard.

Jerry, 22, and Julian, 25, are cultivating chin crops so they can be in style when their home town celebrates its 100th anniversary July 24-28. Although they only stopped shaving a couple of weeks ago, they hope to have beards to match the Voshell-Hall variety by the time the beard-growing contest comes up in Arcadia during the centennial.

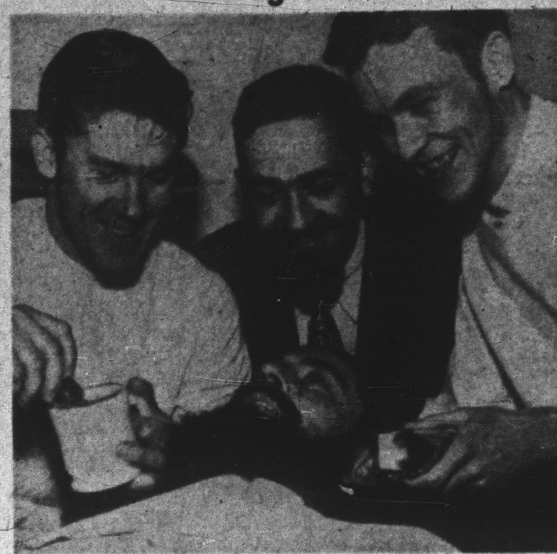
Since that fateful day five months ago when Mr. Voshell, 25, a farmer, and Mr. Hall, 31, a ditch contractor, found they had to stop shaving or start shaving, they have been looking forward to the day of emancipation.

Nice Auburn Shade

Unrestrained, Mr. Hall's foliage came out in a nice shade of auburn. The younger Mr. Voshell trained his black face fur into goatees, moustache and sideburns. To a bearded lady they would have been irresistible. Unfortunately, they didn't know any bearded ladies.

Their time was almost up when

Trimmin' the Hedges...



"Clippers and suds, comin' up" . . . barber students Julian Gunn (left) and Jerry Hannah prepare to shave off Albert Hall's beard as Dennis Voshell waits his turn.

they met Mr. Pfaller in front of the Washington Hotel on Saturday, Mar. 26. The barber college manager lost no time in offering his school as the correct place in which to leave a couple of used beards, and the two gentlemen from Eminence lost no time in accepting.

Now that their faces are back

4 Speakers Due At Sales Congress

Hubert Rust, CLU, vice president and managing editor of Insurance Research and Review, will join three other speakers featured at the first annual Sales Congress in Indianapolis and other Hoosier cities on different dates, Apr. 6-9.

Mr. Rust will speak on "Plans and Concepts to Click with 1949's Better Income Prospects" at the local conference from 10 a. m. to 3:30 p. m. Thursday in Columbia Club.

Other speakers include Ray T.

Banker's Parents Fear for His Life

Doubt Missing Son's Mental Condition

NEW YORK, Apr. 2 (UP)—The parents of banker Richard E. Crowe, 41, who disappeared last week end with \$880,000 of the National City Bank's assets, said today that their son may never be seen again alive.

Mr. and Mrs. William J. Crowe expressed fears over their son's mental condition as police searched throughout the South for him. He was believed to be driving across the southland in a 1948 sedan he bought in Jacksonville, Fla., under an assumed name.

The parents just returned from a Florida vacation to their Midland Beach home where part of the bank loot was reported discovered by police.

Son Can Take It

"The only thing I want to know now is to see Dick back alive," the elder Crowe said. "It's all right for him to serve the time he may have to because he's a good boy and would take what's coming to him."

Mr. Crowe said he was sure his son "can clear everything up and straighten things out." Mrs. Crowe said she had no doubt her son was out of his mind. "Why else would he leave money here?" she asked, referring to \$14,975 found in two envelopes by FBI agents.

The Crowes said their son was overweight and suffered from high blood pressure. His father said Mr. Crowe had been placed on a diet, went down to 180 pounds, and then suddenly shot back up to about 240.

HOLD RITES FOR HOOSIER

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Apr. 2 (UP)—Funeral services were held today for Mrs. Harry Stoffels, 32, of Ft. Wayne, Ind., who was stricken while visiting her family here and died in the hospital emergency ward.

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Lloyd's Insures Woolley's Beard

LONDON, Apr. 2 (UP)—The London Star said today that Lloyd's has insured actor Monte Woolley's famous beard against destruction by fire, theft, hail or tornado.

The Star said that Harvard University has taken out a \$5000 policy on Mr. Woolley's chin whiskers while "the man who came to dinner" is making a personal appearance at Cambridge, Mass.

Sorority Elects

Two Local Students
Two Indianapolis students attending Transylvania College in Lexington, Ky., have been elected to offices in Chi Omega social sorority.

They are Carolyn Chenoweth, daughter of Mrs. E. L. Chenoweth, 2065 Central Ave., and Barbara Burch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Burch, 4057 E. 40th St.

Greenfield Elks Elect Officers

GREENFIELD, Ind., Apr. 2—Members of Greenfield Elks Lodge 1720 have elected Charles Adams as exalted ruler. Other new officers include Richard T. Lineback, esteemed leading night; James T. Wilson, esteemed loyal knight; John F. Mitchell Jr., esteemed lecturing knight; C. Clark Hull, secretary; Gordon Messerle, treasurer; Virgil Bliss, tyler, and Tom Williams, trustee.

Local Doctor Sues Clinton Restaurant

CLINTON, Ind., April 2—An Indianapolis doctor today filed a \$25,000 damage suit in Vermillion Circuit Court, charging a restaurant operator here with serving food which "permanently injured and maimed" him for life.

Dr. J. F. Swane, former Clinton resident, said the restaurant served him meat balls and spaghetti which made him "deathly sick."

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