

WHATSOEVER.
Generally fair today and
Wednesday; rising temper-
ature.

THE LAKE COUNTY TIMES

EVENING
EDITION

VOL. III. NO. 129.

HAMMOND, INDIANA, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1908.

ONE CENT PER COPY.

FORGERY SURPRISES THE REGION

Peter Van Vlissengen, Who Got Away with \$700,000, Owned Subdivision Just West of Tolleston and Also Much Gary Real Estate.

FORGER IS WELL KNOWN OVER LAKE COUNTY

Belief Expressed That He Invested Heavily in Gary Real Estate in the Hope of Recouping His Falling Fortunes When the Inevitable Crash Came.

The people of Lake Co. are very much interested in the case of Peter Van Vlissengen, the Chicago real estate dealer, who yesterday confessed to forgeries involving more than \$700,000; was held before the prosecuting attorney, indicted, tried and sentenced to the penitentiary from one to fourteen years.

The convicted man is the owner of a subdivision just west of Tolleston which is known as the Van Vlissengen subdivision, and is known to have invested heavily in Gary real estate.

Was Well Known Here.

He was well known by many Gary real estate men and had dealings with all of the prominent ones. He was supposed to be a wealthy man, and there was no one who suspected that for the past twenty years he has been stealing enormous sums of money by a simple process of stealing from Peter to pay Paul.

The land which Mr. Van Vlissengen owns in the vicinity of Gary is an acre piece, just west of Tolleston, and it is now supposed that he had hoped by investing in Gary, where values were rapidly rising, to make enough money to finally settle with the men he had fleeced.

Gary Aquaintances Shocked. Among the Gary real estate men with whom Mr. Van Vlissengen had dealings was R. L. Miller. Mr. Miller knew the Chicago man well and was shocked when he read in the papers this morning that he was guilty of such colossal stealings.

It is not believed that any of the Gary men were victims of the Chicago arch-forgery, for the reason that none of them had a surplus to lend him. It is the general impression that the Chicago man merely came to Gary for the purpose of finding a good investment.

It is believed that he owns other real estate in Gary in addition to that near Tolleston, and a hasty canvass of the real estate offices is being made to discover the amount of his holdings there.

Speculation Over Property.

There is a great deal of speculation

SINGULAR DIVORCE COMPLAINTS FILED

Postal Cards to Lady Correspondent Bring Woe to Mrs. Nora Orcutt.

FILED IN THE SUPERIOR COURT

Husband Wants Divorce From His Wife Because She Bit Him Several Times.

And now comes Attorney William H. Sickman with two striking exhibits. Exhibit "A" is a divorce proceeding in which the cause given is the postal card erase and the other is a divorce case instituted because a woman persisted in biting her husband.

In the first case Mrs. Nora M. Orcutt is suing her husband Albert Orcutt because on "divers and sundry occasions" he sent "divers and sundry postal cards" to "divers and sundry lady correspondents."

According to the complaint Albert rented a box in the local postoffice for the purpose of receiving his numerous billets doux. His wife did not know that he had made such an arrangement with Uncle Sam until one day she happened to go through his pockets and there she found numerous letters and the contents of which were of an amatory nature.

Foxy Wife Watches Him.

After that the foxy little wife watched her husband's clothes. She went through them whenever she got a chance and each time she found numerous letters and large numbers of postal cards.

The complaint states that many of these postal cards had endearing terms on them and pictures people making love. After she had secured enough evidence of the kind she went to the postoffice and learned that "hubby" was paying the rent on a postoffice box for the sole purpose of receiving the numerous postal cards from his lady friends.

That made her very angry, and she went to her husband and pleaded with him to desist. It seems, however, that the postal card craze had the better of him and he could not or would not cease his letter-writing.

Finally it came to a point where she could stand it no longer and she hired Mr. Sickman to start the wheels of the court in motion that she might secure a divorce and all other proper relief.

Postal Card Craze the Cause.

The supplement her complaint she

(Continued on page 2.)

FIGURING ON A BOARD

Speculation Is Rife on Personnel of Next Police Board.

With the knowledge that the democrats will control the next legislature, speculation is rife as to the fate of those of them who had a surplus to lend him. It is the general impression that the Chicago man merely came to Gary for the purpose of finding a good investment.

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Speculation Over Property.

Continued on page 5.

ENGINEER PASSES AWAY

Anton Heramb Dies in St. Margaret's Hospital Suffering Agony.

Anton Heramb, 5463 Union avenue, Chicago, the wrecking crane engineer who was scalded by escaping steam early yesterday morning when his crane tipped over, died last night at 5 o'clock at the local hospital. There was no possible chance to save the man's life, and his physicians, seeing that all efforts would be fruitless, summoned his wife to his bedside.

The suffering man was conscious to the last. His condition was most painful, he being so badly scalded that in many places the bandages only held the flesh in its place.

The remains were sent to Chicago this morning, Coroner Shanklin having permitted this in order that the body may be prepared for burial.

Much Sympathy for Bereaved Family. The inquest was held this afternoon in Coroner Shanklin's office. Mr. Heramb was a middle-aged man, and leaves a wife and several small children. Although he was a stranger to local railroad men the sincerest sympathy is nevertheless expressed for the bereaved family, to whom misfortune came so suddenly.

A. C. E. & L. wrecking crane work all last night on the crane, which is still in the turntable pit, but did not succeed in getting it out. Another wrecking crane of the Chicago & Western Indiana was brought out this noon, which is expected to raise the huge crane.

The engine which fell into the pit and which caused the crane wreck has been taken out of the pit.

COMMISSIONS ISSUED

Commissions have been issued by the governor to Frank J. Hall, Lieutenant governor-elect; Fred A. Sims, secretary of state; Oscar Hadley, state treasurer; John C. Billheimer, state auditor; Robert J. Aley, the newly elected state superintendent of public instruction; James Bingham, attorney general; J. L. Feets, the newly elected state statistician, and Quincy A. Myers and David Myers, the newly elected judges of the supreme and appellate courts, respectively. Mr. Hall's commission is for four years and dates from Jan. 1. That which was issued to Quincy A. Myers is for six years and dates from the first Monday in January. Judge David Myers' commission is for four years, beginning with the first day of January.

REACH HAMMOND LAST NIGHT

Frank S. Betz Returns Home After Extended Seven Months Trip in Many Foreign Countries and Waters.

TAFT'S ELECTION AND TRADE IMPETUS

Hammond Manufacturer Returns to Find His Plant Running in Full Blast and He Meets With Improved Commercial Conditions Everywhere as Result of Taft's Victory.

After a most enjoyable trip in Europe, Mr. and Mrs. Frank S. Betz arrived in Hammond over the Erie last night. They were welcomed home by a large party of friends and were exceedingly glad to get back home.

During their absence from this city they visited the Azores Islands, Gibraltar, Naples, Rome, Florence, Venice, Milan, Turin, in Italy; Lucerne, in Switzerland; Cologne in Germany; London, Manchester and Liverpool, in England, and Queenstown. Their trip home was by way of the Caronia of the Cunard line and not a single tune during the trip.

Will Boost His Business.

While abroad Mr. Betz transacted an avalanche of business and did a great deal of buying for his big plant here. He expects a big boom in business for it as a result and the bargain hunters will undoubtedly get busy.

He noted a great change in conditions at the Betz plant here, and the manufactory is now being worked over time to fill the orders that are pouring in daily.

"On the boat returning," said Mr. Betz, "I met forty buyers who had been doing a tremendous business as a result of the election of Mr. Taft. The conditions in Europe are amazing. The London papers said that more orders for American products were placed the day after Mr. Taft's election than had been placed for three months before that, altogether.

Idle Men Get Work.

The case came up for trial yesterday and in spite of the fact that the Chicago police reported that the young man have a bad reputation the one man on the jury refused to vote for conviction.

The jury was out a remarkably long time considering the offense. The jury went to the jury-room at about 5 o'clock yesterday and were not dismissed until 9 o'clock this morning when Judge Reiter arrived in court.

Jury Out a Long Time.

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