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NEEDED BRIDGE IMPROVEMENT.

Since the agitation started in this community in the early fall over the question of good roads at the Good Roads Congress, roads have been in many cases improved and bettered. The bridges of the whole county are nevertheless in practically the same condition in which they have been for years in the matter of bridge flooring.

Since the doing away with the old covered bridges which protected the flooring from the weather it has been next to impossible to keep the bridges with flooring in them which is entirely safe. The flooring itself has by necessity often been made of timber or unseasoned or of a soft character such as beech which has no weather-resisting qualities.

It is needless to point out the obvious dangers of accidents which are liable to happen especially in snowy weather when the bridge floor is obscured from the view of the driver.

One remedy which would not be very expensive and which would prove very economical in the long run is the treatment of the flooring with the creosote processes which are now used not only on railroad ties but even on fence posts. The process has the merit of being almost a permanent improvement and would lengthen the life of a bridge floor many times over.

WHOLESALE MURDER.

Everyday the accidents come in over the wire endeavoring as it were to outdo the ones of the previous day in horror in arithmetical progression. None has seemed quite so terrible as the crib disaster in which over two score of men were literally between the hellish fire of burning timbers and sure death in the floating ice floes.

An accident? It was nothing short of wholesale murder. There was no boats, no provision for escape—nothing.

The contractor who was engaged in building the tunnel was a moral murderer. Whatever the coroner's verdict may be it was his negligence in the matter which caused the deaths in this horrible fashion of the men who were not actually killed in the explosion in the tunnel.

When you think of men holding on to the piers of the crib until their faces and arms were burned to a cinder that they might escape what would have been a kinder death in the icy water—it is impossible to set it aside as being an "accident."

It is wholesale murder by criminal negligence.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES.

There were over fifty bills introduced in one branch of the legislature the other day and more are being introduced at every session.

The average citizen in looking over them wonders at the number of laws which would repeal those already in existence or modify them out of all recognition. The question immediately arises whether or not a constantly fluctuating set of laws really does much good. If the laws passed by the last legislature were as they should be what is the need of modifying them? If on the other hand the measures of the present legislature are superior to those of the last one what assurance have we that they will not be changed at the next session.

What we suffer from is too much legislation. No sooner is a board of embalmers, or what not, authorized than the next legislature tampers with it. No time is given to allow things to become adjusted.

Needed changes there must be of course, but not a shadow dance nor a moving picture show of bills to amuse the lawmakers.

An English visitor to Carnoustie last summer was one day starting a match when his caddy asked to see his cigarette case, and when it was handed to him, coolly put it in his pocket. The visitor expostulated. The caddy responded: "It's a' richt, sir. I'll gie it back to ye after the round. Ye see I've gotten hauf a crown on ye, an' I dinna mean ye to smoke till ye win. Gang on. I'll take care o' ye a' richt."

FORUM OF THE PEOPLE

To the Editor of the Palladium:

"Vote the saloons out and you will hurt the schools."

How many times a day is that advanced as argument why Wayne county should be voted dry at the coming local option election? Kindly permit me the use of your columns sufficiently to discuss the proposition in a fair-minded manner. By the recent report of the county auditor as it appeared in your paper, it was shown the county derives \$8,100 from the saloon licenses for last year. This money is distributed among the school corporations, townships, cities and towns. Richmond received about one half of the entire amount.

Now as a matter of fact, just what does \$3,000 represent in the maintenance of our schools? With the present school levy a sufficient amount of money has been raised each year to supply our schools with the requisite funds and leave a balance. Men who I believe are authority upon the subject say that the Richmond school corporation has not been pressed so closely for funds at any time within recent years that \$3,000 would make an appreciable difference. The balance has been so large that a sum like \$3,000 has not been needed. Does this look as if our schools would suffer if deprived of the \$3,000 secured from the liquor licenses issued by the county? Certainly it does not.

Now as to the townships. Each township regulates its own tuition levy. One township is not dependent upon another for the maintenance of its schools. The wealthier townships secure a larger income by taxation than the poorer, if the rate be the same. That means of course the wealthier township has better schools, or the schools are run longer. Wayne township is the wealthiest in the county and look at school buildings No. 11 and No. 9, and see what this township is doing for its schools. And the 1908 distribution but \$534.20, as its apportionment of the county liquor license revenue. And Wayne township receives more than any other.

Some townships of the county could get along absolutely without the income from the liquor licenses. Their school levy would not have to be increased and the schools would not suffer any from the loss of the money. In other townships a very small addition might become necessary. For Wayne township an increase of about 2 cents might follow. Now would this sum be any burden? It would mean 20 cents additional on a piece of property worth \$1,000. Would the owner increase the rent in order to raise the extra 20 cents? If the rent were increased, it would mean 1 2/3 cents per month. Yours truly,

X. Y. Z.

To the Editor of the Palladium:

Seeing the report given in the Palladium, Saturday evening, January 16, by our county auditor, and commented on as "Benefits derived from Income of Licenses to our Public Schools," I find by reports given at the court house that all Wayne county only receives \$6,100.00 from the licenses of saloons, for school purposes; also that upon careful calculation that this \$6,100.00 will operate the schools in Wayne county just 4 1/2 days. The increase to cover this in taxes would be one-fifth of 1% on each \$100.00. Is it not reasonable to say that as in other places the rooms occupied by saloons will be used by other business which will pay more tax than the saloons to make up this probable deficit (if it should exist)? I wish to ask which is a "Better Business Proposition," to lose 4 1/2 days of school or for the people of Wayne county to spend annually \$450,000.00 for drink, at the very conservative estimate of \$25.00 per day, per saloon, which money is more than lost? Then would not the increase of legitimate trade such as the dry goods store, clothing store, shoe store, meat shop, have such a volume of business diverted to them from this \$450,000 that it would be a "better business proposition," than to have the saloon that costs the county so much to maintain? TAXPAYER.

INDOOR TARGET SHOOT.

Contest for Rifle Shots Inaugurated at Eaton.

L. H. Reid, of New Paris, will give his fourth annual indoor rifle tournament at Eaton next Friday. The shooting will commence at 10 a. m. and will consist of eleven events of five shots each. The last five events will constitute a contest for the Peters Cup Trophy, emblematic of the championship of Ohio and Indiana. The shooting will be done with 22-calibre revolvers.

At the rate of four tons a day the British mint has been turning out copper coins in an attempt to cope with the famine in pence in London and other centers. This stringency always becomes most acute toward the end of each quarter. Nearly all of the English gas companies have adopted the penny-in-the-slot system of selling gas. The automatic meters are emptied at the end of each quarter. The popularity of supplying illumination is shown by the fact that during 1907 pennies weighing 1,336 tons were taken from the meters in London. This means an average of 400,000 pennies a day.

THE HONEST PROPRIETARY MEDICINE

has saved thousands of dollars to families who could ill afford the expense necessary to maintain the services of a physician, and have answered the purpose equally as well and often succeeded after our best physicians have failed. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is one of this kind.

Do not fail to see Nicholson's Bargain Tables of nice Goods, 25c, 50c, 75c and \$1.

REAPPORTIONMENT HARDLY PROBABLE AT THIS SESSION

Republicans Control the Senate and Democrats Control House, Consequently It Is "Horse and Horse."

MEASURES INTRODUCED STRENGTHEN PARTIES

The Republican Bill Gives Marion County, Normally Republican, Ten Instead of Eight Representatives.

Palladium Bureau, Indianapolis, Jan. 22.

Senator Springer, republican, has introduced the republican bill for the legislative reapportionment of the state according to the vote at the last election. Under the bill the republicans would make heavy gains in the rearrangement of the legislative districts. Senators McCullough and Stotsenburg, democrats, are preparing the democratic reapportionment bill which will be presented to the senate in a few days.

Under the Springer bill Marion county, which is normally republican, would have ten representatives instead of eight. Lake county which is republican normally, would have one senator to itself and with Porter and Newton would have another. At present Lake and Porter together have one senator.

Destroys One District.

Another change in the senatorial districts is that Tippecanoe and Benton would get one senator each whereas they have now one senator jointly. Johnson and Shelby now have one joint senator. Under the Springer bill Brown county a democratic county, would be taken from the district of Brown, Jackson and Washington and added to Johnson and Shelby. Jackson, Washington, Scott and Jennings would form one district. Floyd and Clark would form one district instead of Floyd and Harrison and Harrison would be added to the district now made up of Dubois, Crawford and Perry. The district of Gibson and Posey would be destroyed, both of these counties joining Vanderberg, Warrick and Spencer in one district. These changes in the pocket would drop one senator to make up for the increase in Lake county.

In the representative districts DeKalb is added to the present district of Adams and Allen. Benton and Tippecanoe would form one district instead of Benton and Warren and Blackford, Grant and Delaware would form one instead of Blackford, Grant and Wells. Delaware is a republican county. To the district of Brown and Monroe which is democratic, Marion county, normally a republican stronghold would be added which would probably make this a republican district. Crawford and Harrison would form a district instead of Crawford

and Perry. Harrison would have none all by herself as she has now. Harrison county is democratic. Decatur county which now has a separate district would be united with Jennings. Perry county which was displaced by Harrison in the district with Crawford would join Dubois in a district displacing Pike. Pike would join Knox and displace Dubois.

Fountain With Warren.

Fountain county, which now forms one district, would be joined with Warren. Hancock which now forms one district would be joined by Madison, and Hendricks which forms one district would be joined with Montgomery. Montgomery now forms one district, and is democratic. White would take the place of Porter in a district with Jasper. Jefferson, which now forms a single district, would be joined by Switzerland, which is now united with Ohio. Ripley is democratic and forms a district by itself.

Johnson and Shelby, which now form two districts, both of which are democratic, would be united into one district, thus cutting out one democratic representative. Lake county, a republican stronghold would have two representatives instead of one. Madison county, which is democratic at present would have only two representatives instead of three. Monroe and Brown would form one district instead of Monroe and Lawrence. Owen, Greene and Sullivan would form one district instead of Owen and Clay. Pulaski and White would form one instead of Pulaski Starke and St. Joseph.

Three for St. Joseph.

St. Joseph, which is a republican county, would have three representatives instead of two as at present. Tipton, Clinton and Hamilton would form one district instead of Tipton and Hamilton. Clinton went democratic at the last election. Vigo, which is normally republican, would have three representatives instead of two.

Warrick and Vanderberg would form one district. This would take away one republican representative. Whitley, Huntington, Kosciusko and Wabash would form one district, instead of Whitley, Kosciusko and Huntington.

Of course, when the democratic bill makes its appearance in the senate it will be entirely different from this one and it may be counted on to seek to make things easy for the democrats. But there is little chance for a reapportionment bill to pass at this session because the republicans control the senate and the democrats have a majority in the house. Any bill to become a law must pass both houses, and it is out of the question for either of these reapportionment bills to get by.

Meat is high, fruit scarce, so buy Mrs. Austin's famous pancake flour. A good, hearty breakfast for a little money.

A school for dogs has been established in Paris. The object is to teach politeness. The animals are trained to welcome visitors by jumping up, wagging the tail, and giving a low bark. When the visitor leaves the dog accompanies him to the door, constantly wagging his tail and bows his farewell by bending his head to the floor. He is trained, likewise, to pick up a handkerchief, fan or glove that has been dropped and return it to the owner.

DRESSED CHICKENS.

Plenty of Dressed Chickens for Saturday and Sunday at Schwegman's Meat Markets. 22-2t

LOCAL OPTION Meetings

Middleboro, Saturday, 23rd, 7:30 p. m. Rev. J. W. Zerbe.

Doddridge Chapel, Friday, 22nd, 7:30, John P. Cunneen.

Dublin, Saturday 23d, 7:30, John P. Cunneen.

Richmond, Sunday 24th, 2:30, First Presbyterian Church, Woman's Meeting.

Richmond, Sunday, 24th, 2:30, John P. Cunneen. At the Gennett, Men's Meeting.

Cambridge City, Sunday 24th, 2:30, Hon. Will Bond.

Cambridge City, Sunday, 24th, 7:30, John P. Cunneen.

Dublin, Sunday 24th, 7:30, Hon. E. B. Reynolds and Will Bond.

Williamsburg, Sunday, 24th, 2:00; Rev. Geo. H. Hill.

CATCH THE POINT?

All saloons in Wayne county paid tax last year on less than \$17,000 of personal property.

The Boston Store, Richmond, paid tax on almost the same amount.

Sixty licensed businesses paying the same tax as one mercantile establishment.

Without half a million dollars being spent annually in saloons, there would be more Boston stores.

Hence more taxable valuation and less tax rate.

Which do you need more—dry goods or booze?

ALEY WILL LECTURE

State School Superintendent Elect, Will Address Wayne County Teachers.

MEETING AT HIGH SCHOOL

The Wayne County Teachers' association has secured Robert J. Aley, superintendent of public instruction-elect, to deliver the lectures at the regular meeting of the organization, which will be held February 20. The sessions will be held at the high school building. This meeting is an annual event. Aley is regarded as an authority on

school matters. He will succeed F. A. Cotton as state superintendent. He was elected after a close battle of ballots and the charge has been made that the election will be contested by his opponent. The subjects upon which he will speak are "The Relation of Knowing to Teaching," and "Care for the Individual in Elementary Education."

TROUBLE NOT LOCATED.

The cause of the trouble with the furnace at school house No. 9 has not been ascertained. The furnace emits smoke into the room along with the heat, and the heat comes through whether it be shut off or not.

The capital represented by Great Britain's cotton trade is \$2,000,000,000 a year and the profits \$350,000,000 a year.

PATENT: Gold Medal Flour is very highest quality LAYNE

VERSE OR WORSE

Now Indiana has a democratic governor. The old Hoosier state is getting all right again.—Florida Times-Union.

That is another case where doctors disagree.

"I got around the golf links in 35 today," said Mr. Taft.

"I wanted to hear you speak this afternoon," said Mr. Rockefeller.

And thus the threatening incident at Augusta passed off harmlessly.—Indianapolis News.

Nobody in Particular.

He wrote in praise of the simple life: He said he just adored it;

He married rich and changed his mind,

And now he lives the other kind, Because he can afford it.

—Chicago Tribune.

WAIT! WAIT! WAIT!

FOR THE

Closing Out Sale of Humpe's Great Shoe Stock By Chas. H. Feltman

The Greatest Shoe Bargains Ever Given in Richmond.