

# The True Northerner.

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## BOY MET HORRIBLE DEATH AT GOBLES

### Gardner Cheney Ground Under Wheels of M. C. Train Saturday.

## WENT TO TRAIN FOR PAPERS

### About Seven O'clock. Father Found Mutilated Remains East of Station About Ten O'clock.

Gardner, the 14-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Knowlton Cheney of Gobleville, met a horrible death at the Michigan Central railroad tracks in that village last Saturday evening.

The unfortunate boy was a newsboy, and as was his usual custom, went down to the 7 o'clock train for the evening papers. His absence from home later in the evening caused his parents some concern, and about 10 o'clock his father started out to see if he could find him. No one in the village had seen the boy since early in the evening, but it was known that he had gone down to the depot for the papers. His father then took a lantern and went up the track east from the station. He had not gone far before he discovered ghastly evidences of a terrible accident, and a little farther on the mutilated remains of his son were found beside the track.

Just how the accident occurred will probably never be known, as no one saw the accident. It is supposed, however, that the boy either got on the engine of the freight which goes through Gobleville a few minutes before the paper train from the east, or else was caught in some way by the train and dragged along the track. His foot was caught in the frog of the switch and it required considerable force to remove it, so tightly was it drawn between the rails. It is probable that the freight train killed him at this point, but the passenger train also passed over his body, mutilating it almost beyond recognition. His hat was found on the front trucks of the first car of the freight.

Coroner Quigley of South Haven was notified and a jury was empaneled on Monday. After the testimony of some of the train men was taken, the inquest was adjourned for one week.

The poor boy was the oldest of three children, and his parents are deeply grieved over the terrible affair. The funeral was held from the home last Tuesday.

## GERMAN DAY AT COTERIE

### Another Lap of "Trip Around the World" Enjoyed by Ladies' Club Wednesday Afternoon.

On January 15th the ladies of the Coterie and their guests were most pleasantly entertained at a German afternoon in charge of Mrs. Emma Smith. The flags, motto and insignia of the nation were explained by Mrs. Amanda Hoyt. Dr. Verne VanFossen compared the German methods of education with those of our own country and Mrs. Belle Johnson told interestingly of the customs and holidays of the Fatherland. Miss Letta Barton recited Heine's Lorelei in the original tongue and the high school added a pleasing variation by singing "The Watch on the Rhine." A social hour followed in which refreshments were served in true German style.

This was a part of the "Trip Around the World," which has been enjoyed as a part of the year's work. Next week's club meeting will be held at 2:30 next Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. W. F. Hoyt. All are cordially invited.

## NO OPINION FILED IN LOCAL OPTION MATTER

### Question of Mandamus Argued and Taken Under Advisement. Decision Expected Soon.

There is nothing new to date in the county local option situation. Petitions asking for a pre-emptory writ of mandamus to compel the board of supervisors to reconvene and show cause why an election should not be called were filed, as per the True Northerner's report last week. The question was argued before Judge DesVoignes last Friday evening, Prosecuting Attorney Glenn E. Warner, L. H. Titus and Judge David Anderson appearing for the supervisors, and attorneys T. J. Cavanaugh, James E. Chandler and H. T. Cook for the petitioners. The question was taken under advisement by the court, and no opinion has as yet been filed. It is anticipated however, that the matter will be disposed of within a day or two at least. The county at large is anxiously awaiting the outcome of the matter in the circuit court.

## HAVE EXTENSIVE BUSINESS

### Allen Brothers of Glendale Have Built up Lucrative Business. Firm Consists of Three Brothers.

The True Northerner's job department has just completed 7,000 twenty page catalogues and price lists for Allen Brothers of Glendale. This enterprising firm has built up an immense business at Glendale. Besides conducting one of the finest general stores in the county, they grow strawberry plants of every kind and nature, and raise fancy Hereford cattle and Poland China hogs. The catalogues contain several pages of splendid testimonials from parties all over the United States who have had dealings with the Allen Brothers. Honesty and square dealing have won for them, and the extensive, and lucrative business which they now enjoy, bids fair to assume even greater proportions in the years to come.

The firm consists of three brothers, Dan, Reuben and Howard. They all are genial courteous gentlemen, have a large acquaintance and the friendship of all who know them. Their many Paw Paw friends rejoice at the continued success which has come to the Allen Brothers.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF GRAPE ASS'N

### Southern Michigan Fruit Association Met Last Saturday. Directors and officers Elected.

The True Northerner is informed as to the amount of business transacted by the Southern Michigan Fruit Association, or the average prices paid for grapes as compared with other fruit associations. The following report however was furnished us by a member of the association and is published herewith.

The Southern Michigan Fruit Association held their 12th annual meeting at the town hall in Lawton, Sat. Jan. 15 at which H. E. Waters was elected to succeed himself as director for three years, Fred Ward of Marcellus was elected to succeed N. W. Bucklin as director, and D. L. Thorton was elected auditor to succeed E. E. Waldron.

It was shown that the association handled during the past season 11900 cars amounting to \$378,935.52, all of which has been paid, not a car nor an account being lost.

It was also shown that the cost of handling the grapes of the past season was \$784 less than 1909 per basket, and assurance given that they would be handled cheaper yet in the coming season.

It was also voted to employ a special inspector the coming season to have charge of all the inspectors at the different stations in the belt, to try and have grapes graded the same at each station and to improve on the packing if it is possible to do so.

Over 60 per cent of the grape growers in this belt belong to the Southern Michigan Fruit Association and close comparison of sales shows that the association has pooled out the highest prices of any shipper in the belt, making an average of 11c on 8lb. baskets which was considered a good showing in view of the season and the competition which was had.

The attendance was not as large as it was in 1909 but the roads here in passable condition but still the hall was full and there were over 250 present for dinner.

## LIGHT ON GRAPE SITUATION

### Contribution by Grape Grower explains Situation. Boys Refused to Play.

The following contribution from one of Paw Paw's prominent fruit growers, may throw some light on the recent attempt to effect a consolidation of the various grape associations of Lawton and Paw Paw:

The Dunham boys wanted the Wildey boys and the Benway boys to come and play in their back yard and slide down their cellar door; but the Wildey boys and the Benway boys refused to do so unless the Dunham boys would slide first. This the Dunham boys refused to do. They said it was good enough for the Wildey boys and the Benway boys just as it was; that no game boy would stop for a few slivers.

This made the Wildey boys and the Benway boys mad and a war of words ensued, and when the hot air had cleared away, lo, and behold! the only damage done was that mountains of snow and fields of ice had vanished from the face of the earth, and a disastrous flood was averted only by the blowing of the "skidoo whistle," and Lawton was once more tranquil. Peace be on earth—to the grape grower.

## INTERESTED IN TRIAL.

The court room has been crowded to the limit this week by parties interested in the F. J. Birney embezzlement trial. A large delegation came over from Lawton, Birney's home, nearly every day.

## JAMES SCHOOLCRAFT SHERMAN



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## MRS. FREDERICK KIMBALL HAD THRILLING EXPERIENCE IN SNOW DRIFTS LAST WEEK

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kimball visited their Paw Paw friends last week Thursday. The trains were blocked on the K. L. S. & C. and it was necessary for them to drive to Lawton in order to reach Kalamazoo for the evening's performance at the academy. The story of the trip was given to a Kalamazoo Gazette reporter by Mrs. Kimball and published in last Sunday's issue of that paper. For the benefit of Mr. and Mrs. Kimball's many Paw Paw friends the story is given herewith in full.

"Thursday night was a stormy one, and as most sensible people were staying at home out of the way, it seemed a fitting time to go to the academy and chat with the lady by name of Mary Servoss, whom the newspapers advertised would be there to play the part of Hilda in "The Wolf," one of the Shubert productions. If the audience were small I thought she would not have so many people to talk to and perhaps she could find time to tell me why she left that pretty little town of Paw Paw for the stage and when and how she became 'stage struck'."

"She told me that and other things that I may tell the public some day when I have more time. Just now my head is teeming with facts and is rapidly becoming confused in the effort to sort them out for present and future use. First of all, I met the manager of the Academy who introduced me to the manager of the company, who in his turn presented me to Mrs. Manager, who turned out to be the actress lady I was seeking, Mary Servoss, in private life Mrs. Fred Kimball, of Paw Paw. The manager told me I could get a fine story from Mary Servoss, so I was all aquiver to meet her, but I little knew what was coming."

"How innocent, how unsuspecting those people in the audience were of the fact that they came very near having their money returned to them with the announcement that there is 'nothing doing'! How unappreciative of the efforts made by one little slight woman and her husband to reach the theater in time to amuse them for one stormy night. But on that storm and the desire of one Mary Servoss and her husband to see their mother in Paw Paw hangs the story."

"Arriving in Kalamazoo early Thursday morning Mr. and Mrs. Kimball took the train to Paw Paw planning to return by the 'Yellow Streak,' as the merry actress lady calls the Fruit Belt line, in time a plenty for the evening performance at the Academy. Well,

## OPERATION FOR APPENDICITIS.

Marion, the ten year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Mutchler, underwent an operation for appendicitis at the U. M. hospital last Monday afternoon. The operation was entirely successful and the young lady will probably be able to come home in a short time. She was taken to Ann Arbor over two weeks ago, but it was thought best not to operate at that time. She had nearly recovered from the first attack, and the operation will obviate any danger from future attacks of the same disease. Mr. Mutchler was with his daughter at the time of the operation and spent the remainder of the week there.

## SOMETHING DOING AT PRATERS

Invitations have been issued for the third annual "feed" of the Moonlight Fishing club at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Prater this (Friday) evening, at seven o'clock. The announcements state that there will be muskrats—maybe, rabbits—possibly and eating—positively. So that there will positively be something doing at Prater's tonight. As usual Wm. Wooden of Kalamazoo will be royal chef and County Treasurer Frank H. Fuller assistant chef.

## LEFT FOR WIFE'S BEDSIDE.

Walter Bates, of the W. R. Holden mercantile company, received word the latter part of last week that his wife was seriously ill at her home in Butler, Ind. Mr. Bates left for that city last Saturday and W. R. Holden is here to take charge of the business during Mr. Bates' absence.

## WILL BE NO CONSOLIDATION

### Final Meeting of Grape Growers' Associations at Lawton Ended in Confusion.

There will probably be no consolidation of the various grape associations as has been talked for some time. In theory the proposition looks all right, but the difficulty comes when an attempt is made to make any one of the associations the controlling one.

Following is a report of the Lawton meeting by The True Northerner fruit reporter:

The committee that had in charge the meetings held at the several shipping stations in the grape belt met at Lawton town hall Tuesday, January 18, at 10:30 a. m., and arranged by-laws and a foundation, which so completely voiced the sentiments of the several stations at large that when a vote was taken of the delegates selected from the meetings to represent the feeling at each station 17 out of the 20 delegates voted to adopt them subject to the approval of the afternoon meeting on the first ballot. The report of the committee showed be-

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## SIXTY DAYS FOR STEALING CHICKENS

### Arthur Gibbons of Covert Pleaded Guilty to Burglary. Alleged Whiskey Cause of Crime.

Arthur Gibbons of Covert was sentenced by Judge Des Voignes last Monday morning to the Detroit house of correction for a period of 60 days. Sheriff Chappell left for Detroit with the prisoner last Tuesday.

Gibbons pleaded guilty to the crime of burglary. In response to the inquiries of the court, he stated that on the day the crime was committed he in company with one Edward Clark of Covert went to Coloma, and after imbibing quite freely started home with a gallon jug of whiskey safely (?) stored away in the buggy. On the way home they stopped at the home of one John Struble and helped themselves to several yellow legged chickens and several bags of choice beans, all of which they carried to the home of Clark.

Clark, who was arrested at the same time Gibbons was apprehended, failed to appear in court and his bonds in the sum of \$200 were forfeited. It is doubtful if Gibbons fully comprehended the enormity of the crime to which he pleaded guilty. He had no counsel and told his story in an honest straightforward manner. The maximum sentence for the crime is five years in the state prison at Jackson. The court, however, took his previous good reputation into consideration and was lenient in passing judgment.

## REAL ESTATE BOOMING.

The Decker & Bailey real estate agency has sold the following property during the past week. The George Church farm to a Chicago party and the Mrs. L. E. Shepard property north and west of town to John L. Mowat of Canada. Mr. Mowat expects to move his family here in about a month. Messrs Decker and Bailey state that they have several more deals pending, and that prospects are bright for a good healthy real estate boom the coming year.

## LAUD PURCHASING COMMITTEE

### Board of Supervisors Pass Resolution Commending Committee for Care and Economy.

The attention of The True Northerner is called to the fact that a portion of the important proceedings of the board of supervisors at their last session was inadvertently omitted from our last issue. The matter in question is therefore given herewith:

Supervisor Westgate, chairman of the committee to audit the accounts of the county clerk presented the following report on the affairs of the purchasing committee which was accepted and adopted to-wit:

To the honorable board of supervisors of Van Buren county:

Your committee appointed to audit the accounts of the county clerk, would respectfully report, that we have examined the accounts of the purchasing committee for the years 1908 and 1909 and have compared the amount of purchases for these two years, with the two years preceding the appointment of said committee, and we find that there has been saved to Van Buren county in the purchase of office supplies for this period the sum of \$2300.16.

We commend the purchasing committee for the care and economy exercised in the discharge of their duties. Orlo Westgate, J. C. McFellin, A. D. Conway, Committee;

## VOTE OF THANKS.

The G. A. R. and W. R. C. gave a rising vote of thanks to Roy Tuttle for the beautiful flowers he furnished for the table, on the occasion of the oyster supper on New Year's night.

## BIRNEY ON TRIAL; EMBEZZLEMENT

### Former M. C. Freight Agt. at Lawton Charged With Crookedness.

## LARGE CROWDS ATTEND TRIAL

### Will Go to Jury Today or Tomorrow. Outcome at This Time is Problematical.

The embezzlement case against Frank J. Birney of Lawton has been on trial during the present week. It is probably the most important case on the calendar from a local standpoint at least, and the court room has been crowded to its capacity every day during the entire progress of the trial.

Mr. Birney, the respondent in this case, had been in the employ of the Michigan Central railroad company during the past 15 years and up until April of the year 1909, the last six years of the time as freight agent at Lawton. On August 10, 1909, he was arrested on a charge of the embezzlement of funds belonging to the railroad company. It was alleged that Birney, during the year 1908 while in the employ of the railroad company, had sold ice and coal to the value of several thousand dollars for which he made no accounting to said railroad company.

It was anticipated that considerable time would be consumed in empanelling a jury owing to the publicity given the case, but the panel was completed and the jury sworn Monday afternoon.

The prosecution finished their case Wednesday afternoon, and in all 21 witnesses were sworn for the people. The defense then commenced on their side of the case and nine witnesses were sworn Wednesday afternoon. The respondent in the case was sworn Thursday morning and was on the witness stand the greater part of the day. The testimony will probably be all in some time today (Friday) and the case will undoubtedly go to the jury some time late this afternoon or Saturday morning.

The outcome of the case is, of course, problematical, and it would seem out of place at this time for The True Northerner to comment specifically on the testimony of any one witness. The testimony of the witnesses for the people tended to maintain the contention of the people that Birney had embezzled funds belonging to the railroad company, and the testimony of Mr. Birney and other witnesses for the defense tended to explain all shortages as claimed by the people and show to the jury that respondent was not indebted to the company.

Prosecuting Attorney Glenn E. Warner has charge of the people's case, and Attorneys T. J. Cavanaugh and L. A. Tabor are looking after the respondent's interest.

The following officials of the railroad company were present during the progress of the trial and gave testimony for the people: Chief Detective McHugh of Detroit, Detective Decker of Jackson, Auditors Wm. Daeschner and R. F. Mitchell of Detroit and Freight Conductors F. L. Emory, P. J. Campbell and H. J. Crouch, all of Jackson.

## SERVICE AT STANDSTILL.

Train service on the K. L. S. & C. was practically abandoned for a couple of days last week on account of the heavy snow storm. The local service, however, was practically in no worse condition than were the main lines and the company did everything in their power to speedily get the road in working order again.

## RED KILLEFER MAY REPLACE SCHAEFER

### It is Rumored That Popular Paw Paw Boy May Cover Second for Washington Club.

For the present indications it looks highly probable that Wade "Red" Killifer, former star of Kalamazoo Southern Michigan league base ball team and erstwhile Tiger, will replace "Dutch" Schaefer at second base for the Washington American league club. While it is possible Schaefer may return to the form that made him one of the greatest stars of the champion Detroit team, there is, nevertheless, a well grounded fear that Schaefer has seen his best days as a ball player.

"Few players who were corralled during the Cantillon regime made a more favorable impression upon the followers of the club than Wade Killifer," says a Washington paper. "Killifer is fast, a good hitter and a fairly good fielder, and it would appear as though it would be a practicable move to start in the beginning of the preliminary training to make a regular second baseman out of the red-headed Michigan youngster. Kalamazoo Gazette.