

The True Northerner.

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PAW PAW, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 1913.

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CHURCHES HOLD UNION SOCIAL

Baptist Church Was Scene of a Merry Party on Friday Night.

FOUR COLLEGES REPRESENTED

Evening's Entertainment Was Program of Contests, Which Caused Lively and Laughable Exertions.

The Baptist church last Friday night, was the scene of a merry party made up of young people, old and middle-aged folks and children. There were Baptists—many of them—Presbyterians, a bunch, a lot of Methodists holding their own and a few lively ones representing the Christian church. This occasion was a union church social, and it served its purpose.

The lower part of the church was thrown open for the evening, and each of the corners of the room was decorated with the colors of the college supported by the denominations represented. The Methodist corner was draped with red and green crepe paper ribbon effect in the colors of Albion. Alcoa corner had ribbons of red and white over the heads of the Presbyterians, Kalamazoo Baptist college colors were orange and black, and Drake University was modestly trimmed by the Disciples in blue and white. This corner also contained a decoy drake, sitting demurely among the hilarious surrounding. The yell masters were in fine voice and kept the occupants of the four corners on the job. It seemed that everybody had an attack of the rah rabs.

A program of stunts was a feature of the evening's entertainment. A candidate was sent from each college to participate in these events. The first was the standing broad grin. The big fou faced each other for the ordeal and were requested to adjust a grin on the broadest and most generous lines possible, and not only to have but to hold for one minute the pleasant (?) facial expression until the judges could take exact measurement of its shape. Well, who ever thought there was so very much difference in this, anyway? A grin is a grin, or should be, but it's not. These four young people were as many types. From the little two inch article, to the limit of the yard stick was the exhibition. The grin that took the gold medal was of the jack of lantern description and was produced by that big, good natured, wholesome Will Howe, who can any time compete for a prize of smiles and win where he would surely lose out in a contest of frowns. Three rahs for Drake.

Other contests were in order, Rev. Marshall carrying off honors for Alcoa, Miss Margaret Southworth for Kalamazoo Baptist and Albion won the relay. All sorts of games were played and popcorn and apples were plenty.

May there be many more such pleasant evenings. This occasion made an opportunity for the many young people who are home from the several colleges for their vacation to meet before again taking up the business of education.

STAMP SALES A RECORD BREAKER

Over 3,700 One-Cent Stamps Sold on Monday, December 23, at the Local Post Office.

The usual holiday rush was on at the local postoffice last Monday and Tuesday. All day long from early opening to closing time there was a constant stream of patrons with packages to mail. The souvenir post card had now played an important part in the volume of mail, especially at holiday time. On Monday of last week the local office sold over 3,700 one-cent stamps, a major portion of which probably found a place on souvenir post cards. The sales on other stamped paper were in proportion, and taken altogether it was a strenuous day in the postoffice, and probably a record breaker as far as sale of stamps and the volume of mail handled was concerned.

TO VISIT NATIONAL CAPITAL

Jason Woodman, who used to belong to us but has been confiscated by the people of Kalamazoo, will start next Monday for Washington, D. C., to attend the annual convention of the farm experts of the United States.

Mr. Woodman is thoroughly interested and enthused over the work to which he has been assigned and is not only a good teacher, but more—a good student. He expects to gain valuable information from the experience and observation of those men in convention and to come back armed with new ideas to impart to the farmers that will be of untold benefit to them.

FARMERS INSTITUTE TO HOLD MEETINGS

Van Buren County Society Will Hold Series of Meetings in January Throughout the County.

The Van Buren County Farmers' Institute Society will hold a series of meetings in January as follows: Glendale, Jan. 6; Lawrence, Jan. 7; Hamilton, Jan. 8; Keeler, Jan. 9; Covert, Jan. 10; Lacota, Jan. 11.

Mrs. J. S. Bartlett of Kalamazoo, will be the State speaker and will talk on topics of interest to every farmer. All are cordially invited to attend where possible.

The County Round-up will be held in Bangor, January 29 and 30. Colon B. Lillie, Chas. B. Cook, Prof. Ernest Burnham, and Mrs. F. D. Saunders will be the State Speakers and will talk on the following topics: Care of the Dairy Herd; The Silo and Silage; Soil Fertility; Alfalfa Growing; Hog Raising; Potato Culture; Care and Spraying of the Orchard; Agriculture in the Rural Schools and The Farm Kitchen. A Woman's Congress will be held on the afternoon of the 30th. Everyone who can should attend part or all of these meetings.

LADIES OF COTERIE HOLD ANNUAL FEAST

About 50 Members of Coterie Club Enjoying Many Good Things at Annual Dinner Held Dec. 27.

Notwithstanding, "La Santa Claus" was emptying her new feather bed right down on the still green earth, about 50 ladies of the Coterie with their house guests risked fine feathers and all made their way to the dining rooms of Presbyterian church, where the club had decided to hold its annual feast of chicken pie and other good things. The able chairman, Mrs. Amanda Hoy, and her capable assistants had spared no pains to make this event one of the most successful in the history of the club.

At 1:30 all were seated and after the inner-self had partaken until unable to partake of more, the higher and intellectual self was treated to many good and bright sayings. Rev. Mecca Varney acted as toastmistress in a most charming and witty manner. She first introduced Mrs. Mabel Miller, who responded to the toast "Friendship." Mrs. Miller gave us a good meaning of that valuable word with many good things with which to start the new year. Mrs. Varney in glowing terms next introduced the "Funny Man" of the club, Mrs. Belle Johnson, who, in her own witty way, told of Woman's Sphere, and this toast was most complex and left her anxious listeners very much in doubt. Mrs. Postmistress next called upon the Rev. Olivia J. Woodman, who was to respond to "The Lost Cause." Mrs. Woodman said: "A good cause was never lost," and in her capable and original manner convinced us that such was the case. I took several of the ladies to handle the subject, "Woman's Occupation." According to the toast we were left wondering when and where the good Lord ever gave woman a breathing spell. The remainder of the afternoon was spent in social chat.

Many regrets were heard that our general president was unable to be present to enjoy the day as her pleasant face is always greatly missed. All departed feeling that they had indeed dined upon all the good things of earth.

WATCH PARTY

A merry crowd of young people watched the "old year out and the new year in" at George Hoskins beautiful country home, three miles east of Paw Paw. Various games were played until twelve o'clock when dainty refreshments were served by Mrs. Hosking, assisted by Mrs. Howarth. After ringing the school house bell for ten minutes the crowd dispersed pronouncing this the most enjoyable party of the year. Those present were the Misses Helen Harrison, Flossie Soules, Agnes Cagney, Erma Rathburn and Helen Clapp, and Messrs George Hoskins, Eli Curtiss, Cecil Howarth, Neil Prater and Lynn Sherrod.

WILL START WITH NEW YEAR.

Jay Trescott left this week for Hammond, Indiana, where he has accepted a position with the Bick Laundry Co. of that place. Jay understands the laundry business and his employer will find that he has selected a good man for the responsible position. He will have the best wishes of his friends here for his success and a brand new year to start with.

Mrs. Trescott will go to Hammond in a short time.

Announcement.

I have my offices now in the Maynard Block where I will be pleased to perform for my clients any legal services they may desire. DAVID ANDERSON. Dated Jan. 1st, 1913.

Bring Them In

A good idea to start in the new year with is this: When you have guests in your home or when you are leaving town to visit friends; when you receive an interesting letter from a relative or friend who has lived here in former days; when you are having some social event in your church or club or when anything happens that you know would be of interest to readers of the paper PLEASE bring in a little item in regard to it. It is complimentary to your guests and takes but a little time. We will be glad to see you and hope that you will take up with this little idea. We invite you please accept.

Stories of Long Ago

OLIVER HAZARD P. SHELDON.

This part of Michigan when it became settled up in an early day was largely made up of New York people. They were the sons and daughters of the early settlers of that state who were anxious to try their fortunes at pioneering. Among the many who came here in the early 40's was a family by the name of Sheldon, a father, mother and five sons. They came from Clarendon, N. Y., and settled on a farm one and one-half miles east of this village, which is now known as the Aseltine farm, and also familiar to some as the Chapin place.

In this family of boys was Oliver P. Sheldon, our townsman, who was a young man 21 years of age, having been born in Clarendon, N. Y., the 12th day of December, 1824. When the family decided to try their fortunes in the "far west," as Michigan then seemed to them, this lad was full of youth and ambition. He came to Buffalo with the household goods on the canal and to Detroit on the Great Western steamer, which by the way filled the boy with wonder at its magnitude. It was heavily loaded with freight and passengers and among the people on board were 200 Swiss working men and their families who were not allowed to mingle with the other passengers on account of their unclean appearance. Inasmuch as their errand was the same as the majority of the people on board—westward bound—in search of homes and employment, they were hopeful and happy among themselves and the fact of their being confined to one deck on account of ostracism did not in the least interfere with their contentment.

The worldly goods of the Sheldon family and its young custodian then came by the Michigan Central road to Marshall, that point being the terminus of the road. Then the only way to reach their destination was by team, which was accomplished in the course of time. Nearly 50 miles of tedious and wearisome travel over the old stage route on the famous territorial road.

The young man after a time bought 40 acres of land near the old homestead and commenced farming for himself. All this time that the young farmer was preparing his land for the harvest that he confidently expected to reap, he was saying little but thinking much about his sweetheart in old New York state and planning on a new home here with her as the central figure. There must have been a certain amount of correspondence afterward and some sort of agreement before the youth left his eastern home in regard to this, for the fact that he made the journey to her home in Hawley, N. Y., and returned with Evaline Williams as his wife, only a year afterwards settling here, creates the suspicion that this was the case. They added another 40 acres to their possessions a little later, making a nice farm of 80 acres. They lived for one year at the home of the father then took up their residence on their own land.

In speaking of the market of those days Mr. Sheldon stated that he raised a great deal of corn as did all other farmers here; in fact it was the principal crop. The crop was usually sold here at 18 to 20 cents per bushel, the amount for the produce to be taken in trade. They handled very little money—their wants being mostly supplied with food and clothing in exchange for what they produced. Taxation was about one quarter the assessment of this day. What little wheat was raised was mostly hauled to St. Joseph where it brought the top notch of 50 cents per bushel and only had to haul it 35 miles. These are some of the rare experiences of the men who came here during the babyhood of Michigan.

Six children came to their home, three dying in infancy, and two daughters and one son are still living. Mrs. Ada Adell Stocking lives in a suburb of Oakland, Cal., Mrs. Clarabel Baie resides four miles east of Paw Paw, and the son, Frederick, lives in the home with his father in this village. Mr. Sheldon has lived in this place 36 years. His wife died December 1, 1911, and in a short time Frederick Sheldon and family moved here from Bangor.

Mr. Sheldon was a teacher for a number of years often bringing to the minds of his visitors the pleasures as well as the inconveniences experienced by the teacher in his unsettled condition—a veritable rolling stone—boarding around. He has never lost interest in the schools and deprecates the lack of good spellers in the schools of today. He says there is nothing like the old fashioned spelling school to sharpen the wits of the youngsters as when there was a spelling match in prospective, if work would accomplish anything they would show those other districts who were the champions. No one in this age would have the courage to deny that spelling is nearing the lost art stage.

Mr. Sheldon was at one time a member of the Grange and has been a member of the Baptist church since 1842. He is now unable to come down town on account of his difficulty in walking, but it has been only a few weeks since he was first confined to the house. This is only temporary, as he is now capable of being about the house. A long life full of events and may the end be delayed to such time as it ceases to be a pleasure.

RETURNED FROM COAST.

Glenn E. Warner returned from the Pacific coast last Monday evening and gives a good account of the country, the people, the scenery, his traveling companion and in fact everything was rosy from the start until he returned to his native town.

In company with Wm. Fitzgerald of Kalamazoo Mr. Warner left here on December 8 for a western trip. It is the first vacation he has taken for some time. He left Van Buren and her legal business behind and returned benefited by the change of scene.

TRADES FOR GROCERY

An important real estate trade was made yesterday afternoon, when A. D. Gustin, of Paw Paw, traded his 60-acre farm near that town for the two-story building and grocery owned by Ralph E. Brown, on East North street. The farm is located near Maple lake and is said to be one of the finest fruit farms in Van Buren County. Mr. Gustin will take charge of the grocery within the next week. The new real estate firm of Titus, Decker & Killefer put the deal through—Kalamazoo Telegraph, Dec. 28.

DEATH OF MRS. HARWICK

A copy of the Clarkston Republican, published at Clarkston, Washington, contains a notice of the death of Mrs. Andrew Harwick of that place, on December 1. She was a resident of this county for a number of years and still has relatives living here, though her immediate family live in the state where the mother died. She was Miss Eleanor Armstrong before her marriage.

TAKEN SUDDENLY ILL.

W. R. Sirrine and Eldred Fish were in Detroit a few days last week. While there Mr. Sirrine was taken ill and on his return home was confined to the house for a number of days, though he is gaining slowly. He is a man of indomitable will and ambition and when it comes to restrictions from the usual activity that he is accustomed to be is not willing to give up. Mr. Sirrine's friends are hoping to see him on the streets again soon. Mr. E. H. Miner, is out attending to business again, after being confined to the house for three weeks. Mr. Walter Brown assisted at the mill while Mr. Miner was sick.

BUT LITTLE CHANGE AT THE COURT HOUSE

With the Exception of Probate Judge and Prosecuting Attorney, the old Officials Retain Their Places.

All the newly elected county officers, except Prosecutor Burbas, who is absent in the West on a business trip, entered upon their official duties New Year's morning. As has been the unbroken rule in Van Buren county for more than fifty years, it was the gaily caparisoned elephant that led the procession and, with a single exception, bore the valiant, victorious and happy patriots to the scene of their future labors and triumphs. But following that popular pachyderm so familiar to Paw Paw people, there appeared an animal of strange and startling aspect, a giant bull moose, astride of which, grasping the pair of huge, brazening antlers that ornamented the head of the ungainly beast, rode Probate Judge William Killefer, "alone to his glory." The donkey was not taken from its stable; indeed, it has not appeared in public for so many years that the "oldest inhabitant" scarcely remembers to ever have seen it. With the exception of probate judge and the prosecuting attorney, above mentioned, there is no change in the personnel of the "court house ring."

SHOULD THE PHILLIES WIN WORLD'S SERIES

A Trio of Well-Known Paw Paw Real Estate Hustlers Will Make Trip to Europe.

Should the Philadelphia team win the pennant in the National league next season the real estate firm of Titus, Decker & Killefer is going abroad and Bill Killefer, the new member of the firm, who is one of the star catchers of the Phillies, is going to pay all the expenses while the trio of property hustlers compare real estate values on the other side of the pond. The trip through Europe all depends on whether the Phillies win the pennant in their league and in this way hitch up with the American team for the world's championship. Bill Killefer thinks the chances are going to be played, too. "Yes, it is true that this firm is going abroad if I get into the world's series and get some of that big money," said Killefer yesterday afternoon. "While we haven't packed our trunks yet, I am right here to tell you that there is an excellent prospect that the trip will be made. The Phillies were the worst crippled aggregation in creation during the greater part of last year. The members of the team were in the hospital most of the time. We hardly had a chance to get acquainted with one another. I had my arm broken twice during the season. "But with all our misfortunes we came strong near the close of the season and the last trip west we made a better showing than any of them. This year, if the team can get away from the accidents we are bound to finish as good as one, two, three and I will not be surprised to be one of the players in the world's series. Should the team win out there will be no stopping us. We will go to Europe and look the place over. Just make it a point to remember that the Phillies with any kind of good luck, will be out there in front when the season closes and if we finish remember that the firm of Titus, Decker & Killefer is going abroad for an indefinite stay."—Kalamazoo Telegraph.

Card of Thanks.

We extend our sincere thanks to the relatives and friends who assisted us during the recent illness and death of our loved mother and grandmother; also to Rev. Marshall for his kind words of sympathy and cheer, and to the friends who furnished flowers.

Mrs. Sarah Nash and family, Mr. S. A. Fagler, Mrs. Cara McEwing.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to the friends and neighbors who so kindly assisted in our bereavement of husband and father, and also thank the Glendale singers for their music. Mrs. Edna Meabon and children

LOCAL MAN HONORED.

Harvey A. Sherman, the popular and efficient stenographer of the 36th Judicial circuit, has the honor of having been elected vice president of the State Association of Stenographers in session at Lansing last week.

Father Clarkson of St. Mary's church, and Miss Annie Clarkson were South Haven visitors the first of the week, the guest of Father J. A. Crowe and Mrs. Jennie Dyer of that city.

Advertised letters: Mr. Henry Quigno, George Shank, Helen Wells.

TRUE NORTHERNER IS FIRST PATRON

R. L. Tuttle Sends First Package Under the New System.

THINGS TO BE REMEMBERED

Certain Regulations Must Be Observed In Order to Secure Benefits of Parcels Post System.

The Parcels Post system went into effect all over the country the first day of the year.

The first sale of Parcels Post stamps at the local post office was made to The True Northerner, which concern purchased a complete set of the new stamps to frame and keep as souvenirs, together with Postal Savings Certificate No. 1, which was obtained when that system was established, and for a similar purpose.

The second sale of the new stamps was made to C. K. Cadman, who also desires them to keep as souvenirs.

The first package to be mailed from the local office by Parcels Post was sent by our popular florist, R. L. Tuttle. The package contained flowers for a customer in Lawrence. It weighed one pound and eight ounces, and the cost of mailing was eight cents. Lawrence comes within the first zone, in which the rate is five cents for a package weighing from four ounces to one pound, and three cents for each additional pound or fraction thereof.

Under the old merchandise rate of postage it would have cost Mr. Tuttle 24 cents to mail the aforesaid package of flowers to Lawrence.

Following are just a few things to remember in connection with the Parcels Post:

All merchandise must now go by Parcels Post (except packages weighing up to four pounds which sender desires to seal and send as first class mail).

All packages must bear the distinctive Parcels Post stamps. Ordinary postage stamps can no longer be used on merchandise that goes as fourth class matter.

Parcels Post packages cannot be registered, neither can they be sent "special delivery." The sender may insure himself against loss, however, by buying an insurance stamp for 10 cents. It insures up to \$50.

Wrap or pack the goods securely, but do not seal. The name of the sender must be on the outside of the package marked "From—(name of sender)."

Parcels containing perishable articles must be marked "Perishable."

Parcels containing breakable articles must be marked "Fragile."

Packages over seven pounds in weight will not be accepted.

Packages over seventy-two inches in combined length and girth will not be accepted. This means the extreme length and the actual measurement of a tape encircling the parcel at its thickest point.

All questions in regard to the various features of the new law will be cheerfully answered at the postoffice.

SEVERE CASE OF BLOOD POISONING

A. U. Craven May Lose Part of His Hand as the Result of What Was Thought to be a Slight Injury.

A. U. Craven, who is having a serious time with blood poisoning, was in Paw Paw on Tuesday. It is nine weeks now that Mr. Craven has been confined to the house nearly all of the time and unable to work. The blood poison started from a silver which entered a finger while buzzing wood. The silver was removed and nothing was thought of the slight injury until the hand and arm commenced paining him the next day. The whole arm and hand has been affected, and while the arm is getting well it is thought that it will yet be necessary to amputate a finger before the wounds in the hand will heal.

The many friends of Mr. Craven are hoping for a complete and speedy recovery from the long period of suffering.

REMEMBER THE MAIL CARRIERS

The rural patrons of the postoffice are requested to be as thoughtful of the comfort of the carriers as possible during the winter months. Loose coins placed in the mail box during cold weather means cold fingers, delay and much inconvenience to the carriers. A little thoughtfulness on the part of the rural patrons will relieve the carriers of much annoyance and will be appreciated.