

NEWS FROM NEAR BY

Daily Doings of Some of Ottumwa's Close Neighbors.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL

Everything From Joyous Births to the Philosophical Observation of Sages, Are Chronicled by the Courier's Special Correspondents.

Chariton.

Chariton, Dec. 31.—George Williamson, a former resident of Lucas county, but now located at Webster City, is spending a few days at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Williamson.

Frank Wilson, who has been employed in a butter and egg house near Wichita, Kan., for the past few years, arrived in Chariton Saturday for a few days' visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Wilson.

Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Woods are rejoicing over the arrival of a baby boy at their home. Woods, Jr., weighed but 3 1/2 pounds but is in excellent health.

Mrs. C. A. Abrahamson and daughter Hazel, have returned to their home in Chariton after a Christmas vacation spent with Mrs. Abrahamson's parents in Humeston.

E. Erle Lewis has resigned his position in W. E. Lewis' grocery store and will start upon his new duties as local editor and advertising solicitor for the semi-weekly Chariton Herald, January 1.

Harry V. Brown, of Des Moines, is spending a few days in the city visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Lee Brown.

Miss Edith Brant, teacher of music in the Chariton public schools, has returned from a few days' visit in Des Moines, where she attended the State Teachers' meeting.

Miss Anna Darrach, who has been employed in the Fair store, here, for some time, has resigned her position and returned to her home in Corning.

Christmas times seemed to have a stimulating effect on the matrimonial market. Clerk Seward issued ten marriage licenses last week as compared with four, the highest number issued in any like period for five weeks.

One week from today, January 7, is the date of the expiration of the terms of office of all county attorneys, clerks, auditors and recorders, according to the contention of those county officers elect. On account of the Titus amendment middle many of the present incumbents claim they hold over.

There are two of this class in Lucas county, each of whom have signified their intention of keeping their offices until forced to give them up by an adverse decision of the supreme court, claiming that it belongs to them by right of a vote of the people. Many citizens believe that the officers elect will be given their places without contest and the day is anxiously awaited in Lucas county, when the supreme court will decide the question.

The drama entitled "How It Was Done," written by our fellow townsman F. Q. Stuart, will be presented at the opera house Saturday evening, December 5, by the Chariton Dramatic club, for the benefit of the free public library and the Chariton Improvement association. The play is said to be written on original lines, and is full of real dramatic merit. The cast is an exceptionally strong one consisting of some of the best local talent, who have been busy rehearsing for the past few weeks. Catchy songs and pleasing specialties will be introduced between acts.

The new list of books for the traveling library, located in the rooms of the free public library, arrived Friday, and are now in the shelves ready for use. It consists of about fifty books of history, travel, politics, religion, biography and fiction, and is at the disposal of patrons of the public library on the same terms and conditions as those of the regular library.

Agency, Dec. 31.—Mr. and Mrs. James Reeves are rejoicing over the arrival of a baby boy.

Mrs. Smith and son, of Atwood, Kansas, are visiting at the home of Mrs. Smith's mother, Mrs. M. L. Chamberlain.

The Woman's Foreign Missionary society held its quarterly meeting at the parsonage Friday afternoon. Miss Anna Lawson, a returned missionary from India, and Mrs. F.ushing, of Ottumwa, gave a New Year's greeting.

At the close of the program refreshments were served.

Miss Fannie Nye visited relatives at Chillicothe last week.

John Reeves visited his daughter at Ames last week.

Chester Reynolds visited relatives at Eldon last week.

Mrs. Acton, mother of Andrew Acton, who resides four miles east of this place, is ill.

The funeral of Mrs. A. E. Brainard took place today at 2 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Milligan and Misses Ada and Media Milligan, of Mt. Airy, are visiting friends here.

Munterville.

Munterville, Dec. 31.—Charles Anderson and family, Ed Gustafson and family spent Christmas eve and Christmas day at the parental home of Mr. and Mrs. Charley Johnson in Munterville.

There was a Christmas tree Dec. 26 in the Lutheran church. program was carried out by the Sunday school which was a pleasure to all the young folks.

N. P. Pearson left yesterday for a visit with his brother, Alex Pearson, who will go south to try and benefit his health which has been very poorly the past six months. Alex Pearson intends to leave for the south this week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Oval and family visited at the parental home of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Ek Wednesday.

L. L. Swenson and family spent Christmas at the home of Mrs. M. F. Hokanson, mother of Mrs. Swenson.

J. M. Oval received sad news Wednesday from his old home in Sweden that his father died the early part of the month at the age of 87 years. It

was sad and unexpected news as Mr. Oval did not even know that his father was ill.

Chas. Smith and family and Mr. and Mrs. Townsend ate Christmas dinner with Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Allen.

Mr. and Mrs. Charley Johnson went after Gust Carlson and family and had them spend Christmas at their home in Munterville.

E. G. Allen and August Hultman are at the head of a petition to build a side walk in Munterville and already have the lumber on the ground. A side walk has long been needed and all are glad to see such improvements.

Mr. and Mrs. Gust Burgeson were called to Given last Wednesday by a telegram announcing the death of a brother-in-law, A. Johnson, who was in the drug business there. Death came very suddenly from apoplexy.

One of the most enjoyable events of the fast-receding century took place December 28, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Johnson, east of Munterville, where they entertained a large number of their friends during the day and evening. Mrs. Johnson served one of the finest of dinners, and all who were there will testify to the same. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have a fine home and know how to entertain.

These present were Messrs. and Mesdames John Peterson, John Carlson, Erland Allen, Chas. Swanson, Ed. Gustafson, J. Nelson, John Swenson, Chas. Anderson, John Locke, Carlson, of Dudley, L. L. Swenson, Messrs. Alex. Anderson, Alfred Peterson, Mrs. Johannah Anderson.

C. H. Swanson had a pleasant visit from his father during the holidays. Mr. Swanson, Sr., lives in Sioux City, and he returned to his home a few days ago.

John Peterson and Alex. Anderson returned December 28 from Given, where they had been called by the death of A. Johnson, and they report the funeral services were held in Oskaola Sunday, December 30. Miss Nellie Burgeson and Mrs. John Rose, sisters of Mrs. Johnson, came from their homes in Oregon to attend the funeral services of their brother-in-law.

Mr. and Mrs. John Carlson moved into their new home Saturday, December 22, which was completely finished in every respect for their occupancy by that date.

Mrs. Charley Johnson, of Munterville, had the misfortune of falling on the icy sidewalk by her home Christmas eve, and injuring her side quite severely, so she has not been able to leave her room since.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Oval served dinner to a few of their friends last Thursday, December 28, and Mrs. Oval had all of the delicacies of the season served in the finest style on the dining-room table, and all there spent a most pleasant day with Mr. and Mrs. Oval, and hope to be able to enjoy many more pleasant visits.

Bethel.

Bethel, Jan. 1.—The sale held by Wash Spears at his farm south of here last Friday was fairly well attended and everything brought fair prices.

Mr. Spears has decided to go to Oklahoma in a few days.

Misses Rosa and Jellie and Ina Chisman and Messrs. Will and James Chisman spent Christmas with relatives in Ottumwa.

Frank Springer was a Chillicothe visitor Christmas.

Chas. Springer, Elsie Neal, Fred Caldwell and Lulu Neal attended the dance at Blakesburg Christmas night.

Lute Chisman and wife spent Thursday evening at J. K. Chisman's.

The mines just west of here are gradually increasing their daily capacity. They are now running out about 450 tons daily.

Mrs. Wm. Wilcox is on the sick list at present.

Bonaparte.

Bonaparte, Jan. 1.—Mrs. Cora Fisher, of Eldon, spent last week with relatives in the city.

O. J. Cowley spent the holiday week with his family.

Miss Grace Chapman, of Des Moines, is home on a two weeks' visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Smith and Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Roberts returned home Saturday from Des Moines where they have been attending the teachers' convention.

Phil which has been confined to his home with an attack of the pneumonia but at this writing is much better.

Mrs. Mack Cox, of Kirksville, is visiting friends in this place.

Dr. F. J. Kern is visiting his mother, at Burlington.

Miss Dolly Lysle returned home Saturday from a week's visit in Ottumwa.

A watch party was held last evening at the M. E. church. A program had been prepared and at midnight the bells tolled the old year out and the new one in.

Mrs. H. Blount and children, of South Ottumwa, are visiting Mrs. Charley Dullin, sister of Mrs. Blount. Miss Nellie Jones went to Farmington Tuesday and took in the dance.

Rev. and Mrs. Duty are entertaining Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Ellis, of Montrose, parents of Mrs. Duty.

Thomas Hopkins, Jr., and family of Council Bluffs, were visitors at the home of his parents, Thomas Hopkins, Sr., during holiday week.

Mr. and Mrs. Lem Cantril were guests at the home of Jas. Bridge during the past week.

D. W. Riggie is visiting in Des Moines this week.

A pleasant time was spent at the home of Arthur Cummings Saturday evening. Games and refreshments helped to pass the time away.

Wm. Sivil, Jr., is spending a few days with friends in Keokuk.

James Eddy left for Peoria, Wednesday to make that place his future home.

Chillicothe.

Chillicothe, Jan. 1.—Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Atkins and daughter Lucile, of Mt. Pleasant, returned home Friday after a pleasant visit with relatives.

Miss Fannie Nye, of Agency, is here visiting relatives.

Mrs. Williams, of Lovilia, is visiting her mother, Mrs. McCarty.

Mrs. J. L. Layne was called to Ottumwa Friday on account of the serious illness of the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert McCartney.

Misses Mary and Alva Jackson, of Eddyville, were the guests of Effie Stump last week.

Mr. and Mrs. John McCarty, of Hite-man, returned home Thursday after a few days' visit with relatives here.

The M. E. Sunday school board met and elected the following officers: Superintendent, Miss Vina Butin; assis-

tant superintendent, Mrs. D. T. Rambo; secretary, Henry Kitterman; assistant secretary, Frank Clark; treasurer, Dora Warren; organist, Gertie Pierson; assistant organist, Alta Gibbs; chorister, Minnie Clark; assistant chorister, Alta Gibbs; librarian, Mellie Warren and Grace Warren.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Clark are visiting relatives in Rockwell City.

Miss Emma Nye returned Saturday from Des Moines where she attended the teachers' convention.

On the evening of December 28 a party was given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Kepler, in honor of their son, Arthur Kepler, who returned home from school for a few days' vacation. The guests present were Mr. and Mrs. H. C. McFadden, Mr. and Mrs. J. Tompson, Maggie Williams, Misses Flora Moss, Lulu Dixon, Nellie Ball, Emogene Dixon, Josie Butin, May Strain, May Abernathy, Fannie Pickens, Belle Abernathy, Annie Abernathy, Lizzie Puse, Clysta Hayes, Blanche Hayes, Edna Jordan, Katie Conwell, Dora Warren, Messrs. Abe Stuber, Frank Canfield, Verne Burgess, Clyde Moss, Frank Abernathy, Calvin Abernathy, Claude Berry, Jesse Waddell, Lowell Waddell, Everet McFadden, Clyde Strain, Charley Forsythe, Manly Forsythe, Frank Abernathy, Ray Burns and Rex Burns. The evening was spent in playing various games. Refreshments were also served. All returned at a late hour and reported a very pleasant time.

On New Year's night an entertainment will be given by the school at the Christian church. The program is as follows: Song by the school; declamation, Mellie Warren; song, Edith Pierson; recitation, Flora Moss; instrumental music, Nellie Ball; dialog, "Aunt Hannah's Valentine"; recitation, Grace Warren; recitation, Iva Moss; duet, Mellie Warren and Adda Waddell; dialog, entitled "Betsy and I Am Out"; song by school; recitation, Forrest Warren; instrumental music, Effie Stump; dialog, entitled "In Want of a Servant"; duet; recitation, Madge Moss; instrumental music, Adda Waddell; dialog, entitled "An Economical Boomerang"; song.

Bladensburg.

Bladensburg, Jan. 1.—The Christmas entertainment at the Christian church was well attended.

Rev. Star held a meeting at the Advent church last week.

Mamie Midge and Dora Copeland, of Batavia, visited their uncle G. F. Bedwell this week.

L. S. Shepard spent Christmas at Morning Sun with his daughter, Mrs. John Parker.

Charlie Burroughs is still quite ill with the fever.

The people of the M. E. church hold cottage prayer meetings each Wednesday evening. The last meeting was at the home of Miss Mary Hamersly.

Ash Grove.

Ash Grove, Jan. 1.—The pie supper at the Christian church Monday night was well attended and all enjoyed themselves. The proceeds amounted to almost \$10, which went to the Union Sunday school fund. The entertainment at the M. E. church Christmas night was also well attended. The talent and skill shown by those who took part in the exercises showed that they had spared no time and energy to make it a success.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Procter, a son.

Harry Bunch hailed home to Ottumwa Wednesday and Thursday of this week.

Allen Day of Ottumwa visited here during the holidays.

Austin McCarty went to the coal bank Friday.

Fred Procter and Fent Cassill were business visitors of Bladensburg Wednesday.

Miss Eva Archer of Milton has been visiting with the Martin family since Christmas.

Leando.

Leando, Jan. 1.—George Wiley and wife spent Christmas with relatives in Fairfield.

Mr. John Cowley, of Leando, called Christmas.

Jammie Morrison, of Ottumwa, spent Christmas with his parents here.

Cyrus Rambo, county recorder-elect, has sold his farm to Fred Plowman for a consideration of \$3,500. Mr. Rambo will move in a few days to Keosauqua and take up the duties of his office.

Mrs. John Wilson, of Ottumwa, is visiting relatives in Leando.

Mrs. Reed Crawford is on the sick list.

W. H. Liming made a flying trip to Missouri last Tuesday.

George Rambo made a trip to Ottumwa last week.

Mrs. John Cowley, of Leando, spent Christmas in Leando.

Fred Nelson, a student at Iowa City, visited during the holidays with his mother, near Leando.

Mrs. Elmer Cowen is visiting relatives near Leando.

Ocer Creasy arrived home yesterday from the Klondike. He has been gone six weeks. His home-coming was a complete surprise to his family as they heard nothing from him for about a year, and supposed he was dead.

Evert Miller, who is teaching in a business college at St. Joe, Missouri, came home to spend the holidays with relatives.

Stockport.

Stockport, Jan. 1.—Isiah Harlan started Monday to the western part of the state to see his father, who is very sick.

Rev. Sham, of Batavia, visited his son here last Wednesday.

The protracted meetings still continue at the M. E. church.

W. S. Allen, of Birmingham, Mo., was in the city Wednesday.

Shipments out this week were two cars of hay to St. Louis; two cars of hogs, to Ottumwa; one car of oats to St. Louis.

Mr. Myers and wife were visiting in Memphis, Mo., last week.

Mr. Fulton made a flying visit to Burlington Wednesday.

C. D. Swann and family visited near Salina Saturday and Sunday.

Clarence Harlan has resigned his position as clerk at Risk & Graham's store.

Adrian Fairchilds and wife visited at F. M. Lucas' Sunday.

Frederic.

Frederic, Jan. 1.—D. H. Hawthorn is visiting relatives at College Springs.

Charles Nelson and Lidia Hangan were united in marriage at the home

of the bride's father, John Hanson, near Munterville, Christmas. They have a host of friends in this part of the county who wish them a long life of happiness. They will make Ottumwa their future home.

John Hansel came to Frederic Sunday.

Miss Emma Berry is visiting her parents. She is a student at the Cey Falls school.

Mrs. Anna Cook is confined to her bed with heart trouble.

Frank Pierson is suffering with lung fever.

Chas. Buggles and Chas. Warner were business callers at Albia Saturday.

At the home of Charles and Tempa Akers, a most pleasant entertainment was given Christmas eve. There was a large Christmas tree loaded with some valuable presents. It was a reunion of the relatives of the Akers family, some coming from Ottumwa, Chillicothe, Fremont and Smoky Hollow. The room was beautifully decorated.

Lancaster.

Lancaster, Jan. 1.—Rev. A. B. Hight-shower filled his appointment at the M. E. church Sunday afternoon, in spite of the snowstorm.

Mertie Gilliland and Warrent Long were married Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Utterback will move to Hayesville soon.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Fratcher entertained Messrs. and Mesdames William Randall, Corbin Utterback and Will Utterback, Christmas.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Lester Utterback, a son, Wednesday December 26.

The Lancaster schools are having vacation this week.

The principal of our schools, Noble Little, is visiting at Muscatine this week.

There was an oyster supper at Mr. Mills' Christmas eve.

One of our farmers sold a five-year old colt to Mr. Lewis, of Martinsburg, last week, for \$110. The colt was not broken, and the farmer hitched it up before they had gone two miles and drove it home.

Chicago House Said to Have the Market by the Heels.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—According to local merchants, one of the two big firms, either the Albert Dickinson company, of Chicago, or the Detroit house, practically controls the market for white beans, the supply of which, although fair, the crop harvested has been tremendously reduced by heavy purchases by the United States and British governments, to supply the soldiers in the Philippines and in South Africa. As a consequence, the price has had rapidly and legitimately advanced until now \$2.15 per bushel is asked, with the supply limited even at that figure. Members of the firm of the Albert Dickinson company deny their house has engineered the corner.

WRECKED SALOON.

Woman in Jail Charged With Maliciously Destroying Property.

THE FIRST DECISION

Contest Court at Sioux City Declares Amendment Valid.

SAYS COUNTY OFFICERS MAY STAY.

One of the Contestants, However, Says That the Contest Court, as It Is Termed, Has No Jurisdiction—Full Text of Decree.

The Titus amendment is good, declares a contest board at Sioux City, but it cannot settle the matter for the whole state. Saturday the Courier prints the dispatch from that place which seems to have been slightly confusing. For the benefit of those who take an interest in it, the following full explanation and text of the decree rendered in the case, is printed:

Is the First Decision.

Sioux City, Dec. 31.—The first official decision on the standing of the Titus amendment has been rendered by the contest court at Orange City, which finds that the adoption of the amendment extended one year the terms of county officials now in office whose terms would otherwise have expired a week from next Monday.

As elections are, under the constitutional amendment, biennial, successors to incumbent officers could not be elected until two years have elapsed, giving them two years more of office.

Who the Parties Are.

P. D. Van Oosterhout, who has been, and at the present time is county attorney of Sioux County, brought the matter before the contest court to restrain the board of supervisors from issuing a certificate of election to A. Te Paska, who last November was chosen by a majority of the voters of Sioux county for the office of county attorney. The contest court upholds Mr. Van Oosterhout's claim, and rules that he is entitled to hold his office another year. It holds further that the election of Te Paska was null and void.

The Decree.

Mr. Van Oosterhout was in the city jubilant over his victory. He brought with him a copy of the decree of the court, which was as follows:

Now, to wit, on this 28th day of December, 1900, this honorable court being in session, Judges William Dealey, John Hutchison and L. M. Black being present, this cause coming on for judgment, Hatley & Irwin appearing as attorneys for contestant, and Geo. C. Scott, G. W. Pitts and John E. Orr appearing as attorneys for incumbent, the court, after hearing the evidence and the arguments of counsel and being fully advised in the premises, finds:

That it has jurisdiction of the subject matter and of the parties to this proceeding.

It further finds that the incumbent was not duly elected to the office of county attorney of Sioux county, Iowa, at the last general election held there on November 6, 1900; that the board of canvassers erred in canvassing the votes for said office and in declaring the result thereof; that the adoption of the amendment to the constitution, which amended the term of office of the incumbent, A. Te Paska, for the costs of this proceeding.

Who the Board Is.

Of the three members of the contest court, Mr. Dealey, of Ireton, is chairman of the board of supervisors, test court, Mr. Dealey, of Ireton, is was chosen by Te Paska; Mr. Hutchison, of Hawarden, was chosen by Van Oosterhout.

Other Contests.

At the time Van Oosterhout brought his case Harry Melrose, republican, county clerk, and B. F. Jones, republican, county recorder, brought similar actions to retain their offices over the claims of Clerk-elect Brewer and Recorder-elect Jongeward, both of whom are republicans. Before the case of Van Oosterhout vs. Te Paska was taken up, it was agreed by the parties in the other cases that the same decision, as far as the contest court was held, would hold in their cases.

Will Take It Up.

Mr. Te Paska and his brother officers-elect will take the matter to the district court. Before the contest court sat on the case they held that it had no jurisdiction in the matter. If the district court rules against them they will go to the supreme court.

CHANGED THE NAME.

People's Party Will Be Known as the Populist Party Hereafter.

St. Louis, Dec. 31.—After the recess taken by the middle-of-the-road populists in the city Saturday, up to which the Associated Press has been through the afternoon newspapers posted, L. A. Weller, of Iowa, declared that the populist party has always been loaded with too much platform. He was opposed to the coalition with other reformers. He said that he had assisted in organizing the greenback party and he had seen it assassinated in the house of its friends. He declared that the labor party and other reform movements have been killed in the same manner and he did not favor going to them.

Joseph Hupp of Chicago took up the point made by Prof. Herron of Iowa that the populists occupy a strategic position and for that reason he was in favor of continuing the work. He drew comfort from the results of the last election and said that the farmers are not yet ready to take up socialism.

Thomas Wadsworth of Indiana, declared that he is in favor of anything that would benefit the people.

Mr. Bodenberger, of Georgia, declared that he is in favor of keeping up

the fight along strict party lines. G. A. Wise, of Wisconsin, was of the same opinion. The majority of the speakers favored a continued struggle for the principals of populism and an address to this effect was prepared before adjournment.

Changes in Platform.

At the session Saturday evening Chairman Parker introduced a resolution which affected several changes in the platform of the party as adopted at Omaha, to be submitted to a referendum vote. After considerable discussion it was adopted. It provides for the change in the party name from "the people's party" to "the populist party."

The second plank of the Cincinnati platform is changed to read, "We demand the public ownership of such means of production and distribution as the people will from time to time elect."

The third proposition is to change plank seven by dropping out the last three words "of public utilities."

The fourth declares that the party is opposed to physical revolution and confiscation of property. It declares that the fundamental doctrine of the party is the principle enunciated at Omaha; that the wealth belongs to him who makes it, and that every dollar taken from labor without an equivalent is robbery and the party is pledged to such legislation as will destroy the condition which makes it possible for one man to live on the labor of another.

A committee composed of James Ferriss, Illinois; F. Burkitt, Mississippi; J. S. Polk, Illinois; Dr. E. S. Curry, Missouri; and J. A. Bodenberger, Georgia, submitted an address, which congratulates the members of the party on its showing in the last election, notwithstanding discouraging conditions.

Other reform organizations are invited to join in an effort to establish human liberty. The members of the party are asked to rally and go to work in the organization.

DEATH OF ALBERT JOHNSON.

Former Well-Known Ottumwa Business Man Passed Away at Given.

Albert Johnson, a prominent druggist of Given, who was formerly in the same business in this city, died at his home Wednesday morning at 4 o'clock, as the result of a stroke of apoplexy.

Mr. Johnson was stricken last Tuesday evening at 7 o'clock, and he gradually sank, until 4 o'clock the following morning, when death relieved his sufferings.

He was 68 years of age, and he was born in Sweden. He removed to this country during the civil war and came to Ottumwa in