

# THE LEON REPORTER.

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## THIRD ANNUAL BANQUET

Of The Leon Commercial Club will be held next Wednesday, being Washington's Birthday.

The third annual banquet of the Leon Commercial Club will be held on next Wednesday evening, Feb. 22nd, Washington's birthday, it being the custom of the club to hold the banquet on some prominent day. The banquet will be served at the K. of P. hall at 7 o'clock, and will be served by the ladies of the Christian church. Plates will be laid for about 250, each member of the club being entitled to take one lady to the banquet. The only guests aside from the club members will probably be some of the officials of the Burlington railroad, as the magnificent new depot recently completed in this city, is one of the results of the Commercial Club's efforts for the general good of Leon. Hon. V. R. McGinnis will preside as toastmaster and there will be a number of short responses to toasts by club members. Following the banquet there will be a short program and the evening will be spent in a social manner. The Commercial Club annual banquet is looked forward to as the big event each year, and it is safe to say that none of the members will be absent from the banquet. All members who are in good standing will be entitled to two tickets without charge. The tickets can be secured at any time after Saturday morning by calling at Stempel & Cherrington's drug store, and members are requested to secure their tickets as early as possible so arrangements can be made for seating all.

## Omaha Weather Balloon Found Near DeKalb.

The United States Weather Bureau is conducting a series of interesting weather experiments, to show the direction and speed of the winds and condition of the weather, by means of small balloons which are attached delicate instruments for automatically making the observations. The balloons are about three feet in diameter, and one of them which was sent up at Omaha last Friday morning came down near the home of Andy Wilson, just west of DeKalb about 5:30 o'clock Saturday evening. Mr. Wilson's attention was attracted by the barking of his dog, and on going out of the house saw the balloon which had fallen in his hog lot. Attached to the basket, which contained the instruments was a card requesting that the finder handle the basket carefully and return it at once to the weather bureau at Omaha, and they would send a reward of \$2.00 for the trouble in sending it. Mr. Wilson expressed the basket at once.

## Popular Pastor Retained.

By a unanimous vote of the church board and congregation Rev. J. S. Coffin, has been retained as pastor of the Christian church for the coming year. During the year just closed Rev. Coffin was employed conditionally as pastor, he agreeing to devote one half of his time to the church work, as he had other business interests to look after, being manager of the Cholera Medical Co., but he has given up his other business and will devote all his time to church work, being voted a handsome increase in salary. During the year Rev. Coffin has been pastor the church has enjoyed a remarkable growth, the membership showing a large increase and is now the largest in Leon. He is an earnest and energetic church worker and now that he is to devote all his time to church work, great things are being planned along church work for the coming year, and the church feels they have done wisely in retaining him as pastor.

## Streets Are Dangerous.

The streets in Leon on which the sewers were put in last fall are in a dangerous condition and all persons should avoid driving over the trenches whenever possible. When the sewers were put in the ground was very dry and the dirt did not settle, and there has been no rains since to amount to anything until this week. The rain Monday has caused many of the trenches to cave in and make great holes. In many places the dirt in the trenches has settled down, leaving a thin crust over the top, and this crust is liable to break through at any time when a team is driven over it. The city authorities can do nothing to fix the streets until the weather settles, and all they can do is to place warning lights at the dangerous places. Let everybody be a little careful until the trenches settle.

## Alma Jackson Dead.

Mrs. D. F. Long, of Center township, left last Wednesday for Omaha to attend the funeral of her father, Alma Jackson, who died at Sacramento, California. The deceased was for many years a prominent farmer of Decatur county, moving to Omaha about twenty years ago where he engaged in the live stock business and became quite prominent in city affairs. He moved to California last fall where he was engaged in the real estate business. He is survived by his wife and five children. His body was brought to Van Wert on Monday, where the funeral was held, interment being in the Van Wert cemetery. A fitting obituary will be published next week.

## They Like Frank Stewart at Afton.

Frank Stewart, who has purchased the C. F. Miller furniture and undertaking business in this city, and will take possession March 1st, is evidently a popular citizen at Afton. The following notice of his leaving that city appears in the Afton correspondence of the Creston Daily Advertiser:

The announcement that Frank Stewart had purchased a furniture store in Leon caused much anxiety on the part of his friends and business associates at home. Frank has grown from boyhood to one of Afton's leading business men. He has been blessed with his full measure of prosperity, because he is a successful business man, and also a man that attends strictly to his own business. He never lets the troubles or worries of another man's business enter into his own. He has the only furniture store in Afton and has built it from a small amount of capital to one of the leading stores in his line in this part of Iowa. Nevertheless there was a more accommodating man than Frank nor a more pleasant man to deal with. He is a good collector and has extended credit where he took long chances, but his excellent treatment of his customers made collection easy. He is thoroughly posted on the furniture business and his judgment is first class. Such a business as Frank Stewart's is a good advertisement for any town and the people of this vicinity are well pleased to learn that the Afton store will still be retained and will be run on the same high plan as heretofore. The new purchase is a fine store, even larger than the Afton store, in a room 50 by 90 feet and a first class stock. Mr. Stewart will divide his time between the two places. Charlie Coen has returned to Afton and will have charge of the store here, and John Detrick will look after the undertaking work. Mr. Stewart expects to move his family to Leon, however, which is very regrettable. They have a fine home here and are prominent in society circles and will be missed but Afton's loss will be Leon's gain and we congratulate the people of that prosperous little city on their new business acquisition, and for the addition of this most estimable family, and we join the community in wishing the Stewarts pleasure and happiness in their new home and prosperity beyond measure.

## Electric Lights.

As will be seen in another article in this issue, Humeston is becoming interested in the electric light question again, proposing to buy current of Leon. We had this matter stirred up here some little time ago and believe without a doubt that the majority of the people would like to have electric lights here. If current is bought from the Leon plant it would be much better for the two towns to go together in building the line to carry the current. It was the original intention that the Leon company would build the line but owing to other developments they have undertaken they do not feel able at the present time to do so and the towns would have to build and own their own line. It would be much better for us if Humeston would put in a plant and we buy current from there since the distance is but half as far as to Leon making the line cost much less. If Humeston could be guaranteed the sale of a certain amount of current to us she might consider the matter.—Garden Grove Express.

## Kryl Concert Co. Pleased.

A large audience attended the concert given by Bohumir Kryl and his concert company at the opera house last Thursday evening and it was a rare treat for our music lovers. Bohumir Kryl has no equal as a cornet virtuoso, and he has assembled a well balanced company of artists for his concert tour. He was compelled to divide honors with his daughter, Miss Josephine Kryl, who is yet but a mere girl, but she has inherited her father's musical talent and as a violinist her equal has never been heard in this city. Miss Marie Edwards, the pianist, became a favorite with the audience from the moment she touched the keys of the piano, and she was compelled to respond to encores of each of her numbers. Her left hand playing from "Lucia" as arranged by Leschetitzky, was marvelous. From the first number until the last one the audience enjoyed the entire program.

## Nothing Doing in Senatorial Deadlock at Des Moines.

There is practically no change in the senatorial situation at Des Moines. The regular vote is taken each day, but no chance to break the deadlock. Garst is back in the race and is receiving his former vote of 20 supporters, while Young and Lyon are holding their own, Funk having withdrawn. It is freely predicted that the deadlock will not be broken and that until the next election Iowa will have only one Senator.

## Passed the Oregon Plan Law.

By a vote of 31 to 16 the Iowa senate on Tuesday passed the Smith-Clay bill known as the Oregon plan law, which provides for the election of United States senators by vote of the people of Iowa. The bill was passed by the house two weeks ago, and will become a law upon being signed by Governor Carroll, but there has been a persistent rumor that he will veto the bill.

## A WAUBONSIE TRAIL

New Auto Road Across Southern Tier of Iowa Counties Will Probably Pass Through Leon.

The first meeting of the directors or trustees of the Waubonsie Trail association was held in Shenandoah and the discussing of matters relating to this movement were discussed until after midnight. The meeting was participated in by Messrs. Mitchell, Miller, McMahon, Greene, Auman, List, Babcock, Ferguson and Reninger.

A constitution was adopted and the purposes and object of the association fully set forth, the object in brief being to promote the establishment and maintaining of an improved highway across the southern tier of counties extending east through Illinois indefinitely, and west through Nebraska eventually to Denver and the coast. As stated last week, Nebraska City is taking the lead in pushing the movement across the state and within the next thirty days the way will be blazed half across Iowa and well into Nebraska.

The discussion in attorney Ferguson's rooms went into considerable detail in regard to the location of the Trail and the manner in which it should be marked or blazed across the state. It is intended to locate the Trail as near as can be in a direct line across Iowa with a junction with the Des Moines river near Keosauqua, thence down the Des Moines river valley to the Mississippi at Keokuk, cross there and thence eastward through Peoria, Bloomington, Indianapolis, Columbus and on to the capital at Washington. Through Nebraska, the Trail will lead through Lincoln, Hastings, Kearney and other historic and noted locations westward as far as the roads run.

The Trail will be blazed across the country by large guide boards located at all corners, cross roads and junctions and in addition an effort will be made to entice the residents along the route to the extent that farm houses and points of interest will be suitably named, marked and located.

The section of the constitution relating to membership covers the requirements whereby boards of supervisors may become members, local boosters or commercial clubs may become members and also individuals may become members, all on the payment of small subscriptions which will be used in blazing and defining the trail and in the publishing of printed matter relating to Waubonsie's Trail.

A souvenir very much like a transcontinental railway time table will be issued as soon as the trail is definitely located across the state and this time table will mark the route, towns or stations, give correct road map, and be filled with literature pertaining to southern Iowa and the country through which the Trail runs.

Some attention will be given to the early history more especially that relating to the Pottawattamie Indians in southern Iowa and the last named chieftain after whom the Trail is named.

The men who are directing the location of Waubonsie's Trail believe that within five years this will be the best established trail crossing the state and that future maps of Iowa and her sister states fortunate enough to possess a part of this great common highway will show Waubonsie Trail as well as the railway lines.

An emblem was adopted for the association, to be used on stationery and signs and after some discussion a teepee or Indian pole tent was decided to be the most appropriate emblem that could be found. The membership cards will also bear this emblem.

An official photographer was chosen, Mr. C. R. Bagcock, of Shenandoah, being selected. His business will be to secure views of places, scenes and interesting matter along the trail to be put out in the form of post cards, advertising Waubonsie's Trail and also for the production of photographic matter for the Waubonsie time table.

Orders were made that the Trail be at once marked by large sign boards leading from Nebraska City eastward through Sidney, Shenandoah, Clarinda and thence east, and that the telephone poles along the route so marked so that even the blind may be able to find the way. For when the dreams of the Waubonsie Trail association promoters are realized Waubonsie's Trail will be the greatest scene of cosmopolitan life in America and a home along this splendid line of travel will be a privilege limited only to the number of houses that can crowd down to the highway. Waubonsie's Trail will be a great white line of satisfaction and content across Iowa and into her sister states.—Shenandoah Sentinel.

## M. E. Church.

The meetings at the Methodist church are progressing with much interest. Several have decided for Christ, and the interest on the part of the church is interestingly growing deeper. The chorus choir and orchestra are doing most excellent work, and the special music is of the very best. A most cordial invitation is extended to every one. Additional seats are being provided so none need be turned away, as on last Sunday.

Cupid strings the bean.

## PER CAPITA WEALTH \$34.43.

Average under 1900 Census Was 67 Cents Higher.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 10.—The per capita wealth of the United States as based upon the new census figures is \$34.43. Under the census of 1900 it was computed by the Treasury Department as \$35.10. According to the latest estimate the total estimate of money now in circulation is \$3,211,550,465, against \$3,125,585,720 a year ago. The increase is reported by the coinage of gold.

## Stevens—Martin.

Last Wednesday evening, Feb. 8, occurred one of the pretty wedding events of the season at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Gardner, in Leon. The contracting parties being Mr. Lawrence Stevens and Mrs. Minnie Martin, both of Humeston, Iowa.

Promptly at 8 o'clock as the strains of the wedding march "Triumphal Ode," a composition of E. Mollet, was sounded upon the piano by Miss Alta Hart, of this city, the bridal company entered the parlor and took their position at the northwest corner of the room, where Rev. Chas. W. Reeder, pastor of the Leon First Baptist church, was awaiting to pronounce the words which united them in the holy bonds of matrimony, using the beautiful and impressive ring service.

The bride was attired in a becoming gown of dark brown Taffeta silk with trimmings of champagne embroidered silk net and ruching, and carried a bouquet of white carnations and ferns tied with an artistic bow of wide white silk ribbon. The groom wore a suit of dark gray.

Mr. Stevens has visited in Leon a number of times and has won many friends by her pleasing and cheerful disposition. Although Mr. Stevens is a stranger to the people of Leon, we know by his appearance that he is a gentleman in every way, and worthy of the woman he has chosen as his helpmate. A number of invited guests were in attendance at the ceremony and showered the couple with congratulations. After a pleasant evening in music and sociality the happy couple boarded the northbound evening train for Humeston, where Mr. Stevens is a valuable employ of the bakery in that city. Mr. and Mrs. Stevens will soon go to housekeeping in Humeston, amid showers of congratulations and best wishes of a happy wedded life.

## Walters—Hardinger.

Mr. Clark E. Walters, of Afton, and Miss Henrietta Hardinger, of Davis City, were married at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. Fred Epperley, in this city, at 12:30 Tuesday, the ceremony being performed in the presence of a number of relatives and friends, by Rev. E. M. Hoff, pastor of the M. E. church.

The house was beautifully decorated for the occasion, and after the ceremony a wedding repast was served. The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Hardinger, of Davis City, and is a beautiful and charming young lady. The groom is an energetic young man, who is well spoken of by all who know him, the son of prominent citizens of Afton.

The happy young couple will visit with relatives in this vicinity and Afton for about ten days and will then go to Walnut Grove, Minn., where they will make their home on a farm.

Among the out of town guests were Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Hardinger and daughter, Coral, of Davis City, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Hardinger, Mrs. M. V. Leason, Misses Ogal and Hazel Touet, Lela Bernard, and Josie Vandall, of Osceola; Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Walters, daughter Eva and sons Jesse, Glen and Floyd, Mrs. L. W. Allison and daughter, of Afton; Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Brown, of Murray.

## Has Any One Seen Kelley?

That is the unique inscription on a post card photo which we received the other day from Frank P. Kelley, of Peoria, Ill., several years ago a compositor in The Reporter office and now an expert linotype operator in a daily office at Peoria. On the card appears pictures of Mrs. Kelley and their three bright children. We have not seen Kelley for several years, but the card indicates that he is raising a pretty good family. Mrs. Kelley will be remembered as Miss Ethyl Penniwell, daughter of S. T. Penniwell, of this city, and she was also a compositor in The Reporter office for several years.

## Will Not Change Our Class.

We have been asked if the fact that the government census only gives Leon a population of 1991, will reduce Leon from a city of the second class to a town. It will not make any change, as under the laws of Iowa, the state census is used to govern all matters of state, county and city population, and not the government census. The last state census taken in 1905, gave Leon a population of 2077, so that Leon will still remain a city of the second class, not withstanding the alleged government census shows a population of only 1991.

## Marriage Licenses.

W. E. Wycoff, Grand River. . . . 21  
Elsie Bryant, Grand River. . . . 17  
Lawrence Stevens, Humeston. . . . 47  
Mrs. Minnie Martin, Humeston. . . . 43  
Clark Earl Walters, Afton. . . . 20  
Henrietta Hardinger, Davis City. . . . 19  
Carl Spidle, Garden Grove. . . . 22  
Hildah Phipps, Garden Grove. . . . 17

## CAINSVILLE COAL NEWS

Albia Coal Co. Leases 500 Acres and Will Commence Drilling Prospect Holes at Once.

Cainsville will have another coal mine. That was made certain last week when leases for about 500 acres were taken by representatives of the Albia Coal Company, of Albia, Iowa, who have been quietly working for some weeks to secure a block of land for the purpose of testing for coal.

The officers of the Albia Coal Company consist of the following: John Ramsey, President; Byron Harris, Vice President and Manager.

H. H. Harris, Sec. and Treas. L. R. Rosebrook, Sales Agt. This company also operates the Excelsior Coal Company at Oskaloosa, Iowa, and are a strong financial concern.

Mr. Rosebrook has been here about two weeks quietly working to secure leases on the proposed block and when the boys in the block were ready to sign up, Messrs H. H. and Byron Harris came down, and took leases for approximately 500 acres, and the prospects are that the block will soon be increased to 1000 acres and perhaps more. They offer a royalty of 10 cents per ton mine run which looks like a good proposition for the land owner.

They have selected a possible site for the shaft which will be on land owned by Estep & Oliphant and may lap over on land owned by Porter Reeves, though it may be necessary to change the site of the shaft when core drilling has been completed. The company has, however, taken options for the purchase of about 19 acres of land from the above gentlemen. This land is located three-quarters of a mile north and a half quarter west of the public square and is easy accessible for switch from the railroad.

Before leaving the gentlemen stated that they expected to have two and possibly more core drills at work and soon as they had sufficient land under lease to justify it and would push the test drilling as fast as possible and hoped to be able to begin sinking a shaft yet this year, but that does not seem possible in view of the time taken by the old company in test drilling.

Messrs John Ramsey and H. H. and Byron Harris arrived Tuesday and will spend some few days trying to increase their block to such a size as they will feel justified in beginning test drilling. There are a few small tracts necessary to make a solid block of their present holdings and they hope to get them while here.

This will make two strong coal companies operating in this field, and a third company is looking longingly towards us. Our guess is that the next few years will show a scramble among coal operators to locate in the Cainsville fields and our hills and valleys will be the home of half dozen or more companies.

The reason for this is found in the great superiority of the Cainsville coal over any coal mined in Iowa, and our coal is the equal of any mined in Illinois.

Cainsville certainly has a great future before her.—Cainsville News.

## Wycoff—Bryant.

On last Wednesday, Feb. 8, at the parlors of the Hotel Leon, occurred the marriage of Mr. W. E. Wycoff and Miss Elsie Bryant, both of Grand River. Elder J. S. Coffin, pastor of the Christian church officiating. A couple of friends of the contracting parties, Mr. and Mrs. Chick, also of Grand River, were the only witnesses. Mr. and Mrs. Wycoff are highly respected young people of their community and start life on a journey together with the best wishes of a large circle of friends. They will go to housekeeping for the present in Grand River.

## Spidle—Phipps.

Mr. Carl Spidle and Miss Hilda Phipps, two well known people of Garden Grove, were married at the clerk's office in this city Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Geo. F. Campbell, of Davis City. The happy young couple returned to Garden Grove on the afternoon train, where they will make their home.

## Another Mexican Veteran.

It seems as if we just can't kill off all those good old Mexican veterans living in Decatur county. A few weeks ago we stated that J. C. Crider, of Garden Grove, was the only one left living in Decatur county. Then we located A. S. Ladd, at Grand River, and now we find that there is still another one, Mr. J. P. Fisher, who lives near Lineville, and who saw some good hard service fighting for Uncle Sam in his skirmish with Mexico, many years ago. And still they appear. Since the above was written we learn that A. K. Keller, a well known resident of Woodland, is also a Mexican veteran. If there are any more in the county we would like to have their names reported.

Notice—The trustees of Eden township will receive sealed bids for the road work of Eden township for 1911 until 2 o'clock p. m., Feb. 25th. The trustees reserve the right to reject any or all bids.

C. F. Mills, Clerk.

## IOWA WINNER AT CORN SHOW.

Stephen Henry, of Melrose, Receives Automobile as Prize at Columbus, Ohio, Corn Show.

Prize winners in corn, grain and seed competition at the National Corn Show at Columbus, Ohio were announced on Saturday and Stephen Henry, of Melrose, Iowa, a 15 year old boy, won a prize of an automobile offered by the secretary of Agriculture for the best possible production per acre of corn. Jury Moore, another 15 year old boy, of Winona, S. C., also won an automobile, those two being the first prizes. First prize winners in the world's competition include: Oats, Fred McCulloch, Belle Plain, Iowa; Timothy seed, H. W. Burg, South Amana, Iowa; clover seed, Fred McCulloch, Belle Plain, Iowa.

## Water Works for Garden Grove.

Don't that sound good? Well it is possible and very probable. At the regular meeting of the council last Friday evening it was decided to circulate a petition among the voters of the community, calling an election for the purpose of voting bonds to build a water works system for fire protection, primarily. The plan is to build a steel water tower about eighty feet high that will hold several thousand gallons of water and lay a water main up Main street and make connections as needed. The estimated cost of the system proposed will be in the neighborhood of \$2500 or \$3000. There have been so many disastrous fires in so many of the nearby towns this winter that it makes one wonder if we won't be next, and it is very possible, with nothing whatever to fight fire with. How many thousands of dollars worth of property has been burned up in the town that any kind of fire protection would have saved. We have mentioned conditions in regard to this matter numerous times and are pleased that we have a council at last that will take some action. We believe that the majority of the people are in favor of the proposition and will be glad of the chance to do something to boost the enterprise along.

Don't be a knocker but when the petition is presented for the calling of the election sign it and when the time comes to vote, vote yes. We have the best little town in this part of the state and if you don't want to see it burned up some day, do your duty.—Garden Grove Express.

## Leon's New Depot.

A new depot has been built at Leon, Iowa, and the citizens of that town are to be congratulated. There is one thing that is absolutely necessary in these needed improvements, and that is a united effort by all the business men of a town—a continual never-let-up "boost" the kind that don't faint and fall over in it at the first failure. If the business men of Bethany would just buckle up their belts sufficiently tight to keep their "boosting pantaloons" from slipping down, and all push together, it would not be very long until there would be "something doing" in the depot line in this town. If there is any reason why a town the size of Bethany and one that does as much business as it does, should be obliged to put up with such a stifling shack as is used here for a depot, we would be pleased to have some one make that reason known.—Bethany Republican.

## A Birthday Surprise.

Monday, Feb. 14, 1911, being Miss Lola Shelton's birthday, her Sunday School class planned a very pleasant surprise for her. The little folks, whose ages range from 3 to 9 years, gathered at her home at 3:30, and a very pleasant hour was spent in playing games, after which light refreshments were served. The little ones took their departure leaving a lovely handkerchief shower and wishing Miss Lola many more such happy birthdays.

Those present were, Willard Wilson, Willard Kier, Dorothy Lunbeck, Don Brewer, Elmer Vanhorn, Willah Fisher, Olive Blades, Louie Lunbeck, Foyette Walker, Wilma Creech, Johnnie Lunbeck, Brown Akers, Flossie Caldwell, Georgie Haven and Leonard Akers.

## Gooding's Sale Dates.

February  
16—N. T. Rasmussen, Van Wert.  
17—C. C. Danielson, Coal Valley, Ill.  
18—H. B. Housh, Hopeville.  
20—Geo. B. Smith, Elston.  
21—Carl Brown, Van Wert.  
22—E. A. Adams, LaSalle.  
23—I. R. Blunt, Grand River.  
24—J. H. Millsp, Blockton.  
25—Henry Johnson, Tingley.  
27—Tom Sutherland, Davis City.  
28—George Hampton, LaSalle.  
Anyone wishing dates wire or phone as some may be called off.

## Senate Amends Sulloway Bill.

The Sulloway pension bill which was passed a couple of weeks ago by the lower house, was reported out of the senate committee Monday with an amendment changing the pension to be allowed to veterans over 75 years years old from \$36 to \$30 per month, and grave fears are entertained that the senate will refuse to pass the bill, as it is reported that President Taft will veto the bill if passed.

Hear the corn planter coming down the road? Tested it yet?