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AND IT HAD TO RAIN

Rain Spoiled Auto Day Last Thursday, and It was Postponed Until Saturday of this Week.

And it had to rain. After the weather bureau and all the local weather prophets had promised us fair weather for Leon's big Auto Day on last Thursday, J. Pluvius got busy early in the morning and turned his rain machinery loose, and the result was a heavy downpour of rain all forenoon, which prevented the hundreds of autos which had arranged to drive to Leon to attend Auto Day from putting in their appearance. But contrary to all expectations after it commenced raining, there was an immense crowd came to Leon. All of the early morning trains were packed with people, and thousands drove to Leon through the rain, and it was a jolly crowd which did not seem to mind the rain after the long drouth of the past summer.

The local committee saw that it would be necessary to call off all of the auto events in which the autos were to compete, as it was impossible for them to pull through the mud, and it was decided to postpone the auto program until Saturday of this week, Oct. 14th, when it will be held if the weather man will permit, with some slight changes in the program. The official program is published in full in this issue of The Reporter.

But there was something to amuse the big crowd with anyway. Bowsher & Bowsher had provided a big free electric theatre which was in operation all day and evening and the opera house was packed. The show gave the best of satisfaction and in the evening a number of local pictures were shown which afforded great amusement. Then too there was the free auto which Bowsher & Bowsher were to give to one of their customers that day, and Mr. J. M. Holloway, a farmer residing twelve miles southwest of Lamoni, was the owner of the fine Maxwell touring car which the award was announced. Mr. Holloway is a typical Missouri farmer, in moderate circumstances, and blessed with a good wife and six charming daughters and they will make good use of the auto which was given them through the generosity of Bowsher & Bowsher.

Congressman H. M. Towner spoke at the opera house at 1 o'clock, the hall being crowded. Judge Towner is always a popular speaker in Leon, and on this occasion he was at his best, and he had a good subject, taboos and speaking on a subject of vital importance to all "Good Roads." His address was a splendid one, and it was enjoyed by everyone in the big audience. Congressman Towner spent a whole day and met with many of the personal friends he made in this county during the many years he served on the bench.

The Mysterious Stranger proved to be too mysterious for anyone, and who do you think he was. Mr. L. D. Garber, the well known farmer of Center township. Small bills were circulated giving a description of him, his size, kind of clothes he wore, where he would eat dinner, that he would visit both banks, Bowsher & Bowsher's store, and other information, and hundreds of strangers had people pointing their finger at them and saying the required words during the day. At 4 o'clock in the evening Mr. Garber was introduced to the big crowd, and it was announced that not a single person had located him, so no one got the \$5.00 prize. There will be another Mysterious Stranger in Leon on Saturday. Watch for the small bills and try and win the \$5.00 prize by locating him.

A special feature secured by the committee for the program on Saturday is a cavalry drill by twelve young ladies on horse back, who reside at Garden Grove, and had prepared the drill for the Corn Picnic which was also spoiled by the rain. They will be worth coming to Leon to see.

Reports from neighboring towns and cities show that many big delegations of autos were ready to come to Leon last Thursday, and they will be here next Saturday.

Bring your whole family and come to Leon Saturday. There is a big program of amusements which are all free.

It is possible that Mr. U. G. Reininger, of Shenandoah, president of the Waukesha Trail Association will be in Leon Saturday, and if it is possible for him to be here he will be one of the speakers. Hon. V. R. McGinnis has been secured to make an address on "The Value of Good Roads" at 11 o'clock.

The big Velle racing cars were shipped to this city to give their exhibition, and the drivers were at Des Moines, phoning to Mr. J. R. Bowsher from that city to see if it was raining at Leon, and he released them from coming to Leon, but the cars were already on the way.

One plucky auto driver, Ray Whiteley, of Allerton, drove his car through the mud from Allerton and he was given a pair of auto gloves, the prize for the car coming the longest distance. The prize will be duplicated again on Saturday.

If there ever was a real genuine booster in Leon that man is J. R. Bowsher. To his efforts were due the attendance of the big crowd which was in Leon last Thursday. Mr. Bowsher spent a big sum of money and devoted much time to pushing Auto Day, and had the weather not been against us, there would have been the largest crowd Alta M. Dunham, Leon,..... 18

here ever seen in Leon. Take off your hat to Mr. Bowsher. He deserves it.

Had a Fine Trip.

E. E. Bell and C. W. Robinson returned Tuesday noon from a trip to Boston, Mass., where they attended the ninth annual convention of the stockholders of the United Drug Co., the manufacturers of Rexall goods. Nearly 2,000 stockholders, many of them accompanied by their families were in attendance, coming from every section of the United States and Canada, while others came from distant places, such as England, Hawaii and the West Indies. A little over eight years ago the company had 32 stockholders, today it has 5,000, comprising the leading druggists of every part of the country. The convention lasted three days, and during their stay in Boston the visitors were shown every attention, there being a big program of luncheons, banquets and amusements of all kinds, many thousands of dollars being spent for the entertainment of the delegates. On Wednesday a special train took the party to Revere Beach, where a luncheon was served at the Lynnway Club, one of the largest clubhouses in America. After a delightful lunch a special performance of an old-fashioned one ring circus was given, which was followed by a splendid program of unique and entertaining outdoor sports, handsome prizes being awarded the successful contestants. The convention was brought to a close on Thursday evening by a banquet held in the great hall of The Arena, and it was the swellest banquet ever served in old Boston. Messrs. Bell & Robinson visited at Niagara Falls, Buffalo, New York and other cities while away, and return home feeling that the time and money was well spent, the returns in securing new and up-to-date ideas in the drug business being ample compensation, to say nothing of the pleasure of the delightful trip.

Growing Dried Raspberries.

We enjoyed a pleasant call last Saturday from Mr. Levi Hummon, of Leipsic, Ohio, who stopped off here for a day's visit with his old friend and neighbor, Mr. W. H. Snyder, of northeast of Leon, being on his way home from an extended trip to the Pacific coast. He told us of seeing a curious fruit ranch in the Payette Valley, near Payette, Idaho, in the manner in which the crop is raised and cured. It was the famous Stewart raspberry ranch, and the proprietor has forty acres in raspberries, all irrigated land. He plants the berries in long rows and each year bends the tops of the sprouts over and sticks them in the ground so that they take root. They are allowed to grow in this manner, the berries remaining on the vines until they are ripe and dried up. Then he takes a machine of his own invention which cuts the vines with the berries still on them, leaving the new shoot to bear the following year. The vines which are cut are bound in bundles and hauled to his packing house, where they are thrown in a big tight box about sixteen feet square, where two men thresh them with old fashioned flails. The dried berries fall to the bottom and the vines are taken out with pitchforks and used for fuel. Then the berries are put through another machine of Mr. Stewart's invention, which removes all stems, another machine like a big fanning mill takes out all of the dirt and finally a machine grades them into three sizes and they are packed for market.

Closing Out Sale.

Having decided to reduce my stock of up-to-date fall and winter millinery goods, I will sell at greatly reduced prices for the next 10 days. The stock consists of the 1911 styles of pattern hats, children's hats, and baby caps, ornaments, feathers, ribbons, hat pins, hair nets, etc. Here is a chance for you to secure your fall and winter goods at greatly reduced prices. Come in and get my prices and inspect my stock. It is a pleasure to show goods whether you buy or not, and be convinced that I mean business. I can show you that I can save you from 50 to 100 per cent on your purchases. Come while the line is full and complete and get your choice. Remember the place, one door west of the hotel on the south side of the public square.

Respectfully yours for business,
MRS. R. P. CHAMBERLIN,
The Up-to-date Milliner,
Decatur, Iowa.

New Court House For Princeton.

After voting on the proposition to issue bonds to build a new court house at Princeton, Mo., six times, the voters of Mercer county, Missouri, last week carried the proposition by a good majority, there being 1473 votes in favor of the proposition and only 369 against it. The proposition carried in every township in the county except one, where the majority against it was one vote. The new building is to cost \$75,000 and the citizens of Princeton pledged themselves to buy a suitable site for the new court house. And when the proposition is completed there will be other improvements follow at Princeton, and the citizens of Mercer county will never regret building the new court house.

Marriage Licenses.

W. D. Lionberger, Leon,..... 41
Margaret Keim, Leon,..... 29
Roscoe C. Reynolds, Leon,..... 23
Alta M. Dunham, Leon,..... 18

M'GINNIS IS FAVORED

Hon. V. R. McGinnis for Temporary Chairman of the Next Democratic State Convention.

Hon. V. R. McGinnis, of Leon, will probably be the temporary chairman of the next democratic state convention held in Iowa. Mr. McGinnis is recognized throughout the state as one of the ablest and most loyal democrats, and as a speaker he has few equals. He has spoken in many parts of the state in the campaigns of past years, and he would make an address as temporary chairman which would go down in history as one of the ablest addresses ever delivered before a democratic state convention in Iowa. He is thoroughly conversant with democratic principles and keeps in close touch with national and state affairs, and he would sound the keynote of the national and state campaigns of next year in a manner which would arouse the greatest enthusiasm among the democrats of the state as well as the nation. Mr. McGinnis and his friends who are urging his selection as temporary chairman have received many letters from prominent and influential democrats from all parts of the state pledging their support to him, and at this time his selection for the honor seems almost assured. The state committee could select no man better qualified, or who would make a better address.

State Fire Marshal Was Here.

State Fire Marshal Ole C. Roe, of Des Moines, made an official visit to Leon last Friday and inspected the business section of the city, as provided for by the new law. Mr. Roe did not make public his findings, but asked for a plat showing the locations of certain frame buildings in the business section, and this has been sent to him, and the result of his visit will probably be made public in a few days. He has ordered a number of buildings removed in other cities of Iowa under the law which went into effect July 4, of this year, which provides for a state fire marshal who shall make official inspections and whenever he shall find any buildings or structure, which by want of proper repair or by reason of age and dilapidated condition, or for any other cause, is especially liable to fire, and is so situated as to endanger other buildings or property therein, shall order them removed, and such order shall be complied with forthwith. Mr. Roe stated while in the city that Leon was with few exceptions one of the best built up cities he had visited. That it was not the intention of his department to inflict needless hardships or expense on property owners, but that the rights of owners of substantial business blocks to be protected from fire must be protected. His findings in regard to the buildings he inspected in this city are expected within a few days.

The Afternoon Party.

Leon women, who have been going to afternoon parties (there are no other kind) for hundreds of years, say that these subjects are discussed at the parties. The fat women talk about how they hate to be fat. The thin women say how they wish they had some of it. Then some woman tells of the amount of work she has done that week, and the other women tell what they have accomplished. Then some woman says she does wish that tight sleeves would go out and the big ones come back. Some other woman sticks up for tight sleeves and there is a hot discussion. Some woman says she does wish we could have cooler weather, or warmer weather, as the case might be. Some one else says she dearly loves summer or hates it, and there is another heated discussion. Then some woman says to another woman: "Have you read so-and-so?" "The other woman says, 'No, but have you read such-and-such a book?'" Then literature is discussed. By that time refreshments are served, and after that the conversation consists in telling the hostess what a lovely time everyone has had and the party is over.

Will Soon Celebrate 100th Birthday.

Mrs. Catherine Lusk, mother of W. B. E. Lusk, of this city, was born in Western Virginia on Oct. 13, 1811. She expects to celebrate her 100th birthday within a short time. Early in life she came with her parents to Indiana, where in early womanhood she was joined in marriage to John Lusk, she coming to Des Moines county, Iowa, in 1840. To this union were born four children, her son here being the only survivor—the others and husband passing on years ago. The Lusks are old settlers in Lucas county, and this aged lady has been wonderfully blessed with health and strength and is still active as many whose allotment of years has not reached three score and ten.—Chariton Leader.

Presbyterian Church Notes.

Preaching next Sabbath at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m., with preaching by the pastor, Rev. E. N. Bradshaw. Sabbath school 9:45. Frank Allen, superintendent. Junior Endeavor, 3 p. m. Senior Endeavor, 6:30 p. m. Prayer meeting and teachers training every Thursday at 8 p. m. A cordial welcome to strangers in city.

The money that a woman spends is never for the bonnet, but always for the fancy things. The milliner puts upon it.

A GREAT FURNITURE STORE.

F. S. Stewart Secures Lease for New Quarters and will Have Finest Furniture Store in Southern Iowa.

F. S. Stewart has just closed a lease for the entire second floor of the big Biggs building on north Main street, and workmen are now at work remodeling the building, installing an elevator and making other improvements, which when completed will give him the finest and largest store room in southern Iowa. Mr. Stewart has felt the need of more room for his big and growing furniture and undertaking business, although his present quarters are larger than most stores of this kind in Iowa. He will remove his undertaking stock to the second floor, where it can be displayed to advantage, and a portion of the second floor will be used for storage purposes for furniture. The removal of the undertaking stock to the second floor will give him needed floor space on the ground floor for several new lines of goods. Many large orders for additional furniture and rug stock have been placed which will soon be received, and when they are installed he will have the largest stock of furniture and rugs to be found in all southern Iowa. He carries a line of furniture not usually found outside of the larger cities, but his trade has grown so that it demands it. Stewart's furniture store is attracting buyers from many of the surrounding towns, as buyers find that they have a most complete stock to select from and the prices are more reasonable than in the cities. When the improvements are completed Leon will have a furniture store of which it can well be proud. It is a step in the right direction and will bring added trade to the city.

City Council Votes to Allow Rejected Pipes Used.

For several weeks there has been a controversy going on between the city council and the Des Moines Bridge & Iron Works, who have the contract for installing the waterworks, over the question of variation in the weight of the pipes used in putting in the mains. Several weeks ago when it was found that the weights as marked on the pipes were in many cases incorrect, the council voted that all of the pipe must be rejected and that a variation of 5 per cent from the regulation weight should be rejected. This was done and it was found that about one-sixth of all pipe would be rejected. The contractors claimed that while the specifications provided that only a 2 per cent variation should be allowed, that the standard rules allowed for a 5 per cent variation, and Mr. Chase of the Iowa Engineering Co., who drew the plans and specifications wrote that it was his intention to provide for 5 per cent variation, although in the specification it reads 2 per cent. Several special meetings of the council were held at the request of the contractors who tried to get the city council to accept all pipe which did not vary more than 5 per cent, but they refused to recede from their position to have the terms of the specification complied with until Thursday, when on motion of councilman Varga the council reconsidered the matter and by a vote of three to two decided to allow them to use all pipe which did not vary more than 5 per cent on each piece, councilmen Varga, Akes and Ogilvie voting in favor of the motion and councilmen Gardner and Cash voting in favor of having the pipe conform to the specifications. It is claimed by the councilmen who voted in favor of the motion that a refusal to allow the pipe to be used would result in a law suit for the city and a delay in having the waterworks installed, and that the court would be called upon to pass upon the intent of the specifications, and with the city's engineer stating that the intention was to allow five per cent the court would probably allow a modification of the specifications to conform to the intent. On the other hand councilmen Gardner and Cash insist that the specifications were read and accepted by the contractors, and that they provided for only 2 per cent variation and that the city was entitled to have the work put in exactly according to specifications. There is considerable difference of opinion among our citizens in the matter, and it has been discussed a good deal on the streets. But the matter is now settled and the company will use the pipe which does not vary more than 5 per cent. All pipe which varies more than 5 per cent will be rejected and there is about a car load of it which was shipped here which the city will not allow to be used.

Old Comrades Together.

We were favored with a call Tuesday from our old friend, W. R. Slack of Jackson township, and his comrade of war times, Abe Blakesley, of Leon. Both attended the reunion of their old regiment, the Third Iowa cavalry held at Centerville last week, and after the reunion was over Mr. Slack insisted on Mr. Blakesley going home with him to his farm near Hardway, where the two spent several days together recalling old times, both in the army and when they were comrades together in the days when they ran barefooted together "before the war." Mr. Blakesley took the train at this place to return to his home near Leon Tuesday afternoon, and we venture the assertion that the remembrance of that visit with his old comrade will long linger in his memory.—Corydon Democrat.

SHOT WHILE HUNTING

William Sowers Dies from Wound Received by the Accidental Discharge of Companion's Gun.

William Sowers, a member of the insurance firm of Ellis, Hoiland & Sowers, and one of the best known insurance men in Des Moines, died at 1:05 a. m. Monday morning, at Mercy hospital, the result of being accidentally shot in the leg by his friend Fred A. Townsend, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Townsend, of Decatur City, who has been engaged in the insurance business in Des Moines for several years.

Mr. Sowers and Mr. Townsend had gone to the Flynn farm 10 miles northwest of Des Moines on Saturday for a day's squirrel hunting. They were bosom friends and had enjoyed many previous excursions together. Along in the afternoon they were getting ready to return to the city, after a successful day's hunt, when Mr. Sowers discovered that they had killed thirteen squirrels and remarked that they would have to kill another one to break the hoodoo. They soon found another squirrel and Mr. Townsend shot it, the little animal falling from the tree wounded, but started to run around another tree, and both men took after it, trying to strike it with their guns. In some manner the gun carried by Mr. Townsend which he was using as a club, was discharged and the heavy charge of shot struck Mr. Sowers in the leg. Help was at once summoned by Mr. Townsend and he was taken to the Flynn home, where first aid was given, and a physician summoned from Des Moines. Later Mr. Sowers was removed to the hospital, and it was not thought that the wound would be fatal, but the great loss of blood which he had sustained and the nervous shock overmatched his powers of resistance, and although he made a brave fight for life he sank away.

Mr. Townsend is heartbroken over the terrible accident, but no blame is attached to him, as the shooting was one of those unlooked for accidents which always have and always will in a measure follow those who indulge in the pleasure of hunting.

A Leon Reunion in Chicago.

By a happy coincidence several acquaintances of Leon and vicinity met in Chicago last Sunday and enjoyed together a five course banquet at The Great Northern Hotel. Those present were: Dr. Ralph Sears, attending Northwestern Dental College; Dr. Paul Stookey, Junior at Chicago College of Medicine and Surgery; John F. Hurst, with Lord & Thomas; Dr. W. G. Jeffries, Internist at Mercy Hospital; Dr. Fred A. Bowman, taking Post Graduate work at Augustana and Policlinic Hospital; E. E. Bell and Claude W. Robinson, returning from a business trip to Boston and New York; Dr. J. M. Lovett, of Lineville, and Marlon Wasson, of Davenport, were also present.

A most enjoyable time was had. Doctors Sears and Stookey gave valuable professional advice to their Leon friends there present. Dr. Bowman told a really true story in his inimitable way. John Hurst talked on advertising and advocated more publicity in the medical profession. He created some comment by his insistence that Van Camp Baked Beans be served with every course, and Doctor Jeffries hoped that his wife wouldn't find out about the dinner. Ed Bell and Claude Robinson, who were returning from a meeting of the Rexall Company in Boston, were very critical, asserting that the winners were not cooked as they took them in Boston. Doctor Lovett acted as mediator, while Marlon Wasson sang a vocal selection, after which the gathering dispersed.

The Card of Thanks.

Of all the absolutely senseless things that were ever printed in a newspaper, the card of thanks is the most foolish. Of course everyone is thankful for help in time of trouble, but the printing of it in a public paper should never be done. The paper thing is in very bad taste. Thank for the flowers and for the singing might with equal grace extend to the sexton, the undertaker and the driver of the hearse. The man who made the casket, the man who engraved the nameplate and the man who made the plumes for the horses' heads could be with equal propriety be included. No one would be offended if they did not get them. We have charged for cards of thanks for years and we are going to make the price high enough so that no one will want one in this paper. Not because we care for the space it occupies, not because we are unsympathetic, but because we want to discountenance this senseless thing.—Britt Tribune.

Public Take Notice.

The city has made arrangements whereby all garbage may be dumped in large ditch north of Ball Park in Arthur Forbes' pasture. Please see that the refuse is taken there. J. L. Mitchell, Marshal.

Crown Chapel.

Preaching at Crown Chapel next Sabbath at 3 p. m., by Rev. E. N. Bradshaw. All are invited.

The farmer who lost his half bushel measure was in more than a peck of trouble.

Fairs and Farmers' Affairs.

The first fair I attended was held at Leon, Iowa, on the eight acre tract of ground just north of the Jonathan Hamilton residence. Cal Hoffman and his sister ran a cigar and fruit stand just inside the grounds. The race track was about two hundred yards around. A little grey team hitched to a top buggy, the inside one trotted, the running mate on the outside, did a great feat at speeding as it seemed to me. I was only a small lad then. I attended most of the county fairs held at Leon as long as they continued. After that the first state fair I attended was held on the old grounds in west Des Moines, on the Coon river. I was at the state fair this year, making six times I have attended on the present grounds. Now, all who have attended the fair know of the improvements on the grounds and of the growth in every way, both in the attendance and in the exhibits, and it is now conceded to be the biggest and best state fair in the United States, and for a change from regular work and for a three or four days recreation and education there is nothing in its line so good as our state fair. Of course our state fair has absorbed most of our county and district fairs but our Corn Picnic and our Farmers' Institute, Teachers' Meeting, Breeders' Stock Show, are better than our county fair ever was. Those affairs are now morally clean, up-to-date and instructive for men, women and children, and all. Our Corn Jubilee has grown from a little local affair for a few hundred people to several thousand, and people in different states time their fall visit here now for the Corn Picnic. Two of the most noted scientific agricultural writers and speakers have been here. I refer to "Uncle Henry Waller" and Joseph E. Wing, and Senator Kenyon promised to come back again next year. The Farmers' Institute, Breeders' Stock Show and Teachers' Meeting will be held this year the earliest it has ever been, the 2nd, 3rd and 4th of November. There will be a good program in each line. Last year there was the best lot of colts ever shown in the county, also a lot of good calves and the most interest taken in the show for years. The single expert judging system is absolutely fair to all competitors and is instructive.

Now if the people will all help and take a little more interest we can have the best Farmers' Institute and Stock Show that Leon has ever had. A. H. Metts, President Decatur County Breeders' Association.

Many Farmers are Swindled in Buying Hail Insurance.

Who ever heard of the Home Mutual Hail Insurance Co., of Cherokee, Iowa? About one hundred of the well known and substantial farmers of Wayne county took out insurance policies, protecting their crops against destruction by hail from an oily tongued stranger who was in the county a few months ago. The man led our citizens to believe that the insurance was cheap and would for a dollar or two protect them against hail storms. The result was that he sold a great many policies. These policies even contained a clever little clause which no one noticed, which made it possible for the company to assess each policy holder as high as four per cent.

About two weeks ago each of these gentlemen received a notice of a 2 1/2 per cent assessment which amounted to as high as \$100 in some cases and seldom less than \$25. The policies were all taken out for five years, so one can see at once what the assessments might amount to. A regular hold-up.

A meeting of the different policy holders was held in Corydon last Saturday and it was decided to employ attorneys and attempt to resist the collection of this assessment. Miles & Steele and C. W. Elson were secured and they were given the policies. It was decided to settle with the company if understood that the policies would be cancelled. If the company will not grant such a settlement the case will be carried to the district court.

The majority of these gentlemen who bought policies, live in the southern part of the county and are among our most successful farmers. The assessment of 2 1/2 per cent in this county will amount to over ten thousand dollars. Attorneys Steele and Elson left Monday for Cherokee, but no word has been received as to the negotiations which are under way between these gentlemen and the company.—Corydon Times-Republican.

THE RUNAWAY GIRL.

New Two Act Comedy Cocktail With Music.

The next attraction at the Leon Opera House, is Edwin Patterson's latest success "The Runaway Girl," which is a comedy mixture filled with bright new musical numbers. Patterson has handled the Andrews Opera Company, Boston Ideal and Beggar Prince Co's., for a number of years, but this season turns to something more up-to-date to keep up with the public demands. Miss Phillis Dave is featured with "The Runaway Girl," has an excellent supporting company and the famous Broiler Girl singing and dancing chorus. The comedy runs largely to Dutch and a tough waiter and the musical numbers are a big feature. Will appear at the Leon Opera House, Thursday night, October 19.

What the corn heard with its ears the potato saw with its own eyes.