

ESTABLISHED 1854.

LEON, IOWA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1915.

VOLUME LXI, NO. 22

MET DEATH IN BLIZZARD

Will Ledgerwood, Former Leon Resident, Was Frozen to Death in a Big California Blizzard.

Will Ledgerwood, who resided in Leon for a number of years, and who traveled as a salesman for the Pingree & Smith Shoe Co., of Detroit, Mich., was recently frozen to death in California, the following account of his death being taken from last week's Osceola Democrat:

Handled a Million and a Quarter Dollars.

But few people realize the immense sums of money which pass through the hands of the treasurer of Decatur county each year. Mr. W. C. Cozad who retired from the treasurer's office the first of the year, after serving four years as county treasurer, kept an accurate account of all the monies which passed through his hands during his four years and when he figured them up they were a surprise even to him, for the total amount which he had handled was \$1,285,615.10.

Another Farm House Burned.

The two story farm residence on the farm of Capt. J. D. Brown, two miles north of Leon, was totally destroyed by fire shortly after noon last Thursday. The farm is occupied by John Myers, and Mr. and Mrs. Myers had been to Leon and when they drove into the yard Mrs. Myers noticed smoke coming out of the roof.

Million Dollar Mystery Starts Tonight.

The \$10,000 prize photo play, "The Million Dollar Mystery" from the story by Harold Macgrath, the most stupendous motion picture ever conceived, 46 reels, nine miles of film, love, romance and adventure, starts this evening at the popular Idle Hour theatre, the first show opening at 7 o'clock.

Installed I. O. O. F. Officers.

Prof. J. M. Howell, of Davis City, district deputy, installed the new officers of the Leon Odd Fellows lodge last Friday evening, there being a big attendance. He also installed the officers of the Weldon lodge on Saturday evening. Mr. Howell is one of the best posted Odd Fellows in the state, and for the first time since this work was dropped by Col. Peck 32 years ago, he installed the officers without once using a ritual, having the entire installation service committed to memory, and this added greatly to the pleasure and impressiveness of the ceremony.

Notice!

Sealed bids will be received up to noon, Feb. 1st, for the road work in Woodland township. The board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

WAR TAX STAMPS ON REAL PROPERTY CONVEYANCES.

Regulations Governing the Placing of Stamps Issued by Commissioner Osborn.

Washington, Jan. 6.—Regulations to govern the placing of stamps on conveyances of real property in payment of the war tax, were issued to-night by Commissioner of Internal Revenue Osborn. The tax is 50 cents on deeds that amount to over \$100 and less than \$500, and 50 cents additional for each \$500 or fraction over \$500.

The regulations make it plain that where the consideration is nominal or \$1 the tax must be computed upon the actual value of the property conveyed. Hens deducted and the executor becomes liable for the penalty if the proper amount of stamps is not affixed.

The commissioner announced that while a register of deeds is not expected to investigate where he suspects violation of the law, he should in such case notify the proper revenue collector.

Marriage Certificates Require Stamps.

There has been considerable discussion in regard to whether revenue stamps must be affixed to marriage certificates. In response to a request from one of the local pastors of the city Frank F. Fuller, of the law firm of Fuller & Fuller, gave it as his opinion that stamps were required on certificates issued to the bride and groom but that stamps were not required on the certificate returned to the clerk of the court. To verify his opinion Mr. Fuller wrote the following letter to the revenue collector at Dubuque:

Mt. Airy, Iowa, Dec. 26, 1914.

Internal Revenue Collector, Dubuque, Iowa.—Numerous disputes have arisen regarding the placing of stamps and tax on marriage certificates and we are writing you to know your opinion. You know a certificate is made out to the bride and one to the groom and one to be filed with these require stamp of 10 cents? Hoping to hear from you soon regarding the matter, we remain, Your very truly,

Fuller & Fuller.

In reply to the letter to the Internal Revenue Collector says:

"If certificate is given to groom, stamp it; if certificate is given to bride, stamp it; if certificate is given to both, stamp them. Certificate returned to clerk requires no stamp."

Mt. Airy Record News.

F. H. Cozad is New Councilman.

At an adjourned meeting of the city council held Tuesday evening F. H. Cozad was elected as councilman-at-large to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of C. M. Akes from the city, and the council could not have made a better selection of a man to take Mr. Akes' place. The council also appointed a committee to secure figures and see what it will cost the city to install the necessary machinery to do the city water pumping and city street lighting, a controversy having arisen with the Leon Electric Light Co. over the price to be paid for pumping the water and the council believes they can do their own pumping and street lighting cheaper than what it is now costing them.

Old Paper and Letter.

J. M. Pickering brought to this office Monday a pretty old paper, it being a copy of the Quincy, Ill., Herald, dated June 10, 1861, and the paper is dressed in mourning on account of the death of Senator Stephen A. Douglas. Among other news items in the paper is an item from Dubuque, saying two companies of the Third Iowa Volunteers arrived there from Cedar Falls under command of Capt. Smith and Trumbull, enroute to Keokuk.

Dustin Farnum Comes Monday Night.

One of the biggest special attractions ever booked by the Idle Hour theatre is Dustin Farnum in "The Squaw Man," which comes to Leon next Monday evening. It is one of the big feature plays with an actor of national reputation in the leading role. It is a picture which will be shown in very few towns as small as Leon, and if you want to see something extra good don't miss this special attraction. Prices will be 10 and 15 cents.

Annual Bank Meeting.

The annual meeting of the stockholders and directors of The Exchange National Bank was held on Tuesday, all of the present directors and officers being re-elected. The past year has been one of the most prosperous in the history of the bank and they start-out with splendid prospects for another big increase in business the coming year.

Notice.

We wish to announce to the public that our special sale on all winter goods will continue all this week and next. All honest prices and genuine bargains. Come in and let us prove it to you.

J. A. McIntosh, Leon Clothing Co.

Special Saturday.

One pound Chocolate Molasses chips, a chip of the old block, 19c the pound. Bell & Robinson.

THE ASSESSORS MET

The Men Who Will List Your Property for Taxation This Year Agree on Valuations.

The assessors of Decatur county, twenty-six in number, were in session at the court house in this city Monday receiving their supplies from auditor Osborn, and agreeing on valuations for assessment purposes for this year.

The assessors will have considerable additional work to do this year as the state census is to be taken and the assessors have this enumeration to make in addition to their other duties.

The assessors organized by selecting T. E. Wallace, of Leon, as chairman, and J. E. Anderson, of Fayette township, as secretary. After a full discussion of the matter the following valuations were adopted as a basis for making the assessments this year:

- Yearling colts, \$36.00.
- Two year old colts, \$56.00.
- Horses, \$64.00.
- Stallions, 2/3 of actual cash valuation at the discretion of the assessor.
- Mules, \$60.00.
- Cattle on feed, 5c per pound.
- Yearling heifers, \$20.00.
- Two year old heifers, \$24.00.
- Cows, \$28.00.
- Yearling steers, \$24.00.
- Two year old steers, \$32.00.
- Three year old steers, \$40.00.
- Bulls, \$40.00.
- Hogs, 6c per pound.
- Sheep, \$4.00.
- Goats, \$2.00.

It was decided to leave land valuations on an average the same as two years ago.

The following assessors were in attendance at the meeting:

- Bloomington—J. H. Sisco.
- Burrill—J. T. Matteson.
- Center—Sam Garber.
- Davis City—A. G. Craig.
- Decatur City—Ray Havens.
- Decatur—John Hanner.
- Eden—Milt Manchester.
- Fayette—J. E. Anderson.
- Franklin—J. F. Howell.
- Garden Grove town—L. A. Stearns.
- Garden Grove township—W. F. Monroe.
- Grand River town—Bird Day.
- Grand River township—Fred Trower.
- Hamilton—Hayes McClaran.
- High Point—B. F. Aten.
- Leon—T. E. Wallace.
- Long Creek—C. E. Ramsey.
- Lamoni—Frank Hopkins.
- LaRoy—C. G. Boor.
- Morgan—H. R. Perkins.
- New Buda—Charles Wamble.
- Pleasanton—Fred Killiany.
- Pichland—Ira Brown.
- Van Wert—S. C. McKee.
- Weldon—Clyde Garton.
- Woodland—E. H. Carver.

A Fine Country Home.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Akes, after a residence of many years in Leon, have shaken the dust of the city from their feet and have moved to their fine new country home just south of Leon, and while their many friends are mighty sorry to lose them as citizens of Leon they are glad they are removing to a place just outside the city limits. When the old house on the fine farm burned last fall, he immediately commenced the erection of a modern country home, where they could enjoy all the comforts of life, and a few days ago the house was completed and they moved out. The new house is one of the best country homes in Decatur county, nine rooms, the interior being oak finish, and with every modern convenience. It is an ideal country home and so close to town that they can still enjoy all the comforts of city life. The Akes home has always been a hospitable one, and they now have a home where they can entertain their many friends in fine style.

Mr. Akes has been an active business man and citizen of Leon for many years, serving on the city council and other positions which occupied much of his time, and he will be missed sadly in these lines. For a year past he has been closing up many of his business deals and says he is going to enjoy life a little more from now on, free from all cares except his private interests. And he and his good wife certainly deserve to take life pretty easy.

It's A Real Boy.

There was considerable confusion at the Burlington depot Thursday morning when operator Earl Epperley in charge of the first trick failed to show up to handle the early morning passenger trains. A messenger was dispatched to his home to see what was the matter, and found Earl all right, but he sent word back to tell the dispatcher he would have to get some one else to take train orders that day for he was too busy taking care of the new boy which arrived at their home that morning, and a little thing like running the Burlington passenger trains was a too every day occurrence for him, when it was the first time he had ever been a papa. But he managed to report for duty all O. K. the next morning.

Park Hotel Changes Hands.

C. R. Barnhizer has traded the Park Hotel property in this city to Clyde Mitchell, of Saline, Mo., for a farm of 120 acres near Saline, and he will move on the farm this spring while Mr. Mitchell will take charge of the hotel. The hotel was traded in at \$5,500 and the farm was taken at \$2,500 per acre. The trade was negotiated by John and George Gray of this city.

LEON GOSPEL TEAM CONDUCTS SERVICES.

Twenty-One Men Came From Leon and Held Services at Methodist Church.

The service at the Methodist church last Sunday evening was different from any ever held there before. The people had learned that the Leon Gospel Team would have charge of the meeting. The pastor had promised that he would say nothing but would turn the men loose. Whether it was out of curiosity to see what the men could do or because of the relief promised by the silence of the pastor it might not be well to say, but at any rate there was present the largest congregation that has assembled in the church on any Sunday in many months.

Twenty-one men had come down from Leon, and they occupied seats in the choir loft. Prof. O. M. Gass, the leader of the team, was in charge of the meeting. Each one of the men in turn rose and stated in a few words his desire to serve Christ and his enjoyment of working for Him. A sextette rendered two special selections during the evening. So sincere were the words of the men and so evidently in enthusiastic were they over their work that when Prof. Gass quietly remarked, "Now, all you men that want to belong to a Gospel Team here in Mt. Airy come down here," twenty-one men responded and came down to the front while the Leon visitors hung over the choir rail and applauded the volunteers.

Then standing before the assembly the new recruits with uplifted right hands took the vow, "I'll never flinch, and were given the prayer, "O, Lord send a revival, and may it begin in me." R. C. Smith was elected leader of the team and the first piece of work assigned was that the team should have charge of the regular prayer meeting Thursday evening after which a promise to plan to be in attendance at that meeting was secured from so many of the congregation that the prayer meeting this week threatens to overflow its usual boundaries.

Since the organization of the team others have said that they want to become members and the recruiting station will probably be opened again in the near future. Meanwhile, keep your eye on that prayer meeting!—Mt. Airy Record News.

Revenue Law—Overdrafts.

The commissioner of Internal Revenue, under date of Nov. 9, 1914 published a digest of rulings (T. D. 2951) applicable to the emergency revenue law of October 22, 1914, which he cites the following ruling for the information and guidance of all concerned:

Checks used as promissory notes are an acknowledgment of a debt, and must be stamped accordingly—that is, at the rate of two cents per one hundred dollars or fraction thereof. (Vol. 2, Treas. Dec. 1898, No. 20463.) Under this decision, where checks are issued in excess of bank balance thus causing an overdraft, the check which creates such overdraft must be stamped at the rate of two cents per hundred dollars or fraction thereof, and all subsequent checks must be similarly stamped until the amount is made good. An overdraft, even though secured by collateral, is only another name for a loan, and evasions of the law through such device can not be permitted. In like manner, taking for credit and holding until maturity a post dated check is in fact a loan and should be treated accordingly.

That if any person shall make, sign or issue, or cause to be made, signed, or issued, any instrument, document or paper of any kind or description whatsoever, without the same being duly stamped for denoting the tax hereby imposed thereon, or without having thereupon an adhesive stamp to denote said tax, such person shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall pay a fine of not more than one hundred dollars, at the discretion of the court.

Exchange National Bank, Farmers & Traders State Bank, Leon, Iowa.

WARNING!

Girls looking for employment are warned against advertisements of positions in San Francisco during the Panama Exposition. Almost every good place is already taken and the places that will be open to new girls going from other states are almost certain to be dangerous ones. No girl will be safe in San Francisco who does not go under the care of friends, or who has not first written to the Travelers' Aid Society. Address: Travelers' Aid Society, San Francisco, California.

This warning is published by the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs for the protection of Iowa girls.

For Sale or Trade.

160 acres in Faulk county, South Dakota, 4 miles from the county seat. Land is fall plowed and ready for a crop. Close to school. No buildings. This is a choice quarter and we will sell at a reasonable price or exchange for Decatur county land. If interested address, G. W. Blair, secretary Lamoni Land and Loan Co., Lamoni, Iowa. 19-4t

Marriage Licenses.

Ira Whittington, Burlington, Mo. 24

How empty are the fruits of war! Whoever finally gets the fortress of France will have to keep on pronouncing it.

TWENTYFIVE YEARS AGO

Items Taken from the Files of The Reporter Published a Quarter of a Century Ago.

George W. Cox and Miss Etta M. Gardner were married by Rev. F. M. Northern on Jan. 5th.

During the snow storm Sunday night a stock train of 14 cars got stuck near the Q depot. One after another engine came from Chariton to assist in pulling them out until four engines were at work. They succeeded in getting away about 7 o'clock Monday morning.

Quite a number of Leon citizens went to Des Moines to witness the inauguration of our democratic governor, Horace A. Boies. Among the number were E. W. Curry, George Gammon, S. W. Hurst, Mike Mayer, John Penniwell and Charles Hurst. Mrs. A. N. and Miss Abbie Fraser returned from an extended visit at Pekin, Illinois.

Ed Gates is visiting his mother and friends in Leon this week. He is employed by an Omaha firm as stenographer.

What we know about LaGrippe—or an Editor Enfluenzdays, may be the text of our sermon in The Reporter next week—providing we live through the present attack.

Dr. H. R. Layton returned from Ft. Madison where he was called to attend Mrs. Zula Peters who had been dangerously ill but is now on a fair road to recovery. Invitations were out for the wedding of Mr. F. M. Euritt and Miss Anna L. McLaughlin, at the home of the bride's parents in Decatur township, on Jan. 15th.

The following marriage licenses were issued the past week.

Charles Gardner 21 to Ada Gray 18.

Francis M. Euritt 34 to Anna L. McLaughlin 21.

J. H. McVay 28, to Bertha Spurrier 22.

You Must Have Your New Auto Numbers by Feb. 15th.

Local officials desire to call to the attention of the people of Decatur county that the state law requires the attaching of license tags on all autos and other motor vehicles on or before February 15. This ruling will be enforced to the letter this year, and in order that everyone may be prepared for what is to follow the officials ask that the people owning cars be warned.

There are a large number of the cars in this county that already have the new numbers attached, and that have had them for some time. Others have already sent in their applications for new numbers, and will receive them in plenty of time to comply with the requirements of the state law in that regard. The state department at Des Moines is better prepared than ever this year to handle an enormous business in this line, and the requests of people asking for licenses will be promptly attended to by the authorities, and the tags will be sent out as soon as possible.

The 1915 number tags are of an entirely different appearance than those of 1914 and the year previous. They are printed in black on a bright yellow background and show up well enough to satisfy the most exacting. The lettering may be noted for a considerable distance from the car, and the idea for which the law was made is evidently carried out to the fullest detail.

Last year's numbers were plain "black on white" tags, and while they were easily distinguished, the change this year is thought to be a good one. It is good for other than purposes of identifying a certain car in that it prevents the possibility of a car owner operating his machine this year under a 1914 number. In spite of the vigilance of the police in 1913 and 1914 tags still in use on account of the similarity in appearance. The yellow tags could not possibly be mistaken, however, and the trouble on that score is at an end.

To Our Inter Ocean Subscribers.

We have received many inquiries from persons who subscribed with this paper for the Chicago Inter-Ocean. The publication of the Inter-Ocean has been discontinued. The list having been sold to The Farming Business, of Chicago, and you will receive that publication until the expiration of your time for the Inter Ocean.

Official Newspapers Selected.

The matter of selecting three official newspapers for 1915 was disposed of by the board of supervisors last Thursday, there being four applicants. The board selected The Reporter, Journal and Lamoni Chronicle, the Garden Grove Express being the other applicant.

Four Farmers Buy New Autos.

Frank Binnings, George and Ben Redman, of near Delray and Jerome Traupel, of near Van Wert, four of the good farmers of that part of the county, are going to enjoy life this year, as they have each placed an order for a 1915 model, 40 horse power Cartercar, and the cars will be delivered to them in the near future.

Notice.

The trustees of Decatur township will receive sealed bids for road foreman for year 1915.

The trustees reserve the right to reject any or all bids. J. B. Riddle, Township Clerk.

GREAT TENOR COMING TO DES MOINES.

John McCormack, the Celebrated Irish Tenor, Will Appear in Concert at Des Moines Coliseum Monday, Jan. 25th.

The coming appearance of John McCormack, the great Irish tenor in concert at the Coliseum in Des Moines on the evening of Monday, January 25th, under the management of Dr. M. L. Bartlett, of Des Moines, is attracting attention all over the state of Iowa, and several music lovers from Leon will attend the concert. The concert will begin promptly at 8:15 o'clock and be over about 10:20. Seats are now on sale with prices ranging \$2.00, \$1.50, \$1.00 and as low as 50 cents, so that none who desire need miss hearing Mr. McCormack. Orders for reserved seats should be sent to Dr. M. L. Bartlett, 152 1/2 11th street, Des Moines, Iowa, and they will receive prompt attention. The present concert tour is a great financial success, hundreds being turned away in many of the larger cities, unable to gain admittance.

He is being given the greatest praise by the music critics in each city where he appears. Here is just one of them:

John McCormack sang at the Academy of Music last evening. Hundreds were turned away. Mr. McCormack did more than stand and sing, with his head thrown back and a smiling or serious face, to the thousands who applauded to the echo. He was bringing to life the Irish minstrel who smote his harp and sang his heart out.

Even when he sang Mascagni's "Romanza," in Italian; Hugo Wolf's "Secrecy," or Sinding's "Sylvellin," the Celtic strain was the passionate wail and wail of the singing, and the cry of Ireland's anguish, and a national hope deflated rang out in the song of Rachmaninoff, meant to be the heaven-storming cry of the oppressed of Russia. The technique of Mr. McCormack's performance is not to be considered apart from the Irish spirit that was in all and through all he did. Only an Irishman to the core of his being could have broken the syllables so successfully into the quaint, blithe turns and flourishes that adorned old Erin's balladry.

Since McCormack quitted opera for the concert stage, which is far more congenial to his temperament, his voice has gained in all ways. There has been no declination of his rare skill in holding an exquisite pianissimo, which does not suffer in quality when translated into a falsetto. In narrative declamation, such as that of the "Skibbereen ballad of the famine years," with the impassioned patriotic appeal, Mr. McCormack is at his best. Every syllable was clearly chiseled and could be heard to the farthest corner of the house. When a singer carries all before him as McCormack did last night the impression left is the haunting loveliness and the human appeal of such singing—Philadelphia Ledger, Dec. 3, 1914.

Getting National Advertising.

Bell & Robinson, the Rexall druggists of this city are getting a lot of national advertising this month. When they held their big opening of their Red Cross Fountain department last March photos of the fountain and the store packed with customers were taken, which were published at the time in The Reporter. The manufacturers of the fountain, the Bishop-Babcock-Becker Co., of Cleveland, Ohio, secured these photos and have written Bell & Robinson that they are using them this month in full page advertisements which will be inserted in five trade journals with big circulations, The Soda Fountain, The Southern Pharmaceutical Journal, The Druggists Circular, The Inland Storekeeper and The North-western Druggist. Verily Leon and the Leon Rexall druggists are very much on the map.

Millinery Location.

On account of poor health and much needed rest, owner of the leading millinery house in this city will sell her stock at a bargain, rent store room with residence in rear. Splendid opportunity for a good milliner. Write us at once for particulars. W. L. Bowman Realty Co., King City, Mo.

Thursday noon there blew into town one C. S. Woodman and according to his own story we gleaned the following: it seems that the young man was burdened with a grafted thumb, according to his statement, taken from the hand of a friend who had been suddenly killed, the previous day. Woodman had been residing at Oklahoma City, Okla., got in bad with an associate and got mixed up in some sort of a scrap and got the thumb of his right hand chewed off. Physicians bent on keeping up with the times secured a "perfectly good thumb" from a young man's hand who had been killed and grafted it onto young Woodman's hand, and of which that young man was greatly pleased. While here he visited a cousin somewhere in the county.—Corning Free Press.

We have received a copy of the Oak Creek, Colorado, Times, which contains an excellent paper, "Good High School Education is Essential," read by Miss Etta Clark, formerly of this city, who is a teacher in the Oak Creek High School, at a Sunday evening meeting held at the M. E. church in that town. The paper is well written and full of good thoughts, and we regret that its length prevents us reprinting it this week.