

ESTABLISHED 1854.

LEON, IOWA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1915.

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THE POST OFFICE FIGHT

United States Post Office Inspector will Come to Leon and Make an Investigation of Case.

The absorbing topic in Leon the past week has been the post office contest, following the news as published last week that the confirmation of Mrs. Caroline Young Smith had been held up and that an investigation of the merits of the case would be made.

Protest petitions were circulated in Leon and on all the rural routes running from the Leon post office last week and they were signed by nearly every one to whom they were presented.

It is not known when the inspector will come to Leon to make his investigation, and we presume there will be nothing more doing in the matter until he makes his report to the department.

The following dispatches to the Des Moines Register and Leader from their Washington Bureau tell the story of what is being done at Washington in the matter:

Washington, D. C., Feb. 10. Representative Kirkpatrick called on Postmaster General Burleson this afternoon and told him of the protests against the appointment and confirmation of Mrs. Caroline Young Smith as postmaster of Leon.

Kirkpatrick told the postmaster general that she was a republican and non-resident and for this reason she should not be named. The postmaster general expressed great surprise at what Kirkpatrick told him and at once sent word to Senator Bankhead, chairman of the senate postoffice committee to hold up confirmation.

More than this, Kirkpatrick was given to understand that the appointment would probably be withdrawn.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 11. Representative Kirkpatrick has been advised the postoffice department will send an inspector to Iowa to look into the facts with respect to the appointment of Mrs. Caroline Young Smith as postmaster at Leon.

Meantime, he announced, confirmation is held up in the senate with a possibility of withdrawal of the name.

It is learned there is a disposition to blame the democratic organization in Iowa, at the postoffice department for picking on a candidate whose selection has made trouble in the party.

Postmaster General Burleson has been guided in the matter by Judge Wade, and is by no means pleased over the idea that he may have been misled into naming a republican and non-resident as alleged by Mrs. Smith's opponents.

Under the circumstances he intends to find out the facts without reference to the organization. Some of Mrs. Smith's opponents at Leon are attacking her severely, but Representative Kirkpatrick will not countenance such attacks.

He is standing simply on the proposition that Mrs. Smith is a republican and is not a Leon resident. Kirkpatrick received telegrams from Leon today from opponents of Mrs. Smith who were bent on coming to Washington to oppose her.

Kirkpatrick advised them not to come as the department would look into the facts through an inspector.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 12. The formal application of S. E. Bonelief for postmastership at Leon in place of Mrs. Caroline Young Smith, who has been nominated, was received here today. He has a petition signed by 400 persons in favor of the appointment. He expects the confirmation of Mrs. Smith to be prevented. It is still held up in the senate.

Board Selecting New Names for Jurors. The board of supervisors met in special session Monday for the purpose of selecting names from the various townships for the jury list for 1915 and 1916, it having been held by Judge Evans recently that the names as returned by the judges and clerks and certified by the county auditor were not legal. The board had quite a big job before them, as they had to select 1,027 names for jury service and it took them two days to make up the list.

The Last Day of Court.

The Reporter was being printed at the time Judge Evans adjourned court last Wednesday. Before adjourning the divorce case of Ida L. Edwards vs. John H. Edwards was tried to the court and a divorce was granted the plaintiff. The parties are residents of Grand River.

The court also made an order allowing the release of Clarence Gazley, the young man who was indicted for destroying public property, on his own recognizance. Gazley was arrested and placed in jail for destroying property at the Valley school house near Davis City. It seems that a few years ago he received a fall and injured his head and at times was not just right, having been an inmate of an insane hospital in British Columbia. A letter was received from his father who resides at Abbottsford, B. C., with affidavits testifying to the boy's mental condition and his good reputation, and also offering to send him a ticket to return home, so the court ordered that he be released and he departed for his home Wednesday afternoon.

Home of Lew Akers Again Burns.

Lew Akers, who lives on the Byrum Stout farm, 3 1/2 miles southwest of Leon, had his house destroyed for the second time within a few months by fire Tuesday evening about 7:00 o'clock. The fire started from an explosion of an oil stove and in endeavoring to carry the burning stove out of the house Mr. Akers was severely burned about the arms. The burning oil was thrown all over the room and it burned rapidly and practically nothing was saved from the house. Only a few months ago the home of Mr. Akers on the same farm was destroyed while the family were away from home and they lost everything in the house. A new house was built by Mr. Stout a short distance from the old site and Mr. Akers purchased an entirely new outfit of household goods. Mr. Stout had \$350 insurance on the house and we learn that Mr. Akers also carried insurance on his household goods. It's pretty tough luck to be burned out twice inside of a year.

Supreme Court Affirms Case.

The case of P. L. Fowler vs. Decatur County, which was decided in favor of the county by Judge Maxwell and appealed by Fowler to the Supreme Court last week, who affirmed Judge Maxwell's decision. About fifteen years ago a Building and Loan Assn. secured a judgment and the money, about \$150, was paid to the clerk of the courts, and not being called for by the parties, was by him turned over to the county treasurer. Fowler while employed in collecting money for the county discovered this fact and secured an assignment from the owners of the judgment and when the county refused to pay him the money, brought suit. The county plead the statute of limitation and the fact that Fowler was not the owner of the claim, and they won out.

Death of William Woodard.

William Woodard, of Decatur City, died at the home of his son, Marion Woodard, in this city Tuesday morning, his death following a general breakdown. Since the death of his wife only a few weeks ago Mr. Woodard has made his home in this city. He was 90 years and 8 days old, and one of the pioneers of Decatur county. Funeral services will be held at the M. E. church in Decatur City this morning at 11 o'clock, and he will be buried by the side of his wife in the Decatur cemetery.

"The Varsity Coach."

"The Varsity Coach," to be presented at the opera house Friday evening, February 19th, promises to be the best home talent production ever staged in Leon. The High School students who are members of the cast are working hard. The rehearsals are under the direction of Mrs. M. E. Wasson. The proceeds are for the benefit of the school equipment fund.

Something New.

A new shoemaker is in town. If you have any shoe repairs, rubber or leather, call at my shop one-half block west of southwest corner of the square. Fully equipped with electric machinery. Good material and first-class workmanship guaranteed. A trial will convince you. M. Haines, Proprietor.

Loans may be secured for any purpose on acceptable real estate security; liberal privileges; correspondence solicited. A. C. Agency Company, 758 Gas, Electric Bldg., Denver, Colo., 446 Pierce Bldg., St. Louis, Mo. 27-4t

Come and Eat.

Dinner will be served by the Parent-Teachers' Association on Friday evening, March 5th, in the Methodist church. Dining room open at 5:30 p. m. Price 25c. Everybody invited.

Rev. J. C. Pack has bought the Palace Hotel at Corydon and will later use it for an Institute and Bible Training School. The hotel has 21 rooms with a fine lawn around the house, making it an ideal home for such work.

We roast coffee and peanuts, morning, noon and evening in our Royal Roaster. L. P. Craig, phone 2.

1000 votes for every \$1.00 purchase Saturday at the G. B. Price clothing store.

\$40,000 FOR SEWERS

City Council will Advertise for Bids for Building Nine Miles of Sewers in Leon this Spring.

The city council has been working for some months on the question of sewerage for the balance of the city. Last year a resolution of necessity was passed without protest that the sewer system should be extended so that all parts of the city would have access to the city sewers, but the council decided it would not be wise to commence work until this spring. But now they are getting busy, and at a meeting held last Wednesday evening, the city clerk was instructed to prepare notice for bids for the letting of a contract for about nine miles of additional sewerage, with a double Imhoff septic tank to dispose of the sewerage. The disposal tank will be located south of the location of the present septic tanks on Roe Caster's land near the lake which have not proven satisfactory, and in connection with the tank will be filter beds. It will take a few days yet to prepare the details of the notice for bids, which must be published before the contract is let. It is estimated that the contract will cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$40,000, and when completed will make the city sewer system practically complete, the sewers extending to the main part of the city in every direction, so that no resident will be deprived of the use of the sewers. It is going to make a lot of employment for the laboring men of Leon this spring, and the council is to be commended for their action in putting in all the balance of the system at one time instead of a little now and then more again until it could be finished. It is much better to put it all in at once and give the public the benefit.

Club Banquet.

The ladies of the New Century and Fifteen Clubs entertained their husbands at a joint banquet at Hotel Leon last Friday evening, which was one of the most enjoyable ever served in this city. Mrs. Markley handled the big crowd in excellent shape, and the viands she provided for the guests were par excellence. Mrs. A. P. Olsen, president of the New Century Club presided as toastmistress in a very pleasing manner and toasts were responded to as follows: "Our Guests," Mrs. J. A. Caster; "Our Hostesses," C. W. Hoffman; "Linch," E. H. Sharp; "Club Women," Prof. O. M. Gass. While the gentlemen were enjoying cigars Dr. B. L. Elker entertained the ladies by reciting an original poem and it was fine.

The ladies and their guests then repaired to the home of Mrs. J. W. Harvey where the evening was spent with music and games. Prof. and Mrs. Russell Manley sang a duet, Miss Mabel Horner gave readings and Mrs. O. M. Gass and Mrs. Robert Shular sang a duet. Then there was a musical contest, each guest being required to sing a song which they drew on a card and the first prize was awarded to Mrs. J. R. Bowsher, the judges also recommending that she be granted a Carnegie medal for her effort. It was a late hour when the guests departed, and all had thoroughly enjoyed the entire evening.

Mrs. Starr's Father Died.

W. C. Starr, foreman of The Reporter office, received a message last Friday from his wife, stating that her father, Mr. C. H. Hutchins, had passed away that morning. The deceased was 66 years of age and was suffering from gangrene the result of diabetes. As a last resort he was taken the previous week to a hospital at Joplin, Mo., where both of his limbs were amputated in the hope of saving his life, but the shock was too great for his depleted system. He is survived by his wife and four children, Geo. P. Hutchins, of Des Moines, Mrs. W. C. Starr, of Leon, D. F. Hutchins, of Chicago, and Mrs. John Simpson, of Amoret, Mo. His body was taken to his home at Amoret, Mo., where the funeral was held Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Bert Gordon.

Mrs. Jennie Black Gordon died at her home 4 miles west of Lamoni, on Wednesday, Feb. 10, at the age of 41 years. The funeral was held from the home Friday afternoon and was attended by a large number of neighbors and friends. Rev. E. P. Partridge, pastor of the M. E. church, officiating. Deceased was born at Norwalk, Iowa, Feb. 5, 1874. She was married Dec. 29, 1891 to Mr. Bert Gordon who with three children, Lloyd, Fred and Earl remain to mourn their loss. Mrs. Gordon had been a life long member of the M. E. church, and leaves a host of friends. The family have the sympathy of all.

A Successful Sale.

W. H. Akers had a dandy good sale Monday, which amounted to over \$4,000, and he was more than pleased with it. Especially was he pleased with the work of his auctioneers, Dave McMains and C. A. McKern, and desires to recommend them to anyone who is going to have a sale.

Our customers boast of the coffee and peanuts we roast. L. P. Craig, phone 2.

Buy your next pair of shoes at G. B. Price's clothing store.

There will be a box supper at the East Eden school house, Friday, Feb. 26th. Winnie Shira, teacher.

T. L. Beck.

Thaddeus L. Beck, son of John and Martha Beck, was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, March 1st, 1829, died at the home of his son, C. C. Beck, in Decatur City, Iowa, February 12th, 1915, at the advanced age of 85 years, 11 months and 11 days.

The deceased was of a family of six boys and two girls. When a small boy he moved with his parents to Zanesville, Ohio, coming with his parents to Iowa in 1851. He entered land in Decatur township, where he made his home until the infirmities of age caused him to retire from the farm and he made his home with his son. He was united in marriage with Miss Lucia Rowell, a daughter of William and Hester Rowell, on June 22, 1856. To this union were born five children, one dying in infancy, the surviving being C. C. Beck and Mrs. Margaret Kyle of Decatur, T. O. Beck, of Big Piney, Wyoming, and D. C. Beck, of Casper, Wyoming. Mrs. Beck passed away on April 8, 1901.

While yet a young man he became converted and joined the Methodist church. He was one of the earliest Masons in Decatur county, having been a member of the order for 45 years, 6 months and 12 days. He was a great sufferer, being helpless for more than twelve years, but during all these long and weary years he remained in good spirits and mind.

Mr. Beck was rightfully one of the pioneers of Decatur county, and his long life was one of usefulness to the community. He was loved and respected by everybody and was always one of the prominent men in his neighborhood in all matters of public interest. A good man has gone to his reward.

Funeral services were held at Decatur City on Monday, Feb. 15th, interment being by the side of his wife in the cemetery at Decatur City.

New Court Cases.

W. Hudson vs. Wm. Randolph et al. Plaintiff asks that E. E. Green trustee be cited to appear and show cause why funds in his possession should not be subject to payment of judgments in favor of plaintiff. Amos P. Olsen, attorney for plaintiff.

C. D. Worden vs. Lloyd Smith. Suit is brought to collect the sum of \$800 alleged to be due on a lease for a farm. Marion F. Stookey, attorney for plaintiff.

Guarantee Mutual Hail Assn. vs. James Alldredge. Motion to transfer action to Decatur county, Iowa, from Woodbury county. Amos P. Olsen, attorney for defendant.

C. E. Tansey vs. A. L. Bishop and wife. Suit is brought on a note for \$75.00. Amos P. Olsen, attorney for plaintiff.

Ellen Harris et al. vs. Wm. Smith et al. Suit is brought to partition an estate. C. W. Hoffman, E. H. Sharp, J. C. & Randall Wilson, attorneys for plaintiffs.

Ona Stevens vs. Henry E. Stevens. The parties were married in Wayne county, April 3, 1899 and lived together until 1903. Plaintiff asks for a decree of divorce on the grounds of desertion, and that she have the custody of their minor daughter. C. W. Hoffman, attorney for plaintiff.

Charity Work.

The Associated Charities met in regular session at the library parlors Monday afternoon and reviewed past work and planned for the future.

Some of the work reported since last meeting was the further supplying of shoes for the children and rubbers for some of the children and mothers; a pair of new crutches to supply the place of outgrown ones for a little lame girl; two more warm comforters made and given to two worthy widows who wash to support their families. Also more distribution of clothing donated to several families. A report of finances showed the same, augmented by gifts of money from unsolicited sources, showing how the work touches the hearts of the people. Some of these gifts came from far away points, showing that the publicity given the work by the local press is very helpful.

The organization decided to become county wide and asks the cooperation of friends all over the county. The name adopted is "The Associated Charities of Leon and Decatur county."

Decatur County Improved Live Stock Breeders' Association.

The executive committee for the Decatur County Improved Live Stock Breeders' Association met in Leon, Saturday, Feb. 13th, to consider plans for changing the Breeders Association to be known as the Decatur County District Stock Breeders and Fair Association, to be incorporated as a stock company, with a capital of \$1,000 divided into 20 shares of \$50 each, ten per cent to be paid when issued and ten per cent each year for ten years at which time the corporation will be closed, or such other amount of capital as the membership may decide on at their annual meeting to be held March 6th. If the association was incorporated as a county fair association they will be able to draw 40 per cent of all premiums paid from the state which would be quite a little help to the breeders and farmers of Decatur county. We trust the members will think this over and make it a point to be sure and attend the meeting March 6th, at 1 o'clock.

Marriage Licenses.

Elden Lee Priest, Lamoni, 22
Hazel Alice DeSart, Lamoni, 22
Floyd Easton, Davis City, 24
Eva Bartlett, Garden Grove, 19

TWENTYFIVE YEARS AGO

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

The deadlock in the Iowa legislature was finally broken by the election of Hamilton, a democrat, as speaker and the democrats were also given other important offices.

Thirty-one persons were baptized in Magruder creek southeast of the depot last Saturday by Elder Watkins and received into the Advent church.

Miss Lillie Rowell, of McCook, Neb., was a guest at the home of her cousin, Mrs. W. P. Clark.

Messrs. Byron Casselberry and Lloyd Simmons and Misses Lottie and Libbie Woodbury, of Osceola, drove down last Friday to attend the masquerade dance.

W. E. Chery and wife, of the Afton Reporter, came Friday for a visit at the home of Mrs. Chery's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Beck in this city.

Mr. Ham Williams, of St. Joe, Mo., came up Monday afternoon to consult with his partner in the contracting business, Prince of the Orient L. W. Forgrave. We acknowledge a pleasant visit from the gentlemen.

Miss Amie Hoffines returned Friday from her visit at Knoxville and Charleston. Miss Lulu Cunningham, of Knoxville, accompanied her to Leon and visited over Sunday, when she went to Garden Grove to visit her grandfather, D. J. Boydston.

Uncle Tommy Brown, of Garden Grove, fell Tuesday from a wagon and fractured the bone covering his knee.

W. L. Andrew & Co. opened up a new drug store at Van Wert. Emma, the sixteen year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allan Dunn, of Woodland, died Feb. 14th.

T. E. Horner, of Leon, and Dr. J. B. Horner, of Davis City, were called to Moravia to attend the funeral of their brother, Eugene B. Horner, who died Feb. 10th, at the age of 45 years.

I. O. O. F. Grand Lodge Will Meet at Davis City June 5th.

At a regular meeting of the subordinate lodge of I. O. O. F. of Davis City, it was unanimously voted to accept the invitation of the Grand Master of Iowa to hold a session of the Grand Lodge in this city on the 5th of June.

A general committee was appointed as follows: Grant Malloy chairman, Ralph Johnson secretary, Wm. Burrell, I. H. Post and J. W. Poush.

At this meeting all past grands can come here and receive the Grand Lodge degrees. There will be a school of instruction held at which time all members of the order can attend.

An effort will be made to have meetings of Rebekahs, and Encampment branch of the order on that day.

There will be a public meeting in the park in the afternoon. The memorial services will be on Sunday, June 6th, at which time there will be service both forenoon and afternoon.

A complete program will be published as soon as possible and will appear in these columns.—Davis City News.

County Sunday School Association.

The meeting announced for last Friday afternoon in the interests of county Sunday school work was presided over by W. H. Rockefeller, assistant state secretary of the Sunday School Association. This association is the only organization in which the Sunday schools of the various denominations can meet together to plan for more effective work. After some discussion it was decided to effect a temporary organization to arrange for a county convention some time during the latter part of April. The following officers were elected:

President, Dr. C. H. Mitchell,
First Vice President, Rev. B. F. Jacobs.
Second Vice President, W. E. Kemp.
Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. G. T. Ronk.

It is hoped that all Sunday schools in the county will give these officers their most hearty support so that our first convention may be a decided success.

Aid for Ex-Prisoners.

Rev. Frank G. Wilcox, of Des Moines, representing the Iowa Society for the Friendless, addressed the High School Friday morning upon the subject, "The Prevention of Crime." Dr. Wilcox is an entertaining speaker and has a message for the boy, the girl and the home. He was loudly applauded by the students and faculty.

The Society for the Friendless is both a state and national organization, with national headquarters at Kansas City and it offers aid to the homeless and friendless prisoner—either federal, state or county—upon his release from prison. Several of Leon's best citizens are members of this society and an effort is being made to have Dr. Wilcox return in the near future and give a popular lecture. If he comes he will receive a splendid hearing.

1000 votes for every \$1.00 purchase Saturday at the G. B. Price clothing store.

Coffee direct from the plantation to the cup. L. P. Craig, phone 2.

THE CHURCHES.

Presbyterian Church. Sunday school, 9:45 a. m. Preaching, 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Young People's Society, 6:30 p. m. Choir rehearsal Wednesday 8 p. m. Prayer meeting, Thursday 7:30 p. m.

Sunday was a good day for us, with the observance of Vacation day at the morning service and Christian Endeavor day in the evening. The evening service was under the direction of the young people and was made very interesting by talks, a reading and several numbers of special music.

A conference with our men Sunday morning, resulted in the organization of a brotherhood. The brotherhood is the duly constituted organization of the men for the Presbyterian church. It is specially designed to meet local needs and is very materially aided by help and literature from the National Brotherhood. The Brotherhood stands for the promotion of work in the church and for better moral conditions in the community. Our Brotherhood is to hold its first meeting next Monday evening and it promises to be an enthusiastic one, with good attendance.

Our choir had its annual election last meeting, and with new officers and new life we are promised ever better music than heretofore. That will not be easy to do, but we have a loyal "bunch" and they can be counted on to make good. Mrs. T. N. Hemphill, who is a graduate of the Conservatory of Music of Chicago, has been secured as director and both the choir and congregation are congratulating themselves.

Mrs. Layton and Mrs. Minor entertained the Ladies Aid Society at the home of Mrs. Layton Tuesday afternoon. There was a fine attendance, and manifestly everyone had a good time.

There is to be a reception of new members next Sabbath morning. Applicants received either by letter or confession.

The mid-week service this evening is for everybody. Theme: "The Ten Commandments; Their Place in the Scripture." Don't miss this, it's fundamentally important.

B. F. Jacobs, Minister.

Methodist Church Notes.

A sub-district convention of laymen and ministers was held at Mt. Airy yesterday. A similar convention is to be held at Humeston this afternoon and evening. During the afternoon there will be addresses and discussions; in the evening a dinner will be served, followed by toasts and music. At 7:30 addresses from Dr. E. M. Holmes and Judge H. K. Evans. Any of the laymen who can run up to Humeston on the afternoon train for this convention should do so. You will be greatly helped.

Something as well spoken of as the Wednesday night meeting in our church is worth your while attending. A fine prayer meeting last time on Feb. 10th, with about 75 people present. You will be heartily welcomed. Each Wednesday evening at 7:30.

Good League meetings these Sunday evenings. Clyde Butler leads next Sunday. Young people cordially invited. Six-thirty is the hour.

Nearly forty of the Junior Congregation heard the sermon to boys and girls last Sunday morning. Over sixty are enrolled in this organization. These special sermons will be announced from time to time.

All classes in the Sunday school are doing good work. A fine session last Sunday. The "surprise" feature was a violin number by Maurine Merwin.

The pastor will be in meetings in Derby over next Sunday. In his absence a special program is to be given by members of the church. The announcement was made Sunday morning that those to take part would receive their instructions in the Monday morning mail. Come out at 11 o'clock next Sunday morning to this interesting service.

Rehearsal of the choir this evening at half past seven o'clock. Guy J. Fansher, Minister.

Christian Church.

There were 159 in Bible school Sunday. The Men's class numbered 27. Be one of 200 next Sunday.

You will need to come earlier on Sunday mornings now, on account of the continued service which was inaugurated last Sunday. There was no dismissal after Sunday school or intermission. About 30 minutes were saved and it will be the aim to make a unity in the service of aim and thought. Many expressions of approval were heard and it will likely be continued.

Several of our Gospel Team went to Cainsville Sunday evening with some of the Methodist team, 28 in all. They reported at our revival service Monday night and all enjoyed their report. A team was organized at Cainsville.

Our revival continues each evening this week. Great audiences continue to attend. Prof. Smith and wife are doing excellent work in the music.

Brethren Church.

The services next Sunday evening will be conducted by the Leon Gospel Team. You are invited to attend.

Christian Endeavor at 6:45. Sunday school at 10 o'clock sharp. The "surprise" number last Sunday proved to be an appropriate reading by Miss Helen Jones, given in a most delightful manner.

We are pleased to report that last Friday's meeting in the interests of Sunday school work resulted in the formation of a temporary organization to plan for a County Sunday School Convention some time in April.