

ESTABLISHED 1854

LEON, IOWA, THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1915.

VOLUME LXI, NO. 40.

FOUND A LOST SISTER

Grant Jones, of Lamoni Locates His Sister, of Whom He Had Lost Trace of for 36 Years.

Grant Jones, a well known farmer and fine stock breeder of Lamoni, was in Leon last Sunday, enroute home from Weiser, Idaho, where he went three weeks ago to visit his sister, Mrs. Lucy Ferguson, having finally located her after having lost all trace of her for thirty-six years, and he was feeling mighty good over the trip.

Thirty-six years ago, when Mr. Jones was a lad of fourteen, he was living with his sister in Cherokee county, Kansas. In company with his brother, Wm. L. Jones, the two boys started for Arkansas, driving across the country. They changed their destination in Arkansas, and a letter from their sister telling them she was leaving for Colorado, failed to reach them.

A few weeks ago Mr. Grant Jones decided to advertise for word of his lost sister, and placed a small advertisement in the Boise, Idaho, Statesman, and was overjoyed a few days later to receive a letter from Mrs. Ferguson's son who resides at Yampa, Colorado, telling him his sister was alive and living at Weiser, Mr. Jones immediately wrote to her and also to his brother at Dreway, Oregon, and the two brothers arranged to meet and visit her, and it was indeed a joyful reunion of the brothers and sister after a separation of thirty-six years.

What Happened to Jones.

The Senior class play, "What Happened to Jones," was presented at the opera house Tuesday evening by a part of the big class, the class being too large this year for all to take part in one play, so a second one will be given before the close of school. The opera house was filled almost to capacity, notwithstanding that an equal rain interfered, and the big audience thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment. The play is one of those rollicking comedies which keep everybody laughing all the way through. The parts were all well taken, the decided hit of the evening being Helma, a Swedish girl servant, which was taken by Clara Garber. Edgar Rowell, as Jones, a traveling salesman for a hymn book house, with several side lines and Willard Stover, as Ebenezer Goodly, a professor of anatomy, took their parts in excellent shape. Ralph Stewart as a rather sporty young fellow and Howard Sage, as a policeman and superintendent of a sanitarium, came in for their share of applause. Miss Nina Olsen, as a young lady who had seen some of the world, showed splendid talent, and Miss Elma Forbes, as Alvina Starlight, a maid-servant of uncertain age, engaged to the Bishop, could not have been bettered. She could secure an engagement as a living skeleton with any first-class side show. Bryan Robbins made a typical Bishop, and Harry VanNostrand in the part of a lunatic who imagined he was an Indian, was good. The other parts, Mrs. Goodly, wife of the professor, taken by Miss Martha Hoffman and Marjorie and Minerva, her daughters, impersonated by Misses Margaret McKlveen and Lenna Muse, acquitted themselves in a very creditable manner. The play was put on under the supervision of Mrs. Marion E. Wasson, and reflects credit on her ability as a trainer.

J. V. Lemley Appointed Assistant County Examiner.

J. V. Lemley, of Leon, was last week appointed by Governor Clarke as one of the assistant county examiners of the state, and will commence his duties on next Monday. Mr. Lemley served as auditor and deputy auditor of Decatur county, and this experience will be of great value to him in his new position. The duties of the assistant state examiners are to examine and check up the financial affairs of the county officers of the state. It will occupy all of his time and the pay is pretty good. Mr. Lemley's friends will be pleased to hear of his appointment.

Death of Mrs. E. Walker Tittle.

Mrs. E. Walker Tittle, one of the oldest residents of Leon, passed away at her home in northeast Leon Monday morning, her death following an illness of several months. Funeral services were held at the home Tuesday afternoon, conducted by Elder H. A. Stebbins, interment being in the Leon cemetery. A fitting obituary will be published next week.

A Big Special Coming.

The popular Idle Hour theatre has booked another big special attraction, having contracted for the nine reel feature play, "The Spoilers," which will be shown at the Idle Hour on Monday, May 31st. This is said to be the greatest picture play ever produced, the producers sending a company of players to Alaska where the films were made.

WORK OF MARKING TRAIL BEGINS AT MASON CITY

Over Three Hundred Poles Will Be Used Along St. Paul-Des Moines Road.

Mason City, May 13.—The work of marking the Inter-State Trail between Des Moines and St. Paul was started here this morning when the first poles were set south of the city. H. H. Shepard, district manager of the Inter-State Trail association for northern Iowa, stated this afternoon that 335 poles would be used in marking the route of the trail between Des Moines and St. Paul. It is expected that the work of marking the trail will be completed in thirty days, and at that time Trail Day is to be observed at a number of points along the route. A total of 302 poles were shipped yesterday to the local trustees at various points on the trail. It is the plan of the officials of the Inter-State Trail association to mark every turn and cross road between Des Moines and St. Paul.

Editors Had Good Time at Creston.

The spring meeting of the Southern Iowa Editorial Association was held at Creston last Thursday and Friday, and it was one of the best meetings the association ever held, about fifty of the live wire publishers of southern Iowa being in attendance. A good program covering the two days session had been prepared, and there was not a single disappointment throughout the program every speaker being on hand, which is something unusual at such gatherings. The newspaper men of Creston and the citizens in general left nothing undone to make the stay of the editors in Creston a pleasant one. Autos were provided for rides over the city, to the Country Club, and to various places of interest in the city. On Thursday evening the editors were guests of the Creston Club at a buffet luncheon served at the "White City," which was a most enjoyable affair. Short speeches were made by prominent citizens of Creston and from visiting editors. A splendid luncheon was served, the waters being young business men of Creston.

Creston is indeed fortunate to have a "White City," which is a most popular resort, located right in the heart of the city. It is under the management of C. B. Benson, and a large sum of money has been spent in fitting up the resort. They have a fine dance hall, skating rink, "Carry-Us-All," and other amusement devices, but the best of all is the big swimming pool and bathing beach. There are nearly a hundred bath rooms, two large dressing rooms, one for the ladies, and a big swimming pool and artificial sandy beach. The "White City" is well patronized by the citizens of Creston and the surrounding country, many auto parties driving long distances during the hot weather to enjoy the swimming pool.

An Up-To-Date Market.

W. D. Plouss, after being torn up at his meat market for several weeks is gradually getting things in shape, and he has a dandy up-to-date market, one of the finest in the state. First he tore out the front of the building, replacing it with a modern front, laid new floor, and the past week finished installing a fine new ice box, the very latest in this line. The new box is a thing of beauty and extends clear across the room. It is one of the best made, being built so that ice can be used for refrigerating purposes, and it is also arranged so that he can install an artificial cooling plant at any time. New cutting blocks, scales, an electric meat grinder and other conveniences have been installed and Billy is justly proud of the market. He says his shop is open for inspection from the front door to the back, and he proposes to keep it in the best of sanitary condition.

Today is Alfalfa Day at Al Metier's Farm.

Today, (Thursday) is alfalfa day at Al Metier's Weldon Meadows farm, 3 1/2 miles east of Weldon, and Mr. Metier has invited a large number of farmers who are interested in growing alfalfa to visit his farm. Mr. Metier was one of the pioneers in raising alfalfa in Decatur county, and he has demonstrated that it is a very profitable crop in this country. He has one field of 25 acres, one of the largest fields of alfalfa in southern Iowa. Everybody interested is invited to visit his farm today and hear what the other fellow has to say about alfalfa. Alfalfa is a coming crop in Decatur county, and we have yet to hear of the first man who has tried raising it who is dissatisfied. It will be well worth your time to go to Mr. Metier's farm for a few hours today.

Dr. Elker Honored.

At the annual meeting of the Iowa State Medical Society held at Waterloo last week, Dr. E. L. Elker, of Leon, was honored by being selected as a member of the committee on public policy and legislation, and it is an honor most worthily bestowed.

Notice to Royal Arch Masons.

There will be Royal Arch work Wednesday evening, May 26th, 1915, at 8 o'clock p. m. All companions are requested to be present. W. A. Foush, H. P. present.

A VERDICT FOR \$3.48

Given Miss Mabel Horner in Breach of Promise Case Against Ed. W. Farquhar Tried Last Friday.

The opera house was packed to capacity last Friday evening at the mock trial which was put on under the direction of Col. A. V. Newton, for the benefit of the Leon Fire Department, and everybody who attended got the worth of their money and plenty of fun besides.

The curtain rose on a typical court room scene, with Cal Hoffman for the first time in his life sitting as judge, and they do say that Cal ought to be on the real bench. E. E. Beck, of course was right at home as clerk of the court, and "Duffy" Lorey had no difficulty in taking the part of court crier after his experience in the sheriff's office. A jury consisting of F. S. Stewart, Wm. Crichon, Clarence Coen, Maurice Grogan, C. E. Stuber, Claude Stiles, Clyde Butler, Bryan Sears, Vere Roberts, Will Gardner, Lloyd Smith and Robert Bowsher, were selected to try the case, in which the plaintiff Miss Mabel Horner was demanding judgment in the sum of \$3.48 as damages to her heart in the breach of promise case which she had brought against Ed. W. Farquhar, although there was some objection to "Uncle Bob" Bowsher sitting on the jury, on account of his age and his well known liking for the ladies.

After the jury were empaneled the prosecuting attorney, Col. A. V. Newton stated the case to the jury, naming the defendant, Ed. W. Farquhar, had paid her every possible attention and had asked her to become his wife, which offer she of course accepted. The fair young plaintiff told her story on the witness stand, the circumstances leading up to the proposal being quite romantic. She claimed that while walking on north Church street she saw rushing toward her a huge boat with glaring eyes. She screamed for help, and Mr. Farquhar rushed to her assistance. Upon being asked by her attorney what the boat was, she replied that she at first thought it was a tiger, but later found that it was only Bill Alexander's big red auto truck. She stated the defendant escorted her to her home and she asked him to enter the house, and after a little hesitation he did so, and stayed as late as a quarter to 10 o'clock. She received many love letters from him and he asked her to marry him, but later he disappeared mysteriously and was not again seen by her until this case was on trial. The defendant, upon being examined by his attorney Ed. H. Sharp, stated that the first part of the plaintiff's story was true, but denied he ever asked her to marry him, as she was old enough to be his mother, and that he was really in love with her niece, (Mrs. Maude Fulton), and the only way he could court her was to go and talk to old auntie until she was tired out and would go to bed and leave them to themselves. The witnesses put on by the defendant were Mrs. Maude Fulton, Miss Helen Deck, G. B. Price, Jas. W. Hurst and Charles Horn, and the questions and answers of the witnesses brought forth much laughter.

The attorneys then made their arguments, the jury was instructed by Judge Hoffman, and in charge of the crier they retired to the jury room under "Duffy's" care. In about a minute after they retired the crier came into the court room and stated the jury wanted a cork screw, which was supplied by the court, and five minutes after the jury returned to the jury box, "Uncle Bob" still wippling his mouth with the back of his hand and the foreman handed their verdict to the clerk to be read, which stated that judgment had been rendered against the defendant, Ed. W. Farquhar, in the sum of \$3.48, of which \$3.00 was to go to the jury and 48 cents to the judge. It was a pleasing farce, well put on, enjoyed by everybody, and the fire boys cleaned up a nice sum for their share of the entertainment.

Stopping to "Rest."

In years ago I used to hear men say, "I intend to make my pile and retire from business and enjoy my old age." I am glad to hear that anyone today who makes that remark is regarded as booked for the bughouse. The man who does not enjoy himself in his business will never know what happiness is. The limit of rest is very soon reached, and then misery follows fast. Well did Iago wail "My occupation! My occupation is gone!" When your occupation is gone you had better throw your cosmic grip-sack overboard and jump overboard after it. Lack of occupation is not rest; a mind quite idle is a mind distressed. We must arrange our work so as to get a little rest every day. But too much rest is almost as bad as too much food. The idea of devoting the balance of your life to rest is to be born for Charon's mud-sow. It was born of the old idea that work was a curse.—Elbert Hubbard.

Program for Saturday Concert.

The following is the program to be given by the K. P. band at their regular Saturday evening band concert, Saturday evening, May 22nd: March, "Counterpoint"; Jewell Overture; "Enchantress"; Dalbey March, "Kansas City Star"; Liberator Selection, "Melody in F"; Rubenstein March, "Indiana State Band"; Farrow Deasey, "Flirtation"; Dalbey March, "American Belle"; Hall "The Star Spangled Banner"; Key L. D. Wheeler, Director.

BIG FIRE AT GRAND RIVER.

H. L. VanNostrand's Implement House and J. F. Hines' Store Burned Last Wednesday.

At one o'clock yesterday morning the fire bell sounded its alarm and awoke the entire town and upon investigation it was found that the VanNostrand implement house was on fire and that it had gained such headway that to save anything therein was an utter impossibility. The people turned their attention to the other buildings adjacent—the "Busy Corner" store and the Farmers State Bank. For a while it looked very much like the entire town would go and had the wind been a little stronger, what is today one of the liveliest little towns on the map would have been in ashes. No one can figure out anything but incendiary, as there had been no fire where the blaze was discovered since the implement house was constructed. Just what the object anyone could have is another mystery, as Mr. H. L. VanNostrand had no insurance compared with the stock he had stored in the building, and he informs us if he has an enemy in the world he does not know it. Others think it might have been the work of traps, as they have found the back door open in the morning on several occasions. Be it as it may, no one will perhaps ever know how the conflagration first started, as the fire had made such headway that it was impossible to get into the building. The next building to catch on fire was the store of Mr. Hines. Here a great many of the goods were removed, but in bad condition, as it seems impossible for people to keep their heads in time of calamities of this kind. The loss will fall heaviest on Mr. Hines, as his building and stock came under the same ban. The insurance carried by Mr. Hines and Mr. VanNostrand will not cover their loss by at least fifty per cent. Mr. Switzer and Mr. Baker, the owner of the implement house, had no insurance and their loss is a total one. The way the men, women and children turned out and worked, both in fighting the fire and trying to save the goods, was simply wonderful. They seemed to be trying to see just how much help they could render. It is needless to say that Grand River needs some kind of fire apparatus to fight fire with, for it has been said so often since the town was incorporated that the little children are even aware of the fact. J. F. Hines' loss on building and fixtures will reach fully \$4,000 with about half the amount in insurance. Mr. VanNostrand's loss will be in the neighborhood of \$2,000 with only \$400 insurance. Mr. Hines could not say this morning whether he would rebuild this season or not and will not perhaps know until he gets his insurance adjusted. The lots where the implement building stood are owned by Bert Baker and he has planned to erect thereon the garage spoken of in our last issue. We all hope to see this corner built up again with good substantial brick buildings, which will no doubt be done whenever they are replaced. The city well proved that it was the right move in the right place, supplying water as long as water was needed. There should be at least two if not three more wells like it in town, and then we could have water, if nothing more.—Grand River Local.

Meeting of the Parent-Teachers Association.

The Parent-Teachers' Association will meet in the high school room at 2:30 Friday afternoon, May 21. This will be our last meeting for the present school year. You are cordially invited to be present. The following program will be given: Music.....High School Orchestra Class Exercise.....Miss Beavers Songs.....Miss Cooney's Room Paper, "Grading and the Care of the School Grounds,".....Mrs. Farquhar Discussions.....Mr. VanWerden.....Miss Cash.....Miss Horner.....Miss Hurst

Federation Elect Officers and Select Dates.

At the meeting of the Federation of Women's Clubs of Leon on May 7th, the following officers were elected for 1915-1916: President—Mrs. D. F. Long. Vice Pres.—Mrs. Stephen Varga. Secretary—Mrs. C. E. Stuber. Treasurer—Mrs. A. L. Ackley. The dates for the Federation meetings for 1915-1916 are: Oct. 3—Amicitia and Magazine. Dec. 3—Sororis and Unity. March 3—New Century and Thirteenth. May 5—Priscilla and Reading Circle; also election of officers.

Take a Look at the School.

About now is a mighty good time to visit the school that you have not seen all winter. Roads are better, the children are getting the spring energy for their work and play, the year's instruction has had plenty of time to soak in, and the school year will end this month. For some years you've been paying taxes to be spent on educational work—get around there now and show that you are interested also in seeing what your children get out of these taxes. You would go fast enough if the school house was your factory or orchard or pasture, and yet children are the only really important crop that our country raises. Daylight Hour and Champion feed. Gammon Bros. Mill.

TWENTYFIVE YEARS AGO

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

J. H. Cozad, of Eden township, was quite seriously injured by being kicked by a horse, several of his ribs being broken.

A mover's wagon passed through Leon Tuesday morning, to which was attached a team of little broncho ponies, which had been driven all the way from Trinidad, Colorado. The party consisted of a man and his two little boys who were going to Michigan and Ohio to visit friends. They had been on the road just seven weeks, but had been laid up for a week near Wichita, Kansas, by heavy rains. The ponies were in good condition to have been driven so far. Sells Bros. circus was advertised to be in Leon on Monday, June 16th. Elder J. L. Rowe, of Mt. Ayr, has bought the Frank residence property in northeast Leon and will move his family here in a short time.

A lodge of Ancient Order of Egyptian Prophets has been organized in Leon with a very large charter membership. Several special meetings have been held in order to meet the demands for admission to this grand order. The elevation of mankind is the leading feature of the order, but it is also a benevolent institution. Fred Hamilton, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Hamilton, was thrown from a horse Saturday and received injuries which came very near proving fatal. For over an hour it was thought he would never regain consciousness, but at last he came to himself and is now able to be about the house. W. A. Boone accepted a position as bookkeeper at the Exchange Bank.

Eggs were worth 12 cents a dozen and oats from 18 to 20 cents a bushel.

Moxey Frank, of Ottumwa, was in Leon Monday and Tuesday on business.

Mrs. H. J. Close went to Mt. Pleasant to visit her sister, Mrs. Jas. Booker.

Frank Parsons was in town Tuesday, the first time since he was shot two months ago.

Mrs. Clinkenbeard, of Harrison county, Mo., was visiting with her sister, Mrs. J. R. McClelland.

Mr. and Mrs. Enn Bechtel, of Garden Grove, were in Leon last week visiting with friends for a few days.

Miss Henrietta Vogt closed a very successful term of school near Davis City.

Clyde Creighton, of Omaha, Neb., was here for a few days with his father and sister.

Oakey Clark left Tuesday for a vacation trip to Denver, Colorado.

The question of war between Germany and France was occupying the attention of the public, the indications being that nothing short of war would settle the difference between these countries.

New Court Cases.

James O. Ausman vs. Washington Keny et al. Suit is to quiet title to the north half of the southwest quarter of section 31, township 69, range 25. Varga & Son, attorneys for plaintiff. H. L. VanNostrand vs. W. R. Umphress and wife. Plaintiff has garnished the Farmers Insurance Co. on a judgment which he holds against defendants for \$9.85. C. W. Hoffman, attorney for plaintiff. Biddison Coal & Grain Co. vs. W. R. Umphress and wife. Plaintiff has garnished the Farmers Insurance Co. on a judgment which he holds against defendants for \$13.30. C. W. Hoffman, attorney for plaintiff. Harry Bradford vs. W. R. Umphress and wife. Plaintiff has garnished the Farmers Insurance Co. on a judgment against defendants for \$52.62. C. W. Hoffman, attorney for plaintiff.

Normal Training—Important Notice.

The South Central Iowa Normal Training School will open at Lamoni, June 7th, and continue six weeks, (possibly five weeks of 6 days each). The tuition will be ten dollars for the session, and board and room may be secured at the Graceland College dining hall for four dollars per week, or slightly higher with private families. There can be no doubt about the school being accredited as we can meet the requirements of the state in every way. Competent instructors have been secured. Prospective students should write at once notifying us of their intention to attend. This is necessary in order that our plans may be completed before the opening day. Address, S. C. Iowa Normal Training School, Box 352, Lamoni, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Mitchell Entertained Relatives and Friends.

At their home on south Main street last Friday Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Mitchell entertained a number of relatives and friends at a dinner party which was served at noon, and it was one of those dinners which have made Mrs. Mitchell famous, for she is one of the best cooks in the county. After the big dinner a pleasant afternoon was spent in social intercourse, and all thoroughly enjoyed the day. The guests were Mrs. Mitchell's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Gammon, Mrs. O. E. Bassett of Farhamville, and Mrs. W. A. Allbaugh, of Leon. Others present were Mrs. E. E. Dye, Mrs. Sarah Chastain and Mrs. Lucy Allbaugh. Daylight Hour and Champion feed. Gammon Bros. Mill.

WHAT THE CARRIERS DID.

The Five Rural Carriers From Leon Postoffice Delivered 43,873 Pieces of Mail in Thirty Days.

From April 15 to May 15, the rural mail carriers from the Leon postoffice were required to keep a record of all the mail they handled during this period, and their reports show that on the five rural routes they delivered 43,873 pieces of mail and collected 4,887 pieces. The total weight of the mail delivered was 7,652 pounds and the weight of the mail collected was 589 pounds. The reports show that route No. 2, C. R. Turner, carrier, does the heaviest business, and route No. 3, F. P. Allen, carrier, the lightest.

The following shows the amount of mail delivered and collected on each of the five routes:

Table with 2 columns: Delivered, Pieces Pounds. Rows for No. 1—Everett Waters, Carrier and No. 2—C. R. Turner, Carrier.

Total.....621 59

Table with 2 columns: Delivered, Pieces Pounds. Rows for No. 3—F. P. Allen, Carrier and No. 4—Glen Rumley, Carrier.

Total.....1529 169

Table with 2 columns: Delivered, Pieces Pounds. Rows for No. 5—C. M. Reynolds, Carrier and Decatur County Boy Writes of Navy Experiences.

Total.....8584 1199

Table with 2 columns: Delivered, Pieces Pounds. Rows for No. 6—Ray S. Parker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Parker, of Davis City, who is serving in the navy on board the U. S. S. Utah, writes the following interesting letter to home folks:

New York, May 16, 1915. Dear Folks at Home:—We are to land tomorrow with guns, belts, bayonets, leggings and white uniforms, and will parade up Fifth Avenue to be reviewed by President Wilson. Very little work is being done now on the ship. Thousands of visitors are coming out to visit the ship every day from 1 to 5:30 p. m. I have been ashore on two 48 hour liberty leaves since we have been here. The first trip I stayed in the Y. M. C. A. both nights. The second time I went ashore at 1 p. m. and came back the same evening at 10 o'clock, just in time to catch the steamer to the ship. We were just starting to the ship when our propeller caught on a chain, and after working a couple of hours the chain was cleared and another steamer towed us back to our ship. I went ashore again the following afternoon and returned to the ship at 11 p. m. without any delay or accident. The United States seems to be getting serious with Germany now on account of the sinking of the Lusitania with American citizens aboard. Germany should have officially notified the U. S. government that any one sailing aboard the Lusitania would do so at their own risk. They did warn American citizens of their danger, but did they warn those little children that they were going to sink the Lusitania. The United States are very reasonable in all of their demands on Germany. Do you think we could possibly gain anything by declaring war on any country? War is always a losing game and the world is supposed to be civilized too. Ray.

Marriage Licenses.

Leonard H. Hegeman, Kellerton, 20; Baulah A. Guthrie, Leon, 19; Clarence W. Gable, Leon, 21; Madge M. Pickering, Leon, 17; Omer E. Bisplinghoff, Des Moines, 24; Ethel V. Hatch, Leon, 22.

Meals at the Park Hotel, 55 cents.