

ESTABLISHED 54.

LEON, IOWA, THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1916.

VOLUME LXII, NO. 38.

WILL CHANGE THE ROAD

Will Use the Old K. & W. Grade and Make it a Part of the Leon and Pleasanton County Road.

The prospects at the time The Reporter went to press yesterday noon were mighty good that there would be a dandy good improvement made at once on the Leon and Pleasanton road, which is a part of the county highway system.

The Sewer Assessments.

For several days the past week the city council has been listening to complaints from property owners over the amount of the sewer assessment levied against their properties.

Death of Geo. W. Wadsworth.

George W. Wadsworth, one of the best known and most loved citizens of Decatur county, passed away at his home in this city Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Bought Interest in Puritana Cafe.

W. B. Rook, who sold his cafe business in Leon a few months ago, looked all over the country for a good location and finally decided there was no town as good as Leon.

Library Notes.

One hundred and seventeen students used reference books during the month of April.

The "story hour" has been divided into three divisions. The primary division will meet May 6th at 4 p. m.

Paint.

Come in and see us before you buy. We can save you money on anything in the paint line. We have a full line of all kinds of paint for house, barn, floors, furniture, roof, buggy or auto.

Marriage Licenses.

Francis Ward, Decatur 20 Ruth Nash, Decatur 18 Cozar W. Pollock, Russell 36 Laura E. Lovell, Lamoni 38

Change in Club Rates.

The tremendous advance in the cost of paper and everything connected with the printing business, has caused many of the papers with which The Reporter clubs to advance their club rates, and it becomes necessary for us to make some slight advances.

The new club rates will go into effect on May 20th. We will accept club subscriptions at the old rate until Saturday evening, May 20th, but after that date the new rate will be strictly adhered to.

Reporter and Des Moines Daily News, old rate \$2.85, new rate \$3.10. Reporter and Des Moines Capital, old rate \$3.05, new rate \$3.30.

Reporter and Evening Tribune, old rate \$3.05, new rate \$3.30. Reporter and Kansas City Weekly Star or Journal, old rate \$1.50, new rate \$1.65.

Reporter and Homestead, old rate \$1.75, new rate \$2.00. Reporter and Wallace's Farmer, old rate \$2.00, new rate \$2.25.

Reporter and St. Louis Republic, old rate \$1.75, new rate \$1.85. Reporter and St. Louis Globe-Democrat, old rate \$1.90, new rate \$1.90.

Reporter and New York World, old rate \$1.90, new rate \$2.15. These are the principal papers which we handle in clubs, but will quote you prices on any others you may desire.

Don't ask us to furnish you club papers at the old rate after May 20th, as we will be compelled to refuse you. The price is the same to all, so if you want any paper at the old rate, you must order them before May 20th.

E. Housh Had Leg Broken in Peculiar Accident.

E. Housh, the well known farmer and stockman, met with a peculiar and painful accident while at work on his farm two miles southwest of Leon last Monday.

Mrs. Elizabeth Jackson Stricken With Paralysis.

C. W. Hoffman yesterday received a letter from Lewis B. Jackson, of Suplea, Oklahoma, stating that his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Jackson, who had been spending the winter with her daughter, Mrs. Ella Warner, at Stockton, California, was stricken with paralysis last Sunday.

Her advanced age made her condition very critical, as she was speechless, her left side and limbs being entirely paralyzed. Mr. Jackson left on the first train for Stockton.

Mrs. Jackson had been in exceptionally good health, Lew having received a letter from her only a day or two previous in which she wrote that she was feeling better than for twenty years.

Band Concert Program for Saturday Night.

"Gardes de Corps," march. "Hall of Love and Loyalty," grand sacred selection. "Woodland Whispers," duet, Tansey-Grimes. "Lasley Selections from 'Prince Charming' overture. "Listen to That Dixie Band," vocal quartet, Simpson, Pease, Farquhar, Long.

"Frog Frolics," scottische. "Heldrick 'A Night in June,' serenade. "King 'U. S. Nationals,' march. "Panella. Hereafter when the weather interferes with the concert being given on Saturday evening, the concert will be given on the following Tuesday evening.

Big Barn Burned Near Lamoni.

The big barn and corn cribs on the farm of M. D. McKim, two miles northwest of Lamoni, known as the old Ennis farm, were destroyed by fire about 10 o'clock Tuesday morning. There was no one at home at the time of the fire except a boy who was engaged in watering some of the horses when he noticed the barn was on fire.

Worth More Than Its Weight in Gold.

Dr. J. W. Rowell, the Leon dentist, showed us the other day a plate for a set of false teeth which was worth more than its weight in gold. The plate is made of platinum and is more than seventy-five years old.

Band Concert Pleased.

Although the weather was pretty disagreeable Saturday evening a big crowd was on the streets to hear the band concert. The boys had a fine program, the feature numbers, a cornet and trombone duet by director A. B. Tansey and F. L. Grimes, a trombone solo by Victor Ogilvie and a vocal solo by C. B. Simpson with band accompaniment, were all well received and were given merited applause by the big crowd.

Leon 9-Kellerton 8.

The Kellerton High School base ball team came over Tuesday and crossed bats with the Leon High School nine at Warner park, the Leon team winning the game by the close score of 9 to 8.

BOUGHT MT. AYR PLANT

David G. Fisher & Co., Who Recently Purchased the Leon Electric Co., Buy Mt. Ayr Plant.

David G. Fisher & Co., of Davenport, Iowa, who recently acquired the electric light plant at Leon, last week closed negotiations by which they will take over the Mt. Ayr Light & Power Co. The following account of the sale is taken from the Mt. Ayr Record-News:

The directors of the Mt. Ayr Light & Power Co. accepted an option on Thursday morning from the David G. Fisher Co., of Davenport, Iowa, for the sale of the local plant at an agreed consideration of \$15,000, the purchasers to assume the bonded indebtedness of the company for \$3,000 and to assume paying taxes not yet paid and other liabilities.

The option is contingent on an extended franchise being granted to the new company, and a special election will have to be called for this purpose.

Mr. Fisher has deposited \$1,000 with the local company as an evidence of good faith on his part, and if the franchise is voted a contract will then be drawn according to the terms of the option, and further negotiations will be concluded.

A. R. Shrimplin and the other directors of the company who were instrumental in organizing the local plant and giving the people of Mt. Ayr such excellent service for the last eight years, are well pleased with the sale of the plant. They are now operating with 24-hour service at a loss for the day service, as there are not sufficient patrons to warrant such service at the present time.

It was found necessary to install a new engine to make the day run in order to economize on coal at a considerable expense, and with borrowed money. This additional expense will be saved to those who have been carrying the burden of the light plant for the last eight years.

The Fisher company now owns and operates the Leon plant with transmission lines to Humeston, Garden Grove, Decatur City and Van Wert. It is understood that the new company will expend twenty to thirty thousand dollars in the way of rebuilding the plant and changing it from the obsolete direct current system to the alternating current. When this is done they will then be able to extend their lines to Diagonal, Tingley and the other towns of the county thus making Mt. Ayr a distributing center.

It is not expected that any opposition will develop to voting a franchise to the new company, who are highly spoken of and commended by the people of Leon, who are now receiving splendid service. Under the conditions the sale of the plant seemed the only feasible solution of the difficulties under which the directors were laboring.

Mr. Fisher, who negotiated for the purchase of the plant, is president of David G. Fisher & Company, and he made many friends while in the city and there is every reason to think and believe that he will treat our people fairly in all business relations.

It is also a pleasure to note that R. M. Lewis, the efficient manager of the company will be retained by the Davenport company, should the sale of the plant be concluded under the terms of the option. All of the stockholders of the local company so far approached have accepted of the option, so there seems to be no doubt that the sale will be made if the franchise is voted.

Meeker's Store at Decatur Burglarized.

The general store of C. R. Meeker at Decatur City, was burglarized last Thursday night, the burglar or burglars securing between \$300 and \$400 worth of goods, and \$18.00 in cash.

The biggest part of the loss consisted of silks, his entire stock of silks being taken together with two suit cases and one or two pairs of shoes. The money which was taken was in a box under the counter. Mr. Meeker being in the habit of dropping a dollar in the box each day as rent money. How the burglars obtained entrance to the store is not known, as the door was not broken open. There is no clue whatever as to who committed the theft.

Democratic County Convention.

The democratic county convention required to be held under the provisions of the presidential primary election law will convene at the court house in Leon on Saturday, May 6th, at 11 o'clock instead of 1:30 as announced last week, the law providing that the county convention must be held at 11 o'clock. All delegates elected at the recent primary election will please take notice of the change in the hour of convening, and be on hand at 11 o'clock.

Dr. Duff Lost His Office in Cainesville Fire.

Dr. T. S. Duff, of Cainesville, Mo., who frequently visits in Leon, being a brother-in-law of Dr. F. A. Bowman and P. F. Kopp of this city, lost his office and everything in it in a fire Tuesday night, which also destroyed three other buildings, occupied by a hardware store, a restaurant and a jewelry store. Dr. Duff had some insurance, but only about half enough to cover the loss which will be between \$500 and \$1,000 above his insurance.

Drive Careful on Business Streets.

The increasing number of autos in use makes it necessary for auto drivers to be very careful how they drive in Leon, especially in the business district. The past week several pedestrians have had very narrow escapes from being struck by cars. Most of the drivers are paying heed to the regulations, but some go racing through the streets and some of these days they will be pulled up to answer to negligence and reckless driving which caused an accident.

FOOLISH TO PLANT BIG CORN.

Big, Late Maturing Varieties Docked Under New Grade System.

Since most elevators in Iowa now buy corn according to the new federal grades, price based on the amount of moisture it contains, it is more necessary than ever that every farmer in Iowa plant an early maturing corn that will be sure to be in good cribbing condition when husked, says the farm crops department at Iowa State College.

There is no longer any advantage in planting the old "jumbo" type of corn. It matures too late and although it produces a large tonnage per acre, it will not be profitable because it will be seriously docked in price at selling time.

It is not too early for farmers to begin thinking about co-operating in getting their corn crop to market, either, suggests the department. It will pay well for all farmers in one neighborhood having No. 1 corn for sale to co-operate and sell in carload lots. They will secure the highest market price for it.

Sixty-Seventh Wedding Anniversary.

It is not often that a family meets to celebrate a sixty-seventh wedding anniversary, but such was the case when Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Gammon celebrated their wedding anniversary April 26, 1916, at the home of their daughter, Mrs. W. A. Allbaugh, in southeast Leon. All of their children, except the youngest daughter, were present, four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren were there.

Mr. W. H. Jenkins, the only living brother of Mr. Gammon, and Mrs. Mary Thompson, a niece of Mr. Gammon, were present at their wedding when little children and have lived to help them celebrate their sixty-seventh anniversary.

There were twenty-nine present to partake of the bounteous feast prepared at Mrs. Allbaugh's.

Mr. and Mrs. Gammon were remembered with a box of beautiful white carnations from an old neighbor and friend, now residing in Nebraska, Mrs. Elma Morrill, also remembrances from the absent daughter, and cards of congratulations from other friends.

It is a remarkable fact that there has never yet occurred a death in their immediate family as their six children, eleven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren are all living.

Miss Himena Hoffman Will Teach at State University Next Year.

Miss Himena Hoffman, who has been an instructor in the Leon High School for the past three years, and who was re-elected for the coming year, has been appointed as an assistant instructor in the department of history at the State University at Iowa City for the coming college year, and has notified the Leon school board that she will not teach in the Leon schools. Miss Hoffman will be required to teach but two hours a day at the State University, and accepts the position in order that she may do graduate work at the State University in history and secure an advanced degree in this work. She has been one of the most competent and popular instructors we have ever had in the Leon High School, and everybody will be sorry to see her leave the Leon schools.

New Court Cases.

J. W. Owens vs. E. E. Caster et al. Suit is brought to foreclose a mortgage on a lot in Van Wert given to secure a note for \$1,000. Crist, Baker & Dyer, attorneys for plaintiff.

T. M. Riddle vs. J. F. Newlin and J. E. Lentz. Suit is brought on two notes on which there is due the sum of \$650. Baker & Parrish, attorneys for plaintiff.

I. J. Dalbey vs. F. A. Greenland. Suit is brought on an account for \$54.10 for lumber and the plaintiff asks for a mechanic's lien. Baker & Parrish, attorneys for plaintiff.

Meeting of City Federation of Women's Clubs.

The last meeting of the City Federation of Women's Clubs will be held at the library parlors Friday afternoon, May 5, at 2:30 o'clock. The program is in charge of the New Century and Thirteen Clubs. Mrs. Craig of Omaha, Neb., will address the meeting. A cordial invitation is extended to all women of the town and vicinity on this occasion.

Death of Mrs. John Weidner.

Friends have received the sad news of the death of Mrs. John Weidner at her home in Madison county Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Weidner resided in this county for several years, living on the Sherman Rumley farm just north of Leon last year. Her death was due to some stomach trouble. Mrs. Everett Waters left Tuesday to attend the funeral.

TWENTYFIVE YEARS AGO

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

Geo. T. Young must have made an early garden this year as he had radishes large enough for table use last Tuesday.

The Leon school board elected Prof. A. L. Lyon as superintendent of the Leon schools at a salary of \$1,000 per year, and Prof. V. R. McGinnis as principal at a salary of \$600 and one-half of the outside tuition.

Marriage licenses were issued the past week as follows: Charles H. Lentz 27 to Cordelia A. Piercy 18.

Charles W. Moore 24 to Sarah H. Allen 19.

A peculiar fatality seems to be attached to the office of member of the board of supervisors in this county. Within the last three years three members have died while holding this office, and all of them democrats, Miles Wasson, Daniel Sears and Jacob Lentz.

E. W. Curry has been appointed by Governor Boies as a delegate to the Trans-Mississippi Commercial Congress to be held at Denver, Colorado, on May 19th.

A peculiar thing in connection with the family of ten boys and girls of Mr. and Mrs. Turner, of near Grand River, is that each child's name contains exactly six letters. They are: Ada Day, Ida May, Eda Gay, Eva Jay, Asa Key, Ira Nay, Ora Ray, Ema Joy and Irl Roy.

George Allen and Aaron Swartz, two young boys got in a fight over a game of marbles Saturday and the Allen boy was stabbed by the Swartz boy, who used a pocket knife, inflicting a slight wound in Allen's hip.

A shooting affray occurred down at Pleasanton last Sunday when Jake Williams was shot by T. J. Graves. The men had had trouble before and on Sunday Graves secured a revolver and started out with the avowed intention of killing Williams. He finally found Williams and told him to get down on his knees and pray as he intended killing him, but as Williams was not in the habit of praying he started running and Graves shot him twice, one bullet striking him in the shin and the other in the cheek, neither wound being very serious.

Jacob Lentz, one of the pioneers of Woodland township, and a member of the board of supervisors, died very suddenly while sitting in his chair at his home last Friday. He was born in Virginia, July 14, 1839, and had resided in Decatur county for more than thirty-six years. His funeral was held under the auspices of the Masonic lodge, and it was the largest funeral ever held in Decatur county, more than 600 persons being in attendance.

Samuel Benefel, a Mexican war veteran, died at Weldon on May 3rd, at the age of 75 years, 2 months and 6 days. His funeral was held the following day, and he was buried in the Leon cemetery by the side of his wife.

George Conrey, who has been clerking in E. J. Sankey's store at Decatur City, departed yesterday for his home at Redding, Kansas.

Fred James, the efficient deputy in the post office, retired May 1st, being succeeded by Floyd Harvey. Fred is now selling clothing for M. Mayer.

Seventh Episode of "The Strange Case of Mary Page."

The seventh episode in the serial "The Strange Case of Mary Page" will be shown at the Idle Hour theatre today. The trial of Mary Page accused of the murder of Dave Pollock is still in progress. Amy Lerne, a friend of Mary Page, tells of Mary's early struggles, tramping from one theatrical booking agency to another, seeking a try-out on the stage. Even at that time Pollock was pursuing her. Mary starts to work in a cheap musical comedy. See the pictures and learn the rest. It takes you behind the scenes in the theatrical booking offices and into the dressing rooms of the chorus girls. Popular 5 cent matinee at 3 o'clock. First night show starts at 7:15.

Davis City Girls Are Hikers.

Davis City has a couple of young ladies, Misses Leah Teale and Bernice Hartley, who have established a record for hiking that we don't believe has ever been equalled in the state of Iowa. On last Saturday morning they left Davis City at 5 o'clock for a little pleasure hike, and wound up that evening at Maloy, having hiked 42 miles. There are not many men in Decatur county who would want to undertake a 42 mile walk in one day, and we know of no other ladies who would attempt the feat.

Meeting of City Federation of Women's Clubs.

The last meeting of the City Federation of Women's Clubs will be held at the library parlors Friday afternoon, May 5, at 2:30 o'clock. The program is in charge of the New Century and Thirteen Clubs. Mrs. Craig of Omaha, Neb., will address the meeting. A cordial invitation is extended to all women of the town and vicinity on this occasion.

Eden Township Democratic Caucus.

There will be a meeting of the democrats of Eden township at Marion Woodard's office in Leon on Saturday, May 13th at 2 p. m., for the purpose of selecting a township ticket to be voted on at the June primary.

Death of Mrs. John Weidner.

Friends have received the sad news of the death of Mrs. John Weidner at her home in Madison county Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Weidner resided in this county for several years, living on the Sherman Rumley farm just north of Leon last year. Her death was due to some stomach trouble. Mrs. Everett Waters left Tuesday to attend the funeral.

Eden Township Democratic Caucus.

There will be a meeting of the democrats of Eden township at Marion Woodard's office in Leon on Saturday, May 13th at 2 p. m., for the purpose of selecting a township ticket to be voted on at the June primary.

The Saturday Evening Post is a lot like Ollie Hull's paper, the Leon Reporter. One week we stop it and the next week subscribe for it again. Last week the Post was extraordinarily good again. One article by Sam Blythe was good enough to pay for a whole year. We often wonder if anybody really cares for the Democrat as much as we care for some of the papers we get. Sometimes, we think nobody likes the Democrat.—Washington Democrat.

IDLE HOUR SPECIALS.

Marguerite Clark in "Gretna Green" Friday, and Edith Taliaferro in "Young Romance" Monday.

Marguerite Clark, the dainty and fascinating stage and screen favorite will be seen at the Idle Hour theatre in the celebrated romance "Gretna Green" on Friday of this week. This quaint and picturesque play possesses all the varying elements essential to the successful screen drama, love, sacrifice, honor, mystery and thrill, and is laid in the charming period of the nineteenth century, when daring elopements to Gretna Green, a lover's haven in the north of Scotland, added a dash of excitement to many true love-matches. In "Gretna Green," Marguerite Clark bewitchingly portrays the adorable character of Dolly Erskine, a little English belle and a bit of a flirt, who queens it over the beaux of the realm with sovereign sway, until she loses her heart under circumstances both humorous and dramatic. Matinee at 3 o'clock, first night show at 7:15. Prices 10 and 15 cents.

On next Monday Miss Edith Taliaferro makes her photodramatic debut in "Young Romance," supported by an exceptionally strong cast, as Nellie Nolan, who presides over the notion department in a big department store. Romance flourishes in her soul and she devotes her spare time reading novels in which "high society" and nobility figure prominently. She has saved \$100 and decides to spend it all and enjoy for one glorious week, living like a real lady. Many amusing and thrilling incidents occur during the week, and Nellie is finally kidnapped by a fortune hunting count, but is rescued by Tom Clancy, a clerk, and true love finally runs smooth. Matinee at 3 o'clock, first night show at 7:15. Prices 10 and 15 cents.

Eighth Grade School Entertainment.

The assembly room of the High School building was packed with a big audience Monday evening when the eighth grade pupils presented "The District School at Blueberry Corners," and the three act comedy kept the big audience in good humor from start to finish. The first act was a meeting of the school committee to select a teacher for the school, the members of the committee being Orel Ellwell, Edward McKay and Forest Quigley, and the applicants for the position of teacher being Inez Marshall, Gertrude Pearson, Lucille Buchanan and Stanley Hatch, the latter known as Hezekiah Pendergrass being chosen as the teacher. The second act represented the first day at school, with the trials and tribulations of a rural school master and a bunch of lively school children. There were ten girls and nine boys in the school, those representing the pupils being Merle Pickering, Jennie Campbell, Sarah McKern, Mildred Merwin, Dorothy Osborn, Marjorie Cesler, Fern Estes, Beulah Clampitt, Audrey Halback, Hazel Dunn, Vaughn Smith, Martin Cesler, James Hansell, Leland Richardson, Leland Statzell, Lester Painter, Fred Musselman, Asa Barber and Robert Crouse. The last act was the closing day of the school with the usual exercises on such occasions, the visitors being represented by Gertrude Pearson, Imogene Harden and Hazel McKay, and they had a very amusing program.

The play was presented under the direction of Miss Mollie Moore, teacher of the eighth grade, assisted by her sister, Miss Hazel, and they deserve much credit for the success of the entertainment. The receipts were \$49.10, and the proceeds will be used in buying reference books for use in the eighth grade.

Probating Wills Before Death.

A Columbus, O. Judge makes the novel suggestion that wills be probated before death. He would permit a man to go into court with his will properly executed, and demonstrate his competency to execute such a testament. It would not then be possible after his death for disappointed heirs to set up that he was "mentally incapable," or subject to "undue influence."

Under the present practice wills are often broken after prolonged litigations on one or the other of these grounds. Apparently, it is not a difficult task to show that any dead man was mentally deficient while alive. But few heirs would have the hardihood to face the living maker of the will in court, unless he was really incapable of devising his property.

The effect of such a law would be to relieve the court of a vast amount of vexatious litigation. It would also permit a man of sound mind to devise his property precisely as he wished, so long as his plans did not run counter to public policy. Nor would he wrap the drapery of his couch about him and lie down for the last long sleep, in the fear that his name would be tarnished by his avaricious survivors.—Minneapolis Journal.

Eden Township Democratic Caucus.

There will be a meeting of the democrats of Eden township at Marion Woodard's office in Leon on Saturday, May 13th at 2 p. m., for the purpose of selecting a township ticket to be voted on at the June primary.

The Saturday Evening Post is a lot like Ollie Hull's paper, the Leon Reporter. One week we stop it and the next week subscribe for it again. Last week the Post was extraordinarily good again. One article by Sam Blythe was good enough to pay for a whole year. We often wonder if anybody really cares for the Democrat as much as we care for some of the papers we get. Sometimes, we think nobody likes the Democrat.—Washington Democrat.