

ESTABLISHED 1854.

LEON, IOWA, THURSDAY, JULY 24, 1919.

VOLUME LXV, NO. 50.

EMERSON IS CONVICTED

Jury at Mt. Air Returned Verdict of Second Degree Murder Against Roy Emerson, of Creston.

The jury in the case of State vs. Roy Emerson, who was on trial at Mt. Air for the murder of his mother, Mrs. Kate Emerson, at Creston on May 6th, returned a verdict of guilty of murder in the second degree, a few minutes after ten o'clock Saturday morning the case having gone to the jury Friday evening at 6 o'clock.

The penalty for murder in the second degree is from ten years to life imprisonment at the option of the judge. Judge Fuller granted the attorneys for the defendant ten days in which to prepare and file a motion for a new trial, and sentence will not be passed until the court rules on the motion for a new trial, the defendant in the meantime being remanded to the custody of the sheriff of Ringgold county without bail.

Monday a Jonah Day. Last Sunday was sure a hard one on automobiles traveling south. One of the cars used in transporting the ball team to Leon broke down near Garden Grove and the ball tossers into town in order to stage the game, while the other car was the recipient of two first-class blowouts the last one being on the way home about ten o'clock.

New Ice Plant in Operation. There is now no danger of an ice famine in Leon, as the new ice plant of the Leon Ice Co. is now in operation, the first ice being placed on Saturday morning, and the plant now has an ample supply of ice for not only Leon but for the surrounding towns, shipments being made daily by railroad and trucks.

William Bruner Died Tuesday Evening. William Bruner, a well known farmer residing a few miles southwest of Leon, died Tuesday evening, after a lingering illness of several months from cancer of the stomach. Some weeks ago he was taken to St. Joe, Mo., and operated upon, but nothing could be done for him, and he has been gradually failing. His one wish was that he might live until the return of his son Reatus from France, and the wish was gratified, as Reatus returned home just a few days before his father's death. Arrangements for the funeral had not been made at the time The Reporter went to press.

Good Field of Wheat. There has been much speculation as to what wheat was going to thresh out this season, and the best we have heard of is two fields on the farm of Isaac Bedell, southwest of Decatur, one field yielding an average of 28 bushels and the other field an average of 32 bushels per acre.

"Dodge." J. R. Bowsher, with the "Ukelele Girls" will demonstrate the Dodge car and put on an open air concert at Needam & Sons Garage (suburbs) on the River, Saturday, July 26th, at 3 o'clock. At Decatur City at 8 o'clock p. m. Don't miss this entertainment.

Contract Let for New Little River Bridge.

The board of supervisors held a special session Tuesday to consider bids for bridge and culvert construction, bid for dirt grading, but all bids for grading were rejected on the advice of the State Highway Commission, the lowest bid being 61 cents per yard, made by Condon of Omaha and Grinnell, of Denison, who made a joint bid.

The contract for building fourteen circular culverts and eight box culverts was let to the Cross Construction Co., of Des Moines, for a total of \$10,578. This is the firm who already had several contracts and have just completed two big culverts on the Leon and Davis City roads.

Angell's Tent Show Drawing Good Crowds. Angell's Comedians opened a week's engagement in their mammoth tent, located on the Biggs lots on Main street, Monday evening, and are attracting good crowds at each performance. It is the largest and best equipped tent show which has ever visited Leon, and from the attendance each evening they are evidently making good.

Big Sedan Turned Over. J. L. Branham and son Harry, of St. Joe, Mo., had a narrow escape from death Monday morning about nine o'clock, when the new Chalmers sedan which Mr. Branham was driving to Leon to visit his mother, Mrs. S. J. Koger, turned over a high embankment about four miles this side of Kellerton.

Young-Ketchum. Mr. Paul Young, freight clerk at the Burlington depot in this city, and Mrs. Hazel Ketchum, one of the efficient operators at the Leon telephone exchange, were married at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Gatton, of south Main street, last Saturday morning.

Organizing a Ladies Band for Leon. Prof. Ole Thompson, our new band instructor is some hustler when it comes to organizing bands. Just a short time ago we had no band at all, but before long we will have a band, the old band which is giving the splendid Saturday night concerts, the boys band, which now has thirty-eight members, will soon be ready to appear in public, and now he is organizing a ladies band, having already enrolled about ten ladies for various instruments, and he expects to have at least twenty ladies in their band before long.

Installing Delco Light in Farm Home. T. A. Jackson, who lives five miles east of Leon on the Waubonset trail, is modernizing his fine country home, having a Delco electric light system installed by Wm. Cunningham, the local dealer, which will give him all kinds of light both in his house and the barn and other buildings. Mr. Jackson has a fine country home, and proposes that his family shall have all the comforts of town life.

Ideal Harvest Weather. Decatur county farmers are certainly having ideal harvest weather this year. The wheat and oats have all been cut and saved without damage from rain, and threshing has commenced all over the county. The hay harvest is progressing nicely, and corn has been making a wonderful growth considering the backward season, and with anything like normal fall weather, there is going to be a splendid corn crop.

Another \$250 An Acre Farm Sold. Mrs. Cora V. Brant, of Leon, last week sold her 120 acre farm in High Point township, to Ralph Chase, of High Point, at \$250 an acre, receiving \$30,000 for the 120 acres. This is the highest price for a farm sold in High Point township, and one of the highest in southern Iowa.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT

Judge Evans Completed Business of the July Term and Adjourned Court on Wednesday.

Judge Evans adjourned court last Thursday and returned to his home at Corydon, coming back to Leon Monday evening and holding court until yesterday for trial at this term was disposed of.

The grand jury adjourned Thursday, returning but one indictment, that being against E. Williams, of Garden Grove, indicted for breaking and entering, and he entered a plea of guilty to the charge and was fined \$100 and costs and sentenced to one year in the county jail, but an order was made that upon payment of the fine and costs no mittimus for the jail sentence was to issue until ordered by the court.

LAW AND EQUITY P. L. Fowler vs. Decatur county. Tried to court to be decided in vacation. Jackson vs. Decatur county. On application it is ordered that fees of witnesses Ross Fulton, Walter Smith, Russell Allen, I. C. Duling, Oscar Beavers and J. C. Culp, head of the local jury, all other costs to be paid as heretofore ordered.

Jessie M. Smith vs. Margaret Ann Gray et al. decree quieting title. T. B. Nicholson vs. F. P. Heathman et al. decree quieting title. D. W. Graham vs. Lena J. Graham et al. Judgment confirming title to real estate.

Anna Smotherman vs. John W. Smotherman. Decree of divorce. Estate of George Smith. Appointment of E. O. Stearns administrator approved.

Guardianship of Corlene Burchett, appointment of Emma Burchett as guardian approved. Guardianship of Gerald Rex Dawson, appointment of Ethel Dawson Boswell as guardian confirmed. Estate of Nellie E. Brammer, appointment of W. Brammer as administrator confirmed.

Estate of Clarence Townsend, T. A. Sutherland appointed administrator with bond of \$12,000. Guardianship of Vincent K. Robinson, appointment of S. Varga as guardian and his final report approved. E. G. Monroe appointed trustee of funds belonging to Vincent K. Robinson, with bond of \$10,000.

A Home on Wheels. A number of people noticed an unusually large dark blue enclosed wagon passing through Leon last Thursday, but very few of them had any idea that it was a veritable modern home on wheels. The car was owned by W. S. Myers, a prominent manufacturer of Dallas, Texas, who had failed, so he sold his residence in Dallas and built a home for himself, wife and baby daughter nine months old.

Leon lost to Albia in a good game on the Leon grounds last Sunday, and it was the kind of a game which is enjoyed, for everybody was hitting the ball good and proper, but the break was in favor of Albia, and they won by a score of 7 to 4. Jones and Turner were the battery for Leon, and Sample and Butcher for Albia.

President Nicked for \$21,000. The workings of the income tax was demonstrated to the present day when there was subtracted from his salary of \$75,000 the neat sum of \$21,430 which is likely to direct his thoughtful attention more than ever to the high cost of living and kindred subjects, and is also likely to cool the ardor of the presidential aspirations of others.

Notice for Bids. Notice is hereby given that the proposals for the erection of a school house in the township of Eden, county of Decatur, will be received by the undersigned at his office at Leon, Route No. 2, until one o'clock p. m., Aug. 23, 1919, at which time the contract will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. The board reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Plans and specifications may be seen at the county superintendent's office.

Farms Wanted. I will buy several farms in Decatur county. See me if you want to sell. C. M. Abner.

Decatur County Medical Society Held Fine Meeting.

The Decatur County Medical Society held an extra good meeting at the assembly room of the library building Friday afternoon, the being eighteen physicians from towns outside of Leon in attendance. Dr. F. A. Bowman is president and Dr. B. L. Eiker secretary of the association, and they had a most interesting program for the meeting, which was of great benefit to those attending. The program was as follows:

Focal Infection and X-Ray Story" Dr. F. W. Sells, Osceola. "Diagnostic Notes" Dr. Enos Mitchell, Grand River. "Obstetric Practice" Dr. G. I. Armitage, Murray. "Gall Bladder Surgery" Dr. E. E. Bamford, Centerville. Round Table Talks. The physicians in attendance at this meeting were: Dr. G. I. Armitage, Murray. Dr. E. E. Bamford, Centerville. Dr. C. E. Lovett, Dr. I. M. Lovett, Lineville. Dr. Wm. F. Dean, Dr. F. W. Sells, Osceola. Dr. E. E. Bamford, Centerville. Dr. O. H. Peterson, Dr. H. M. Hills, Dr. Bertha Greer, Dr. A. Dell Greer, Lamoni. Dr. H. C. Bone, Dr. Enos Mitchell, Grand River. Dr. G. I. Armitage, Murray. Dr. G. P. Reed, Dr. J. W. Wailes, Davis City. Dr. T. S. Duff, Calmesville. Dr. R. M. Walker, Corydon. Dr. O. W. Foxworth, Dr. F. A. Bowman, Dr. B. L. Eiker, Leon.

Edwards Generation Held Reunion.

A. J. Edwards and family were down to the Arthur Foland farm one mile east of Grand River last Sunday to attend a reunion of the people named Edwards and their relatives who reside in Decatur and adjoining counties. The occasion was in honor of J. A. Edwards and wife who have been away for eight years up in Canada and are back on a visit. It was a most interesting affair to see all the people named Edwards and their relatives in a da good sized crowd was present, one hundred and five, and a most enjoyable time was spent. The program was mapped out, it was just a great big family reunion where they visited and talked over old times and feasted on the good things that can be bought and raised and prepared by the good cooks that belong to this highly respected generation. The day was ideal, and all of those who were able to be present, enjoyed the time hugely. Steps later on may be taken to have it an annual affair, and then once every year these good people will assemble together on a like occasion.—Osceola Tribune.

Town Faces Ice Famine.

Knoxville will be without ice the rest of the season is the cheerful announcement made by William Grant, head of the local ice company. Last winter's mild weather is to be blamed for the ice man's trouble. At no time was ice thick enough to be stored for consumption. This spring Mr. Grant had arrangements to store artificial ice in Oskaloosa and Ottumwa, but the quantity was so uncertain and the quality worse, that the Grants have decided to quit. The last shipment of two ice wagons delivered to customers of the concern at a loss and the Grants decided if this was to keep up it was about time to quit.

Abandoning the service temporarily will work a hardship on practically every family in the city. It means ice cream and other soft drinks will disappear from the menus of soda fountains, and the good housewives will have to revert to the custom of keeping their butter and milk in the well to keep them from spoiling—providing there is a well on the premises.—Knoxville Express.

Bought Building for Speeder Machine Co.

The factory committee of the Leon Chamber of Commerce on Monday closed a deal with Geo. M. Hamilton, administrator of the estate of the late Joseph Hamilton, for the big implement building on Commercial street now occupied by the Biddison Implement Co. and J. W. Bowman, which will be used as a developing plant for the new Speeder Machine Co., which will locate in Leon. Machinery for the manufacture of the machines manufactured by them will be purchased at once, and they also expect one of the machines which has already been built here in a few days. The new company expects to be ready to receive orders for their machines this fall, and the business will be rapidly developed, although it will take some time for them to have the big factory in operation, but work will be commenced at once remodeling the building purchased for them.

New Court Cases.

B. F. Burwinkle vs. H. M. Thompson. Suit is on a promissory note for \$635. C. W. Hoffman attorney for plaintiff. B. F. Burwinkle vs. H. M. and Lena B. Thompson. Suit in which defendants agreed to pay Tansey \$630 as a commission upon the sale of a farm, which contract has been assigned to plaintiff. C. W. Hoffman attorney for plaintiff. Leta McClaran vs. Luda McClaran. These parties were married in Decatur county on July 14, 1914, and lived together until Feb. 14, 1919. Plaintiff asks for decree of divorce on the grounds of cruel and inhuman treatment, that she be awarded the custody of their four year old daughter and that she have temporary alimony in the sum of \$300. M. X. Oxford and C. W. Hoffman attorneys for plaintiff.

Notice for Bids.

Notice is hereby given that the proposals for the erection of a school house in the township of Eden, county of Decatur, will be received by the undersigned at his office at Leon, Route No. 2, until one o'clock p. m., Aug. 23, 1919, at which time the contract will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. The board reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Plans and specifications may be seen at the county superintendent's office. W-41 J. B. McDaniel, (Secretary).

TWENTYFIVE YEARS AGO

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

The thermometers registered 109 in the shade Tuesday. The Leon County recorder James Grandstaff departed Monday afternoon for Iowa City, where he will take a special course in embalming at the Undertakers' School.

The 100 foot bridge at Blockley on the Narrow Gauge burned Monday, the fire being supposed to have caught from the engine of the south bound freight. Many of our readers will remember that some ten or twelve years ago, the money box of the Methodist Sunday School was stolen from the residence of Mrs. Len Hamilton, the treasurer. It contained about \$25, most of it being pennies. Several parties were suspected at the time but the money was not recovered, and the businessmen of Leon made up the amount. Last week I. N. Clark had the well at his livery barn cleaned out, and the workmen found over 1,000 pennies in the mud at the bottom, all of them being dated over ten years ago. They were evidently part of the stolen Sunday school money, the thief probably becoming frightened and threw them in the well to avoid suspicion.

Mr. S. A. Gates and Mrs. Lenna Houston stole a march on their friends Tuesday. Mrs. Houston had been visiting a Albia with friends, and Mr. Gates met her at Charlton, where they were married. The friends of these parties extend congratulations. Mrs. C. M. Ketcham gave a lawn party last evening for her little sons (Willie and Edgar) and about twenty-five of their young friends assembled in the roomy grounds of their grandpa Lunbeck's home. Ice cream and other dainties were served, and a most happy time enjoyed by all.

A company has been formed at Lamoni with a capital of \$10,000 to conduct The Lamoni Gold Cure, an institution for the cure of the liquor habit. A. P. Olsen is president of the company. Lillian Howard, formerly a teacher in the Leon schools, now residing at Fonda, came from Osceola Monday to visit a few days with Leon friends. The Leon ball club defeated the Calmesville aggregation on the Leon grounds last Friday by a score of 9 to 8. Jimmie Hurst pitched a great game, Calmesville having Bryant and Wilson the Osceola battery beat them and a lot of the Osceola sports went broke as the result of the game.

Lark Bobbitt went to Des Moines Thursday where he will work in a cigar factory. F. Otis Grandstaff of Burlington, visited over Sunday in Leon with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Grandstaff.

A Great Picture Play.

Visualizations of some unusual character types are a feature of the big picture drama, "The Eyes of the World," at the New Theatre, Monday and Tuesday, July 28 and 29. Harold Bell Wright's novel, on which the photo production is founded, is rich in types, and the unusual characters are used in the recreation of these for the screen. It has been asserted that there is not a hackneyed character in "The Eyes of the World," and the story is told in a melodramatic, but its melodrama is of the finest type. Particularly in the drawing of Sybil, the mountain girl; LeGrange, the novelist; Taine, the physical wreck of a mispent life; and Master, the convict, has the author shown his unusual powers of characterization. The burned-out roue, Taine, contrasts strongly with the ingenious young artist, Aaron King, ambitious for fame, but who is on the point of debasing his talents for the easy way to success and becomes the shining mark for a designing woman.

There is Conrad LeGrange, the cynical story-writer, who confesses that he "haunts the intellectual slaughter pens" for material for his "successful" stories, but in whose heart still burns many a noble sentiment of his earlier days. Again, there is James Rutledge the bull-necked art critic, "born, bred and reared in an atmosphere that does not tolerate purity of thought," who covets the sweet, young girl of the mountains, whose character typifies their beauty, purity and strength.

Besides, there are John Willard, the convict, who plays an important part in the story after his escape to the wandering life of the hills; Myra Willard, a pitiable bit of flotsam on the sea of humanity; and Brian Oakley, the forest ranger, a hardy, rugged and fearless specimen of manhood. A quaint touch is added in the picture of Yee Kee, the keen, devoted Chinese servant, who adds many a light and humorous touch to the picture.

Teachers Placement Bureau.

The last General Assembly enacted a law creating a Teachers Placement Bureau as a department in the office of the state superintendent of public instruction. This bureau is now being organized and Dr. O. H. Longwell has been appointed director of it. It will soon be in working order, and hopes to be of material assistance to teachers and to the school boards of the state. Publicity is being given to this new state bureau through the papers in order to acquaint the school boards and the teachers with the purpose of the bureau that it may enable the department of public instruction to help make the proper distribution of teachers throughout the state. The services of the bureau are free, both to the school boards and to the teachers of Iowa. The bureau cannot recommend teachers. Its sole office will be to distribute teachers equitably over the state.

Notice to the Public.

Trespassing, hunting or fishing will not be tolerated on my farm south of Davis City. M. C. Woodard.

AT THE THEATRES.

Program for Coming Week at Idle Hour and New Theatres.

At the Idle Hour, Thursday, July 24th, "Bryant Washburn, Poor Boob," and "Screech Telegram." At the Idle Hour Friday, July 25th, "Oh, You Women!" All Star Special and Ford Weekly. At the Idle Hour, Saturday, July 26th, "Oh, You Women!" All-Star Special and Strand Comedy. At the New Theatre Saturday, July 26th, Vivian Martin in "Little Comrade." At the Idle Hour, Sunday, July 27th, Ethel Clayton in "Pettigrew's Girl" and Lyons-Moran Comedy. At the New Theatre, Monday and Tuesday, July 28th and 29th, the Special, "The Eyes of the World," nine reels, by Harold Bell Wright.

THE CHURCHES.

Franklin Church. Sunday school at 10 a. m.; preaching at 11 a. m. (sun. time). Rev. Roger D. Winger will be with us on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, July 23 and 24, in the interest of the church work. Brother Winger is secretary of the General Mission Board, working in the interest of the great Forward Movement of the church. All are invited to attend these services.

Methodist Church.

All the regular services of the week at the usual hours. The services of the church have kept up very well for the season of the year. Special attention is called to the services of Sunday as it is the last before several weeks of vacation by the pastor. Morning theme, "The New Watchword." Violin solo by Miss Maurine Merwin. In the evening Mrs. Ruth Shumway will speak. She needs no introduction as she is well known to the people of Leon.

Presbyterian Church.

The preaching service next Sunday morning will be at eleven o'clock. We are hoping to have a visiting soloist at this service. The evening service will be at eight-thirty. This will be our last evening service until September. Let us make it a rousing one. We will have some special music from the boys. Don't forget the Sunday school. Don't let the weather do us. The enthusiasm of our little folks. They're always on the job.

Brethren Church.

At Union Chapel on next Sunday will be held a special service with basket dinner after the preaching service which is at 12. Sunday school promptly at 11, last time, be there for Sunday school. A cordial invitation is extended to the churches to attend the service. Afternoon there will be a council session to provide for a pastor next year.

Leon—Sunday school at 9:45; C. E. at 8; preaching at 9 by Frank Coleman. Prayer meeting at 9 on Thursday night.

Christian Church.

The congregation enjoyed two splendid sermons last Sunday by Rev. Sheperdon of Des Moines. Sunday the pulpit will be filled by Rev. Stark of Ridgeway, Mo. A cordial welcome is extended to all to come hear him both morning and evening at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Don't forget the Sunday school hour at 9:45. Choir rehearsal at 8:30 Thursday evening. It is very urgently desired that a full attendance of the board be present next Sunday morning and evening.

Tuskegee Baptist Church.

The reopening of the church was a success in every particular. A large crowd was in attendance at the morning service. The Sunday school was larger than ever and was full of life and enthusiasm. A bounteous dinner was enjoyed by all as evidence that Tuskegee and surrounding country has excellent cooks and this always makes the men smile. At 2:30 the church building was filled to overflowing to listen to the Children's program. The church was tastefully decorated and the children and young people were at their best. All were delighted and as they turned homeward at the close of this great day saying it was the best program they ever attended. Next Lord's day at 11 a. m. sermon. The hand of fellowship will be extended to new members. The Lord's supper will be observed. Don't forget the Sunday school at 9:45. Evening service at 8:30. Mrs. Armstrong will speak at 8:00 o'clock. Everybody welcome. Jas. A. Armstrong and Wife.

Curry—Buchanan.

Married at the Methodist parsonage in Weldon Saturday evening, July 19th, Mr. Claude Curry, of Garden Grove, and Miss Lena Buchanan, of Leroy. Rev. Larrick officiated. Miss Buchanan is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Buchanan, and is a worthy and accomplished young lady, very popular in a large circle of friends. Claude is the second son of Mrs. Marcia Roe and he has recently returned from overseas service and is a young man of good habits and an industrious young farmer. They are located on the room's farm where they will be at home to their many friends.

Marriage Licenses.

P. L. Young, Leon ..... 30 Hazel Ketchum, Leon ..... 26 Walter Kler, Decatur ..... 21 Gladys L. B. Davis, Van Wert ..... 17 Claude Curry, Garden Grove ..... 25 Lena Buchanan, Leroy ..... 22 A. H. Metter, Weldon ..... 23 Mrs. Sarah McAllister, Weldon ..... 52

County Superintendent's Notes.

The special eighth grade examination matter has been set by the State Department for August 21 and 22. No pupil may write for the first time at this examination. Any pupil who has previously written may write as a continuation of the first trial.