

COME DOWN WITH THE GOODS

Contractors Charged With Gouging Tax-Payers Finally Settled—Dillhoff, Ditto.

With the payment on last Sunday night of \$1,500 to Prosecuting Attorney Myers by George Rommel, the silent partner of the firm of Balmert & Flahler, contractors, closes a suit which had its real beginning back in 1911, when the then acting County Commissioners were threatened with a jail sentence by Common Pleas Judge Mathers for contempt of court when after being enjoined by the court, they placed a culvert through the Klingshirn pike in Granville township, then under construction.

GOES FOR RELIEF OF MINERS

Columbus, Ohio, December 5.—Attorney-General Timothy S. Hogan today said that he had "untainted" \$200 of bribe money which was in the possession of a son of former Speaker Samuel J. Vining. It was donated to the Miner's Relief Committee of Barton, Ohio. The money was left with the late Mr. Vining by former Representative George B. Nye of Pike County, who claim it was given to him as a bribe by detectives just before the legislative bribery explosion.

BRIEF REVIEW EUROPEAN WAR

A British squadron under Vice Admiral Sir Frederick Sturdee has sent to the bottom of the South Atlantic, near the Falkland Islands, the German cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Leipzig, three of the German warships which encompassed the defeat of Rear Admiral Sir Christopher Cradock's men of war.

With the sinking of the Scharnhorst, the German flagships, Admiral Count Von Spee probably found a grave beneath the waves.

On land, artillery duels and infantry attacks are in progress along the entire front in Belgium and France, and battles continue at various points in the East from Poland to the Carpathians.

In the South the Serbians claim the Austrians are in precipitate flight before King Peter's forces and are losing heavily in men, guns and war stores.

JUDGE MILLER WILL PRESIDE

At January Term Common Pleas, When He Assumes New Duties—List Jurors.

The grand and petit jurors for the January term of the Common Pleas Court were drawn last Monday. The drawing of these jurors brings to mind the seating of the new County Common Pleas Judge, in the person of H. A. Miller, whose office begins on January 1.

Judge-elect H. A. Miller will take his office on that day and will preside over the January term of court, which convenes on the 4th.

The grand jury is called to convene at 9:30 a.m. on that day, and the petit jury a week later at the same hour. The following is the list of jurors drawn.

Grand Jurors: Guy Montgomery, Dublin township; John Shively, Hopewell; Blaine Collins, Center; Arthur McAfee, Butler; Peter Obringer, Granville; John Moore, Franklin; Hubert Wimmers, Granville; Wm. Ireland, Gibson; Aug. Bernard, Butler; Harlo Burdge, Franklin; W. W. Wilson, Blackcreek; Henry Copeland, Dublin; Henry Post, Liberty; Chas. Denney, Gibson; C. L. Vining, Blackcreek.

Petit Jurors: Ed Dirksen, Marion; Jos. Andrews, Butler; C. A. Dudgeon, Dublin; John Fetters, Liberty; W. A. Hamilton, Union; A. J. Fisher, Liberty; John Kable, Liberty; Elsie Dilbone, Dublin; Harvey Shock, Dublin; James Pearson, Washington; Stephen Howick, Jefferson; W. E. Wilson, Recovery; B. L. Younger, Jefferson; Frank Harding, Granville; Wm. King, Dublin; Robert Wagers, Dublin; Mike Lion, Jefferson; Ben. Dahlinghaus, Marion.

VAN WERT SURVEYOR IN TROUBLE

Names of Ft. Recovery Men Figure in Work on Which He is Indicted.

[Van Wert Bulletin, Dec. 1] The concluding act of the Grand Jury, sitting in adjourned session, was of a nature to excite the attention of the people in every part of the county following an inquiry, which extended through three days, an indictment was returned against Carl J. Simon, County Surveyor, charging him with the grave offense of falsifying and fraudulently issuing a voucher for a warrant upon the Van Wert County Treasury—a violation of official duty, punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary from one to five years.

The alleged violation of the law deals with a voucher for sixty-six dollars, drawn in favor of the firm of Manning & Rittenhour, who were the contractors for the work of improving Maddox Creek, in Hoaglin township, the voucher being on its face in part payment for their labors on that stream, but, according to the allegation, in disregard of the Ohio Statutes, because there was then and there nothing due them and that the voucher was presented to the County Auditor for the purpose of procuring an allowance with intent to defraud the law upon which the indictment against Surveyor Simon is based.

Section 13195—Whoever, knowing it to be false or fraudulent in whole or part, makes, presents for payment, or certifies as correct to * * * the Auditor, Commissioners or other officers of the county * * * a claim, bill, bond note, account payroll, or other evidence of indebtedness, or procuring allowance, or an order for the payment thereof out of the treasury of the State, or such county, township or municipal corporation, or whoever knowing it to be false and fraudulent in whole or part, receives payment thereon from the treasurer of the State, or county, township or municipality, if false or fraudulent to the amount of thirty-five dollars or more, shall be imprisoned in the penitentiary not less than one year nor more than five years, or if less than that amount shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars, or imprisoned not more than thirty days, or both.

DRYS WINNERS IN FIGHT AT FINDLAY

FINDLAY, O., Dec. 7.—After a fierce ten day's struggle by both wets and drys, this city voted dry today by a majority of 383. Both wet and dry forces centered their efforts on the State upon Findlay, as it is the first municipality in Ohio to vote on this issue since the passage of the 1912 act.

The drys engaged Captain Owen O. Wurd, a detective from Chicago, for a week's stay to lecture and look up illegal registration.

Wm. Weams, of Rockford, is in jail here awaiting trial, which will be held before Mayor Rice to-day, on a charge of brutal treatment toward his young daughter. The people of Rockford and vicinity became much incensed over the alleged treatment of the young lady and caused the arrest of the father. Weams' wife died a number of years ago, and the daughter, who is about 19 years of age, has been keeping house for her father.

TAX RATES IN KANSAS AND NEBRASKA

Kansas and Nebraska are next door neighbors. Kansas has been without the open saloon for a third of a century. Nebraska all through these years has had the licensed saloon. In 1885 under the license the rate in Kansas for state purposes was 5.5 mills on the dollar. At that time the Nebraska rate was only 3.5 mills. In 1881, under Prohibition the Kansas rate dropped to 5.3 mills, while the Nebraska rate increased to 6.1 mills. In 1882 the figures stood: Kansas 4.5, Nebraska 6.7. In 1883 the rate on Kansas was 4.3, Nebraska 7.8. In 1885 Kansas rate was 3.9, while in Nebraska it was 7.7. In 1914 Kansas had reached the remarkable low figure of 1.2, while Nebraska with her licensed saloons and revenue from them has had rate of 7.8.

And yet representatives of the liquor interests have the effrontery to warn the people against outlawing the saloon, because they claim it will increase the taxes.—American Issue.

A man traveled from Columbus to Lima to file a deed for the transfer of some farm land in the county and then found that he did not have enough money to file the deed, because of the war tax. "I guess I'll keep this until the war is over," he remarked as he left the recorder's office with his deed. The man had not heard of the imposition of the war tax on deeds. The consideration named in his deed was \$8,000 and would have required eight dollars worth of war tax revenue stamps. It would have ordinarily had cost about seventy-five cents to file it.

George Sollers, who conducts the restaurant at the old Hiers' stand, South Main street, was arrested last Monday evening by Marshal Duncan on a charge of drunkenness. He pleaded guilty before Mayor Rice Tuesday evening and was fined \$5 and costs. He settled.

SHOPPING EARLY

People ought not to have to be reminded to do their Christmas shopping early. Their own comfort and convenience should urge them to do it. Now is the time to make your Yuletide purchases. The merchants have spread their Christmas goods before you and their clerks stand behind the counter ready to serve you patiently, cheerfully and painstakingly. The stores are not crowded, and you have time and room to look around and see everything. And this time and room for consideration and the attention you can readily obtain from the clerks will save you from many a mistake that you would make later on. For in another week the stores will probably be jammed with buyers, and for all the extra assistance that may be employed the clerks will have more than they can do as it really should be done. This will not result from any fault of theirs or their employees, but from the very hurry that is caused by big crowds of eager, buying and sometimes exasperated customers.

LODGE, CLUB AND SOCIAL GOSSIP

The local K. of P. lodge last Friday night elected the following officers for the ensuing year: C. C. A. W. Fishbaugh; V. C. Waldo Leonard; prelate, Wm. White; M. W. L. M. Murlin; G. C. L. M. Murlin; M. A. J. A. Hoagland; I. G. G. Howick; O. G. George Myers; keeper of records and seals, C. W. Wintner; master of finance, H. J. Beam; master of Exchequer, J. M. Dull.

The Woman's Home Missionary Society of the M. E. Church elected the following officers last Monday afternoon: President, Mrs. W. C. Stubbs; first vice president, Mrs. W. T. Palmer; second vice, Mrs. S. A. Bowman; corresponding secretary, Mrs. R. R. Wyckoff; recording secretary, Mrs. A. L. Sharp; treasurer, Mrs. J. W. Loree; secretary of literary of Miss Box, Mrs. A. Jewett.

The local Odd Fellows elected the following officers last Monday night: Noble Grand, John Leifeld; vice grand, Mahlon Redman; financial secretary, Dennis Springer; treasurer, Wm. Dick; trustee, Chas. McComb.

The Celina Chapter, R. A. M. last week elected the following officers for the ensuing year: H. P. E. J. Brookhart; king, G. J. C. Wintermute; scribe, J. W. Loree; C. H. F. L. Ellis; P. S., S. S. Seranton; R. A. C. G. A. Petrie; G. M.—Jesse Fast, third veil; A. W. Meister, second veil; and W. H. C. Detsch, first veil; treasurer, J. W. DeFord; secretary, A. M. Riley; guard, Arthur Enyart.

The local Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of St. John elected the following officers last Tuesday night: Spiritual Adviser, Rev. George Hindelang; president, Mary Wesker; first vice president, Tillie Hoyng; second vice president, Clara Pulskamp; recording secretary, Beatrice Pulskamp; financial secretary, Victoria Lenartz; treasurer, Luena Goble; messenger, Agnes Hendrick; sentinel, Margaret Hommert; guard, Theresa Schlosser; trustees—Mary Schmitt, Mary Meyer and Emma Hemmert. Grace Behringer and Mollie Garner were chosen as District Delegates.

After the election a surprise show-er was given one of their members, Mrs. Clara Wabler Wimmers, whose marriage took place a couple of weeks ago at Cincinnati.

Miss Bess Jenkins entertained the K. B. club members last Monday evening. At progressive dominoes, the honors fell to Miss Mabel Brandon.

Quite a number of the friends and neighbors of Contractor Henry B. Hughes, of near Tamah, who has been seriously ill with typhoid fever for some time past, gathered at his home last Monday and busked nearly 400 shocks of corn and hauled it to the crib. Those engaged in the husking job were: Emerson Pond, Wesley Forney, Roy Nottingham, James Seright, Frank Gilbert, Bash Wright, Mack Fisher, Perry Wright, Fred Forney, Ol Jewell, Ray Jewell, David Forney, Chas. Herrman, Delbert Detrick, Henry Sutton, Elijah Rhoades, Thomas Deal, Wm. Eichler, Ed Sutton, Vas. Sutton, Thomas Yount, Allie Koopke, C. Culbertson, Fred Custer, William Wright, Philip Swander, Elmer Hale, Elsa Wright, Wesley Williams, Frank Warrick and George Collier.

MORE CATTLE ARE SLAUGHTERED

Greenville, O., Dec. 9.—The third herd of stock, consisting of 12 head of cattle, 10 sheep and 17 hogs, were killed on account of the hoof and mouth disease on the farm of John Bateman in Missineawa township today. This farm adjoins the farm where the disease was first discovered in Darke County.

HIGH SPOTS IN THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

President Wilson— Favors a powerful navy. Favours a large standing army. Urges a trained citizenry accustomed to arms. Would encourage and strengthen the National Guard. Insists there has been no neglect of national defense. Hopes for the opportunity to counsel and obtain peace in the world. Protests against extravagance, but not against legitimate expenditure. Pleads for self-possession during a war "with which we have nothing to do." Declares there will be easy and sensible agreement upon a policy of defense.

The President in his message to Congress Tuesday, recommended the passage of the following legislation: The bill giving a large measure of self-government to the Philippines. The shipping bill pending in Congress, providing for an American merchant marine, Government-owned, if necessary.

A bill to open to development, with proper safeguards, the natural resources of the national domain. Confirmation of the proposed convention providing for safety at sea. The bill for the development of water power, with safeguards against private monopoly. More adequate provisions for survey and charting of our coasts as a measure of safety to navigation.

The President advised that the subject of rural credits be passed until the next session of Congress. Declared the administration program had been completed, and business is to have a rest from restrictive and corrective legislation.

DEMOCRAT SEEKS OFFICE HELD BY OPPONENT

J. Herman Gunsett, the Democratic candidate for Sheriff of Van Wert County, at the last election, has filed in the Van Wert Common Pleas court an appeal from the finding and declaration of the Deputy State Supervisors of Elections of that county that E. E. Bevington, the candidate on the Republican ticket, was duly elected. Mr. Gunsett's petition seeks an order for a recount of the entire vote cast for that office and it is set out that in each of the thirty-one precincts of the county that "It judges and clerks did not count, certify and return the number of votes in said precinct for said office correctly."

Under the procedure outlined in the appeal the case will not be finally passed upon before the middle of January. This fact, however, will not effect the future course of Mr. Bevington in relation to assuming the duties of the office. He holds the certificate of election issued by the Secretary of State, has filed his bond, taken the oath of office and will assume the duties on the first Monday of January.

Mr. Bevington has for a number of years past been a well known auctioneer of Van Wert county, and is widely known throughout the north end of this county, where he has cried many sales. His majority over Gunsett was seven votes.

"MRS. BRIGGS OF THE POULTRY YARD"

The Junior Class of the Montezuma high school will present a home talent drama, "Mrs. Briggs of the Poultry Yard," at the town hall at Montezuma next Saturday evening, the 19th. Admission—Adults, 25 cents; children, 15 cents. The members of the class extend a cordial invitation to all to attend. The following is the program and cast: Mrs. Briggs, a woman of business. Anna Spillane Her family—Ralph, Paul V. Kocher; Jimmy, Worley Frank; Alvira, Naomi Stafford; Melissa, Mabel Harrison.

Silas Green, a near relation. Orval Vorhees Mr. Lee, a wealthy neighbor. James Willis Virginia Lee, his daughter. Amanda Heavlin Daisy Thornton, her friend. Opal Moore Mrs. O'Connor, with no liking for goats. Ruby Burdge Mandy Bates, whose tongue will stumble. Helen Johnston

Wm. Copeland, the West Fayette street tailor, underwent a minor operation last Monday. Dr. Otis doing the surgical work. He is getting along nicely.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Rogers, North Main street, are the parents of a ten pound baby boy born last Monday morning.

A. H. Harris was arrested last Friday for fast driving. He plead not guilty and his case set for trial on Tuesday. He was found guilty and fined 5 and costs.

Dr. C. W. Burns, of Toronto, Canada, has formed a partnership with Dr. Cordier in the practice of medicine and surgery.

The State Industrial Commission on Wednesday granted an award of \$70 to John Gerlach, of Chicksaw, for an injury recently sustained by him while employed at the Union Handle Co., at Chicksaw, the award being granted under the Ohio Workmen's Compensation law.

THE GRIM REAPER

Mrs. Casper Schoenberger, of St. Henry, aged 56 years, died last Saturday night, following a lingering illness of cancer. Two children, Joseph and Anna, survive. Funeral services were held at the Catholic Church Wednesday morning.

Mrs. James Doty, a resident of Mercer for the past fifteen years, died last Monday morning, following a lingering illness of cancer. She is survived by her husband and the following children: Mrs. John O'Neill, near Mercer; John Doty, of Wapakoneta; James Doty, of Chicago, Ill.; and Mrs. Nellie Sandusky, of Columbus. Funeral services were held from the home Wednesday morning. Interment at St. Marys, the former home of the deceased.

Lewis Baker, aged 74 years, a Civil War veteran, died last Saturday night at a room, where he had been living, above the Big Pete shoe store on West Fayette street. Deceased was born in Adams County, this state, August 23, 1840. He served during the Civil War, and of late years has made his home in this city. He was operated upon at Lima last August for tumor, but a cancerous growth set in which caused his death. He is survived by three brothers and a sister, living some where in Illinois. The remains were taken to the home of Reuben Baker, East Wayne street, Sunday morning, from where funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon.

George A. Betz was born July 9, 1857 in Mercer County, Ohio, the son of Jack and Serepta Betz, died Thursday evening, November 27, 1914, at 7:30 p. m. at the family home in Wabash township after an illness of two years from organic heart trouble, complicated since Tuesday with pneumonia. He was preceded in death by his wife, Hannah Haffner Betz, about ten years ago. He is survived by the following children: Mrs. Arthur Beeler, Wabash township; Homer, of Louisiana; Arthur, Harry, Nellie, Ruth and Albert, at home.—Bryant, Ind., Independent.

Bert Houser died suddenly last Friday night, at his home three and one-half miles north-east of Bryant. The cause of death is given as apoplexy.

Mr. Houser had been in his usual health and had been in the field all day husking corn. He retired at about 9:30, and shortly afterward complained of a pain in his head. Ten minutes later he was dead.

The deceased was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Houser and was born in Mercer County, Ohio. He was married seventeen years ago to Miss Edith Gientzer, who with the following children survive: Arthur, Rosa, Lewis, Clarence, Emmett, Wayne and Carl.—Geneva, Ind., Herald.

John Edward, the little three year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Ora Brock, Mackinaw street, died last Saturday afternoon, following a week's illness of membranous croup. Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon.

Lewis TouVelle, aged 68 years, formerly in the lively business across

COURT MATTERS

The case of the State of Ohio vs. Emma Alexander, indicted by the last grand jury for misuse of the mails, is set for trial next Tuesday, the 15th.

The case of Addie M. Patterson vs. Emma Murlin et al is set for trial on next Monday and the case of P. F. Callen vs. E. Jamison, for trial Wednesday, the 16th.

Judge Layton last Friday heard the case of the Christian Church of Ft. Recovery vs. the Village of Ft. Recovery and took the matter under advisement.

The court overruled the first and second grounds of a motion and sustained the third and fourth in the case of I. F. Raudabaugh vs. the Village of Celina. Plaintiff was given 25 days to amend his petition.

Judge Layton yesterday rendered his decision in a number of cases and heard numerous motions. The principal decision of interest was in the case of the Christian Church of Ft. Recovery against the village of Ft. Recovery, a controversy over a street paving assessment submitted to the court last week. Judge Layton reduced the plaintiffs' assessment from \$1100 to \$1000, and assessed each party to pay his own costs.

In the case of Agnes Meinerding vs. Frank Benke, being also a street assessment case from the Fort, the court refused to reduce the assessment as prayed for.

Demurrers were heard in the case of T. W. Anderson vs. the Commissioners; the case of John Grier vs. the Commissioners, and each of the separate suits of Bernard Rose, Lawrence Frank, Bernard Romer, Frank B. Romer and Henry Chapman vs. Chapman Brothers.

In the action of T. J. Meyer et al vs. M. L. Blackburn, the court cancelled the oil lease on which the suit was based, and the defendant was given thirty days to remove all fixtures from the premises. Costs were assessed to the plaintiff.

The case of Grey Brothers vs. Geo. Smith was begun before Judge Layton yesterday. Plaintiffs are suing for carpenter work alleged due them from the defendant. Smith in a cross petition seeks \$150 damages.

Wesley Pond, indicted by the last grand jury for furnishing intoxicating liquor to a drunkard, plead guilty when his case came up for trial before Judge Layton Wednesday, and he was sentenced to pay the costs of prosecution. His Honor severely lectured young Pond and gave him four months time in which to pay the costs.

See the Racket Store's assortment of Neckwear in Holly Boxes, both for Men and Ladies, at 10c to 24c.