

"To Our Pride In the Past, and Our Hope for the Future, Let Us Add Vigorous Work in the Living Present."

R. M. WHITE & SON, Props. — L. M. WHITE, Editor.

MEXICO, AUDRAIN COUNTY, MISSOURI, THURSDAY, MARCH 18 1920

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INCOME TAX TROUBLES ARE OVER, AT LAST

Monday and Monday Night Were Busy Times For John T. Mason

FILLS OUT SIXTY FORMS

Had to Call For Help—James W. Perry Assists Him On Last Day.

"Swamped" is the caption borne by a little cartoon which hangs in John T. Mason's office in the Post Office and which was drawn by him to illustrate the state of affairs he has been in during the last week. He has been in Mexico for the purpose of helping those here and in the surrounding vicinity to make out their federal income tax returns, and everyone of the last seven days has been a "banner day" for him.

Anticipating the rush which he knew would come on the last day which was Monday, he sent in a plea, in the form of the above mentioned cartoon, for help so James W. Perry supervising deputy collector for the zone north of the Missouri River, came to help him on Monday. They both worked until 10 o'clock the night of March 15, and during the day an eight filled out 60 papers. This number was not much in excess of what Mr. Mason had managed alone during the week just previous, however, as from 45 to 50 forms have been filled on each day since he came here this last time.

When questioned concerning the matter Mr. Mason made the unique statement that he does not mind making out income tax returns and that he does not consider the forms difficult to manage. He says the people generally are afraid of the blanks and call them hard to fill before they have even seen them; hence, he says, they do have trouble in understanding them.

Those who did not get in their tax returns by midnight Monday night are liable to a fine of twenty-five per cent additional tax. Delinquent state income tax payers are subject to a fine of \$500 according to S. T. Torreyson, who says that most of all the state papers are in, he thinks. He extended the time from the first of March until the fifteenth, for all those who wanted to make out their federal return first. Therefore a few papers came into him Tuesday morning from those who did not get to see Mr. Mason until late Monday night.

Mr. Mason finished his work here Tuesday, after having mailed in all the returns which were turned in to late Monday for mailing under that date. He will now begin on special taxes, he says, and will make the rounds in his territory of Callaway and Audrain counties. By the time that it is attended to he can begin on delinquent income tax payers. There are always taxes of some kind to see after, he stated.

LIGHTNING STUNS MAN AND TEAMS

E. W. Bagley, who was driving an egg wagon with two teams, was stunned by lightning as well as his two teams knocked unconscious Thursday afternoon while driving north of this city.

The same bolt killed two cows in an adjoining field. Mr. Bagley, when he regained consciousness, discovered his teams slowly getting to their feet having evidently suffered a severe shock from the bolt which had knocked him down.

The rain Thursday aided materially in supplying water in a number of places as a shortage has developed during the past few weeks. However it was not heavy enough to supply anywhere near the amount required.

Young Woman Burns to Death.

News was received in Mexico Friday of the burning to death of the daughter of John Dugan, formerly yardmaster for the C. & A. in Mexico, now of Bowling Green. The young woman, who was Miss Lorraine Dugan until her marriage a short time ago, was lighting a fire when her clothing caught and burned her so badly that she died. Funeral services were held Friday. The many friends here of the Dugan family will be sorry to learn of this sad death.

CLARK BOY WILL WED FRENCH GIRL

(Centralia Guard)

The little town of Clark is enjoying the sequel of a pretty war romance this week. It seems that when Lee Stockton, a Clark boy, was billeted in France during the world war, he made the acquaintance of a pretty French girl and despite the fact that they did not speak each other's language, they got sufficiently acquainted to learn to like each other immensely. When the A. E. F. was brought home Mr. Stockton had to leave the girl behind. They did not forget each other, however, and last week he received a message that she had landed in this country with her sister. Young Stockton sent them the money to come on to Clark and told his friends that she was coming to meet him. On the day appointed Mr. Stockton appeared dressed up in his best and headed for the station. This was a signal for almost half the town to turn out to meet the two girls. When the train pulled in Tuesday two girls got off and they looked so much alike to the casual observer the townsfolk wondered if the lucky boy could tell which one was his fiancée. Lee knew them apart and Clark was satisfied with the meeting.

The French girls were taken to the hospitable Stockton home and entertained by the mother of the soldier boy.

Neither of the girls speak English, but that does not seem to bother them or anyone else who meets them as they all talk their own language and the friendly sparkle in the eyes of the hospitable people of Clark is a sufficient guarantee to the little strangers in a strange land that they are among friends.

The consensus of opinion seems to be that a wedding has occurred or will soon occur.

F. T. HATCH DIES IN ST. LOUIS.

Son-in-Law of Ripley Pearson of Mexico—With Penn. R. R.

Frederick T. Hatch, of St. Louis, whose wife was formerly Mrs. Nola Pearson Unrwood, daughter of Ripley Pearson, of this city, fell dead from apoplexy at his home at 5 Lenox Place Wednesday night. He was consulting engineer of the Vandalia Branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, with which he had been connected for the past forty years.

Mr. Hatch was 64 years old, and apparently had been in good health up until the moment of his death which came as he was preparing to join his family at dinner. He is survived by his wife, to whom he was married about four years ago, and four children by a former marriage. Funeral services were held at the home in St. Louis at 5 o'clock Thursday afternoon and the body was then sent to St. Louis, O., the former home, for burial.

To Go To Columbia University.

Miss Polly Powell, who is now social service nurse in Stuttgart, Ark., will go to Columbia University this summer for a three months' course, utilizing the Julia Simpson scholarship which was awarded her when she was graduated from the Washington University Training School for Nurses last April.

Reading Advertising

The advertisements in a newspaper are among its most interesting news items.

They tell you where you can purchase articles which you are in the market for, where special prices are to be found on necessities and are generally a money saving guide for the buyer and a time-saver.

The thrifty person is always a close reader of the advertisements. They have discovered the money-saving value of this habit.

The more you read advertisements the more you realize this.

Make it a regular practice to read the advertisements in the Ledger. You'll find that it pays and pays big in the end.

F. Mitchell White

MARTINSBURG HOTEL AND GROCERY BURN

Loss by Fire Early Wednesday Morning is Estimated at About \$3,000

BURN IN HOUR'S TIME

Blaze Thought To Have Started From Flue of Store—Both Frame Buildings

A three thousand dollar loss was suffered by Mrs. Linnie Weaver and F. X. Vomund, of Martinsburg, when the Royal Hotel belonging to the former and the grocery store owned by the latter were destroyed by fire Wednesday morning between the hours of one and two o'clock. Both buildings were frame and burned very quickly, the fire which started from the flue of the store building, having done its work in an hour's time.

The hotel was a two-story structure containing eighteen rooms and was valued at about \$3,000. There was no insurance on the furniture and very little on the house. Most of the furniture on the ground floor was saved. The value of the store building is estimated at \$1,000 and the groceries destroyed at \$500. Mr. Vomund's loss is covered by insurance.

Jacobi Brothers, who have a store in Mexico, have a large establishment in Martinsburg which is located just across the street from the buildings which burned Wednesday morning; it was damaged slightly at the time of the fire. Several of the large plate windows having been cracked, according to Mr. Jacobi.

NO SENATE FOR CLARK.

Missourian Believes Greater Service For Him in House.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—Representative Champ Clark of Missouri has formally announced that he would not be a candidate for the Senate, because of his unwillingness to swap "the Democratic leadership in the House for the position of new Senator."

The former Speaker declared in a statement "to the people of Missouri" that between the two offices he felt he could render better service to the people by remaining in the House.

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Ten cents a line of five words each an insertion is the cost. The result always pays you. Try one next time.

The Mexico Ledger

R. WESS WINN WEDS MISS NANCY MOSELY

Are Married at Home of the Rev. C. A. Mitchell Here Friday Night

ONLY FEW PRESENT

Both Are Prominent Young People Of County—Will Live Near Mexico.

Robert Wesley Winn, one of Audrain County's most prominent stockmen, and Miss Nancy Ellen Mosely, of Auxvasse, were married Friday night at the home of the Rev. C. A. Mitchell, who read the ceremony. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. George Saul, Mr. and Mrs. Cassius Clay, Ben Winn, Miss Mae Mosely and Miss Miriam Johnson.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Mosely, influential persons of Auxvasse, and she is considered by her many friends one of the most attractive and most charming young ladies in this locality. She attended school in Fulton, but has visited in Mexico many times and is well known here.

Mr. Winn is one of the Winn Brothers of Audrain County who have won fame all over this and adjoining states as pure bred Poland China hog breeders. He is a highly estimable and enterprising young man with a host of friends to wish him and his bride much happiness.

They have gone to the Winn farm about two miles northeast of Mexico to make their home. The Ledger extends congratulations and best wishes.

MEXICO MEN LEAD AGAIN.

167 Men Attend Sunday School at Christian Church Here Sunday.

The Men's Bible Class of the Christian Church here again outnumbered the Men's Class of the Columbia Christian Church, with which it is having a contest, when the count Sunday showed 167 present here and 120 there. Columbia had a large percentage of increase, however, the records last Sunday showing Columbia 67 and Mexico 115. The contest will continue for four more Sundays, and interest is running high. The defeated class is to give the winners a banquet.

Sunday was one of the biggest days in the history of the church here, according to the pastor. Aside from having present at Sunday School the largest body of men ever assembled for that service, the total number present was 512 and there were four additions to the church at the morning hour.

The evening service was under the auspices of the Men's Class and special numbers were given by men in the choir and in the pulpit. The Rev. Gentry preached a sermon on "The Broken Covenant," the outline of which had been prepared by a layman.

COL. HENDERSON HEADS ELKS.

J. C. Stroek is Elected Delegate to Grand Lodge Convention.

Col. F. N. Henderson was made Exalted Ruler of the local lodge of the B. P. O. Elks at the annual election held Friday night. Other officers elected are: Esteemed Leading Knight, Joe Davis; Esteemed Loyal Knight, Carter Glass; Lecturing Knight, Ray Miller; Tyler, John F. Barclay; Secretary, Sam Byrns; Treasurer, Walker Burns; Trustee for three years, Col. E. Y. Burton, re-elected.

Past Exalted Ruler Major J. C. Stroek was elected to represent the lodge at the Grand Lodge Convention to be held some time during the year. Dr. D. T. Moore was made his alternate.

After the business meeting Friday night a social hour and smoker was held.

John Atkins Improving.

John Atkins, formerly of Mexico, who has been confined to his home for some time with rheumatism, is on the streets this week. Upon advice of physicians he had all of his teeth extracted and an abscess was found at the root of each tooth. It is thought this was the root of the trouble, and he is hopeful that this improvement means a return to his old time good health.—Vandalia Leader.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Watts are the happy parents of a ten-pound boy born to them Friday night.

SCHOOL BOARD VOTES TO INCREASE LEVY

At a regular meeting of the Mexico School Board held Monday morning it was decided to increase the school levy twenty per cent over what it was last year, this proposition to be voted upon at the regular school election in April. This decision was made by the School Board in order that money might be raised to keep the good teachers in the schools here.

According to a member of the school board, there is no intention of letting the best teachers leave Mexico because of low salaries. All that are worth while will be kept here if salary can do it, it is thought; and because many of them are getting offers from adjoining states, it has been necessary to take steps to increase the money paid here.

The Chamber of Commerce, in a meeting held Monday morning, endorsed the action taken by the School Board, and agreed to do all in its power to carry the vote for the increased levy.

NO DEATHS FOR A WEEK.

Just A Month Since Locality Saw Highest Death Rate in Years.

One month ago at this time Mexico and the surrounding vicinity was undergoing a siege of sickness and death that surpassed even the worst weeks of the influenza epidemic of 1918 and early 1919. During the week just passed there has not been a death in Salt River Township, nor in Audrain County, as far as records kept in Mexico show.

That a week like this should come immediately following three weeks when the death rate was unusually high is particularly encouraging to those interested in the health conditions of this locality. It may be taken as indicative of the success of physicians, and others working with the sick in the recent semi-epidemic, in coping with the situation which might easily have continued serious for a much longer time.

INCOME TAX ESTIMATED.

Treasury Certificates for \$775,000,000 Must be Retired With the Money Collected.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—Treasury officials estimated that the first instalment of income and profits taxes due Monday, one-fourth of the total, would amount to about \$200,000,000, coincidentally with the tax payment, treasury certificates aggregating \$775,000,000 matured, which must be retired with the money collected.

Treasury officials did not expect to be able to give a complete statement of the first instalment payments before Friday. On these figures will hinge the treasury financial program for the future.

THOMPSON P. O. BROKEN INTO.

Would-Be Robbers Get Nothing But Some Tobacco Monday.

Several cartons of cigarettes and some other tobacco was all that was taken from Meyer's General Merchandise Store, in which is located the Thompson Postoffice, when the building was broken into Monday night. It is thought that an unsuccessful attempt was made to get into the safe. No clues, except foot prints, which are too small to be those of a man, and which were discovered on the ground under the window, have been found.

Weds Callaway Couple.

Oscar Allen and Miss Nina Tearre, both of Callaway and Miss Nina Tearre, were married by the Rev. C. A. Mitchell at his home in Mexico, at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon. They left soon after the wedding for Mr. Allen's farm near Guthrie where they will make their home. They came to Mexico in an automobile.

Goes to Vandalia Banking Ass'n.

Mrs. Madeline Sutton, who has for some time been stenographer and book keeper for Smith Brothers Garage went to Vandalia Thursday to accept a position with the Vandalia Banking Association with which she worked two years ago before coming to Mexico. Her many friends here will be sorry to see her leave.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Morris, of Rush Hill, were in Mexico Monday night.

NOT ENOUGH SIGNERS TO FARBET PETITION

County Superintendent Ed C. Offutt Has Not Acted On It Yet

TAKING OTHER STEPS

Men in District May Take Other Means To Get Vote On Dissolution.

No action has as yet been taken on the petition to dissolve the Farber Consolidated School District which was presented to County Superintendent Ed C. Offutt about two weeks ago, because it does not contain the required number of names. According to the law a petition of this nature must be signed by a majority of the voters, but this one has only 63 out of a possible 140 signatures. Mr. Offutt says, however, that he will send the petition to the Board of Directors of the district, to whom it should properly have been addressed, and let them act on it as they see fit, before the regular meeting.

In the mean time those men who are actively interested in dissolving the district are contemplating getting at the matter another way, according to Mr. Offutt, and will probably post notices, containing ten signatures, calling for a consideration of the matter at hand on a specified date. It may be voted upon at the regular annual school meeting April 6 or a special election may be called for an earlier date.

The reason given for wishing to disorganize the district is that the cost of maintaining the three year high school is more than it should be for the few students who are in attendance. The Farber school is situated between Vandalia and Laddonia and the majority of students attend one or the other of these schools which are larger.

A "WET" CONGRESS IS THEIR GOAL

WASHINGTON, March 12.—A vigorous campaign to wrest control of congress from the prohibitionists and amend the "dry" law so that light wine and beer will be legalized is being planned by the "wets" throughout the country, it was learned recently.

Keen political observers, whose sympathies are with the "wets," see little hope of complete overturning prohibition, but they do hope to make it less drastic by electing "wet" congressmen. Thus the prohibition issue will be fought out at the polls next November in many congressional districts, no matter whether it is put in the presidential platform of either party.

The supreme court's decision on the eighteenth amendment and the Volstead law, expected soon, may determine how extensive the campaign to elect a "wet" congress will be. Should the court hold that congress has the right to define what is intoxicating, as it has done in the Volstead law by fixing the maximum amount of alcohol in legal beverages at one-half of 1 per cent, the campaign of "wet" forces is expected to be started immediately to replace the ultra-prohibitionists with men favoring light wines and beer. If their efforts are successful the Volstead law could be amended easily so that 3.50 per cent beer and 10 per cent wine, for instance, would be legal.

The supreme court, in its decision on war time prohibition, held that congress had this power in the war, and the question now arises whether it also is granted to congress under the constitutional prohibition amendment.

Married Here Thursday.

The Rev. A. A. Wallace, Thursday afternoon at 5 o'clock, married Clarence Gray, a prominent young farmer of near Santa Fe and Miss Martha Maude Beagles, of Laddonia, both members of prominent families and well known in this city. Mr. Gray is a brother of Mrs. Joe Daniel of this city. The Ledger joins in extending best wishes.

It Never Fails.

Miss Linnie Allison, of St. Louis, renewing for her Weekly Ledger says, "Letters fall me sometimes, but the Ledger never, as a valued source of Mexico news."