

Mount Pulaski Times-News

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REFLECTIONS

(By the Editor)

Here we go again!

Not long ago we exploded in relation to the new Community Unit Act which was sponsored by educational organizations of the state.

We were anything but complimentary—and we haven't changed our opinion a bit. Hence our trite statement, "Here we go again."

John K. Cox, director of rural schools relations for the IAA, a staunch promoter and defender of the atrocious school legislation.

Recently sent out a four-page "question and answer" broadside attempting to justify the act.

His arguments are rather convincing until one sees the glaring fallacies of the act in actual practice.

Theoretically the Community Unit Act might be a beautiful bowl of cherries.

But from a practical standpoint the "cherries are wormy."

The new act permits school groups to form a community-wide school set-up regardless of other schools' territory and if they can muster the votes, vote in unwilling territory and combine grade and high school boards.

Among the jokers in the new act is the one which states that to form such a unit district the territory involved must have at least 2,000 inhabitants.

Logan county school territory has already been ripped open by out-of-the-county schools.

Elkhart has suffered a heavy blow from Athens, and some from Williamsville. Middletown has lost one-half of their high-school territory to Greenview.

Warrensburg had petitioned for 12 sections of Latham's not too large school district but for some reason or other this bogged down.

Latest development is Delavan from Tazewell county walking into County Superintendent Lukens' office and briefly saying:

"Here are papers which we want you to sign which will take away some of Hartsburg high school's territory. We are forming a unit district and we need that land."

Swell idea, don't you think, Mr. Cox?

Right here we want to give an orchid to Latham's high school board of education.

Faced with the threat of Warrensburg's desire for some of their land, they joined hands with Kenney, who also had its fear of pre-dawn attack by "land scalpers."

And prepared a petition covering enough land to give them that potential 2,000 population.

Including in it, some Mount Pulaski high territory as well as several sections of Mount Pulaski Consolidated grade school land.

In compliance with a gentlemen's agreement made by the school boards of the county at a meeting the latter part of August

That if any need arose in the county to infringe on any other school in the county, the matter would be talked over, so the boards involved went into a huddle.

After a frank discussion of the matter, to the credit of Latham's spirit of fair play, they agreed to release the Pulaski sections involved and draw up a new petition.

Mr. Cox will applaud this decision for it meets with his argument that these matters can be settled amicably.

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School Addition Discussed At Mass Meeting

School Patrons Hear Plans For Needed Rooms

A fair-sized representation of interested school patrons attended the mass meeting called for Monday evening at the Mount Pulaski Consolidated grade school to discuss proposed and needed school room addition, due to the consolidation of eight country schools with the city school, which has far overtaxed the school room capacity.

The board of education which previously had sketches drawn up for a rather pretentious building program, felt that in view of continued rising costs that it would be advisable to trim the proposed addition down as low as possible, wanted to ask the public for an expression of their opinion, as well as an endeavor to impress upon them the dire need for such a building program.

John Deal, of Lincoln, architect, who had drawn up the plans for the building addition, was present and explained what could be accomplished by the proposed addition to the building, and some of the problems that would have to be decided upon before final plans could be drawn.

Cost 21c Per \$100

C. E. Bohlander of Bloomington, who will handle the bond

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MALISSA ASHEN, 80, DIED SATURDAY

Mrs. Malissa G. Ashen, widow of Joseph P. Ashen, who lived in Chester township, Logan county, four miles north of Mount Pulaski, died in her home at 6 p. m. Saturday, October 18, 1947, aged 80 years, 11 months and 29 days.

Malissa G. Downs was born October 19, 1866, in Mannington, West Virginia, a daughter of Elber and Nancy Martin Downs. In Fairmont, Virginia, on May 21, 1898, she married Joseph P. Ashen of Mount Pulaski vicinity, and spent her entire married life on the Ashen farm north of the city, a period of almost half a century. Her husband preceded her in death on December 16, 1943, and since then she had lived with her daughter, Miss Inez. Decedent was a member of the Methodist church.

Mrs. Ashen is survived by two daughters, Miss Inez Ashen, at home, and Mrs. Maude Schmitgen, of Los Angeles, Calif., and a brother, Charles E. Downs of Mannington, W. Va.

The remains were removed to the Sheets funeral home in Lin-

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TRUCK RUNS INTO SIDE OF SCHOOL BUS

Shortly after 4 o'clock Thursday afternoon of last week, Harold L. Hargrave, driving the new school bus, started east from the township high school with a bus full of students on their way home. While crossing the intersection the bus was struck by a truck driven by Roy Aylesworth, who was traveling west, and blinded by the sun, did not see the bus as he attempted to turn south on his way to the Rothwell lumber yard.

No one was injured by the impact. Little damage was done to the truck, but the bus was badly dented where it was struck.

WORK STARTED ON NEW FIRE HOUSE FOR MOUNT PULASKI

The contract for the new fire house was awarded B. F. Holmes of this city on his bid of \$19,853.41, and work was begun last week. This one-story building of brick will have a frontage of about 26 feet, and a depth of 75 feet. The first half will have a concrete floor, and there will be no basement under it. Here will be placed the two new fire trucks. Excavating in the back part of the room is for the purpose of installing a heating system for both buildings.

The contract calls for the new building to install the fire fighting equipment, as well as repairing and redecorating the city hall building. When the fire equipment is removed the lower floor will be arranged for use as the City Clerk's office, and police headquarters. The city council room, and the firemen's meeting headquarters are on the second floor.

When the fire of February 25 in the city hall building on the east side of the square destroyed both the city and country fire trucks, it was necessary to purchase two new trucks. The two trucks, both painted white, received much publicity all over the country.

Although the trucks are still housed on the lower floor of the city hall, plans were made to erect a building of fireproof materials on the lot adjoining to the north. The city had bought the lot from Miss Florence Wagner, and it was formerly the location of the old blacksmith shop operated by her grandfather Gottlieb L. Sschafer.

JERRY HAHN WEDS PEORIA GIRL

In a double ring ceremony at 3:15 p. m. Sunday, October 12, 1947, in the Christian church parsonage in Washington, Illinois, Miss Ella Doss, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bedford Doss, 509 West McClure avenue, Peoria, became the bride of Jerry W. Hahn, son of Mrs. Lottie Hahn of Mount Pulaski. The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. Wayne Staley, formerly of Mount Pulaski.

The couple was attended by Mrs. Warren Eckhart of Peoria, and Henry Frank Buckles of Mount Pulaski.

The bride wore a street-length dress of cimarón lame, with matching accessories, and a corsage of yellow roses. Mrs. Eckhart wore a dress of soldier blue, with brown accessories, and a corsage of Johanna Hill roses. Both mothers wore grey and corsages of red roses.

A reception was held later at the home of the bride's parents.

The bride attended Peoria high school and for the past two years has been employed by Mrs. Everett P. Jarvis. The bridegroom graduated from Mount Pulaski township high school and served for 26 months in the Army Air Forces, being in Alaska for 13 months. He is now employed by the Caterpillar Tractor company in Peoria. The newlyweds are residing in Peoria.

INGRAM TRUCK IS INVOLVED IN CRASH

Guy Hatfield, driving the Ingram Bros. truck, while in Broadwell Saturday afternoon, figured in a collision with a Plymouth auto driven by Raymond Ely of Elkhart, Ill. Both machines were damaged. Hatfield received several bruises.

GEORGE UNDERHILL CANDIDATE FOR REPRESENTATIVE

Announcement of his candidacy for the office of state representative, on the Republican ticket, was made Wednesday by George M. Underhill, well known Mount Pulaski man.

Underhill, 52, is a former chairman of the Republican central committee in Logan county and has been active in affairs of the



party with which he has been affiliated all his life. He seeks election for the 28th district which not only includes Logan county, but Macon and DeWitt counties as well.

The candidate has served for 12 years on the Mount Pulaski township high school board and for 14 years has been on the Christian church board here. He is a charter member of the Rotary club of Mount Pulaski; is a Shriner, and vice president of his town's baseball fans organization. His other affiliations include Lincoln lodge No. 914, B. P. O. Elks.

Mr. and Mrs. Underhill have been residents of Mount Pulaski for 27 years, both being active in civic and county organizations. They are the parents of three children: Mrs. Harold Abrams of La Jolla, Calif., Mrs. Herbert Ayers of Mount Pulaski, and George Robert, a sophomore at James Millikin university in Decatur.

JESSE COX BURNED IN PLANT FIRE

Jesse Cox, proprietor of the Mount Pulaski Cleaners, sustained bad burns about 3:30 a. m. Monday from a sudden flare-up of flames from the cleaning machine. The burns were on the face, back of the head, and arms. He was rushed at once to St. Clara's hospital in Lincoln for emergency care and remained in the hospital for a few days.

The fire department was called and both fire trucks were on the scene at once to protect property in case the services of firemen were needed. There was no fire damage.

TIMES-NEWS FORCE SEE ILLINI WIN

As guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Wible, members of the Times News force, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Passmore, Jr., Mrs. Paul E. Biedler, C. H. Leckbee and son, Merwyn Dean, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hargrave, enjoyed the Illinois-Minnesota football game at the U. of I. Saturday. Also included in the party were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Martin, Jr., and Mrs. Frederick Zimmerman.

425 Farmers Go On I. H. Anniversary Special Train

Pulaski, Chestnut And Latham Part Of Illinois Delegation

425 farmers and friends from Mount Pulaski, Chestnut and Latham communities boarded the International Harvester \$25,000,000 special train here and at Chestnut early Tuesday morning, as part of a gigantic Illinois turnout from all over the state to make the 100th anniversary of the IH by far the biggest day of the entire celebration which was held at Soldier's Field. 43 trains from every section of the state converged on Chicago, all arriving there about the same time.

It was an enthusiastic and happy-go-lucky crowd that milled around the station until the special train which started from Pulaski, pulled up to the station, for it was a holiday from the husking of corn and the tinkling of beans in the hopper. With the hayseed carefully combed out of their hair, fresh shaven and their best bib and tucker on, and most of them handling big cigars, the only way you could tell they were men from the farm when they got into the big city was their apparent zest for enjoying life and needing more room to turn around—and taking it. If they wanted to laugh out loud—they did. If they wanted to take

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T. A. SCROGGIN IN BANK 65 YEARS

Thomas A. Scroggin, president of the Farmers Bank of Mount Pulaski, one of the city's best known and esteemed citizens, who has been identified with the business interests about 65 years, longer than any other resident, observed his 80th birthday anniversary Friday, October 17, 1947, by being at his post of duty at his desk in the bank at the southwest corner of the square.

Upon arriving at the bank that morning he was greatly surprised and pleased to find his desk decorated with many bouquets of beautiful flowers. The flowers, gifts of friendship and esteem, were from members of the bank staff, and member banks, as well as friends, in honor of the anniversary. Many called to extend congratulations and best wishes.

Mr. Scroggin, son of the pioneer land owner and banker, L. K. Scroggin, was born two miles south of Mount Pulaski. When about 15 years old, his father had him enter the bank to learn the business, starting as office boy, clerk, teller, bookkeeper, cashier, and finally president of this well known central Illinois banking institution.

Sixty-five years is a long time to devote your energies in one place of business in the same location. He has had a world of experience there, contacted many thousands of people, and has always enjoyed having the friendship of a great number of people.

COUNTY MEETING IS POSTPONED ONE WEEK

Because of conflicting dates, the regular monthly meeting of the Logan County Council of American Legion and Auxiliary, scheduled to be held in Atlanta on Thursday, October 30, has been postponed to Thursday evening, November 6. Please note this change.