

## SALOON ARTICLES

Compiled by Thomas Liby.

This is a roughly chronological list of some material pertaining to saloons, mostly newspaper articles, and peripheral material on saloon keepers, the Nicholson law, the WCTU, and the "seedy underbelly" of drunks, fights and other such incidents related to the liquor trade. A few tangential articles are pulled from other themes collected through the years.

## AN ORDINANCE.

Prescribing Punishment for Drunkenness and Disorderly Conduct - Duties of Marshal, etc.

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the Corporation of Bluffton, That any person or persons found on the streets or side-walks, or in any public meeting or place of business, in a state of intoxication, or acting in a disorderly manner, shall be arrested by the Marshal, taken before the Mayor, and fined in any sum not exceeding ten dollars nor less than one dollar.

2. It shall be the duty of the Marshall to remove all nuisances within the limits of the corporation, to arrest upon sight or oral information all persons violating any of the ordinances of the corporation of Bluffton, to be present on all public days, preserve peace and good order, and arrest all persons violating the same.

3. The Marshal, failing to perform his duties, shall, upon information being given to the Mayor, be fined in any sum not exceeding twenty dollars nor less than one dollar.

4. Be it further ordained, That it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to discharge any kind of fire-arms within the limits of the corporation. Any person found violating the provisions of this section, shall be fined in any sum not less than one nor more than five dollars.

5. Be it further ordained, That it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to ride or drive faster than a common trot, or leading, riding or driving on the side walk. Any person violating this ordinance shall upon conviction be fined in any sum not exceeding five dollars nor less than one dollar for each and every offense.

6. Be it further ordained, That any person or persons who shall hereafter be guilty of gambling within the corporation shall upon conviction for each offense be fined in any sum not exceeding twentyfive nor less than five dollars.

7. Be it ordained, That hereafter it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to exhibit any show or theatrical performance or Exhibition of any kind for reward or gain without first paying into the corporation treasury a sum not less than one nor more than fifteen dollars. Any person or persons violating the provisions of this ordinance shall upon conviction be fined in any sum not less than ten nor more than twenty five dollars.

8. Be it ordained, That the regular meetings shall be held on the first and third Saturdays of every month. Any member absenting himself at the regular or called meeting without a reasonable excuse, shall be fined one dollar.

Approved by the Council.

JOS. MERIDITH, Mayor.

Attest: J. A. McFadden, Sec'y.

May 5, 1864-w2

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. Vol. 13. No 16. Thursday, May 5, 1864. p. 2, col. 7.*

*Application for License.*

Notice is hereby given, to the citizens of Harrison township, Wells County and State of Indiana, that I will make application to the Board of Commissioners of Wells County, Indiana, at the June Term, 1863, for license to sell spirations and malt liquors, in a less quantity than one quart at a time.

The premises, where such liquors are to be sold, are situated on Market street, on In-lot N. 35, and in the frame building formerly owned by Robert Russell, and lately sold by said Russell to Joseph Zimmerman, and being the east half of the west half of In-lot No. 35, Bluffton, Indiana.

JOHN M. ERDER,

April 3, 1863—tt

Applicant.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. Vol. XII. No. 48 1/2 Friday, May 15, 1863. p. 1, col. 2. reprinted in Wells County Tracer v. 13, n. 5, p. 10. September 2008.*

The an early advertisement appears in a local paper:

## GEM SALOON.

J. M. ERLER, . . . Proprietor.

1st door north of McFadden's Drug Store  
Keeps constantly on hand the choicest  
Wines, Liquors, Brandies, Cigars, Bolognas, Cakes, &c. Apl 14'64-yl

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. Vol. 13. No. 27. Thursday, July 21, 1864. p. 3, col. 4.*

The Bluffton Banner. VOL. XXV. NO. 11. Friday, May 12, 1876. p. 2, col. 5. had a column listing five notices of application for license signed by Fredrick Christman, James Miller, William F. Burns, Jacob Stout and two partners, McCleery and another. To include all the Applications for License over the years would add many more pages.

Last Saturday evening about six o'clock a cutting affray occurred in W. H. J. Covert's saloon, the principals of which were William Fields, and James Miller, who lives up the river. It appears that the cause of the row was over some steel traps which had been stolen from a man by the name of Myers some few nights since and that Fields accused Miller of the stealing. This fracas was first commenced in J. F. Brice's saloon, where Miller left and went to Covert's saloon, where Fields followed him. Here again the row was renewed, and in which Fields drew a large pruning knife and was about to use on Miller, who politely knocked him down and in the scramble went down on top of him. Here Fields again attempted to get in his work with the knife and succeeded in cutting two long sashes in his coat and pants. They were finally separated however, and no serious damage was done. Fields was arrested and now languishes in jail for want of bail. His trial will come up in the Circuit Court sometime this week, and there is not much doubt but that he will serve another term in the pen at Michigan City.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Weekly Chronicle. VOLUME XX. NUMBER 35. Thursday, March 21, 1889. p. 3, col. 5.*

If the act of Friday night in painting the Mayor's office windows was intended to bring reproach upon that officer in his stand for the right, the aim will go wide of its mark.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 23. NUMBER 9. Thursday, September 17, 1891. p. 7, col. 4.*

Last Friday night was the time for the taking effect of the saloon screen ordinance, and some one, evidently for a purpose, painted all the saloon windows and those in the Mayor's office with white lead. Whether the purpose was to defeat the law or not is not certain, but if it was it will not be satisfied as the paint has all been scratched off and the officers requested to see that the ordinance is enforced. There have been a few violations of the law already but they in the course of time will be looked after and also whatever other may follow.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 23. NUMBER 9. Thursday, September 17, 1891. p. 7, col. 7.*

#### VISITING THE SALOONS.

##### OSSIAN LADIES HAVE BEEN PAYING THEIR RESPECTS TO THE DRAM SHOPS

##### A Bomb Discovered Under the Trenary Saloon Causes Intense Excitement.

We clip the following from the Ossian News of last week, which indicates the interest awakened in the temperance work at that place:

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union which was organized late last fall, now has an active, working membership of the most prominent ladies of our city.

The mothers and sisters who compose this band of noble workers, have long been desirous of raising fallen humanity from the slums, and haunts, of iniquity, which the saloon spreads wide open to all classes of depraved human beings. How to accomplish the most good in a very effectual manner is one of the queries that has most frequently presented itself to the W. C. T. U.

At a recent meeting of the society, it was decided to appoint committees to visit the saloon, and use all honorable means to get the proprietor to forsake the selling of strong drinks and choose another calling. The committee was also instructed to put forth earnest efforts to get the persons who are in the habit (*sic*) of frequently (*sic*) the saloon to sign a pledge not to do so any more.

The ladies began their nightly visits to N. H. Trenary's place of business one evening last week since which time they have made regular visits, night after night, always remaining in the saloon until eleven o'clock which is the legal hour for closing.

As to the extent of good accomplished by these nightly visits, the NEWS is unable to state. However, it has been pretty clearly demonstrated that the never tiring efforts of the ladies to elevate depraved (*sic*) humanity, to a higher sphere, has proved no fruitless attempt.

The latest phrase (*sic*) of the saloon fight at Ossian is the excitement incident to finding a bomb under the Trenary saloon at that place last Sunday. From appearances an attempt had been made to explode the deadly weapon, as a partially burned fuse was attached to which was burned quite close up to the bomb.

This discovery has greatly heightened (*sic*) the excitement and the affair has been almost the exclusive talk for some days. The presence of the bomb is accounted for in several ways. Some think it was placed there for the purpose of demolishing the building; others think it was done only as a warning to the saloon man to leave, while still others feel sure it was put there by those in sympathy with the saloon, and designed to work up sympathy for the proprietor and discredit the crusaders. However that may be one thing is very plain and that is that the ladies have no connection with it, and know nothing about it. That is not their tactics.

The opposition to a saloon in Ossian is so strong that when the opposers are all awake and work together they make it decidedly uncomfortable for the dramseller.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. XLIV, NO 26 Wednesday, June 28, 1893. p. 1, col. 3.*

The eight page Bluffton Banner had a PART SECOND section of four pages about Fort Wayne. This insert was followed by a two page Supplement.

#### BREWING INDUSTRY.

##### The Immense Proportions It Has Reached in the Summit City, and How It Is Conducted by the

##### C. L. CENTLIVRE BREWING CO.

##### Whose Product Is in Extensive Demand in a Number of States.

Despite what may be said to the contrary, there is nothing more beneficial to the human system than pure and unadulterated beer. It tones up the system, stirs the blood into healthy motion, quickens the perceptive faculties and sweeps the cobwebs off the brain, as the saying goes. Mankind requires a tonic of this nature and must have it, as eight out of ten intelligent persons will admit. The brightest men of our country are indulgers to a greater or less extent in beer and similar beverages. And the people of the United States are coming to look at beer as a national beverage, and all fanatical opposition to its use is rapidly dying out. But not alone the individual, but the condition of our country is benefitted by this trade, and to-day it is one of the strongest pillars of our commercial prosperity. However, it is not our intention to write an essay on this subject, as we only started out to say a word concerning the product of the C. L. Centlivre Brewing Company, a concern that can supply as pure and wholesome beer as is manufactured anywhere, and which is to be found everywhere in Indiana, Ohio, and Southern Michigan, Eastern Illinois, and even in Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Louisiana and other States far beyond the trade radius of Fort Wayne, which fact alone speaks for its superior quality, and its popularity with the trade and consumers. Your correspondent a few days since visited this establishment which for years was known to him, but he had no idea as to its magnitude. The brewery (*sic*) is one of the best appointed he has ever seen and the machinery and appliances used in the brewing process are of the most improved character, and by far too great for him to describe in an article of this kind. It is located in the north end of the city on Spy Run avenue, and comprises a commodious five-story brick building which is architecturally an ornament to the city, and with its several annexes

for mail houses, bottling works, ice house, offices, etc., covers one full block. The quality of the product is remarkable for its flavor and excellence; it is pure, wholesome, and palatable, pleasing to the eye, nutritious, and exhilarating (*sic*). The best known and most popular brands are "Kaiser," "Bohemian," and "Export." They are highly recommended for medicinal purposes, and wherever known have become general favorites for family use. Their superiority has created for them a large trade in the city of Fort Wayne, and the fronts of all its most prominent sample rooms are adorned with the handsome signs of this company which is the drawing card for trade. These beers are so prepared as to retain their flavor and quality for any length of time, only the choicest materials being used in their preparation. Pure water is one of the first things to be considered, and it is obtained from artesian wells ninety-four feet in depth; pure malt is another; this is of their own manufacture, and in 1892 they purchased all of the barley produced in Allen and adjoining counties and in addition purchased a large quantity from the West, consuming altogether over fifty thousand bushels. Hops are equally important and are purchased in large quantities from the States of Washington and New York which are acknowledged the world over as producing the best quality, while they also use a large quantity of the imported Bohemian. With a large storage capacity their beers are allowed to mature naturally, no artificial ripening process being employed; hence their unrivalled excellence. Their bottling works are also perfectly equipped with the

their celebrated "Export" designed for medical purposes and family use is bottled.

the quality of its beers the C. L. Centlivre Brewing Company has surely well earned its favor with the public at large. Over 30,000 barrels were sold last year in Fort Wayne, and though their agencies, the principal of which are located in the following named cities: Pittsburgh, Pa., New Orleans, La., Marion, Decatur, Bluffton, Warsaw, and Plymouth, Ind., Van Wert and Montpelier, Ohio. This brewery dates its foundation from 1862 by C. L. Centlivre and successfully conducted by him until 1880 when it was visited by the ravages of fire and completely destroyed. Preparations were immediately begun to rebuild and soon the present magnificent structure was completed. In 1891 Mr. Centlivre retired and was succeeded by his two sons, Louis A. and Charles F. and John B. Reuss, gentlemen of enterprise and large experience, who in every respect are qualified to conduct their large and increasing business, and who hold the good will of their fellow-citizens in general. The Centlivre Brewery is worth visiting, and we say to our readers, when you go to Fort Wayne you will at all times find a car on their own line and operated exclusively by them, at Calhoun and Superior streets, which will take you to the door. In the event of the absence of all the proprietors, you will meet genial and polite assistants, who will be pleased to show you through the immense establishment. Then, too, the Centlivre Park is very inviting and well worth a visit, containing as it does sixty acres, well shaded and picturesque in the extreme, and improved with every facility, including a splendid one-half mile track, upon which almost every pleasant day can be seen exhibitions of speed from some of the noted string of twenty-five speeders owned by the Centlivre Bros., among which the most prominent are Atlantic King, (2:10 1/4) in two successive heats, Mary C., (2:12), Nedra, and Kaiser Wilkes, each of which have low

records. In conclusion your correspondent has only to say, and will use a familiar turf expression, their beers as well as their horses "are winners every time." All first-class dealers handle them.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. XLIV, No 45  
Wednesday, Nov 08, 1893. p. 11, col. 1, 2.*

Mr. Miller and Sherman Stanton changed residences last week.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. XLIV, No 47  
Wednesday, Nov 22, 1893. p. 10, c. 4.*

Mt. Zion.

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A great many people in this neighborhood are complaining of bad colds.

Miss Jennie Perry has been bedfast for about two weeks with something like rheumatism.

Charley Foust and family have moved here.

Some one from Bluffton has put in a saloon at this place much against the will of the people.

Elijah Huffman is building a \_\_\_\_\_ wagon shed.

Mr. Joseph Griffith, Charles Griffith, Wm Huffman and Mike Minich all of this neighborhood are building a barn for Rufus Stinson, of Liberty tp.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. XLIV. NO 48  
Wednesday, Nov 29, 1893. p. 1, col. 4.*

Eli Tipple and his green painted wheelbarrow from Pugney, were in the city Thursday and both of them got pretty full--Eli, full of "redeye" and his wheelbarrow, full of groceries. In the evening they both started home, and when about a mile or so out on the pike the wheelbarrow became excited and shied off into the ditch, resulting in getting the two badly mixed up. With the kind assistance of a friend they were put on their feet again, and both later landed at home right side up.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 25. NUMBER 21  
Wednesday November 29, 1893. p. 12, col. 2.*

More Dynamite Found.

From the fact that more dynamite has been found under the Trenary saloon at Ossian, it is supposed that another attempt has been planned to send the reminder of the saloon sky high. Two sticks of the explosive were discovered yesterday while workmen were making repairs, but were removed without giving anyone a chance to carry out their plans.

Faylor and Ratliff are determined to locate a saloon in Ossian, have replaced the furniture with new and hope to be ready to open up in full blast next week. Their motto now is "Never give up the Ship." It remains with the future to know what process will be brought by Ossian citizens to eject the saloon, but as they are determined not to allow the joint to stay, something will be done and that shortly.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. SECOND YEAR. NO. 68  
Wednesday, December 13, 1893. p. 2, col. 3.*

Bill Wike's saloon furniture arrived this morning, and was moved to his room on North Main street.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. SECOND YEAR NO 68 Wednesday December 13, 1893 p. 2, col. 5.*

Craigville.

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 . . .  
 Sherman Stanton is going around with a smile on his face as big as a wheel barrow and says it is a girl.

BB 12-13-1893 p. 8, col. 1.

Portland has raised the license of her saloons to \$250 from \$100. It is said the increase will compel the closing of several of the joints.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 25. NUMBER 23 Wednesday December, 13 1893. p. 5, col. 3.*

There are yet a few young fellows left in Bluffton who might take the gold cure to a good advantage.

In Decatur people call saloons "houses of call," and in that city they far exceed in number the houses of God.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 25. NUMBER 23 Wednesday December, 13 1893. p. 5, col. 6.*

James Wilson, accompanied by his friend, E. E. Derr, went to Warsaw on Wednesday, where he expects to graduate from the Keely institution. It was a surprise to many to know that the drink habit had so grown upon him as to render this step necessary. His many friends join in the hope that the cure may be effectual.

The saloon building that was badly wrecked by dynamite, or some other powerful explosive, last week, is being repaired for saloon purposes, and will soon be occupied for that purpose.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 25. NUMBER 23 Wednesday December, 13 1893. p. 8, col. 4.*

Lem Shaffer bets Sherman Stanton that at this time of the year he can take a ground hog and handle it as he could a pet kitten.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. XLV, NO 2 Wednesday Evening, Jan. 10, 1894. p. 2, col. 3.*

The marshal has commenced a crusade against those fellows who drive their teams to town of nights and leave them to stand out in the storms and cold while they visit the saloons and other places and remain until a late hour. After ten o'clock he gathers in every animal found in the alleys and takes them to the livery stable and orders them fed and otherwise cared for, and the expense charged up to the owner. He argues that if a fellow has money to expend foolish-

ly, a horse that has to wait for him is entitled to at least a good meal and shelter. Thus far he has succeeded in taking up ten or a dozen horses. He expects also to make the rule apply on stormy days when horses are left to stand out in drenching rains or snows without blankets. The action of the marshal is to be commended.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 25. NUMBER 32 Wednesday February 14 1894 p. 5, col. 4.*

Ossian.

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 The quietude of our peaceful little town was greatly disturbed last Thursday morning about half past two by a tremendous explosion of dynamite so arrigand(?) as to demoralize the Trenary saloon building, which it did, tearing out the entire front and spreading the sills apart and off their foundation. The shock also affected other buildings in the vicinity (sic) to a more or less extent. The building was to have been occupied on that day by John Ratliff who came with his goods but on account of the condition of the building postponed the opening of the saloon. There is no clew to the perpetrators of the malicious deed and it is not approved of by the most radical temperance worker.

Craigville saloon  
 BB 5/30/1894 p.6, c.3.

#### HEAVY DOCKET.

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 Mayor Walbert has His Hands Full of Fourth of July Drunks.

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 Mayor Walbert's court was a varied and interesting one today. Fourth of July drunks were as thick as berries on a bush, and Mart picked them off at a dollar each with ease born of long practice. His docket reads like this:  
 Cass White, Nottingham, drunk. Fined \$1 and costs. Stayed. Joseph Vail, same offense, same fine, went to jail. William Hart, just as much as Joseph, and put in Sheriff Huffman's charge. Jethro Mitchell paid oa fine of \$1 for intoxication. Charles Robinson was fined a like amount, which he paid. William Nye, of Nottingham, was another offender against the law of sobriety; fined \$1 and costs, and stayed it. William McDonald was another arrest, but his case has been continued until next Monday.

Officers Nolan, Fox and Pennington pulled the Indiana dive last night at eleven o'clock, and in the raid secured four women and two men. The nymphs, Mabel and Lottie Moore, Ida Rogers adn Lola Clinton, were placed in jail until this morning, when they were brought before His Honor. All except Lola pleaded guilty, she claiming that she was not aware of the nature of the house. That plea the mayor regarded as a fake, and accordingly fined the proprietress, Mabel Moore, \$25, and the other three \$5 each, the costs making a total of \$22 and \$42. The Moore women paid \$12 each and put up their watches as security for the balance, while the othe females were placed in jail.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. SECOND YEAR NO. 240 Thursday, July 5, 1894 p. 3, col. 3.*

Notice of Assessment.

For the Construction of the Rinear  
Gravel Road.

Notice is hereby given that the report of A. A. Waugh, Frederick Engeler and John A. Walker, a committee appointed by the Board of Commissioners of Wells county, Indiana, at their June 1894 session, to view the premises embraced in the order of the commissioners court of said county establishing the said Rinear Gravel Road, and to apportion and assess the estimated expense of the construction of said gravel road upon the real property embraced in said order is now on file in the office of the undersigned auditor of said county.

Notice is further hereby given that said committee has made assessments upon and against the lands of the following named persons, for the expense of the construction of the said gravel road, to-wit:

John A Clark, James M Jones, Lewis M Beerbour, . . . Sherman Stanton,

Craigville.

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BY FOXY.

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Sherman Stanton's brother of Liberty Center, visited with him last week.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. XLV, NO 52  
Wednesday, December 26, 1894. p. 2, col. 3.*

OFFICERS SLIPPED IN.

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Crosbie and Fox Executed a Flank Movement on The Stout Quart Shop and Unearthed a Violation of The Law.

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Carl Stout, clerk at the Jacob Stout combination lunch room, pool room and quart shop on East Market street, was arrested Tuesday morning by Marshal Crosbie on an affidavit charging him with selling liquor on Sunday.

The part of Stout's building used as a saloon is in the rear of the lunch room and pool room and has three entrances, two through the pool room and one by way of a narrow passage and a rear door. Officers have been looking after Stout's Sunday business for some time and last Sunday Marshal Crosbie and Constable Fox slipped in at the rear entrance in time to see Lewis English "rush the growler."

Tuesday Crosbie filed an affidavit against Carl Stout who was on duty at the time and when Mayor Stevens returns from Huntington, he will be brought in to answer to the charge. In the meantime there will be other affidavits filed against the proprietor charging him with different violations of the Nicholson law. Residents near the Stout saloon have made many complaints of the manner in which he conducts the business.

The lunch room is open all night and the pool room until a late hour and all the night hawks and quarrelsome spirits in town gather there and make the night hideous with their noise. Of late it has been the headquarters for the pipeliners which has not in anyway increased it in favor.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 28. NUMBER 19 Wednesday, November 11, 1896. p. 1, col. 6.*

Closed It Up.

Constable Bill Fox closed the No. 10 saloon Saturday on

an attachment issued from Squire O'Brien's court. Arch Phillips was the party in whose favor the attachment was drawn. The cause of the action was an account due him for a suit of clothes secured by Bill Wike the day before he took his departure for Seattle, Washington. Bill gave Phillips a check to settle the account, but when it was presented it was thrown out with numerous other pieces of paper issued by the same person on the same date. Arch preferred to retain the account rather than the check, and he sued on it. John Bender, who has been in charge of the saloon for a month or more, was notified by Fox that the account would have to be paid or he would be compelled to lock up the place. John submitted to the latter alternative.

The suit will likely settle the ownership of the place and its fixtures, and the outcome will be watched with interest. There are other creditors who would like to share in the surplus of the proceeds of the sale, if Phillips can make his attachment stick.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 29. NUMBER 16 Wednesday, October 20, 1897. p. 1, col. 5.*

Bill Wike is again in the saloon business, this time in Seattle, Washington. He calls his place the Seattle, and in a letter says that it cost him \$2,481. "I put in \$800 worth of stock, and owe for every dollar of it. At my opening I took in \$238 in day and night trade" is one paragraph of the epistle.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 29. NUMBER 16 Wednesday, October 20, 1897. p. 10, col. 4.*

The use of liquor is happily decreasing in this country. It is no longer respectable to be seen in a drunken condition, as it was in the days of our fathers. Business and professional men are learning that temperance is the best policy because it pays. In the keen struggle for the survival of the fittest there must be clear heads and healthy bodies, otherwise the race might as well not be run. Soberness is now one of the principal requirements in all large establishments.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 29. NUMBER 17 Wednesday, October 27, 1897. p. 4, col. 2.*

The appellate court decided in the case of the state vs. Buskirk from Montgomery county, that the dealers selling liquor in quantities less than five gallons at one time without a license can be fined. It means that quart shops must have a county as well as a government license, making the total license \$125 per year the same as a regular saloon.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 29. NUMBER 25 Wednesday, December 22, 1897 p. 5, col. 5.*

WOODEN BLOCK BURNS.

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Fire Wipes Out Braden's and Walber's Saloons, and Kaltwasser's Meat Market-Wiecking's Building Demolished.

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Not many people knew there was a fire in town Wednesday night. Part of those who did hear the bell have only a

faint recollection of it and remember rather dimly that the fire bell did ring. Most of them turned over in bed and not brave the cold winter night, and did less than 200 were out to see and lend assistance in what proved to be a most destructive conflagration. The night was bitter cold, and the wind was blowing a sharp gale so that the blaze which started in a wooden block carried everything before it. Luckily for the surrounding buildings an icy coating covered the roofs and the millions of sparks that were hurled through the air by the wind fell and smouldered into ashes without doing damage.

As far as can be learned the fire started in Bradon Bros' saloon, located in the building belonging to the Centlivre (*sic*) Brewing Co., of Ft. Wayne. It was about 12:20 when the flames were first discovered, and at that time it seemed as though they were between the building and the Walbert saloon adjoining. The blaze was then burning as high as the roof, and the chances were against saving anything. Bradon Bros. recently came from Ft. Wayne and put in a stock of liquors in the Cenelivre (*sic*) building. Their loss was total, not a thing being saved. It is supposed that a gas jet caused the fire although this is merely conjecture.

Elmer Walbert in the adjoining saloon was scarcely more fortunate. He got out a barrel of whiskey and a small iron safe, but all the rest of his goods including pool and billiard tables were destroyed. About seventy-five shot cartridges and several boxes of revolver cartridges were in a drawer, and when the heat grew sufficiently warm a cannonadeing snued for a few minutes that resembled a sham battle. Luckily no one was hurt. Both Walbert's place and Bradon's were cleaned out as thoroughly as could be.

Charles Kaltwasser's meat market was also almost totally destroyed. Charley succeeded in saving some stock, including meats, canned lard, paper, a few tools and small articles. His big [c]ooler was not wholly burned up, and may be saved. The roof of the building was burned in and the room was about as near wrecked as it could be. What was not burned was water soaked. Mr. Kaltwasser has secured the Studabaker implement room on North Johnson street temporarily.

Wiecking's cigar shop was not injured by the flames, but in order to save the adjoining brick buildings the front of the room was cut out, and the wind now sweeps undisturbed through the building from front to rear. Six or eight cigar makers are thrown out of employment. The room was water soaked to a small extent, but the building was not injured by fire.

The insurance was fairly large on all the stocks burned. Walbert carried \$700 on his fixtures and stock. Kaltwasser had \$800 on his fixtures, etc. Wiecking's stock was insured for \$400. It is not known whether either Centelivre (*sic*) or Bradon carried insurance on either building or stock. If they did it was insured in Ft. Wayne. Herman Wiecking owned two of the buildings, the one he occupied and the Walbert saloon. On the latter he carried \$500 insurance, on the former none. Mrs. Nanette Schlessinger, of Chicago, owns the Kaltwasser building. It was not insured.

The fire came at an unfortunate time as it throws all of those in business out in the winter without places to locate. It was a Christmas present that none of them appreciate or are thankful for.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 29. NUMBER 26 Wednesday, December 29, 1897 p. 1, col. 3.*

Something Bluffton Needs.

The fire Wednesday in removing three of the frame buildings that have long been familiar to the business portion of the city, naturally bring up the question of how they are to be replaced. It is presumed that new buildings will be erected on the lots which are of considerable value from the exceptionally good location. The remarks that follow have no bearing upon the kind of buildings that may be erected, but voices a crying need that exists today. It has been a tendency thus far to put up business rooms that rent for \$50 to \$60 per month. What really is needed are rooms that will rent from \$20 to \$30 instead; not necessarily frames, but bricks of one or two stories with a moderate frontage, and of only ordinary size. Small businesses can profitably rent one of these buildings where a \$50 rental would be preposterously large. Too many business rooms will create a few vacant ones that will demoralize rents, or if filled demoralize business. Small brick rooms that can be occupied by small businesses ought to be a good investment.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 29. NUMBER 26 Wednesday, December 29, 1897. p. 11, col. 5.*

#### Two New Business Rooms.

Bluffton will have two more good store rooms added to the business portion of the city this summer which will occupy the lots on West Market street, belonging to Centlivre Bros., of Ft. Wayne, and Herman Wiecking. The lot to the west belongs to the Centlivre Bros. and was formerly occupied by their saloon, and the one owned by Mr. Wiecking is the site of the old Walbert saloon. Louis Centlivre was in the city Wednesday, and he and Mr. Wiecking decided to build at the same time, and the building will commence as soon as the weather permits, and full plans and specifications have been made. The building will be a two-story brick and the second floor will be arranged for office purposes.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 29. NUMBER 39 Wednesday, March 30, 1898. p. 12, col. 1.*

#### STOLE THE REGISTER.

----

Thief Enters Ike Gehring's Saloon and Carries Off the Register--Gets About \$5 in Change.

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The Bank saloon, owned by Ike Gehring, was broken into Monday night and Tuesday morning when the saloon was opened the cash register was missing. The burglar had entered the saloon by a back window. He first broke a pane of glass out of the sash and then knocked off several iron bars which were across the windows on the inside. He had taken the register and departed without molesting anything else in the saloon.

About an hour after the robbery had been discovered Tuesday morning the register was found in the [m]iddle of Bennett street, near George King's barn. The object of the thief in carrying the machine away with him was to get it some place where he could open it without disturbing anybody. From the looks of the register when found, the thief probably let it fall in the street and it was thus bursted open or else he took a rock and broke it open. The robber secured \$5 in silver for his trouble.

Gehring's loss was not in the money that was stolen, but in the cash register which was smashed. It cost him about

\$75. and was nearly new. There are, of course, suspicious as to the guilty party, but Gehring will not prosecute.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 29. NUMBER 39 Wednesday, March 30, 1898. p. 8, col. 5.*

## 1900 SALOONS

Walbert E E, 702 w Washington  
McKendry Chas, 215 w Market  
Stanton G W, 213 w Market  
Lipinski Maurice, 128 w Market  
Nash Will, 115 s Johnson  
Voltz David, 119 s Johnson  
Beitler Henry E, 107 e Market  
Stout Jack, 117 e Market  
Shoemaker Ed, 111 e Market  
Klopfenstein David, 109 e Market  
Gehring Ike, 119 n Main  
Hixon Frank, 813 w Washington  
Lewen Henry, 128 s Main  
Ripple Sherman, 121 n Main

## LEAVES THE TOWN.

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Stella Maddux, of the West Side,  
Leaves Bluffton With a Knife  
Wound in Her Side.

---

Miss Stella Maddux, a handsome young girl, is missing from her home in Oklahoma, and an air of mystery pervades her disappearance. The rumor has been insistently current that she stabbed herself, and officers have been working on the trail. The story goes that the girl has been betrayed by a prominent citizen, and the fact that a young baby is at the home while the girl does not wear a wedding ring substantiates the story. The girl is pretty, and is the daughter of Nate Maddux, a former nightwatch at the Stud-abaker elevator.

McKendry's saloon was the scene of the knife episode. McKendry claims that a week ago Saturday night the girl and some companions had a supper in one of the rooms. The girl arose at the conclusion of the meal with one of the knives which she stuck under her arm with the remark that she was going to take it home. McKendry says as he scuffled with her the knife cut her slightly under the arm. The prevailing report is that the girl received a deep stab in the breast, but she was able to take a train out of the city the next night and is supposed to be in Marion.

*Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 33. NUMBER 27. Wednesday, January 1, 1902. p. 8, col. 5.*

## Anti-Saloon League Organized.

As announced last week the pulpits of the city churches were occupied by Rev. Helt and Mr. Doan, of Indianapolis, who represent the Indiana Anti-Saloon League. One is the traveling representative of the League and the other an attorney connected with it. They made a number of good talks in the various churches setting forth the purpose of the organization. Sunday afternoon a general meeting was held at the Methodist church and a local organization was perfected, one officer being chosen from each church as follows:

James P. Hale, president.

Rev. String, first vice-president.  
M. M. Justus, second vice-president.  
William Fox, third vice-president.  
A. B. Cline, secretary.  
George Cotton, treasurer.

The object of the League is to enforce laws in regard to saloon closing at proper hours and to prosecute all infractions of the Nicholson law. It is an organization to see that existing liquor laws are obeyed, enough being on the statute to thoroughly regulate this business if enforced. It is the object of the local league to see that this is done. Leagues are being organized all over the state and the membership is larger.

Monthly subscriptions were taken sufficient to aggregate about \$250 annually to pay expenses of the League. Miss Minnie Louis was appointed collector.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 31. NUMBER 36 Wednesday, March 7, 1900. p. 8, col. 1.*

## BAWDY HOUSE PULLED.

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Indictments Found Against the Centiliver Rooms. Other Business Transacted in Court.

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The working of the last grand jury was apparent Saturday afternoon when the inmates of the upstairs rooms in the Centiliver block were taken in on a grand jury indictment. Monday in court Bertha Fleming, the keeper, was fined \$25 and \$11 costs, on a plea of guilty, and Minnie Brenner, an inmate, \$10 and \$11 costs. They paid cash. It is understood the Cantiliver concern has ordered them to leave. Judge Vaughn promised Madame Fleming \$100 on a second appearance.

The case of the State vs. William Wentz was settled by a plea of guilty. There were eighteen of these cases on the docket and the balance were dismissed. The suits arose over alleged trespass on the farm of Orlando Sipes in Blackford county on the part of the Ft. Wayne Gas Co., whose gang tore up some pipe on his land. Originally there were twenty-six cases. One of them, that of G. Max Huffman, went to the Appellate court where he was beaten, and in another a jury disagreed. The costs in the Wentz case are about \$80.

Nettie Bardley was granted a divorce from W. H. Bradley. She is a daughter of A. M. Howard, and her husband now resides in Marion.

Mary Otto vs. W. Otto Scott, Note. Case dismissed. Clellah Bennett vs. Orlando Bennett, divorce. Same granted. Custody of child given plaintiff, but defendant allowed to visit child at proper intervals. Alimony granted of \$104, payable \$2 per week.

The jury was dismissed Monday and will not be in for a week when the case of Lathrop vs. Pap, a suit from Allen county that has been on the docket for five years will be called.

Many indictments for harboring dogs unlawfully have been filed. People are allowed to come in and pay up without putting on more costs. The law is new and the court is disposed to be lenient.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 31. NUMBER 42 Wednesday, April 18, 1900. p. 10(11), col. 6.*

## NEEDS NEW HINGES.

---

The Town Has Most of Its Doors  
Hanging Wide Open and Re-  
quires Carpenter Work.

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Many people maintain that the best town is an "open" town. By this they mean a town where the liquor laws are forgotten and the gamblers are permitted to flourish without interference. Bluffton has always been rated in the directory of the fraternity as an "open town." In fact some of these directories might place after the O. T. (open town) the letter P., which would indicate that the town is not only "open" but a paradise.

If Bluffton has been open in past years conditions now existing would lead one to believe that there is nothing but a roof over it and not a guard on duty on any of the highways. The doors and gates have been knocked from their rusty hinges because they long ago had been abandoned as useless. These words may sound a little after the manner of the parable but to those familiar with existing conditions they are easily understood. Open and flagrant violations of the law are permitted every day, every night and all day Sunday. The open policy has become accepted as the thing and the doors of some of the saloons are seldom ever closed and the gambling rooms go on with that indifference which would lead one to believe that they are a legitimate institution.

How long are these condition[s] to be permitted? A few of the gates and doors at least, should be brought back and hung on new hinges.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 33. NUMBER 14 Wednesday, October 2, 1901. p. 9, col. 1.*

Strin (*sic*) Fined For Fighting.

Clarence Strain was arrested Monday afternoon as a result of the fight in the No. 10 saloon. The affidavit alleging assault and battery was filed by Jacob Koenig, and Strain entered a plea of guilty. He was given \$10 and costs, amounting to \$19.30, and staid the docket for 90 days.

Dr. C. L. Landfair plead guilty to two charges in Mayor Plessinger's court for using profane language. He was fined \$1.00 and costs or \$9.30 in all, and being intoxicated cost him the same amount. The two cases were filed against him by Mart Walbert who tried to get Landfair to stop a dog fight several nights ago. The doctor still has one charge pending against him in the circuit court and one charge of intoxication was dismissed from the Mayor's court.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 33. NUMBER 40 Wednesday, April 2 1902. p. 1, col. 4. The Evening News.*

## A FOUR HANDED FIGHT.

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"Doc" Strain And Billy Howard  
Brutally Assaulted Jacob  
Koenig and a Stranger

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As the result of a four handed fight in the No. 10 saloon on North Main street Thursday night two men are in the hands of a physician Friday and both are seriously injured. A man named Haskins who travels with a medicine com-

pany and is stopping at the Wabash hotel, Billy Howard, Doc Strain and Jake Koenig were the participants in the scrap and the medicine man and Koenig are said to have faces that look like they had been plowing macadamized roads.

The four men were sitting at a card table in the back room when Haskins and Howard got into an altercation over some trivial matter. Haskins told Howard that he was not game and just to show him the fallacy of the statement Howard raised up and knocked Haskins backward onto the floor. Then, it is said by eye witnesses to the affair, Howard knocked Haskins down again as he was rising and kicked him in the face and chest. At this point Paul Ehrsam, proprietor of the place, tried to part them but was prevented by Doc Strain who drew a knife and threatened to stab Ehrsam. Koenig went to help the medicine man and tried to get him away from Howard but Strain raised a heavy chair and struck the blacksmith over the head knocking him down. While Koenig was on the floor Strain kicked him in the same manner as Howard had kicked Haskins and Koenig finally took refuge behind Frank Touhey's balloon (*sic*) which is stored in one corner of the room.

The medicine man was taken to his room and was not able to be out Friday. His face is bruised to such an extent that he cannot make a presentable appearance but Koenig is in even worse condition. His face is said to have been beaten until some of the wounds cannot be closed up and his nose has bled a greater part of the time since the fight.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 33. NUMBER 40 Wednesday, April 2 1902. p. 5, col. 1.*

## EXPLANATION OF FRANK TOUHEY'S BALLOON:

[Keystone's Big Day.

Keystone is to have a big gala day on Friday, April 18, and the little town is preparing to entertain the largest crowd in its history. A big triple attraction has been secured for that date. Frank Patrey, representing business men of that place, was here today and contracted with Frank Touhey for a balloon ascension in the afternoon and the young aeronaut gets \$40 for the trip. The Citizens band was also hired for the afternoon and will discourse their best article of music. In addition to these attractions there will be a ball game between the Keystone Liners and the Montpelier Leaguers. It will be a great event in the town's history and an invitation has been extended to the whole country to be present.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 33. NUMBER 41 Wednesday, April 9 1902. p. 4, col. 6.]*

## Women Will Fight Saloons.

Applicants for liquor licenses from Nottingham township may have a hard road to travel in the future. Ladies there are preparing to circulate remonstrances to present to the county commmissioners asking them to refuse to grant licenses to applicants. Some of the ladies were in town Saturday and had forms prepared ready to circulate remonstrances this week.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 33. NUMBER 40 Wednesday, April 2 1902. p. 5, col. 2.*

Prohibition Convention.



About 100 prohibitionists gathered in Studabaker's hall Saturday and listened to a speech by Rev. Boles, of Indianapolis. His address was well received and many who heard it say it was the best the party has had here in a long time. Previous to the speech the county ticket selected by a nominating committee March 8 was endorsed. The ticket is as follows:

Representative, Rev. D. F. Kain.  
 Clerk, William Miller, Lancaster.  
 Auditor, Frank Myers, Ossian.  
 Treasurer, James W. Wilson, Lancaster.  
 Recorder, Ben Sawyer, Bluffton.  
 Surveyor, E. H. Roe, Ossian.  
 Sheriff, Martin Baker, Chester.  
 Assessor, B. F. Leist, Nottingham.  
 Coroner, Dr. S. A. Goodin, Bluffton.  
 Commissioner, first district, Simeon Bowers, Nottingham.  
 Commissioner, second district, W. M. Hamilton, Union.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 33. NUMBER 40 Wednesday, April 2 1902. p. 5, col. 6.*

Wesley Oliver the Nottingham saloon keeper against whom a remonstrance was filed has closed his place of business and now the only oasis in that desert is the one kept by Harve Thornburg.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 33. NUMBER 42 Wednesday, April 16 1902. p. 5, col. 4.*

#### W. C. T. U. Organized.

Wednesday the county officers of the W. C. T. U. met with the women of the W. C. T. U. in the vicinity of Six Mile at the home of Mrs. O. P. Markley and completed an organization which will be known as the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Six Mile.

Twenty-seven ladies greeted the county officers and after the new members were added to the list which was already ten in number, the election of officers began which resulted as follows: Mrs. Clara Deam, president; Mrs. Glennie Miller, vice president; Mrs. Jennie Bickel, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Nellie Higgins, secretary; and Mrs. Jula Arnold, treasurer. The election was full of enthusiasm and after prayer by Mrs. Goodin the ladies adjourned to meet again in two weeks at the home of the recording secretary Mrs. Higgins.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 33. NUMBER 42 Wednesday, April 16 1902. p. 6, col. 1.*

#### THE TRICK FAILED.

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Oscar Oliver Tried to Get License for  
 Saloon at Nottingham on  
 the Quiet.

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Nottingham township people have ready for filing in the auditor's office tomorrow another remonstrance against the granting of a license for a saloon at Nottingham and if they are successful in their efforts they will have headed off a very clever little plan of Wesley Oliver to continue in the saloon business.

When Wesley gave notice that he would apply for license at the last term of commissioners' court he was confronted

by a remonstrance containing over four hundred names. He saw the futility of trying to get the license and never made application but closed up his place of business. In the meantime, however, his brother, Oscar gave notice that he would apply for license at the May term of commissioners' court. This notice was published in a paper which has a limited circulation in Nottingham township with the hope that the residents down there would not see the notice in time to do anything in the remonstrance line but they found it out some way and now have a majority of the voters of the township arrayed against the license.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 33. NUMBER 44 Wednesday, April 30 1902. p. 4, col. 4.*

#### Saloons.

Baumgardner, 107 East Market. Phone 286  
 Ehrsam, Paul, 121 North Main. Phone 333  
 Fox, Thomas J, 117 East Market. Phone 25  
 Gehring, Isaac, 119 North Main. Phone 189  
 Hixon, Frank, 834 West Washington. Phone 230  
 Lapinski, Morris, 128 West Market. Phone 168  
 Lewin, Henry, 128 South Main. Phone 287  
 Marshall, R B, 702 West Washington. Phone 245  
 McKendry, Charles A, 217 West Market. Phone 86  
 Nash, William, 115 South Johnson  
 Pierce, John E, 119 South Johnson  
 Shoemaker, H E, East Walnut. Phone 217  
 Stanton, Sherman, 213 West Market. Phone 213  
 Stout, Jacob, 109 East Market. Phone 237  
 Wisehaupt, E J, 111 East Market. Phone 223

*Will B. Gutelius, P. A. Allen, compilers. Bluffton City Directory May 1, 1902. Bluffton, Indiana: The Banner, 1902., p. 175.*

#### The Mayor's Ordinance.

Mayor Plessinger fired another explosive shell into the ranks of the retail liquor dealers Wednesday night when he introduced an ordinance in council providing that on and after the passage of the ordinance the price of city retail license be \$250 instead of \$100 a year. What effect the explosion of this shell will have will be seen when the committee to which it was referred, Poffenberger, Lannigan and Clark, reports.

At the present time a license to retail liquor in Bluffton costs \$236.50 a year. Of this amount the saloonkeeper pays \$100 to the state, \$25 to the federal government, \$100 to the city, \$4 for advertising his intention to apply for license, \$1.25 to fee the city clerk and \$1.25 to fee the auditor. His attorney charges from \$5 to \$7. Generally there is a small additional expense for cigars to all concerned in the process of getting the license.

If the mayor's ordinance passes it will make the retail license in Bluffton cost \$386.50 and the saloonkeeper will be obliged to pay a little over a dollar a day for the privilege of staying in business. The limit the city can charge is \$250 a year.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 33. NUMBER 46 Wednesday, May 14 1902. p. 5, col. 5.*

The Reiffsburg W. C. T. U. held their regular meeting Thursday at the home of Mrs. Isaac Sawyer, south of the city. All officers were present and two new names were

added to the Union. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. James Hedges in two weeks.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 34 NUMBER 1 Wednesday, July 2 1902. p. 2, col. 1.*

#### Touhey Got His Knife.

Thursday was an eventful day in the annals of Mr. Michael Touhey and he will no doubt devote several pages to it in his diary. For the 461st time Michael got on a jag and for the first time he saw the inside of the county jail. Mr. Touhey helped Henry Lewin put up some awnings in front of his saloon in the afternoon and carried away Henry's hatchet but accidently left his own knife lying on Henry's doorstep. With unadulterated nerve Mike went to Henry and demanded his knife but refused to give up the hatchet. He returned the second time and knocked on the door with the hatchet and when Henry let him in he turned over the implement receiving in return his coveted knife. Mike thought his honesty was entitled to a fitting reward and demanded a drink. The bottle was not shoved over the bar and the inebriated Irishman went outside and right before Marshal Fox began cutting down the awnings. Fox made him hand over the knife and then escorted Touhey to jail where he staid until morning.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 34 NUMBER 1 Wednesday, July 2 1902. p. 2, col. 2.*

#### The Liquor Dealers' Association.

J. F. Callen, state organizer for the Indiana Liquor League, says the saloon keepers of the state will not make any organized effort to get the next legislature to repeal the blanket remonstrance section of the Nicholson law because the brewers will not join them. He says he has no faith in the meeting of liquor dealers to be held here tomorrow as there is no movement on foot to start a state organization such as the Wells county dealers contemplate.

Callen says: "The brewers do not care how many saloons are driven out of business because they can sell just as much beer to the drug stores. And without the assistance of the brewers, the saloon keepers have not money enough to get any part of the Nicholson law repealed. Until the druggists are compelled to pay licenses to retail liquors, the same as saloon keepers, the breweries will remain indifferent to the fate of the saloon keepers." In this week's issue of his paper, "Our Standard", Callen advises the licensed saloon keepers to put their license fees in their pockets and continue business under the respectable name of pharmacy.

"Our Standard" is not taken as authority by Bluffton saloon keepers. It was the official organ of the Royal Arch, a liquor dealers' lodge, but the Royal Arch has been succeeded by the Knights of Fidelity and the Knights of Fidelity News is the official organ of that lodge in the state.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. TENTH YEAR NO. 303. Monday September 15 1902. p. 2, col. 4.*

Retail liquor dealers of Wells and Adams counties met in Knights of Fidelity hall this afternoon for the purpose of forming a local order of the Retail Liquor Dealers association. The organization is entirely separate from the Knights of Fidelity lodge and is a strictly business affair which aims to secure the enactment of laws more advantageous to deal-

ers. Cigar men, brewers or others interested in the retail liquor business are eligible to membership.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. TENTH YEAR NO. 304 Tuesday September 16 1902. p. 2, col 4.*

#### Tri County Association.

Liquor dealers of Wells, Adams and Blackford counties organized the Tri County Liquor Dealers Association yesterday afternoon by the election of Frank Hixon as president; Ike Gehring, treasurer and Herb Gearhart secretary.

There were forty dealers present and thirty-eight of them became members. Among the number were saloon men from Adams, Wells, Blackford and Allen counties but the Allen county men did not join as they have an association of their own. Representatives to the state meeting elected yesterday were William Harting, Adams county, Dave McDowell, of Montpelier, and W. M. Patry. Liquor dealers all over the state are forming associations for the purpose of going before the next legislature to ask for changes in the Nicholson law.

At the close of the business meeting a banquet was served by Bluffton members.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. TENTH YEAR NO. 305. Wednesday, September 17 1902. p. 2, col. 5.*

#### BEN DERR WHIPPED.

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Picked A Fight With Pete Griffin and  
Received the Worst Thrashing  
of His Life.

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In a fight which occurred in Charley McKendry's saloon Saturday night Ben Derr, the young terror from Lancaster township, was completely subdued and made to beg for mercy. Peter Griffin was the man who administered the bitter dose to him and witnesses of the fracas say that he gave Derr just about what he deserved. Derr was drunk and looking for trouble. Pete was not particularly hunting trouble but when Derr tackled him he was not slow in taking care of himself.

The fight started over a trivial matter and it was Derr's eagerness to find a scrap that secured for him the whipping. Charley Robison was with Pete and he addressed a rough name to the latter in fun. Derr made believe that he thought the remark was addressed to him and proceeded to pick a quarrel with Robison. Pete interfered and tried to explain the matter. Derr then turned his attention to Pete and told the latter that maybe he wanted something out of it, meaning the impending fight. Pete insinuated that Derr could not give anything to him. The next minute they were mixed up.

John Bowman was present and tried to separate Griffin and Derr. In doing so he struck Pete a blow in one eye that put it in mourning. The bartender Winnie Ulmer, also tried to separate (*sic*) the combatants and pulled Derr out of the meleé. At this point Robison rushed in to help Griffin and Ulmer had to turn his attention to him. This left Griffin and Derr get together again and gave the former's chance to do Derr up.

Before they were finally separated Derr was begging for Griffin to stop and said he had enough. Pete grabbed him by the hair and pummeled him unmercifully and pulled him all over the saloon. A brother of Derr's witnessed the whole affair and finally put a stop to it by taking hold of Pete and

asking him to desist. He said that Ben had enough. He certainly had for he was in a pretty bad shape.

It is said that Derr had trouble earlier in the day at the No. 10 saloon. He struck Curt Johnson and knocked him through an open door but was in turn given a thumping by Scott Hughes.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 34 NUMBER 29 Wednesday, January 14 1903. p. 1, col. 6.*

#### Lewin Saloon Sold.

Sherm Stanton has purchased of Henry Lewin his saloon on South Main street opposite the Bliss House and will take charge of the business in a few days. Henry's lease expires on the building in April and he was unable to re-lease the building. He will retire from the saloon business and goes to Danville, Illinois, where he will open a wholesale cigar and tobacco house. Miss Cochran's breach of promise suit will not be a legal means of holding Henry here. The court has granted no injunction against his leaving the county and he can go whenever he gets ready.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 34 NUMBER 31 Wednesday, January 28, 1903. p. 4, col. 1.*

#### THE OFFICERS INSTALLED.

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#### Knights of Fidelity Will Give an Oyster Supper in Two Weeks.

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The members of the Knights of Fidelity lodge met in their room last evening for the purpose of installing the officers who were elected at the last regular meeting. About fifteen members were present and all the officers were installed. The list as given out this morning was as follows: Valiant commander, John Haas; Lieutenant commander, Steve Lewis; Master of ceremonies, Dal Glass; Recorder, H. Gearhart; Auditor, Henry Bowman; Captain of the guard, John Zimmerman; Tyler, Mack Harbaugh; Treasurer, Paul Ersham.

After the work of installation the lodge decided to hold an oyster supper in the lodge rooms on two weeks from last night. This will be a very pleasant affair for the members and they are making great preparations for the affair.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 34 NUMBER 31 Wednesday, January 28, 1903. p. 4, col. 1.*

#### Henry Lewin's Answer.

In his answer to the complaint for breach of promise filed against him by Ada Cochran, Henry Lewin charges attempt to blackmail. He alleges that she is a prostitute and that previous to December 28th she was an inmate of a house of prostitution at Ft. Wayne.

He says that December 12 she came to Bluffton and hired a messenger to carry a note to a grass widower of this city. Lewin says that she failed to find the other man, but met Harry near midnight, near his saloon, and they went to the Bliss House together. She wanted Lewis to rent her a house. On January 2d she called at the saloon and then and there made threats to sue him if he did not marry her.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 34 NUMBER 32 Wednesday, February 4 1903. p. 1, col. 5.*

Miss Ada Cochran, plaintiff in the \$5,000 breach of promise suit against Henry Lewin, was here from Decatur today consulting her attorneys, Todd & Gordon, and to see the answer filed to her charges. An amended complaint will probably be filed in the case. Miss Cochran will return to Decatur tonight.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 34 NUMBER 32 Wednesday, February 4 1903. p. 7, col. 4.*

#### STABBED THREE TIMES.

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#### Bud Conner Victim of a Terrible Cut- ting Scrape Saturday Night at Hands of George Mock.

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In a bloody fight which occurred shortly after eleven o'clock Saturday night Bud Conner was stabbed three times by George Mock and he received dangerous wounds that narrowly missed proving fatal. He is still in a precarious condition and is not yet out of danger. Dr. J. W. McKinney, the attending physician, thinks however, that he will pull through all right unless blood poison or other complications should result. The George Mock who wielded a knife in such a dangerous manner is a son of Tom Mock, the teamster. He is married and lives on West Cherry street.

The trouble which culminated in the cutting affray started in Joe Hartman's saloon, Sherm Stanton's old place, on West Market street, a short time before eleven o'clock. It is said that an old enmity existed between the two and as both had been drinking pretty freely they were hot headed and used hasty words that they would not have spoken if they had not been intoxicated.

During the afternoon while at work George had been served with a bench warrant issued on a grand jury indictment charging him with assault and battery. Deputy Sheriff Frem Carlisle served the papers on George and required that he give \$200 bond for his appearance in court Monday. George claimed that he had been in no trouble which would lead to a grand jury investigation and claimed that he had no idea why he should be arrested. He went out to get bond, however, and Bob Marshall went on the papers for him.

Saturday night Mock started drinking, this no doubt being due, partly at least, to his worrying over the grand jury indictment. He thought that Bud Conner had something to do with causing the investigation because Conner and his [George's] brother Rollo, had trouble last summer at a dance which Lon Oxley gave in the Morrow room on Main street. When he met Conner in Hartman's saloon they became embroiled in a dispute over their fighting abilities.

As Mock followed Bud out of the saloon he kept his right hand in his pocket and started to walk after Bud down the sidewalk, with his hand still in his pocket. Bud asked, "What have you got in your pocket?" and Mock replied, "Maybe you want to find out" and pulled his hand from his pocket. He clasped an ugly looking pocketknife. He made a lunge at Conner and struck him squarely in the breast. The next instant Conner hit him a terrible blow in the face with his fist and he was knocked down. He arose from the sidewalk and again rushed at Conner. The latter tried to

keep him off and struck him several more times but Mock continued to use the knife and dealt Conner two more terrible blows that buried the blade to the hilt in the flesh. The second blow was within two inches of the first wound in the breast, while the third was in the stomach. Seeing that he was being butchered by standing his ground Conner turned and ran. Mock followed and is reported by witnesses of the affair to have said that if he only had a revol[v]er he would shoot Conner.

Conner was induced by friends to go to the office of Dr. McKinney where his wounds were dressed. The physician said that his escape from death was short of a miracle. Any one of the wounds would have proven fatal if the knife had penetrated only a little deeper. The first blow was a stab directly over the heart. The knife blade struck a rib or it would have pierced the heart and caused instant death. The second wound was about two inches on the left side of the first and a little lower. A small book in his vest pocket stopped the full force of this blow, although the blade still pierced the flesh deep enough to cause a bad wound. The wound in the stomach at first appeared to be the most dangerous for it was feared that the stomach might be pierced. If this had been the case, death would have been almost certain for a man rarely, if ever recovers if the stomach is cut open. The blade went in about two inches and the doctor says that all that saved Conner's life was the fact that the fatty tissue over the stomach was so thick that the knife did not cut entirely through it. The wounds were washed out, but were not such as required stitches. Conner was taken to his home in the Oklahoma suburb in a cab.

Affidavits were filed against both Conner and Mock charging them each with assault and battery. Neither has been arrested.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 34 NUMBER 32 Wednesday, February 4 1903. p. 10, col. 1.*

knife fight in Joe Hartman saloon  
BB 2/4/1903 p. 1, col. 1-3

#### MANY SIGNED PETITIONS.

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Representative McDowell Asked by  
350 Voters to Oppose Amend-  
ment of Nicholson Bill.

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The anti-saloon workers of Bluffton secured about 350 names to the petitions which were mailed to Representative McDowell and Senator Stricler asking them to oppose the Luhring amendment to the Nicholson law. The petitions were circulated in the different churches of the city last Sunday as was reported in the NEWS of the next day, and up to last night the papers were in the hands of solicitors, who circulated them around town. Yesterday afternoon a telegram was received from Indianapolis from the ministerial association urging that the petitions be sent at once. The papers were mailed to the representative and and senator last night. The request also was for a remonstrance against the Sunday baseball law but the names sent from here were not registered on that question.

The Luhring bill or amendment seeks to do away with the blanket remonstrance feature of the Nicholson law, which allows the filing of a permanent remonstrance against any or all applicants by a law firm with power of attorney placed in their hands by the remonstrators.

Representative McDowell was asked Monday morning

before he left for Indianapolis how he would vote on the Luhring bill. He replied that he was not in a position to say positively. As a member of the minority he would be governed, he said, largely by the decision reached by the democratic caucus, if a caucus was held, and it undoubtedly will be. The burden of the legislation, either way of action is taken, will fall upon the republican party because they are greatly in the majority. The democratic caucus will no doubt decide to vote the way likely to result most favorably to them.

One of the bitterest opponents to the Luhring amendment is Representative Sherman, who combines the profession of law and that of a preacher, of the Christian church.

Sherman has stated that when the bill reaches the House he will propose that the original amendment be stricken out and another substituted which lays the burden of petitioning on the saloon keeper. He will present an amendment which would require saloon keepers wanting a license to secure a petition signed by two-thirds of the voters. The committee in charge of the Luhring bill has reported in favor of its passage.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 34 NUMBER 32 Wednesday, February 4 1903. p. 4, col. 2.*

Oscar Luhring (1879 - 1944) served a term in the Indiana House of Representatives from 1903 to 1904. He then became a deputy prosecuting attorney for the First Judicial Circuit of Indiana for four years then became the prosecuting attorney for the next four. Later, he was the Republican representative for Indiana's 1st congressional district from 1919 to 1923.

#### THE KNIGHTS OF FIDELITY

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Serve an Oyster Supper and In-  
stall Their New Officers  
Last Night.

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As announced in the BANNER of two weeks ago, the members of the Knights of Fidelity lodge met last evening for the purpose of enjoying an oyster supper. The affair came off as per schedule and was one of the most enjoyable affairs this order has ever given. There were at least twenty-five members of the lodge present and they spent the time until a late hour in feasting and planning for future good times. The menu consisted of oysters prepared in numerous ways to suit the tastes of all, pickles, sandwiches and celery.

This lodge meets in the old Odd Fellows' block and they hold their meetin every two weeks. Their membership has fallen off somewhat but at present a successful effort is being made to get it up to its old standard. The members now belonging are active workers.

At last night's meeting the following officers were sworn in: Valiant Commander, John Haas; lieutenant commander, Steve Lewis, master of ceremonies, Dal Glass, recorder, H. Gearhart, auditor, Henry Bowman, captain of the guard, John Zimmerman; tyler, Mack Harbaugh; treasurer, Paul Ersham.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 6 Wednesday Evening, February 11, 1903. p. 1, col. 5.*

The three year old son of Sherm Stanton and wife took sick this morning. A physician was summoned who pronounced the case scarlet fever. The proper steps to place the house under quarantine were taken at once and no one is allowed either to enter or leave the house.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 6  
Wednesday Evening, February 11, 1903. p. 5, col. 1.*

#### ANOTHER LIQUOR BILL.

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This One Will Put Saloons Out of Business  
Faster Than The Blanket Remonstrance.  
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A substitute bill for the Luhring bill, which proposes to do away with the blanket remonstrance section of the Nicholson bill, is to be introduced in the Senate. It has been prepared by Senator Kittinger and is fashioned after the Massachusetts law.

Senator Kittinger's bill will provide that all persons who desire to engage in the liquor business shall pay annual license fee of \$1,000, and must be of a good moral character. A number of the restrictions that are now thrown about the liquor traffic in Indiana is to be included in the bill. The number of places where intoxicating liquors are to be sold will be based upon population, thus limiting the number of saloons. There shall be under the provisions of this bill, but one saloon for every 1,000 inhabitants.

"In Bluffton there would be five saloons instead of more than three times that number. The bill would, it is asserted, reduce the number of saloons in Indiana by at least one-half.

"Under such a law," said Senator Kittinger, "a lot of doggeries that are a curse to any community would be eliminated, and it would be impossible for every Tom, Dick and Harry to be employed in the saloon business because they could not raise the money to pay the license. Besides that, men who pay a license fee of \$1,000 would be careful to do nothing that would bring about a revocation of their license."

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 34 NUMBER  
33 Wednesday, February 11 1903. p. 4, col. 4.*

#### SALOONKEEPERS PETITION.

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Every Saloon In Town Securing  
Names to Petitions Against the  
Blanket Remonstrance Clause.  
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The saloon keepers are now taking their turn at petitioning for legislation bearing upon the Nicholson (*sic*) law. Every saloonkeeper in Bluffton is industriously circulating petitions since Monday morning and these petitions are headed by the words "Petition Against the Blanket Remonstrance." The saloonkeepers and those signing their petitions declare that they believe that the blanket remonstrance is subversive to what the Nicholson law intended and that it will do more harm than good to the true cause of temperance. Their petition ends by asking for legislation that will do away with and prevent the operation of a blanket remonstrance in any form.

At noon today one saloonkeeper, who said that he had not put forth any particular effort, had twenty signatures while

other petitions were said to have more names. It is expected to sent the petitions to Indianapolis tonight or tomorrow with 350 or 500 names. The petitions are not being circulated in this city only but all over the state. The brewers expect to try to secure legislation more favorable to their business before the legislature adjourns.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. ELEVENTH YEAR.  
NO. 123. Tuesday February 17 1903. p. 2, col. 4.*

#### FIGHT IN A POKER ROOM

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Hort Acton Couldn't "Run a Rabbit"  
and Gets Bad as a Consequence.  
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The poker room located on West Market was the scene of a good sized fight Sunday night. A number of the lovers of the game were present playing, and during the evening Hort Acton and John Keller came up to take a hand in the game. Both had been drinking and while in the game were under the influence of liquor. Acton attempted to "run a rabbit" as the saying goes, and his bluff was called by another of the players. This made Hort angry and he proceeded to start a rough house.

Sherman Stanton assisted him to the floor and after arising he was put out. Later he returned and as one of the players was at the desk cashing in, he stepped up and struck him. Billy Conklin took offense at this and by a few well directed jabs put him out of business, blacking his eyes and otherwise demoralizing him. John Keller attempted to interfere and was quieted when a little of the same was promised him. Both beligerents were put out of the room and the game is said to have broken.

Sherman Stanton and Billy Conklin were arraigned before the Mayor Monday night on a charge of assault and battery in Stanton's case and keeping a gaming house as well as assault and battery in the case against Conklin. The affidavits had been filed by Horton Acton who was beat up in the poker room fight Sunday night.

When arraigned the two stated that they were not ready for trial. They had not consulted any attorneys and before being tried they wanted to have the advice of a lawyer. For this reason they asked for a continuance. The case was set for Thursday afternoon at one o'clock and will be tried at that time before Mayor Mock.

Stanton stated that he would plead not guilty. He is very much worked up against Acton for filing the affidavit and threatens him with bodily harm if he can only lay hands on him. As Sherman is much the bigger man of the two, Hort is keeping rather out of the way.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 11  
Wednesday Evening, March 18, 1903. p. 4, col. 2.*

Mayor Mock sat in his easy chair all Friday and wrote and wrote. He was busy entering upon the docket the fines and costs assessed against the poker players, against whom affidavits were filed Thursday. One by one the victims dropped quietly into the office and sheepishly stated that they were guilty. The fine in each case was five dollars and cost, amounting in all to thirteen fifty-five. This sets a new standard on the game. In ancient times it was the custom to assess a fine of ten and cost, bringing the total up to eight-

een fifty. However, those who have to foot the bills are making no kick. Up until two o'clock John Ratliff, Corb Conklin, Charley Mosure and Sherm Stanton had called to settle. Stanton paid his fine and the others stayed the docket for the usual period. This left four others yet to hear from. John Keller was not expected, as he has left the city. When the facts of the Sunday night trouble were made known through the papers, John quietly folded up his little carpet sack and left town. He has not yet sent his address back and his whereabouts are unknown.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 12  
Wednesday Evening, March 25, 1903. p. 3, col. 3.*

Out at Craigville the saloon war has by no means abated. Fred Fuhman, against whom a remonstrance has been filed, is moving mountains to get names off the petition. Friday morning he started out with two teams and some of his friends to see everyone in the township and get them to take their names off the paper. At the last term of commissioners court he did not make application and therefore he has another chance. Had he been refused at that time he could not have made application for a term of two years. If he succeeds in cutting down the remonstrance sufficiently, he can make the application and get a license. There is an element at Craigville working just as hard to knock out the saloon as he is to keep it going and the fight is a warm one.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV NO. 16  
Wednesday Evening, April 22, 1903. p. 3, col. 3.*

Roy Mock, a young man of very excitable nature, was ejected forcibly from the Gehring saloon on north Main street this afternoon. Mock, it seems, had been drinking and went into the saloon after still another drink. Henry Bowman, the bartender, refused to give him any more and Mock became abusive. Bowman finally threw him out. Mock got reinforcements and returned, but as no further effort was made to cause him trouble he left the place vowing . . . [bottom of page not on NewspaperArchive]

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV NO. 16  
Wednesday Evening, April 22, 1903. p. 8, col. 1.*

#### Fuhrman Beaten.

Fred Fuhrman, the Craigville man who has given notice that he will apply at the May term of commissioners court for a license to retail liquor at Craigville will be defeated if he applies for . . .

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. ELEVENTH YEAR,  
NO. 186. Friday May 1 1903. p. 2, col. 1.*

WILL TRY IT  
ONCE MORE.

----  
Fred Fuhrman is Determined to  
Have a Saloon at  
Craigville.

----  
Contrary to statements that have been made, Fred Fuhman will be an applicant for liquor license at the next term of the commissioners' court. Fred is determined to stick to

the fight to the last ditch and will give the remonstrators another run for their money. Yesterday a rather peculiar entry was made in the commissioners' docket at the instigation of Todd & Gordon, attorneys for the remonstrators.

It reads, "Remonstrance examined and we find that there is a majority of legal voters, (if Legal.\*)" This is the point where Fred expects to make his winning. He claims that some of the names signed on the remonstrance against him are the names of people who are dead and that others are not of age and for many reasons are not legal voters of the township. From now on he will make an effort to get the names off the petition of the remonstrators and will give notice in the usual manner of his intention of making another application.

At the last two terms of court he has intended to apply for a license but each time refrained from doing so, as that those against him were in the majority. For this reason he never allowed his application to come before the board, as to meet defeat at an occasion of this kind would have meant that for two years he would be kept from making application for a license. He hopes to get it through this time without trouble. Those against him are determined that he shall not sell liquor at Craigville and although they have twice circulated the paper against him they say they will do it again.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 18  
Wednesday Evening, May 6, 1903. p. 1, col. 3.*

FRED FURHMAN  
KNOCKED OUT

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The Remonstrators at Craigville  
Have the Upper Hand of  
the Saloon.

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Fred Fuhrman, the Craigville saloon man, is knocked out of a chance to get a liquor license for at least two years to come. At the last term of the commissioner's court, Fred had advertised that he would make application for a liquor license to sell booze at Craigville. The people of that vicinity got busy and circulated a petition which they were ready to present to the commissioners asking that the license be not granted. Fuhrman made a big effort to get a counter petition in effect but failed to have the proper number of signatures. He then decided that he would not apply for a license and this gave him another chance.

Had he made the application and been defeated, he would have been forbidden, according to the law, to apply for a period of two years. He waited until that term was over and advertised to make application at the May term. Again the remonstrators went out and secured a number of signatures sufficient to defeat him. Fuhrman also had men at work carrying a counter petition and for a time it looked as if he would be successful. Thursday was the last day he had, according to the law, to file his withdrawal of names and he failed to show up. The remonstrators filed their papers Friday and Fred is again put out of business. His saloon has been closed for the past month and will no doubt be closed at Craigville for the next two years.

Had he filed sufficient names to allow him a license, the remonstrators had a plan whereby they were to make one last ditch effort to defeat him. They had until Friday at midnight to file their paper and Friday twenty-five men were ready to begin a systematic canvass of the county to get a few more names. Frank Gordon, attorney for the remonstrators, stated that he would ask the commissioners at

their session Monday to make a record of the remonstrance filed. They have enough names and Fuhman has advertised his intention of applying. They do not want to carry the petition every month and feel that under the law they have accomplished their ends and want the trouble stopped.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 18  
Wednesday Evening, May 6, 1903. p. 2, col. 1.*

#### APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE.

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To the citizens of the city of Bluffton and of Harrison township, Wells County, Indiana, and all others concerned:

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, a male inhabitant of said city of Bluffton and over the age of twenty-one years, will make application at the regular June term, 1903, of the board of commissioners of Wells county, for a license for one year to sell intoxicating liquors, consisting of spirituous, vinous and malt liquors, in a less quantity than a quart at a time, with the privilege of allowing the same to be drank on the premises where sold, which said premises are situated in Ward No. 2 of the city of Bluffton, in said county and state and more particularly described as follows, to-wit: Being the first or ground floor room situated on the west side of the two story frame building situated on lot No. 163 as known and designated on the recored plat of West Bluffton, as laid out and platted by John Studabaker, called Studabaker's town of West Bluffton. Said room is 18 feet wide and 13 feet long, having a glass front, fronting on Washington street in said city and connected with no other room and is so arranged that the same can be securely closed and admission thereto prevented.

Said applicant will also ask privilege to operate a lunch counter in connection therewith. 18t3 LEWIS F. HIXON.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 18  
Wednesday Evening, May 6, 1903. p. 8, col. 6.*

#### MAYOR MOCK HAS BUSY DAY.

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His Court Room Was Filled all  
Morning and Business  
Was Good.

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Mayor Mock's court was the busiest place in town Monday. Several cases were set for trial there that morning and the place was crowded all forenoon. At an early hour Marshal Crosbie began scaring up six men to act as jurors in the Linniger vs Landfair. He had some trouble in doing this but finally got that required number and the trial of the case proceeded.

In the meantime John Pierce, who runs a saloon on Johnson street came up to answer to a charge of selling liquor to an habitual drunkard. The affidavit charged him with selling to Dave Long. John wanted to enter a plea of guilty and he was accommodated. The Mayor fixed his fine at ten dollars which with the cost brought the total to something like eighteen dollars, the price for his little stroke of business enterprise.

The Linniger-Landfair case was up for the second time. Linniger is trying to recover a balance on an account for some work he did for Landfair in the way of painting. Landfair it seems paid part of the money and then repudiat-

ed the rest of the account. Linniger wanted it all or none and some time ago brought suit. This case was of no result as the jury disagreed. It was tried again Monday and decided in Landfair's favor.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 18  
Wednesday Evening, May 6, 1903. p. 8, col. 4.*

#### A FEW SALOONS WERE THROWN WIDE OPEN.

Sunday was far from being a dry day in this city and the saloon men, or at least a portion of them, seemingly paid not the slightest attention to the closing law or to the agreement that they entered into some time ago. A number of drunks were to be seen on the streets and the alleys were as thickly populated as ever before. The spasm of morality has apparently passed by and it is now up to the marshal to do some pinching. The BANNER has it from reliable sources that a barn in the rear of a saloon on north Main street was used as a dispensary and that a good sized crowd spent the day there. In the evening the marshal made a raid in that direction and there was a scatterment that resembled the route of a flock of sheep. Part of the crowd broke through the lot at the corner of Scott and Market streets and their exit was hasty and very undignified. It is also claimed that at least one and possibly more of the saloons on east Market street were open to a select few during the day.

Some time ago the saloon men formed an agreement that they would observe the regular closing hours and that any person found violating the rule would be reported to the police and would also be fined in the sum of fifty dollars, the money to go to the Knights of Fidelity, the saloon men's lodge. A BANNER representative talked with one of the men who was instrumental in having this agreement formed Monday morning and he stated that he was out of the city Sunday. He had been informed that the agreement had been broken over. He said that if the guilty parties were and could get sufficient evidence to convict he would certainly land them before the mayor. For a few weeks the plan worked very successful and the law was generally observed. The saloon men feel that if they live up to the letter of the law they will not be molested. Most of them say that this is what they want to do and claim that if all would stay together no remonstrance would be circulated against them successfully.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 20  
Wednesday Evening, May 20, 1903. p. 1, col. 5, 6.*

#### LIQUOR LICENSE RAISED TO TWO HUNDRED PLUNKS.

The council at its special meeting Monday night passed ordinance making the retail city liquor license or fee, two hundred dollars. This is the ordinance that has been up for some time and which was provoked considerable discussion on the part of the council.

At the regular meeting of the council the ordinance passed its second reading by the mayor voting on the tie. It could not then pass to the third reading as to suspend the rules a two-thirds majority is required. That night, however, there was nothing in the way and after the street business was off of their hands, Councilman Morris moved that it be passed to its third reading. The motion found a second and the clerk called the roll. Lanigan voted no, Venis yes, Clark no, Poffenberger no, Morris yes, Thoma yes. This left the

same old tie and the mayor cast his vote yes, passing it to the third reading.

Morris then moved the adoption of the ordinance. The vote stood just the same and again the mayor voted to pass it. It is in full force from the time of passage and the four saloon men who were granted a license by the Board of Commissioners at their session yesterday will no doubt have to pay the additional fee that has been assessed. Under the old ordinance the city license was one hundred dollars. The new law provides that it shall be two hundred dollars or just double what it formerly was. This will have the effect, it is said, of driving out a few of the smaller saloons and some of the saloon men are not objecting in the least. They even stated that they would not have cared had the fee been raised to the limit, two hundred and fifty dollars. As it now stands the license fee is about the same as it is in the surrounding towns of this part of the state.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 20  
Wednesday Evening, May 20, 1903. p. 1, col. 5, 6.*

John Pierce stated Monday morning that he was now ready to enlighten the public as to what he intended to do during the month from the time his license to run a saloon expires and the time he can get another license. John has a license that will run out June seventh. He intended to make application in time to have a new license issued on that date but by some mistake he failed to do so in time and will now have to wait until July first, the very best he can do. He says that it is his intention to make another application but that in the meantime he will fit up his place as a sort of an eating house and will serve substantial refreshments during his period of enforced idleness.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 21  
Wednesday Evening, May 27, 1903. p. 5, col. 3.*

#### HARVE THORNBURG WAS REFUSED A LICENSE.

The jury in the Thornburg case returned a sealed verdict Saturday night at ten o'clock. They reported yesterday morning at nine o'clock to hear their verdict read and when it was opened in court it was found that they had found for the plaintiffs, declaring Harve Thornburg a person unfit to run a saloon. The jury had been out nearly twelve hours and there was a great deal of speculation as to what the outcome of the case would be. It was one that had created a great deal of interest among the saloon men and one that the people of Nottingham township were greatly interested in.

The case was a peculiar one from the fact that it was along two separate (*sic*) and distinct lines. The people of Nottingham township had according to the method of procedure laid down under the Nicholson law filed a remonstrance against Thornburg. Harve then filed a counter petition but the commissioners upheld the Nicholson law and claimed that sufficient names had been attached to the petition to make it valid. They did not knock him out, however on the General law which makes it possible for the remonstrators to keep a man from securing a license on account of unfitness when this can be shown.

The circuit court simply changed the findings of the commissioners about. So strong a showing was made against the remonstrators that their attorney dismissed this part of the case. Then the trial along the line of unfitness was taken up and the jury decided as above mentioned. The ques-

tion of costs is one that now arises. It is claimed that under the first part of the case, in which the remonstrators were the losers, they will have the costs to pay. A case has just been decided in Indianapolis where the remonstrators, being unsuccessful, had something like twelve hundred dollars in costs to pay. The costs in this case however will amount to only fifteen dollars up to the time the trial on the second account was begun. Thornburg's attorneys stated this morning that an appeal would be taken.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 21  
Wednesday Evening, May 27, 1903. p. 3, col. 3, 4.*

#### APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE.

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...

22T3 HENRY E. SHOEMAKER.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 22  
Wednesday Evening, June 3, 1903. p. 4, col. 6.*

The four saloon men who were granted a license Monday by the board of commissioners got in just in time to be the first who will have to stand the one hundred dollar raise made by the city council for the license fee. The ordinance raising the license went into effect at once and as their licenses do not date until the seventh they will be caught for the extra amount.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 22  
Wednesday Evening, June 3, 1903. p. 5, col. 6.*

Harrison twp only place in co. for liquor  
BB 5/27/1903

A farmer living south of the city called at this office Saturday evening to make a complaint against a certain saloon, the owner of which he accuses of selling to minors. He threatened to make arrests if the practice was not discontinued at once.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 22  
Wednesday Evening, June 3, 1903. p. 5, col. 1.*

#### HAS GIVEN IT UP.

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Fred Fuhman will not attempt to secure a license to run a saloon at Craigville. He has made an number of attempts but in each case has been met by a blanket remonstrance with enough names to put him out of business. Monday he sold to A. L. Brentlinger his property at Craigville, and will try farming in the future. Mr. Brentlinger intends opening up a hardware and general store in the building formerly occupied by the saloon, and its fixtures and the change in business will be made as soon as possible.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 22  
Wednesday Evening, June 3, 1903. p. 6, col. 4.*

#### RAISED SALOON LICENSES.

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Saloon Keepers Will Now Pay \$200 a  
Year Instead of \$100 for Re-  
tailing Ardent Spirits.

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If saloon keepers stand together the price of beer in Bluffton will very likely advance or the glasses will contain more glass and more foam than heretofore. Monday night the city council raised the edge on the saloon keepers and hereafter they will have to pay \$200 a year instead of \$100 to do business inside the corporation lines. The ordinance which was brought up at a previous meeting and failed to pass by lacking two thirds vote was brought up [by] Morris and was passed the mayor deciding a tie vote. Morris' motion to pass the ordinance to a third reading was seconded by Thoma and on a vote Morris, Thoma and Venis voted for it while Poffenberger, Clark and Lanigan voted against it. The mayor decided that it should go to a third reading and then when the same tie resulted on whether the ordinance should be passed he again cast the deciding vote.

It is argued that the saloon keepers are enjoying the fruits of the prosperous times and that they can afford to pay more for the privilege of selling than they could two or three years ago when the city was smaller and there were more saloons over the county to draw trade from the city. The saloon keepers do not see it that way as a rule, but some of them say that it will discourage other people from going into the business and lessen competition.

Frank Hixon, Ike Gehring, Tom Fox and Joel Baumgardner, who got retail liquor license from the commissioners Monday, will get the benefit of the raise in price.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 34 NUMBER 49 Wednesday, June 3 1903. p. 4, col. 2.*

FELL THROUGH  
A BICYCLE.

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Jim Forrest Tumbled Through a  
Wheel in Fox's Saloon This  
Morning.

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Jim Forrest got his needings this morning in the Fox saloon when he was put out of the thinking business by one blow of Jake Masterson's right arm. In doing this, however, Masterson accidently damaged pretty badly a bicycle of Tom Fox's which was leaning against the wall and through which Forrest tumbled when Jake hit him.

According to the most reliable story Forrest went into the saloon where Masterson is bartender and began abusing Masterson. Jake stepped from behind the bar towards Forrest in an effort to quiet him and get him to leave when Forrest began striking at the bartender, still trying to raise trouble. To expedite matters Masterson simply punched him a pretty stiff blow with the result before mentioned. He then grabbed Forrest and threw him onto the alley through a side door. Forrest here decided that he had enough and left without trying to stir further strife.

The bicycle, which suffered a concussion from Forrest falling against it, was good one before but it afterwards looked like it had passed through a Kansas tornado. The front wheel was rendered practically worthless but at last report had been sent to A. R. Grove's bicycle undertaking rooms and it may emerge from there in a ridable condition again.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 26*

*Wednesday Evening, July 1, 1903. p. [last], col. 1.*

HOT WEATHER SCRAPPERS  
CREATE SOME EXCITEMENT

The hot weather of yesterday seemed to have a very depressing effect on a number of men about town last evening and they felt so bad that they simply had to fight. The result was they had it for a time between seven and eight o'clock there was something doing around the Seabold barn and the court house plaza.

Early in the evening Ed Randall, Manson Reiff and Charles Stout were in Sherman Stanton's saloon shaking dice. Stout had the worst of the game and got mad. Some words ensued in the saloon and later Randall and Stout met at the Seabold barn. Here it is said Stout threw a couple of neck yokes at Randall and then chased him out of the front of the barn with a buggy prop. Later Randall ran him through the barn and out in the alley. At this juncture Randall went to get a gun.

After Randall left in search of a weapon, Stout wandered through the alley between the court house and the Walmer & Engeler store and came out in front of the public library. Here he met Mason Reiff. They got into another altercation and Reiff tried to quiet him. He thought that he had Charley persuaded not to do anything more and turned to leave him. As he did so Stout let drive with a brick which he had in his hand, but missing Reiff struck his son Marion. At this Reiff turned and knocked Stout down.

In the meantime Randall had secured a weapon and brandishing it in his hand walked south on Johnson street to the alley where he turned east. Not finding Stout he took the same course that Stout had and cam on him as he lay on the walk where Reiff had knocked him down, Randall walked up to him and kicked him twice, it is said by those who saw the trouble. He then flourished his revolver and talked of perforating some one's form. Finally Clarence Strain got the gun away from him and for a time the trouble was at an end.

Later in the evening Randall increased his armament by adding two more guns to the list[,] walked about town threatening to shoot some one. He was followed by a good sized crowd and late last night went out South Main street giving a lecture on the labor question and expressing regret for his actions, It seems that he had been drinking all day yesterday. Early in the morning he went to Johnson's dye works and asked for a pair of trousers he had left there to be pressed. They were not finished but he took them with him and later left them at McAfee's place. Later he went back to Johnson's place and demanded them. As he had taken them away Johnson could not produce the trousers but Randall would not listen to anything and went before Walbert where he filed suit to recover them. Later Mort told him where the trousers were and the suit was let go. He threatened to shoot Johnson on sight and seemed anxious to get into a mess of some kind.

This morning affidavits were filed against Stout and Reiff charging them with assault and battery while one was filed against Randall charging him with carrying a gun with intent to use it. Marshal Crosbie filed the charges.

All three were arrested and brought before Mayor Mock at nine o'clock. Here they decided that they would plead guilty and each was fined a dollar and costs amounting to nine fifty-five in each case. Randall claimed that he had no intent in carrying the weapon but it seems that he had made threats and his plea of guilty was accepted for full value.

Last night it was said that friends of Stout were lying in

wait for Randall but they failed to do anything to him if they were and did not even show up. The whole trouble arose over the fact that a little too much booze was in circulation.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 27  
Wednesday Evening, July 8, 1903. p. 1, col. 3, 4.*

DATE HAS BEEN SET  
FOR AUGUST 12TH.

The County Commissioners finished their regular July session this afternoon and adjourned for the month this evening. They were more than anxious to get through with the work for the reason that harvesting is now on in full blast and they have plenty of work to do at home.

...

During their session the commissioners allowed Ed Shoemaker a license to operate a saloon. Frank Patry was turned down on a similar proposition and John Haas, who had published a notice of application, failed to ever show up.

...

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 27  
Wednesday Evening, July 8, 1903. p. 1, col. 5, 6.*

Will Watch the Saloons.

A member of the committee which investigated the back doors of saloons Saturday says that other little excursions like that of the Fourth will probably be made and that they expect to see that every saloon man conforms to all the provisions of the Nicholson law. Not only will the remonstrance be tried to close them out entirely but it is the purpose of some of the anti-saloonists to keep the saloon men strictly within the laws hoping thereby that they will find the business so unprofitable that they will go out of business of their own accord. He did not say when the next investigation would be made but intimated that strict watch would be kept on Sundays. Whether other members of the committee that investigated Saturday will assist actively in the work he did not say.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 35 NUMBER  
2 Wednesday, July 8 1903. p. 1, col. 1.*

PATREY DIDN'T APPEAR.

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Remonstrance Was Too Strong to Be  
Opposed and He Let the Fight  
Go by Default.

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Frank Patrey did not appear Tuesday to ask of the commissioners a license for a saloon in Keystone. He made a bold stand last week by saying that he would carry the case to the highest courts but the bluff did not work. The remonstrants were there with the goods and they handed the commissioners a document containing the names of a majority of 86 voters of the township. Patrey, as announced in the News Tuesday, will probably start a club in the town and it will be worse than any saloon as the club pays no county or city license and is not controlled in any way by the Nicholson law. It can run any hour of the day or night it pleases, does not have to keep the screens open at night and can have pool rooms or music in the bar room. If he carries out his intention Chester township, unless it can close up the

club soon, will very likely regret the change from a licensed saloon to the form of blind pig which Patrey proposes to run. If Patrey tries it he will probably regret it.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 35 NUMBER  
2 Wednesday, July 8 1903. p. 1, col. 6.*

ANTI-SALOON LEAGUE  
WENT INVESTIGATING

The anti-saloon league was instrumental in closing every saloon in the city Saturday afternoon. Shortly after two o'clock a number of the prominent members of the league, perhaps half a dozen, met in front of the G. D. Snyder shoe store. They discussed the question for some time and became firmly convinced that the closing law was being openly violated. They watched and upon the first appearance of Marshal Crosbie called him into conference.

In the meantime Rev. Lester and the marshal had walked down one of the alleys and saw a saloon which looked suspicious. The minister made some remark about the law being violated and shortly afterwards the meeting on Market street was held. The anti-saloon men decided that they would pay a visit to all the saloons in the hope that they would find one open and after a great deal of persuasion they induced Marshal Crosbie to go along with them. To one member of the committee he stated that he had just told all the saloons to close up and that he was sure none of them were open. His prediction proved to be entirely correct.

The committee started out on its rounds and visited place after place. In the alleys in the rear of the saloons they saw thirsty looking crowds apparently just put out of the saloons. All the rear doors were tried and found to be locked. Whoever sent the tiparound that there was an investigation on tap had certainly done his work well and every place was in dandy order. Liquor was obtained at some place yesterday, for there was a number of drunks on the street. It is claimed that all the saloons were open in the rear doors. No affidavits have been filed as yet, as no one has come forward who seems desirous of doing so and able to put up the proof.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 27  
Wednesday Evening, July 8, 1903. p. 4, col. 5, 6.*

For Selling on the Fourth.

An affidavit was filed in Justice Walbert's court this afternoon by George Cotton charging Joe Hartman with selling liquor during the hours prohibited by the Nicholson law. Hartman, it is alleged, kept his saloon open on Saturday and it is said that his is one which the committee visited and found open.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 35 NUMBER  
2 Wednesday, July 8 1903. p. 4, col. 5.*

Lem Stout has made application for a liquor license. He will conduct a saloon on south Johnson street formerly operated by John Pierce. John Haas had intended to make application but has given up the idea altogether.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 35 NUMBER  
2 Wednesday, July 8 1903. p. 6, col. 3.*

John Haas, who made application for license to conduct a saloon in the Workman building on South Johnson street, has refused to take out license and will continue as a bartender rather than as a saloon owner. He says the room is so old that it could not be fitted up for the kind of a place he wants to run and he forfeited his license. The commissioners were ready to grant the license Monday but John did not appear.

FIRST STEP  
NOW TAKEN

----  
Anti Saloon Men File an Affidavit Against Joe Hartman.  
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The anti saloon men have taken the first step in their fight on saloons, and Joe Hartman is the first man to fall under their eye. This morning, G. W. Cotton filed an affidavit before M. W. Walbert, alleging that Hartman kept his saloon open on the occasion of July Fourth. The date in question was a legal holiday and it is a violation of the Nicholson law for a saloon to be open at that time.

It will be remembered that during the afternoon of the Fourth, the anti saloon men got hold of the city marshal and with him made a tour of the saloons about the city. They found no places open owing to the fact that a quiet tip had gone around and all had closed. However, it is claimed that they were open earlier in the day and it is said the antis have proof which they will produce at the trial. Hartman has not as yet been arrested but will be at once and his trial will occur shortly.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 35 NUMBER 2 Wednesday, July 8 1903. p. 9, col. 3.*

APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE.

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To the citizens of ward No. 3, of Bluffton, and of Harrison township and the state of Indiana.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will make application at the August term of 1903, of the board of commissioners of Wells county, Indiana, for a license for one year to sell, barter and give away for the purpose of gain, intoxicating liquors consisting of spirituous, vinous and malt liquors in a less quantity than a quart at a time with the privilege of suffering and allowing the same to be drunk on the premises where sold, bartered or given away which said premises are situated on lot No. 86 as known and designated on the recorded plat of the town, now city of Bluffton, Wells county, Indiana, and more particularly described as follows, to-wit: Commencing at a point eighty feet north of the southwest corner of said lot 86, thence east 70 feet, thence north 20 feet, thence west 70 feet, thence south 20 feet to the place of beginning. Being the first story room of the one story frame building situated on the premises above described. Said room is 18 feet wide, and 36 feet deep, fronts on Johnson street, in said city and is not connected with any other business. Said room has a glass and sash front fronting upon said Johnson street.

27t3 LEMUEL STOUT.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 35 NUMBER 2 Wednesday, July 8 1903. p. 9, col. 4.*

KEPT OPEN HOUSE.

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Ministers and Others Investigated Violations of Nicholson Law and Found Three Open Back Doors.  
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About half past two o'clock Saturday afternoon a committee consisting of Rev. Beeks and Rev. Lester, Dr. A. E. Springsted, George Cotton and Marshal Crosbie, visited six of the saloons over the city to ascertain whether the closing law was being violated. Rev. Lester states that three had been found open and were requested to close, which they did. The news that the committee was out spread rapidly and it is said that some places which had previously been admitting callers closed up before the committee got to them. The word went around that the saloons were to be permitted to open again at five o'clock but it could not be learned who authorized such a statement.

Those who made the investigation say that they found three saloons closed and apparently doing no business but that they found many men in the alley adjacent to the saloons. They were led to take the step by seeing drunk men on the street. One of the committee stated that they would not file affidavits against the three found open, but that the marshal could do so if he cared to.

It was reported Monday that impeachment proceedings would be brought against Crosbie on the grounds that the saloons were open with his knowledge. A member of the committee denied all knowledge of the report.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 35 NUMBER 2 Wednesday, July 8 1903. p. 10, col. 3.*

ANTI-SALOON TROUBLE.

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After pleading guilty to a charge of keeping his saloon open on the fourth of July, brought against him by Geo. Cotton, a member of the anti-saloon league, Joe Hartman filed an affidavit last Thursday against Rev. C. S. Lester, of the Baptist church, charging him with violating a city ordinance by riding his wheel on the sidewalk.

The affidavit was filed before Mayor Mock and it alleges that Rev. Lester was riding on one of the side-walks on east Market street Wednesday afternoon. Hartman does not attempt to deny the fact that he is going after Mr. Lester to even up for the arrest made Wednesday. Rev. Lester was with the committee, that made a trip from saloon to saloon as he, as well as the entire committee, have incurred the displeasure of Hartman. Joe stated that morning that he would attempt to even up with every man who was connected with his arrest in any way or who was instrumental in bringing the case against him.

It looks very much as if a fight to a finish was on between the two factions. The saloon men are very bitter or at least a part of them have so expressed themselves and they are determined to even things up apparently. The majority of the people about town think that the action of Hartman, in having Rev. Lester arrested, is simply putting arguments in the hands of the anti-saloon people and instead of doing the cause of the saloon men good, will absolutely be a detriment.

For some time the feeling between the two elements has been growing and the breach has been constantly widening. What the outcome will be is hard to state. Ha[r]tman says that in the case against Rev. Lester he can prove that the

latter did violate the ordinance and claims to have five or six witnesses to that effect. On the other hand even if the minister did do it he has nothering more than dozens of other people in the city do daily and think nothing of it. While the ordinance is in effect, it has never been enforced and not one person in then gives it a second thought.

Prosecutor Matlack stated Thursday that if the case came to trial, he would make a motion to dismiss on the part of the state. He believes that in view of the fact that the ordinance had never been enforced, and as no proclamation had been issued stating that it was to be, that it would be unfair to follow it up with a prosecution.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 28  
Wednesday Evening, July 15, 1903. p. 7, col 3.*

#### BLUFFTON PEOPLE JOIN THE EAGLES AT 'PELIER

A crowd of twenty men of this city went to Montpelier today, part drove adn part went on the train. Their object in going was to join the Eagles lodge which will be inaugurated in the Oil City this evening. The Bluffton delegation will go in as charter members with the eighty other candidates from Montpelier. The work will be done by the lodge from Hartford City. Other visiting brothers will be present from Marion, Fairmount, Muncie and other surrounding towns. After the work has been given, the guests will be served to a fine banquet and the event is to be one of the finest.

Those going from here to take the work is as follows: Steve Lewis, J. E. McClellan, J. N. Hartman, John Ratliff, C. A. Mosure, Ed Wingfield, C. A. Drew, Ike Gehring, Jake Masterson, Tom Fox, Manson Reiff, Sherman Stanton, John Haas, Beryl Hellinger, Paul Ehram, Ed Shoemaker, J. E. Cratener, Ed Weishaupt, Lon Oxley and Billy Howard.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 30  
Wednesday Evening, July 29, 1903. p. 1, col. 5, 6.*

#### WROTE THE WRONG MAN.

George Cotton was informed Thursday afternoon in a very peculiar manner that he had purchased the Joe Hartman saloon. When the mail was brought around to Mr. Cotton, it contained a letter from Hasterlik Bros. who are wholesale liquor dealers in Chicago. The letter stated that they had been informed that Mr. Cotton had purchased the Hartman saloon and would be glad to quote him prices on liquors. Mr. Cotton can not explain how he ever bought the saloon or how they received such information. His recent connection with Hartman in his filing of affidavits against him for Sunday selling undoubtedly brought it about.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 31  
Wednesday Evening, Aug. 5, 1903. p. 6, col. 5.*

#### PAINTED 'EM RED.

As a result of the bitter feeling growing out of the Bryant saloon fight a gang of toughs of that village made the rounds last Saturday night and smeared a liberal quantity of red paint on the home of each person who had signed the anti-saloon remonstrance.

Whether this piece of depreddation was done at the instiga-

tion of the head of the saloon faction or not is not definitely known, although it is alleged that the gang was seen in their rounds and that one of the recent applicants for liquor license ther is known to have been one of them.--Portland Sun.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 32  
Wednesday Evening, Aug. 12, 1903. p. 4, col. 1.*

#### A Disastrous Blaze

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AT THREE O'CLOCK THIS  
MORNING FIRE BROKE  
OUT IN REAR LIPINSKY'S

-----  
Morris Lipinsky, Markley  
& Son and Others Meet  
With Losses.

#### WAS IT FIRE BUG?

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Strong Suspicions That  
Such Was the Case; Al-  
though no Proof.

The city was visited by another disastrous fire yesterday evening and two firms are temporarily out of business, while two families have their household goods badly damaged and will have to see other quarters. The alarm was turned in at three o'clock and the light from the fire drew the crowd to west Market street where the fire was found to be in the rear of Markley & Son's grocery and Lipinski's saloon.

Three streams were turned on the fire and it was soon under control, not however until it had done considerable damage. In the rear of the two buildings were a number of small frame sheds and wooded porches and in this light and dry stuff the flames raged fiercely.

From the outside the heat and blaze was drawn into the rear rooms, causing all the damage. This morning the Markley room presents a deplorable spectacle. The rear portion is burned and charred, stock smoked and ruined, while in front the stock was rendered worthless. Mr. Markley, the senior member of the firm, stated this morning that the stock was valued at \$2000. On this insurance in the sum of \$1000 was carried. The damage will be considerably in excess of the insurance carried, as practically all of it was ruined. The room was closed this morning pending the arrival of the adjuster.

In point of insurance Morris Lipinski was more favorably situated than any of the rest. While his building was badly damaged and a great quantity of stock lost, yet he will be able to recover as much as he lost. The building in which his saloon was located belonged to him and on it he carried \$1500 insurance. This will fully cover all loss on the building.

His stock was insured for \$2500.00 and was pretty near a total loss. The back room was completely gutted. It was in this room that the bar and bar fixtures were located as well as the cooler and a large quantity of the liquors. In the front room the tobaccoes and cigar stocks were smoked and are practically worthless. So great was the heat that the windows in the front of the Markley rooms were broken and shattered while the paint was badly blistered.

Mrs. Maggie Johnson, who lives over the Markley room, had a very narrow escape and is probably the first person

who sent in the alarm. She and her children were sleeping soundly when Mrs. Johnson was awakened by the noise of falling timbers. She glanced out saw the fire and made haste to arouse the children. All got out but they were nearly suffocated by the smoke. At the same time, J. L. Wilkins and wife, who live over the Lipinski room were having a similar experience.

This morning an examination showed that Mrs. Johnson's furniture and clothing had been completely ruined. Much of the kitchen stuff had been stored on the rear porch and this was completely burned up. Mrs. Johnson had no insurance, as she was expecting to move soon and had allowed it to run out. The Wilkins family were also without protection of any kind but their goods were not damaged so severely.

The fire is supposed to have started in the rear of the Lipinski saloon. No one saw any fire at that place at shutting up time and the theory of incendiarism (*sic*) is advanced. It was one of the worst fires the city has had for some time and has worked a hardship on a greater number of people. But little work is being done about the ruins today, as the arrival of the insurance men is being awaited.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LI[V], NO. 33 Wednesday Evening, Aug. 19, 1903. p. 1, col. 1-3.*

#### APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE.

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To the citizens of Ward NO. 5, Bluffton, . . .  
31t3 S. G. Stanton, Applicant.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LI[V], NO. 33 Wednesday Evening, Aug. 19, 1903. p. 2, col. 5.*

#### APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE.

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To the citizens of Ward NO. 1, Bluffton, . . .  
32t3 J. E. McCLELLAND, Applicant.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LI[V], NO. 33 Wednesday Evening, Aug. 19, 1903. p. 2, col. 5.*

#### APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE.

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To the citizens of Ward NO. 1, Bluffton, . . .  
32t3 S. G. Stanton, Applicant.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LI[V], NO. 33 Wednesday Evening, Aug. 19, 1903. p. 2, col. 4.*

#### IN THE MAYOR'S COURT.

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Monday was a busy one in the circles of the minor courts. That morning after the mayor had finished off with the plain drunks, the prosecutor was called to Squire Walbert's office where Tom Fox was on trial for having sold liquor to Dick Hunter, a drunken man.

This was one of the affidavits filed by G. W. Cotton over which there has been a great deal of talk. When the time came for trial, Fox entered a plea of not guilty. He had Frank Dailey to defend him. Arch Gordon, the chief witness for the prosecution, swore that he saw Dick take a drink but was unable to say whether it was whiskey or water. John Marshall testified that

the drink taken by Hunter consisted of nothing more severe than orange cider.

At this juncture Dailey moved to dismiss and the prosecutor seconded the motion. There was absolutely no evidence to show that Dick had received anything intoxicating at this place although he was drunk.

Morris Lipinsky came up that afternoon and made arrangements to plead guilty at a later date and the case against him was not pushed. When he pleads guilty he will get the customary fine and cost.

At noon Monday Prosecutor Matlack ordered the case against Ersham dismissed. It was found that practically the same evidence would be introduced that appeared in the Fox case and as it was known that the conviction on this evidence was impossible, the case was dismissed and the consequent expense saved.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LI[V], NO. 33 Wednesday Evening, Aug. 19, 1903. p. 4, col. 1.*

#### SHERMAN STANTON GRANTED A LICENSE.

The commissioners granted the liquor license of Sherman G. Stanton this morning and he opened his place this afternoon. They considered the remonstrance and evidence tendered as to the applicant's moral character and decided that there was not enough testimony that he was an immoral man. There were but two witnesses presented by the anti-saloon league instead of a dozen as mentioned yesterday, but Stanton had eleven, making thirteen in all. Attorney Gordon, who had represented the remonstrators, stated this afternoon that the case would be appealed to the circuit court.

J. E. McClelland had his application granted Monday. He is in the first ward and was not aimed at by the remonstrators.

Today the petition of the M. H. & Ft. W. to dissolve the election in Jefferson township was granted. Commissioners Lechner and Stahl drove to Jefferson township to inspect the Motz bridge and this afternoon the board is hearing the petition of Arminda Ripple et al on establishing and recording a road 160 rods long near the Bethel church. George W. Capps is opposing it.

This forenoon a contract was signed with C. W. Weiman, of Sullivan, Ind., a tax ferret. He will go over the property returns since 1881 and all sequestered property untaxed he will hunt out, collect the tax and turn it over to the county treasurer. For this he receives thirty-three and a third per cent of the amount so hunted out.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 36 Wednesday Evening, Sept. 9, 1903. p. 1, col. 5, 6.*

#### APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE.

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Market street  
FORREST FAYLOR, Applicant.

#### APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE.

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Johnson street  
WILLIAM NASH, Applicant.

**A PPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE.**

To the citizens of Ward No. 1, of the city of Bluffton, and of Harrison township, Wells county, Indiana, and all whom it may concern:

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, a male inhabitant of Harrison township, Wells county, state of Indiana, and over the age of 21 years, will make application at the December term, 1903, of the board of commissioners of Wells county, Indiana, for a license for one year to sell intoxicating liquors consisting of spirituous, vinous, and malt liquors in a less quantity than a quart at a time with the privilege of allowing the same to be drank on the premises where sold which said premises are situated in Ward No. 1 of the city of Bluffton, in Harrison township, Wells county, Indiana, and are more particularly described as follows: Being the front ground floor or first story room of the two story brick building situated on the following described part of Inlet No. 42 as known and designated on the original plat of the town, now city, of Bluffton, Indiana, to-wit: Commencing at the southwest corner of said lot, thence north 45 feet, thence west 17 feet, thence south 45 feet, thence west 17 feet to the place of beginning. Said room is 17 feet wide and 45 feet long and has a glass front, fronts on Market street in said city of Bluffton has no partition, and is not connected with any other room, and so arranged that the same may be securely locked and admission thereto prevented.

FORREST FAYLOR, Applicant.

**A PPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE.**

To the citizens of Ward No. three, of the city of Bluffton, Harrison township, Wells county, Indiana, and whom it may concern:

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, a male inhabitant of Harrison township, Wells county, state of Indiana, and over the age of 21 years will make application at the December term, 1903, of the board of commissioners of Wells county, Indiana, for a license for one year to sell intoxicating liquors, consisting of spirituous, vinous, and malt liquors, in less quantities than one quart at a time with the privilege of allowing the same to be drank on the premises where sold, which premises are situated in ward No. 3 of the city of Bluffton, Harrison township, Wells county, Indiana, and are more particularly described as follows: Being the room of the one story brick building situated on the west end of the following described part of Inlet No. 80 as known and designated on the original plat of the town (now city) of Bluffton, Indiana, to-wit: Commencing at the northwest corner of said lot No. 80, thence east 62 feet, thence south 20 feet, thence west 62 feet, thence north 20 feet to the place of beginning. Said room fronts immediately upon Johnson street in said city, and said room is 18 feet wide and 44 feet long, interior measurements, has a glass front, has no partition, is connected with no other business, and is so arranged that the same can be securely closed and locked, and admission thereto excluded.

WILLIAM NASH, Applicant.

day. Hallow'een prank players, plain drunks and gamblers have been on the carpet and have been drawing fines with great regularity.

The first case up was that of Frank Brown carrying concealed weapons. Brown was caught after a race by Night Patrolman John Deam. Late Saturday night he stood at the corner of Market and Marion streets with a huge revolver and punctured the atmosphere with bullet holes as fast as he could pull the trigger. Deam went to stop him and Brown ran. Monday morning he got a dollar and costs for his little fun. The gun taken away from him was about two feet long and was a wicked looking weapon.

Two street pavers were arrested on charges of plain drunk. They were caught by Deam and jailed over Sunday. Monday morning they were given the customary dollar and costs.

George Cotton was out on a raid Sunday morning and Patty Armstrong's poker room suffered. At four o'clock Sunday morning Cotton and Elias Poffenberger, one of the special policemen, called out the marshal and stated that a poker game was flourishing in the room over Joe Hartman's saloon, conducted by Armstrong. The three went to the place and knocked for admission. This was about five o'clock in the morning.

Lon Kain came down and admitted them. Crosbie, Cotton and Poffenberger walked right in and still the game went on. Those in the room at the time were Pat Armstrong, Lon Kohn (sic), Billy Bricker, Billy Patterson, a son of John Swartz and a brick mason employed on the opera house.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 44 Wednesday Evening, Nov. 4, 1903. p. 4, col. 2.*

COMMISSIONERS  
ADJOURNED

-----  
Held the Shortest Session Since  
W. A. Marsh Has Been  
Auditor.  
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The county commissioners met Tuesday morning and after being in session but a short time adjourned for the month. Auditor Marsh stated that this session was the shortest in his history as a county official. There was almost nothing coming up before the board except the usual grist of monthly bills.

Winnie Ulmer applied for a license to run a saloon and will open an establishment where Jacob Stout formerly ran a place. His application was not contested by the anti-saloon league and he was given a license. Ullmer has been tending bar at the McClelland saloon and has always been a quiet and sober sort of fellow.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 44 Wednesday Evening, Nov. 4, 1903. p. 4, col. 6.*

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 44 Wednesday Evening, Nov. 4, 1903. p. 2, col. 5.*

Forrest Faylor has purchased the Joe Hartman Saloon. Tom Rhea's Saloon Keystone gambling above Joe Hartman's saloon Mayor's Court BB 11/04/1903 p. 4, col. 2.

MAYOR'S COURT.

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Mayor Mock's court has been a busy place all day Mon-

ANOTHER SALOON WILL  
BE STARTED HERE SOON

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John Bixler has made application for a liquor license and his application will be heard at the next term of the commissioners court. He has secured a lease on the Humphrey room on North Johnson street, which has just been completed, and as soon as he knows whether or not he gets a license, he will begin fitting it up for saloon purposes. He



has leased the entire north half of the building and intends putting in an up-to-date saloon.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LIV, NO. 46  
Wednesday Evening, November 18, 1903. p. 8, col. 4.*

theft at Ersham saloon, caught at Hixson saloon [Ehrsam in 1902 directory]  
BB 11/25/1903 p. 6, col. 2.

#### REFUSED A SALOON LICENSE.

Hugh Stout in Poneto  
BB 1/13/1904 p. 2, col. 1.

#### GET A BAD FALL.

-----

Charles Katwasser is laid up with an injury that will more than likely keep him from work for several days. Thursday evening he was on his way to church and while passing the Stanton saloon at the corner of Main and Washington streets, slipped on the icy pavement and fell. As he fell he struck on his right side and right shoulder. His head and face were painfully bruised and he experienced great pain in his right shoulder.

Thinking that he was not seriously hurt Mr. Kaltwasser continued on his way to church and attempted to remain during the service. His arm grew worse and he was finally forced to come away. He started for home and stopped at the office of Dr. Springsted where his arm was temporarily bandaged.

Friday morning Dr. Spaulding was called in to make a thorough examination. He found that the point of the right shoulder had been broken by his terrible fall and that it required setting. He, with the assistance of Jesse Sunier, reduced the fracture and bandaged the arm so that it cannot be moved. Mr. Kaltwasser spent a very painful night but since the wound has been properly attended to he is getting along finely. The bruises about his head, while being quite painful, are in no way dangerous.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 5  
Wednesday Evening, Feb. 3, 1904. p. 3, col. 3.*

#### FOUR SALOON MEN WERE PINCHED TODAY

Sheriff Johnston this morning armed himself with the bench warrants which had been issued by the court yesterday against Al Fox, Paul Ersham, William Wysong and Forrest Faylor. Thus equipped he made the rounds of the various saloons where they are employed and arrested them on the charge of selling liquor to minors.

The warrants grew out of evidence offered by Frank Zoll who was before the court yesterday on a charge of larceny. Frank claimed that he was 19 years of age and that he had purchased liquor of the above mentioned four men. Upon this testimony the court ordered the bench warrants issued.

It is claimed by the saloon men that they will make a fight in the cases. They has (*sic*) retained attorneys and when they appear will plead not guilty. Their line of defense will likely be that Zoll represented himself to be a person of the age of 21 years. It is claimed that at one or two saloons at least he signed affidavits to that effect. If such is the case,

it will again place Zoll in a rather precarious predicament.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. L, NO. 9  
Wednesday Evening, March 2, 1904. p. 1, col. 1, 2.*

#### JACOB STOUT WAS GRANTED A LICENSE

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Jacob Stout was Monday granted license by the board of county commissioners to run a saloon at Poneto. The lot described is the one upon which Hugh Stout had once made application. As Hugh had a license issued to him to run a saloon at another place the board could not issue him this one and he was turned down. Subsequently the application was made by his father. There was no opposition on the part of the remonstrators. It is understood that they at the first of the month made some attempt to secure a sufficient number of signatures but failed for the reason that they were obliged to get some of their names from the city and the opposition to the efforts were too strong.

License[s] were issued to E. J. Wischaupt from this city and Gottlieb Rolle of Vera Cruz. Both are already conducting saloons at the various places for which they asked a license.

Three gravel road petitions were up for consideration and will no doubt be attended to before adjournment.

Some controversy arose Monday morning over a petition which was presented by an attorney for the Fort Wayne and Southwestern railway company. This company asks for an election to be held in Union township for the purpose of voting a tax for the aid of the railroad. The road according to the petition is to be built within a specified time from Markle to Zanesville and on into Fort Wayne.

The attorney presented his petition and asked that an election be ordered. The board of commissioners and Mrs. Brineman asked that he put up funds sufficient to guarantee the costs of holding an election. This the attorney refused to do. He stated that his company was incorporated in the sum of \$2,000,000 and that their word was good. This didn't show the board anything and they so informed the promoter. He stated that unless the election was ordered he would mandate the board through the court and force them to do so. Auditor Brineman states that if this is done, two mandamus suits will have to be filed. He declares that he will not order an election by posting the notices unless the money is paid in advance.

The road is one which has been talked of for some time. It is already under construction in the vicinity of Indianapolis and some portion of it is completed and in use. Just what remains to be seen.

Last Monday at 2 o'clock, the representatives of the railroad returned to the commissioners to see what action they had taken in the matter. He was informed that the board would not call an election unless the expenses which would incur were fully covered by money on deposit with the auditor. This has always been the custom in every election that has even been and is the only way the county has of protecting the voters and the people who have to pay the costs. It requires that the company means business. The representative of the road left at once, ostensibly to hunt up an attorney to file mandamus proceedings against the road.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 10  
Wednesday Evening, March 9, 1904. p. 4, col. 4.*

Ike Gehring saloon fight  
BB 3/99/1904 p. 7, col. 3.

## SAYS HE WAS BUNCOED.

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W. O. Allen Wants His Farm Back,  
Hence He Sues.  
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A suit was filed late Monday evening in the circuit court which has a great many peculiar features and which may develop on other lines than those specified in the case and get somebody into serious trouble. The suit is filed by A. W. Hamilton, attorney for William Owen Allen and is to set aside a deed for eighty acres of land located near Murray which formerly belonged to Allen.

According to the complaint, up to and prior to the twenty-fourth of February of this year, Allen owned the land in fee simple and that the land was valued at thirty-five hundred dollars. On the above mentioned date he he traded it to Joseph Hartman for the Nickle Plate saloon in this city, and the complaint states that the saloon is worth but fifteen hundred dollars. Allen gave a twelve hundred dollar chattel mortgage on the fixtures to cover a twelve hundred dollar mortgage on the land. The two mortgages off set each other so, if the statement in the complaint is true, Allen was skinned out of two thousand dollars.

Allen has set forth as a reason for having the deed set aside the fact that he was drunk at the time the transfer was made and that he was persuaded to make over the title to his property while in a condition in which he did not know what he was doing. He claims that he was induced to agree to pay all the bills falling due against the saloon and that up to date something like four hundred dollars worth of accounts have been sprung on him by people who the saloon owes.

The complaint will be filed in three paragraphs, one setting forth that at the time of the transfer the plaintiff was drunk and did not know what he was doing, another to the effect that there was no consideration and the third setting forth the illegality of the transaction.

Allen has in his possession a memorandum of agreement made and entered into between himself and Joseph Hartman. Hartman in this agreement states that he is the owner of the saloon exclusively. He states that Forrest Faylor owns the license and the agreement provides that Faylor is to be retained as bartender in the saloon for the term of the license and that for the sum of twelve dollars per week he is to keep quiet as to who really owns the saloon and allow the impression to go out that he is the proprietor. However by the agreement, Allen is to have all the privileges of the license.

Upon this clause the plaintiff bases the illegality of the transfer. There can according to law be no transfer of a liquor license such as is clearly indicated by the article of agreement. As the matter stands, this attempted transfer will be simply used as evidence in this case but should the grand jury decide, so to do, they might make some of the parties some serious trouble.

Allen claims that since he has been the owner of the saloon he has frequently demanded of Hartman that they trade back but that Hartman refuses to do this. On the other hand Joe is trying, so Allen claims, to buy him back for a small sum. It is claimed that Hartman's agents have offered seven hundred dollars only for the property and that they are doing all in their power to discourage the present owner of the place.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 12  
Wednesday Evening, March 23, 1904. p. 5, col. 1.*

THE HOP ALE  
CASE TODAY

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Was on Trial This Afternoon Before  
Squire M. W. Walbert  
at City Building.  
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This afternoon before Justice Walbert was heard the trial of the case of the state vs. Oliver Higgins, of Mt. Zion. The affidavit upon which Higgins was arrested alleges that he at his place of business sold malt liquors without the necessary license.

The case is one that was filed after the people of Mt. Zion became heartily tired of the nature of Higgins' business. He sold beer under the guise of hop ale and did quite a thriving business until complaint was made of his practice and since then the patrons of his place have been rather shy of it. The beer had all the affects of real beer and the state feels sure that it has a case. A large number of witnesses were on hand to offer their testimony and there was no likelihood of the case being finished before press time.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 12  
Wednesday Evening, March 23, 1904. p. 1, col. 5.*

APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR  
LICENSE

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Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will make application at the April term of 1904 with the board of commissioners of Wells county, Indiana, for a license to dispose of intoxicating liquors, in a less quantity than a quart at a time with the privilege of allowing the same to be drunk on the premises where disposed of, which said premises are situated on part of lot 47, as known and designated on the recorded plat of the town, (now city) of Bluffton, bounded and described as follows, to-wit:

Commencing 23 and one-third east of the northwest corner of said lot, thence south 140 feet, thence east twenty-three and one-third feet, thence north 140 feet, and thence west twenty-three and one-third feet to the place of beginning.

Said room being 18 1/2 feet wide and 67 1/2 feet long, occupying the front room facing on Market street in said building, on the ground floor, having glass plate windows and double doors in the front, and is connected with a store room in the rear. Said building being constructed of brick, being the middle room on said lot No. 47.

That the applicant is a male inhabitant of Bluffton, Wells county, Indiana, is 56 years of age and has resided in said city for over six years.

MAURICE LIPINSKI.  
10-3t. Applicant.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 12  
Wednesday Evening, March 23, 1904. p. 2, col. 4.*

HOP ALE DISPENSER  
WILL FIGHT THE CASE

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Marshal Crosbie returned from Mt. Zion last Wednesday having in his custody Oliver Higgins, who was arrested on four indictments, two of which charged him with selling liquor without a license and two with allowing liquor to be drank on his premises. Higgins was taken at once before Squire Walbert where he stated that he was not at the time ready for trial. He stated that a week would allow him sufficient time to get ready to fight the case and a hearing was set for Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock.

Higgins has been conducting a hop ale joint at Mt. Zion. It is charged in the affidavits that the hop ale sold is simply beer under a false name. At any rate it has all the qualities which make beer a popular drink with the fellows who like to get three seas under and go home and beat their families.

Higgins ran a sort of a barroom at Mt. Zion and each day his place was the center of a thirsty throng. The corks popped at a lively rate and many who left the place were unable to follow a straight line in the sidewalks. Some few, it is hinted, didn't even recognize the difference between the sidewalk and the muddy street.

Marshal Crosbie pulled some of the labels off the bottles. They read "American Hop Ale, made at Columbus, Ohio, U. S. A." The hop ale is put up in pint bottles exactly the size of beer bottles and the corks are of exactly the same nature. John says that they pop equally as well as a beer cork and he thinks that the state has a first class case against Higgins. However, the latter will fight it through to the last ditch, according to his statement to the justice Wednesday.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 12  
Wednesday Evening, March 23, 1904. p. 6, col. 1.*

#### HOP ALE DISPENSER GETS OFF VERY EASY

Oliver Higgins, the Mt. Zion hop ale dispenser, was acquitted by Squire Walbert Wednesday afternoon on a charge of selling liquor without a license. A large number of witnesses had been called by the state but they could not make their case in the opinion of the court, Mr. Walbert stating that there was no evidence introduced showing that the liquor sold was intoxicating and the case was accordingly dismissed.

Several days ago a court of inquiry was held before Walbert and a number of witnesses called. They all testified at this inquiry that they had purchased hop ale of Higgins and that it was the same thing as beer. However, they all seemed to have wonderful lapses of memory when placed upon the stand and could not even tell what the stuff looked like. They didn't know on the stand whether it tasted like beer or mineral water and one fellow stated that there was no taste to it so far as he could notice.

When Marshal Crosbie arrested the joint, he took one of the labels and several of the stoppers from the bottles. These were to have been introduced as exhibits in evidence at the time of the trial, but Mr. Crosbie stated that they had been burned up and were no longer in his possession. It is likely that the trouble is not at an end. The people of Mt. Zion are much worked up over the idea of an unlicensed saloon right in their very midst and they will make further efforts to have the trouble attended to.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 13  
Wednesday Evening, March 30, 1904. p. 2, col. 3.*

#### REMOVED THE WHISKY.

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Man from Wholesale House Came to  
Get His Firm's Goods.

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A gentleman from Lafayette came to the city Thursday to inquire about the condition of affairs in the saloon formerly run by Forrest Faylor. It seems that the firm had sold some whisky to Faylor and it had not been paid for and as the business is closed pending the suit of Owen Allen the wholesale house did not want its goods tied up. The fellow said if it was necessary he would replevin the goods, but he was given a chance to go into the cellar and take the whisky out. Other creditors are showing up and one of them claims he will replevin his goods under the statute giving creditors the right to have five days notice before sale is made of goods that have not been paid for. Owen Allen has the keys to the saloon door but he is not doing any business.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 14  
Wednesday Evening, April 13, 1904. p. 2, col. 3.*

#### LOWER COURT UPHELD.

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The Appellate Court Decides Pool  
Room Is Part of Saloon.

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The appellate court on Friday affirmed the decision of the lower court in the case of the State against Edward Atkinson, who was fined for permitting a crowd of boys in his saloon on Sunday. Atkinson pleaded that the boys were not in the saloon, but were in a pool room, which was separated from it by a lattice work. The prosecution showed that the saloon keeper had obtained a license to sell liquor in a room twenty-eight feet long and the pool room was included in this space. During week days the pool room was thrown open and used as part of the saloon, but Sundays it was closed.

In rendering his opinion Judge Black stated that the saloon keeper was carrying on the business under a license containing a description of the room, and that part of it did not cease to be a part of the room in which he was licensed to sell by the locking of the partition.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 14  
Wednesday Evening, April 13, 1904. p. 2, col. 4.*

#### HIGGINS WAS SIMPLY LAYING UP TROUBLE.

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When Ol Higgins, the Mt. Zion hop ale dispenser, was acquitted on a charge of selling liquor without a license some days ago, his troubles had just begun. Friday Constable Crouse went to the little village and told Higgins that he was wanted on three other charges. Higgins promised to come to Bluffton Saturday and give bond for his appearance for trial. He was placed under a \$100 bond for his appearance on Wednesday the 20th with Ed Wingfield and Sherm Stanton as sureties. Higgins is slated to answer to one charge of selling without a license, and two charges of selling to be drank on the premises. It is said that a Warren saloon man is backing Higgins and that they have made plenty out of the business to pay a dozen fine. Since William Herring went out of business at Mt. Zion because of a remonstrance there have been two or three different thirst

parlors conducted there. The only one who ever stayed long enough for the officers to get hold of him besides Higgins was Owen Allen who had thirteen grand jury indictments returned against him and paid out a couple of hundred for his trouble.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 14  
Wednesday Evening, April 13, 1904. p. 4, col. 4.*

#### A CHANGE OF VENUE.

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Taken In the Oliver Higgins Hop Ale  
Case This Morning.  
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Oliver Higgins, the Mt. Zion hop ale dispenser, was not tried today as per schedule. This morning Higgins and his attorney, D. H. Childs, of Warren, were in the city and asked for a change in venue. The case was to have come up before Mayor Mock on next Tuesday.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. L, NO. 16  
Wednesday Evening, April 20, 1904. p. 4, col. 2.*

#### IRISH DITCHER FALLS VICTIM IN THE FIRE Was Sleeping in Room Over Paul Ersham's Saloon.

#### ----- NARROW ESCAPE

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Of Others Who Were  
Rooming in the Ill-  
Fated Building.  
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Fire which destroyed the Paul Ersham saloon on East Market street Wednesday night, caused the death of John Moynihan, and came very near catching three others who were in the building at the time. The saloon building was a frame structure, rather dilapidated and a veritable fire trap. The up-stairs was divided into a number of small rooms by light pine partitions which burned like tinder but which prevented the firemen from doing any real effective work towards extinguishing the blaze up stairs until they had burned through.

The front room is regularly occupied by Hiram Huss and son Walter. They have been living there for some time and had it equipped with a bed, table and cooking utensils. Last night Moynihan (*sic*) was in town and was very drunk. The night police had him at one time and intended to put him in jail to sober up over night but Ersham, the proprietor of the saloon, desired that he remain in his place and asked Huss to take care of him. Hiram agreed to do so and about 11 o'clock took him up stairs and put him to bed. Later he and his son Walter also retired for the night. About 11:45 Hiram was awakened by the smell of smoke and arose to find the entire building in flames. He called to his son and got him up after which both of them attempted to awaken the old Irishman. He made a few responses to their calls and they thought that he was awake. Ike Baumgardner, who was in the room just to the rear of the one occupied by the party of three, was awakened by their cries and at once made an effort to get out. The fire was worse in his room than in the other for the reason that he was nearest the place where the blaze started.

Baumgardner rant to the door of his room but found the way effectually blocked by the flames. He then went to a window on the east side of the house and throwing it up called for help. A board was shoved up to him and he slid down it to safety. He had not had time to dress and failed to get any of his belongings. In the pocket of his coat was a purse containing something like thirty dollars in bills and this was all lost as well as some other papers of value to him. Baumgardner has been working at the Mosure feed yard for some time.

In the meantime exciting scenes were being enacted in the front room, Hiram Hess, the first of the trio to get up, tried the door leading to the stairway. He was met by a rush of smoke and heat that nearly overpowered him and calling to his son the old man got ready to jump from the front window. Walter at once threw up the shades and leap out. He landed on the cement sidewalk below without injury to himself. His father gave one more call to the old man and then followed through the window. He was not so fortunate in his descent and could not arise. He was taken to the John Britt rooms onj Wabash street where a doctor was summoned and attended to his injuries.

He found that both ankles had been turned by his fall and his back was severely wrenched. It will be some time before he will be able to be around.

By this time the firemen were on the scene and were doing all they could to check the flames. From the nature of the contents of the building they had a hard time of it and before the fire was out everything in the place had been ruined although the walls are still standing and the upper floor would bear up. Nothing could be removed on account of the fierce heat was effectually beat back all who tried to enter the saloon.

After the fire had been somewhat controlled, the chief and John Ratliff went up stairs to better get at some of the embers which still smoked in inaccessible places. As they went through the room occupied by the Husses, Ratliff stumbled over something on the floor and stooping down was horrified to discover the remains of a man. He was at once carried down and it was seen that the body was that of the old ditch digger. The remains were taken at once to the McBride undertaking establishment and were given proper attention. The old man was not badly burned considering the severity if the fire but had apparently met death by suffocation. He had gotten up from the bed alright and had made an effort to get out the door where he fell suffocated. His hands and arms were somewhat burned as well as his back but his face was not in the least disfigured.

Concerning the old fellow but little is known. He has been about Bluffton for a number of years and works principally in the country, following the occupation of a ditch digger. Recently he has been working on the Joe Cobbum farm near the poor farm. He came to town several days ago and got on a spree to which he probably owes his death. At the time he was called by Hiram Huss he was so befuddled from drink that he could not realize the danger and could do nothing to help (*sic*) himself. As near as can be learned the old man came originally from Pittsburg and he has no relatives in this part of the country.

The building which burned was the property of W. W. Weisell, Sr., and was covered by insurance in the Bell agency. Paul Ersham owned the saloon and hi is put entirely out of business. Not a thing was saved and the interior is so badly burned that it an not be repaired. The fire started it is supposed from an overheated stove. At several places that night the gas came on very strongly and many people were obliged to get up and regulate the flow. This stove was

near a partition and could easily have caused the fire. Ersham carried \$500 on his saloon and fixtures, while Mr. Weisell had \$600 on the building.

Stayed at the Poor Farm.

Last Thursday Superintendent Ditzler came down from the poor farm and gave additional facts concerning the old man who was burned to death. Mr. Ditzler stated that for the past five years he has been staying at the poor farm during the winter months. A few days ago he was released to do a little work for Mr. Cobbum. He came from Philadelphia in which city he was born and has in his life time been all over the United States working for railroads mostly. He was employed in the construction of the Clover Leaf, Chicago & Erie and L. E. & W. As far as is known, his relatives are all dead. He was buried at the poor farm Friday at 10 o'clock.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. L, NO. 16  
Wednesday Evening, April 20, 1904. p. 7, col. 1, 2.*

#### OUT OF BUSINESS.

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Paul Ersham, whose saloon was destroyed by fire will not go into the business at the old stand again. It is not likely that the owner of the building will get it repaired until Paul's license will have expired. Ersham is entitled under the law to go to the auditor and have the proportionate part of license refunded that he has not used. Paul has not yet decided just what he will do.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. L, NO. 16  
Wednesday Evening, April 20, 1904. p. 2, col. 2.*

#### MYSTERIOUS SHOTS CAUSED EXCITEMENT

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The mysterious shots fired Thursday evening in the vicinity of the Wischaupt saloon on East Market street, continue to be as much of a puzzle as ever. No one seems to be able to throw the slightest light on the affair and it is probable that the truth will never be known in reference to this one affair at least. The man who claims to know all about it will not say a word and assumes an air of profound secrecy and cunning when approached on the subject.

There is not the slightest probability that any one was hurt in the mix up, whatever it was. Had there been a fatality or had some one been seriously hurt, there is small likelihood of it being kept so quiet.

It is popularly believed that some young fellows were out for a good time and in the exuberance of their spirits discharged a revolver two or three times simply to give the night policeman a chase for his money.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. XV, NO. 17  
Wednesday Evening, April 27, 1904. p. 3, col. 1.*

#### APPALICATION (*sic*) FOR LIQUOR LICENSE

To the citizens of the city of Bluffton and of Harrison township, Wells county, Indiana, and all others concerned:

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, a male inhabitant of said city of Bluffton and over the age of twenty-one years, will make application at the regular June term, 1904, of the board of commissioners of Wells county, for a li-

cense for one year to sell intoxicating liquors, consisting of spirituous, vinous and malt liquors, in a less quantity than a quart at a time, with the privilege of allowing the same to be drank on the premises where sold, which said premises are situated in Ward No. 2, of the city of Bluffton, in said county and state, and more particularly described as follows, to-wit: Being the first or ground floor room situated on the west side of the two story frame building situated on lot No. 163 as known and designated on the recorded plat of West Bluffton, as laid out and platted by John Studabaker, called Studabaker's town of West Bluffton. Said room is 18 feet wide and 43 feet long, having a glass front fronting on Washington street in said city and connected with no other room and is so arranged that the same can be securely closed and admission thereto prevented.

Said applicant will also ask privilege to operate a lunch counter in connection therewith.

19-3 LEWIS F. HIXON.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 35 NUMBER  
46 Wednesday, May 11, 1904. p. 4, col. 5; see also,  
Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 21  
Wednesday Evening, May 25, 1904. p. 2, col. 4.*

#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION

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To the citizens of Ward No. 1, City of Bluffton, Harrison Township, Wells County, Indiana:

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, a male inhabitant of the city of Bluffton, Wells county, Indiana, will make application at the June term of the Board of Commissioners upon the following described premises, to-wit: The ground floor of the "Centliver Building," which is a brick building fronting on Market street, having glass and sash doors and windows in the front and a door in the rear leading into a yard: That said room occupies the entire ground floor of said building and commences at the southwest corner of lot No. 42, as known and designated on the recorded plat of the town (now city) of Bluffton, thence running north 79 feet, then east 17 feet, thence south 79 feet, thence west 17 feet to the place of beginning.

That said room is without partitions and is not connected with any other room or business.

19-3 JOHN HASS, Applicant.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 35 NUMBER  
46 Wednesday, May 11, 1904. p. 4, col. 4.*

#### Saloon in the Street.

The furniture of the Nickel Plate saloon was set out on the sidewalk this afternoon by Constable Crouse, who operated on an order from Justice Walbert's court. The Centilver (*sic*)

Brewing Co. got possession of the building several days ago by a suit in circuit court and the furniture was set out for that reason. The ownership of the stuff is disclaimed by Owen Allen and by Joe Hartman and as neither will take care of it the stuff will stand on the street unless some one else takes it. The bottled goods was taken to the city hall for preservation.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 35 NUMBER  
46 Wednesday, May 11, 1904. p. 5, col. 5.*

NEW MAN TO  
RUN THE PLACE

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John Haas Will Ask for License  
to Open Up Old Nickle Plate  
Saloon.  
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The saloon formerly conducted by Forrest Faylor and Joe Hartman in the Centliver building on Market street will again be put in operation if John Haas can secure a license. He has made application to the board of commissioners asking for a license to conduct the place and will start up for himself if the permit is granted him. Haas at the present time is employed as a bartender for J. C. McClelland. Constable William Crouse has been busy today with a force of men putting the contents of the building out in the street under the orders of the court. The case has been presented in the courts in the past few weeks in perhaps a dozen different ways but seems far from a settlement as yet. In fact it is pretty hard to say who does own the building. In the eyes of the law, Forrest Faylor in whose name the license was taken out, is the owner and he can have no power to transfer this license.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 19  
Wednesday Evening, May 11, 1904. p. 1, col. 3.*

HARTMAN-ALLEN CASE  
NOW ON IN COURT

The attention of the circuit court today was given over chiefly to hearing the evidence in the case of Elmer E. Storms vs. the Stevenson Oil company. Storms is suing to recover a penalty from the oil company for failing to drill out the lease on thirty acres of ground as had been agreed upon in the lease. A number of attorneys from out of the city were present in court to take part in the controversy.

The suit to establish the sanity of Strawder McBride has been dismissed and all the costs taxed to the petitioners.

This afternoon was begun the trial of a case which promises to use up most of the remaining days of the term in its hearing. It is the case of Owen Allen vs. Joe Hartman to set aside a conveyance. This case has attracted widespread attention and presents some peculiar legal complications. Since the filing of the case there have been daily developments of a nature to cause a great deal of comment.

Allen, in his complaint, alleges that on February 25 of this year, Joe Harman, then running the Nickel Plate saloon, deeded the saloon, license and fixtures together with the stock to Allen. In return he was to receive an eighty acre farm located north of the city and Allen assume the debts of the saloon which were to amount to \$600 or \$700. There was a mortgage on the farm for \$1200 and Allen in turn gave Hartman a mortgage of \$1,100 on the saloon to offset this. The farm was, in this transaction, valued at about \$3,500.

Allen, in his complaint, alleges that the trade he saw was that he had been duped and offered to trade back, in fact demanded that the trade be made back. He says that Hartman refused to accept the saloon back and declared that he would abide by the trade. He says that he was defrauded out of his farm and that fraudulent methods were used in making the trade. Allen claims that when the deed for the farm was made he was drunk and that he had been made drunk in order that the deal might be effected.

Since the saloon has been closed up, either side refusing to

take possession of it, there have been a number of suits in the justices' courts brought against Hartman. Allen was to have assumed all debts but he claims that he was misinformed as to the amount that was falling due against the place. Recently the owner of the building brought suit for possession for non-payment of rent and the fixtures were set out in the street. Allen says that on the day the goods were to be set out Louis Centliver (*sic*), who owned them, offered him a thousand dollars to take possession of them and conduct the business.

Allen claims that with the \$1,200 mortgage against the stuff, this would have left him but \$200 in the hole, not counting the loss of his farm which was worth to him clear about \$2,800. A. W. Hamilton and W. H. Eichhorn and others are appearing for Allen while C. E. Sturgis and F. C. Dailey are Hartman's attorneys.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 22  
Wednesday Evening, June 1, 1904. p. 1, col. 1, 2.*

WHO GETS THE 80 ACRES?

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Celebrated Nickle-Plate Saloon Case  
Now on Trial in Circuit Court  
Before Judge Vaughn.  
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On February 25 Owen Allen bought of Joe Hartman the furniture, fixtures and stock of what was known as the Nickle Plate saloon on West Market street. By the contract of sale he was to give in exchange his eighty acre farm, a mortgage on the saloon for \$1,200 and assume the debts on the place, which it is said have since been found to amount to \$700. There was a \$1,200 mortgage on the farm which he traded and that was to be offset by the mortgage given by Allen on the saloon.

In a few days Allen wanted to go back on the deal, claiming that he had bought the saloon while under the influence of liquor and had paid an outrageous price for it. Hartman said that Allen had paid only what he could have sold it to others for and would not trade back. Each disclaimed ownership and neither would pay the rent on the building nor the outstanding debts. The stock was siezed by creditors and the Centliver company got possession of the room throwing the fixtures out in the street, About three dollars worth of bottled goods was taken to the city hall. The loss of the room, license and stock has depreciated the price of the once high class combination which made a saloon and today it is worth less than a third of its former value so that whoever the court decides owns the saloon will be a pretty big loser. There is an eight acre farm mixed up in the controversy, however, and that adds importance to the case.

A. W. Hamilton and M. W. Walbert are attorneys for Allen and Dailey, Simmons & Dailey for Hartman.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. TWELFTH YEAR, NO  
212 Wednesday, June 1, 1904. p. 2, col. 1.*

A TIGHT TOWN.

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Visit of Committee from W.C.T.U. to  
City Council Will Have Salu-  
tary Effect on Saloons.  
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In spite of the multiplicity of affair of state before the city council last night the solons were chivalric enough to give a

few minutes time to a deputation from the W.C.T.U. Five members of that organization, Mesdames L. S. Kapp, W. W. McBride, Frank McBride, S. A. Goodin, and D. A. Walmer were there to make a plea for Sabbath observance and to call especial attention to violations of the Nicholson law on Sunday. The spokeswoman, Mrs. Kapp, said that the disregard for the saloon men for the Sunday closing clause was so open as to be known to every person in Bluffton and asked the mayor and council to call a halt. It was an earnest plea and not an old stereotyped temperance lecture but the council hear it in silence and while the ladies were present there was no sign given as to whether the ladies' mission met with approval or not. In fact, everything about the room was discouraging. On the west side of the room there was a pile of bottled goods, remnants of the Joe Hartman saloon, in one corner there was a confiscated slot machine, and on the treasurer's desk there was a dice box and dice, captured in some raid. The properties made the council room look like a stage setting for Ten Nights in a Bar Room.

When the committee left Mr. Morris said that he was heartily in favor of granting them what they asked as he knew the saloons had been running practically wide open on Sundays. The mayor said that if the people of Bluffton wanted a tight town they would get it. Some of the saloon men, he said, had become too bold. They had taken advantage of leniency and it was about time to shut down on them. Two men opened their saloons Sunday morning and ran wide open until nine o'clock at night to the mayor's positive knowledge and this was going a little too far.

Word has gone out today in some way that the town is to be "tightened up" and that any bar tender caught in a saloon on Sunday or any proprietor selling drinks will get the benefit of the severest penalty prescribed in the Nicholson bill.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. TWELFTH YEAR, NO 321 [s/b 213] Thursday, June 2, 1904. p. 2, col. 4.*

#### SALOON MEN ORGANIZE.

Editor of Our Standard, Trying to Interest Bluffton Men in Retail Dealers Association.

Wells county saloon men are to be organized under the Indiana Retail Liquor Dealers' association and Phillip F. Heise and Dr. J. F. Callen, of Indianapolis, are trying to get them interested in the organization. Mr. Callen is the editor of "Our Standard" the state organ of the retailers, who came here from working at Marion. A year or two ago Bluffton and Wells county saloon men all belonged to the Knights of Fidelity, but for some time that lodge has had a very small following in the state.

The object of this organization work is to get the saloon men of Indiana together for defensive and offensive work along legislative lines. An effort will possibly be made at the next meeting of the legislature to knock the Nicholson law. It is not exactly to their liking and in disposing of it some hand may be taken in the state election this coming fall. The prohibitionists of the state are also anxious to knock out the Nicholson law, as many weak places have been found in it, and then most prohibitionists prefer local option in preference to the present law. The state prohibitionists believe that the next legislature will either dispense with the above law and adopt local option or greatly strengthen the law by strong amendment. With both the

liquor men and the temperance people of the state working to knock out the Nicholson law it looks like a radical change in temperance legislation is about due for the state.

Politics will cut little figure in the new organization, as results are sought and the liquor men say that if it is necessary to tour the state they will do it. The new reorganization is about equally divided between the democrats and republicans.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. TWELFTH YEAR, NO 214 Friday, June 3, 1904. p. 2, col. 4.*

#### ALLEN GETS HIS FARM.

Judge Vaughn Decides Against Joe Hartman in Nickle Plate Saloon Case.

Judge Vaughn gave his decision this morning in the Allen-Hartman saloon case and under the decision Allen gets his farm back and Hartman will take his saloon fixtures stored in McDowell's barn.

The court set the sale aside for two reasons. First that the consideration for the farm was wholly inadequate and second, for the reason that the sale was void on account of Hartman selling the liquor license which really belonged to Forest Faylor. The court held that Hartman could not sell any right to Allen to sell liquor yet this right, as evidenced by the license in Faylor's name, went in at a value of about \$2,000 in the deal. The sale, or pretended sale of this license was illegal and sufficient to cancel the whole deal.

Judge Vaughn found that the saloon was actually worth \$1,700 and that the farm which Allen traded was worth \$3,200 but that there was a mortgage of \$1,200 leaving the farm worth \$2,000. The saloon debts were \$570. Allen, he said, paid the \$2,000 farm and \$1,200 worth of notes secured by chattel mortgage on the saloon and Hartman got the farm for a saloon which was worth, deducting the indebtedness only \$950.

The court held that even though Allen took the saloon and ran it for a month his acts could not ratify an illegal and void contract.

Hamilton, Walbert and Eichhorn were attorneys for the plaintiff and Dailey, Simmons & Dailey and Sturgis & Stine for the defendant. A new trial may be taken as a matter of right.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. TWELFTH YEAR, NO 215 Saturday, June 4, 1904. p. 2, col. 1.*

#### Anti-Saloon Sunday.

Yesterday was Anti-Saloon Sunday in Bluffton in more ways than one. In addition to being a "tight" town because of Mayor Mock's edict there were a number of temperance workers of state note in the city. They were Rev. John W. Richards, Rev. John W. Lewis, and Rev. Dr. Heltt, of Indianapolis. Rev. Richards delivered temperance sermons in the United Presbyterian church of this city and Murray; Rev. Lewis preached temperance at the First M. E. church and at Epworth Chapel, and Dr. Heltt preached in the morning at the Presbyterian church. Sermons were also preached on temperance by the noted speakers at the Baptist church, Rev. Richards in the morning and Rev. Heltt at night.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. TWELFTH YEAR, NO 216 Monday, June 6, 1904 p. 2, col. 4.*

#### Prohibition Meeting.

There will be a meeting of the prohibitionists of Wells county on Wednesday, June 8th, at Studabaker's hall above Rogers & Cole's hardware store. There will be a preliminary business meeting at ten o'clock a. m. to reorganize the county central committee and to attend to such other business as may come before the meeting. At 1:30 p. m. the meeting will be addressed by teh Hon. Joseph E Cowgill, of Indianapolis on teh political issues of the day. Mr. Cowgill is the prohibition candidate for State Statistician. Mr. Cowgill is a speaker of more than ordinary ability with many flattering enconiums from the press and pulpit of the country. He will give an interesting and instructive address. People of all creeds and politics are kindly invited to attend and hear a kindly, dispassionate discussion of the liquor problem. The ladies and ministers are especially invited to be present. We urgently request all prohibitionists to be present. By order of the Committee.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. TWELFTH YEAR, NO 216 Monday, June 6, 1904 p. 2, col. 3.*

#### THE HOP ALE CASE.

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Marshal Crosbie drove out to Mt. Zion on Friday and brought Oliver Higgins, of hop ale fame, before the court to answer to about half a dozen charges of selling liquor without a license. Higgins stoutly disclaimed all knowledge of the fact that hop ale was an intoxicating beverage. He claimed that he purchased it as a soft drink and sold it as such. However, he must certainly have seen its effects upon his customers, and there were many.

The six cases against him were for selling liquor without a license. To three of them he was ready to enter a plea of guilty with the understanding that he quit the business and remain good for a while. Higgins did not have the money to pay but was let go for a time under the promise that he should eventually return and make good the amounts of his fines.

Prosecutor Burns is the opinion, and there are many who hold to the same opinion, that the Mt. Zion joint is the fault of the breweries more than the people. He thinks that the breweries are working a smooth scheme to have their goods disposed of at this place.

There have been numerous attempts to dispose of beer under fancy titles at this place. As soon as one man was arrested and put out of business, another would start and they have caused the officers a great deal of trouble. A few more good heavy fines with the offenders brought to speedy justice may go a long way toward discouraging future attempts of this nature.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner VOL. LV, NO. 23 Wednesday Evening, June 8, 1904. p. 3, col. 2.*

#### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Four liquor licenses were granted by the county commissioners at their session Monday a. m. Those who were given the privilege for the ensuing year were Ike Gehring, John Haas, Tom Fox and Frank Hixson. Haas will open a saloon

in the building formerly occupied by Joe Hartman known as the Nickel Plate. Ike Gehring wanted the privilege of running a lunch room and card tables but the commissioners refused to grant him these rights.

The board has an all week session before it and they are expecting to do more actual work than at any session held in recent times. The C., B. & C. taxes will be ordered placed on the tax duplicates which will make them collectable next year. These taxes amount to about \$1 on the hundred.

Four new gravel roads petitions have been presented since the board was in session last term. This makes thirteen gravel roads to be constructed during the summer and means a great improvement for Wells county. A petition for a road on the county line between Allen and Wells counties will be acted upon.

John Mock has a petition before the board asking that prisoners confined in the county jail be made to work on the streets. The particulars of this petition were presented to the readers of the Banner some time ago. Just what action in this respect will be taken remains to be seen.

Final action will be taken some time during the week on the Bennett, Eckhart and Markley free gravel roads.

The viewers report on the Snyder ditch has been filed and this will be brought before the board some time previous to their adjournment.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner VOL. LV, NO. 23 Wednesday Evening, June 8, 1904. p. 5, col. 2.*

Ol Higgins, the Mt. Zion hop ale man, pleaded guilty Friday afternoon to three charges of selling liquor without a license and was fined \$10 in each case. Eight other indictments against him were continued on his promise to quit business. Ralph Strow and J. J. Roy were each fined \$10 and costs, the former for keeping gaming room and the latter for allowing minors to play pool. Simular (*sic*) cases against Ol Ratliff and Bud Connet were dismissed.

The furniture for John Haas' new saloon in the Centilver building on West Market street was installed Saturday and he will be ready for business as soon as the commissioners grant his license. His application will come before the commissioners at their regular meeting Monday. Haas has bought entirely new furniture and takes the old Hartman saloon room, which was vacated because of the Allen-Hartman law suit.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 35 NUMBER 50 Wednesday, June 8, 1904. p. 5, col. 4.*

#### OWEN ALLEN GETS HIS FARM BACK

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Much interest was manifested in the case of Allen vs. Hartman which was decided by Judge Vaughn in the circuit court Saturday a. m. In this case the judge handed down a written opinion which covered four typewritten pages and which set forth in unmistakable terms the opinion of the court on the transaction.

Owen Allen brought suit some time ago in the circuit court to set aside a deed for an 80-acre farm located north of the city, given by him to Joe Hartman in exchange for teh Nickel Plate saloon. The complaint set forth that the deed to the farm had been obtained by fraud and that there was no consideration.

A. W. Hamilton, M. W. Walbert and W. H. Eichhorn appeared for Allen, while C. E. Stugis and Dailey, Simmons & Dailey were the attorneys who handled Hartman's side of the case. Three days were consumed in the introduction of the evidence and in the arguments before the court.

Judge Vaughn, in his finding, declared that the contract should be canceled, the deed set aside and the mortgage and notes given should be held void. The costs of the suit were to fall upon the defendants. In his findings he showed that while a man is supposed to dispose of his property at any figure he may so desire, in extreme cases, where the lack of consideration is so evident that a person, on being informed of the facts, is moved to exclaim at the apparent lack of all consideration, the deed may be set aside. There was also evidence of fraudulent intentions in the effort made to transfer the rights in a liquor license held by Forest Faylor to Allen. The law does not contemplate that any right vested in a license of this kind may be transferred. The attempt to do so was sufficient evidence of fraud, the court held, to set aside the contracts.

In showing the lack of consideration Judge Vaughn gave some figures which he had gathered as the evidence was introduced. These when footed up, showed that after the transfer of the property, Allen was \$250 in debt and had absolutely no capital. Hartman, on the other hand, was \$3,200 ahead of the game. This is pretty shrewd work and is a way of making money faster than even the oil men can do it.

Now that the case has been finished and Allen has been restored to his farm, Hartman is figuring out where he is at. During the time the matter was in controversy, the saloon has been disposed of a piece at a time. The owner of the building brought suit for possession and the saloon was dumped out on the sidewalk. Part of it reposes in a barn while some of the rest is at the city building where it was taken for safe keeping. Hartman has no place to run and he seems to be the loser by a big sum just at the present time.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 23  
Wednesday Evening, June 8, 1904. p. 6, col. 3.*

#### AFTER SLOT MACHINES.

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Court of Inquiry Held to Learn  
Whether Vera Cruz Saloon  
Men Still Run Slot Machine.

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A court of inquiry was held by Justice Walbert this morning and as a result Marshal Crosbie drove to Vera Cruz this afternoon to place under arrest the proprietors of the two thirst resorts there. Officers would not state what was the nature of the court of inquiry but one of the witnesses said that the deputy prosecutor was trying to find out if Gottlieb Rolle and John Lobsiger still kept their slot machines in operation at Newville. The two saloonists were each fined \$25 and costs during the closing week of circuit court for running slot machines and paid cold cash for the offense. The law provides that the machines are to be confiscated but evidently this was not done.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. TWELFTH YEAR, NO  
227 Saturday, June 18, 1904 p. 2, col. 3.*

#### TOO MUCH FOR TWO MEN.

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#### Woman Full of Beer Makes Things Lively at the No. 10.

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The Number Ten saloon was the scene of a pretty warm physical contest last night in which two or three men were given about all that they wanted to do to handle a woman, Mrs. William Spencer, living on the South Side, was the woman and the cause of the trouble was the cropping out of an old grudge which she bore toward William Russell, bartender in the saloon. He says that she was angry because he had refused to let her work about his house such as washing, etc. Yesterday she was employed to do the family washing for Beryl Hullinger and wife and they paid her a dollar for the job before they left for a trip to Huntington. She did the washing, but at the same time, according to Russell, she was drinking beer which was purchased for her by a certain man. When she had the washing completed she hunted trouble with Russell. She first appeared in the side door of the saloon, he says and began to call him all kinds of vile names. He says that he put her out once but that she would not stay out and returned to renew the trouble. He put her out again and not only put her out but threw her down and held her. She grabbed a beer bottle and tried to hit him, but he took it away from her and kept it in one hand while he held her down. She screamed at the top of her voice and in order to drown the noise Harry Scotton placed his hand securely over her mouth and he and Russell were both engaged in holding her for a time. They let her up on her promising to go away, but she returned and threw two beer bottles through a glass door in the rear, shattering two panes of glass. Pete Brickley, who was helping in the saloon finally induced her to desist and she started away. She returned however, in search of her dollar of wash money which she had lost in the mix-up. It could not be found. Mrs. Spencer was bent on causing further when Marshal Crosbie arrived and took her in charge and escorted her up the street. Prosecutor Matlack said that affidavits would be filed this morning. In the struggle Russell had a shirt torn almost entirely from his back and had a watch chain broken into pieces. Mrs. Spencer's dress was torn. She claimed in her story to the prosecutor and Mayor Mock that she had been thrown and kicked from the saloon, but Russell claimed that he did not strike a blow and did not use any more violence than was necessary to protect himself and the property.

Mrs. Spencer filed affidavits this morning charging Russell and Harry Scotton with assault and battery and their trials were expected to have been heard this afternoon but Scotton could not be found so the cases were continued until Friday morning at nine o'clock. Affidavits will also be filed against Mrs. Spencer for the disturbance she created.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. TWELFTH YEAR, NO  
229 Tuesday, June 21, 1904 p. 2, col. 4.*

drunk woman at Number Ten saloon  
BB 6/22/1904 p. 5, col. 4.

To many people here last Saturday came cards announcing the fact that on July 1 Joseph W. Hartman had at Fort Wayne been declared bankrupt. The cards bore the further information that S. V. Harris had been appointed referee in bankruptcy and that July 20 had been set as the date for a meeting of creditors at Fort Wayne at which time claims might be entered and proven.

Further information on the cards was that the assets in evidence amounted to \$131, while Mr. Hartman claimed as exempt \$431. The liabilities are \$1,455.29 all told. As near as can be seen from a glance at these figures, there is little use for the creditors of Mr. Hartman to go to Fort Wayne. He claims the exemption by law up to \$600, while the assets are only \$431. This looks like a goose egg for all the creditors and they might just as well save their car fare to Fort Wayne and back for all they could get.

Joe Hartman was the defendant in the suit brought by Owen Allen to set aside a transfer of an eighty-acre farm for a saloon in this city. When the case was finished in the courts, it was found that the saloon had in the meantime been set out on the street and the property scattered around the city in barns. It was worth comparatively nothing after having been so handled. The court held that Hartman was not entitled to the farm and he found himself without any business or anything that he could turn into money and realize anything upon.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 28  
Wednesday Evening, July 13, 1904. p. 3, col. 3.*

#### BARTENDER FINED

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Herb Stout was arrested on Friday evening by Marshal Crosbie on a charge of selling liquor to minors. He was arraigned before Mayor

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 29  
Wednesday Evening, July 20, 1904. p. 3, col. 2.*

#### MAY BUILD A BLOCK.

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Dave Voltz Here Looking up Chances to Build Today.

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Dave Voltz has disposed of his saloon business at Decatur and was here Monday for

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. July 27, 1904. p. 8,  
col. 3.*

#### ARRESTED FOR DRUNK.

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Two Petroleum Residents Fall into the Clutches of the Law.

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Marshal Crosbie arrested two fellows from Petroleum Saturday evening on a charge of intoxication. They were released upon the promise that they would go to work and return here for trial when wanted. Mr. Crosbie said Monday morning that he would drive out after them some time during the day.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. July 27, 1904. p. 8,  
col. 4.*

#### TOO MUCH JUICE.

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Pitiful Spectacle of an Aged Man on a Drunk.

An aged Poneto citizen came to town early this morning and in a short time managed to get pretty well filled up on booze. He fell on the sidewalk near the Nash saloon and bruised his face badly. Friends took him in charge and gave him a bed and a place to sleep off the effects of the jag.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. July 27, 1904. p. 8,  
col. 5.*

#### WILL GO TO GRAND JURY.

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BB 8/17/1904 p. 5, col. 1.

#### KEYS TURNED OVER.

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The troubles of the Manhattan Cafe are about to be brought to a close. Since Monday the keys of the institution have been in the possession of the city marshal and the courts will in all probability make a final settlement of the difficulties. Some few days ago J. F. Brice, the owner of the building where the saloon is located, brought suit before M. W. Walbert for possession on the grounds that the tenant had failed to pay the rent.

Monday, any Marshal Crosbie stated next morning, he went to Mrs. Ashley and Winnie Ulmer and demanded the keys of the place Tuesday morning they were in his possession. The furniture and fixtures will likely be taken away by the firms who installed them in the first place. They are all heavily mortgaged and the original owners have the first claim on this stuff. The booze still in the saloon will according to the marshal, be disposed of to some to the saloons around here or to any person who will purchase the stuff. The saloon was at one time well stocked and it is well furnished in every way but it has never been a paying venture.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 35  
Wednesday Evening, August 31, 1904. p. 4, col. 4.*

#### VIOLATED THE LAW

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Ike Gehring Was Fined for Harboring Frank Cotton After Hours.

This morning before Justice Walbert was heard the trial of the case of the State vs. Ike Gehring, proprietor of the Bank saloon. The affidavit filed against him charges him with violating the Nicholson law by allowing persons in his place of business after 11 o'clock. It will be remembered that some time ago George Cotton made a raid and claimed to have found his son Frank in Ike's place about 1 o'clock in the morning, contrary to the statutes made and provided.

At the time it was stated that Mr. Cotton was preparing to file an affidavit and he finally did so. Gehring when arraigned, entered a plea of guilty and was fined \$10 and the costs, the usual amount in such cases. The fine and costs were paid and the case has finally been disposed of. Cotton at that time filed affidavits against his brother Carl, charging him with assault and battery. The cases have not as yet been called for trial and have been postponed from time to time. Carl took a horse and buggy away from his brother,



who was pretty much intoxicated, and is accusing of having used undue force in doing so.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. L, NO. 45  
Wednesday Evening, November 9, 1904. p. 1, col. 4.*

The commissioners met Monday morning in regular session with a whole lot of work stacked up before them. The first work done by them was hearing the application for liquor licenses and two were issued. The applicants were H. K. Bulger and Gene Gamel. Bulger is asking for a license to run a saloon in the rooms formerly occupied by the Manhattan Cafe and Gamel will start a saloon Wednesday in the old Christman restaurant room. This makes four saloons all in a row on East Market street.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. L, NO. 45  
Wednesday Evening, November 9, 1904. p. 5, col. 6.*

Lem Stout saloon theft  
BB 11/9/1904 p. 8, col. 3.  
liquor license application  
BB 11/9/1904 p. 8, col. 6.

liquor license applications  
BB 11/23/1904 p. 2, col. 4.

NUMBER TEN  
GOES UP IN  
SMOKE

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Passersby discovered smoke pouring from the roof of the Number Ten saloon last night at 9 o'clock and a quick investigation revealed the fact that the place was on fire and burning briskly. An alarm was turned in and the fire department was soon on the scene and throwing water.

Those who discovered the fire say that it was located in the upper rooms over the saloon and that the place was afire in two places. A bucket brigade hastily organized, at one time had the fire nearly under control but it soon got ahead of them, the old building burning like tinder, and the services of the fire hose were required in extinguishing the blaze.

Just as soon as possible, all the stock was removed from the saloon and from the boarding house just north. None of the furniture was damaged and nearly every bit of the stock was removed from the saloon. Mr. Hullinger stated this morning that his wife carried a small amount of insurance on the building but had none on the stock.

A considerable quantity of the furniture had been removed from the building several days ago and taken to Huntington. It was the intention of Mr. and Mrs. Hullinger to move to Huntington as soon as the saloon license expired.

A new building was to have been erected in the spring and the fire of last night perhaps only hastened its construction. The work of tearing out the old place will be commenced at once and the basement may be excavated during the winter season if the weather will permit. Just as soon as possible in the spring a new brick building will be erected where the old frame has stood for a number of years.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Banner. VOL. NO. Wednesday,  
December 7, 1904. p. 1, col. 1.*

JOHN DOE  
ARRESTED

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It Was the Old, Old Story  
of Too Much Booze and  
Hilarity.

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John Doe, once a famous citizen of Bluffton but now seldom met with, was arrested last night on the old charge of intoxication. Marshal Crosbie found John in a serious state and to save him from freezing to death or getting run over by the cars, run (*sic*) him in. He was hailed before Mayor Mock, who assessed a fine of one dollar and the costs which were paid.

John Doe claims that he comes of a good family and that he hadn't taken a drop of red eye for something like fifteen years until yesterday when he came to this city. As soon as he struck town he met a cousin and the two started out to see the sights. They saw all there was to see and in their vain efforts to find more, got badly entangled. Then the cousin left his relative to his fate and his fate was the police court.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 51  
Wednesday Evening, December 21, 1904. p. 1, col. 6.*

AFTER OLIVER'S PARTNER

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Marshal Crosbie and William Fox drove to Petroleum on Tuesday and it is said that they were armed with a warrant for the arrest of Gurt White, a partner of Wesley Oliver, who was arrested Monday. Oliver was arrested on a charge of selling intoxicating liquor without a license. It is claimed that he sold hop ale.

White is his partner in the little restaurant which they conduct at that place and since Oliver's arrest, the affidavit has been filed against White as well for complicity in the business. It is said that the charge is on the same specific grounds as the one upon which his partner Oliver was arrested.

At 3 o'clock the warrant had not been served. White was then either in Berne or on his way from Berne to Petroleum with a traveling man whom he drove to that place. It is expected that he will be placed under arrest upon his return to Petroleum.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 51  
Wednesday Evening, December 21, 1904. p. 4, col. 2.*

Mr. and Mrs. Beryl Hullinger will begin early in the spring the work of constructing a hotel building on the site of the old No. 10 saloon, just as was stated some time ago in The Banner. The building will be along strictly modern lines and will be erected at a cost of several thousand dollars.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LV, NO. 51  
Wednesday Evening, December 21, 1904. p. 4, col. 3.*

LIST OF INDICTMENTS

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Nearly all the arrests have been made on the indictments

made out by the special grand jury a short time ago. A big time is expected when the day of reckoning comes. Out of the thirty-two indictments all but three or four were against saloon men and nearly all of those against the saloonists were for keeping up their screens. A very few were for allowing people in their saloons on election day.

In the list of indictments returned appear the following names and the number of indictments against each of them: Kap Bulger, 5; John Bixler, 1; Joel Baumgardner, 4; Fred Blackwood, 6; William Ewing, Vera Cruz, 1; Tom Fox, 3; Ike Gehring, 3; Gene Gamble, 2; John Haas, 3; Tony Toffer, 2; Frank Hixson, 2; Morris Lipinsky, 4; Dr. C. L. Landfair, 1; Fred Marsh, 2; J. E. McClelland, 3; William Nash, 5; Icy Penrod, 1; Ed Shoemaker 2; Sherm Stanton, 3; Jacob Stout, 1; Harve Thornburg, 2; and Ed Wisehaupt, 3.

The indictment against Landfair is for his part in the Beeler case. That again Hoffer charges intoxication and assault and battery and that against Icy Penrod charges her with maintaining a house of ill-fame. Whether the parties named in the indictments for violation of the Nicholson law will fight their cases or not, remains to be seen. Under the Nicholson law, three affidavits sustained within a period of two years is sufficient to take the license away from a saloon man and as some of them have as high as five counts returned against them, they may be expected to be on the anxious seat.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL, LV, NO. 52  
Wednesday Evening, December 28, 1904. p. 4, col. 3.*

#### CIRCUIT COURT NEWS.

Day by day some of those against whom the last special session of the grand jury filed indictments, are coming to court, quietly pleading guilty to one count, paying their fine and having the rest of the cases dismissed. Since Saturday Morris Lipinsky, Joel Baumgardner and John Haas have each pleaded guilty to one count, paid their \$20 and costs and had the balance of the cases against them dismissed. In the meantime a force of carpenters and mechanics has been busy at the various saloons and there is not a screen remaining that does not show the entire interior of the place after closing hours.

Several other matters were taken care of by the court on Monday. . . .

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LVI. NO. 1  
Wednesday Evening, January 4, 1905. p. 5, col. 3.*

#### CIRCUIT COURT NEWS.

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Lem Stout appeared that morning and entered a plea of guilty to the charge of violating the Nicholson law. He was fined \$20 and the costs and the other case against him was dismissed.

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Icy Penrod appeared before Judge Vaughn Saturday p. m. and pleaded guilty to the charge of conducting a road house. Miss Icy has been operating a joint south of the city along the interurban. For the offense she was fined \$25 and the costs which amount she paid in full together with the court costs.

John Haas appeared and entered a plea of guilt to the charge of violating the Nicholson law and he got the customary fine, \$20 and the costs. This he paid. Most of those

against whom affidavits were filed are appearing and entering pleas although some of them have secured the services of attorneys and are apparently making preparations to fight the cases.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LVI. NO. 1  
Wednesday Evening, January 4, 1905. p. 7, col. 3.*

#### ANOTHER TEMPERANCE BILL.

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There is to be still another temperance bill in the house. It will be the most drastic and will result in the bitterest fight from the saloon element of any that has been introduced.

The bill will be prepared in Indianapolis and will provide for local option, providing for voting on saloons at stated periods with the Australian ballot system.

Ed W. Clark, editor of the Patriot Phalanx, the official prohibition organ of Indiana, and secretary of the state central committee of the prohibition party, stated Wednesday that such a bill would be prepared. He said:

"I am more than pleased with the apparent moral tone of the present administration. Of course, I believe that nothing short of total prohibition would be the best thing but there are things that can be expected from the legislature that would make the burden of the people much lighter.

"There are two serious objections to the Nicholson law as it now stands.

"One is that when a man signs a remonstrance against a saloon he makes himself liable to be a defendant in a law suit, and makes it possible that he will be sued and will have to pay a heavy part of the costs in the case. This should not be.

"The other is that the saloon keeper has the vote for his saloon of the people who do not care to express themselves either way. When a petition is circulated against a saloon \_\_\_\_\_ men who do not care to sign the remonstrance for business reasons. They do not favor saloons. They are often church men, but for business reasons they do not care to remonstrante for against a saloon.

"The best and the only good remedy for these faults of the law would be the passing of a local option amendment for the law. Then men would vote in ordinary elections, and they would really vote their sentiments. They would not be afraid of business boycotts and other results that they now fear.

"Such an amendment would mean that there would be prohibition in spots in Indiana. This would not be as good as general prohibition, but it would be better than none at all."

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LVI. NO 4  
Wednesday Evening, January 25, 1905. p. 7, col. 2.*

#### SALOONKEEPERS WARNED.

The Indiana supreme court handed down a decision a few days ago of more than ordinary importance to liquor dealers as well as those who oppose the liquor traffic.

Under the law, as it has been for years, after two convictions of a licensed saloonkeeper, the circuit court or in certain cities, the mayor may revoke the license. After three convictions the authority named shall do so, there being no discretion left in the matter.

In the recent decision the proprietor of a saloon must answer in person for illegal acts of his agents or bartenders. As heretofore most of the liquor law convictions were

found against bartenders, and thus did not affect the record of proprietor, this decision, it will be seen, will enforce more caution on the part of the latter, as their license to do business would be jeopardized by disregard of the law.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LVI. NO 4  
Wednesday Evening, January 25, 1905. p. 7, col. 3.*

APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR  
LICENSE.

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To the citizens of Poneto, Bluffton and Harrison township, Wells county, Indiana, and all whom it may concern:

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, a \_\_\_l citizen of Harrison township, Wells county, Indiana, and over the age of 21 years, will make at the March term, 1905, of the board of commissioners, of Wells county, Indiana, for a license for one year to sell intoxicating liquors, consisting of spiritous, vinous and malt liquors in less quantities than a quart at a time with privilege of allowing the same to be drank on the premises where sold, which said premises are situated on lot No. 64, of Cook's addition to the town of Poneto, Harrison township, Wells county, Indiana, and are more particularly described as follows: Being in the room of the one-story frame building, situated on the northeast corner of the said lot No. 64 as designated on the recorded plat of Cook's addition to the town of Poneto and designated and described as follows to-wit: Commencing at the northwest corner of said lot, thence west twenty feet, thence south 30 feet, thence east 20 feet, thence north 30 feet to the place of beginning. Said room fronts immediately upon Walnut street at the junction with Cherry street in said town of Poneto and the room is twenty feet wide and thirty feet long and the interior measurements has no partitions, has two glass windows in front and has a double door in center of said front end and facing said Walnut street, and said room is connected with no other business and is so arranged that the same can be securedly closed and locked and admission therefore excluded. Said petitioner will also ask the privilege of running a lunch counter in said room.

JACOB STOUT,

5-3 Applicant.

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APPLICATION FOR  
LIQUOR LICENSE

To the citizens of Nottingham township, Wells county, Indiana.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will make application at the March term, 1905, of the board of commissioners of Wells county, Ind., for a license for one year to sell, barter and give away for the purpose of gain, intoxicating liquors, consisting of spiritous, vinous and malt liquors in a less quantity than a quart at a time with the privilege of suffering and allowing the same to be drunk on the premises where sold, bartered or given away, which said premises are situated in the town of Petroleum, Nottingham township, Wells county, Ind., and described as follows, to-wit: Being a room 16 feet wide and 48 feet long, in the east side of two-story frame building on ground floor, situated on lot No. 2, as known and described on the recored plat of Petroleum, Nottingham township, Wells county, Ind. Said room has a glass and sash windows and doors in front which face the Air Line gravel road, has no partition, is not connected with any other business, and it so arranged that it may be securely locked and closed and admission thereto prevented, and so the entire interior may be seen from the

outside.

ORESTES DICKASON,

6-3 Applicant.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LVI, NO. 7  
Wednesday Evening, February 15, 1905. p. 2, col. 3.*

POLICE RAIDED JOINT  
OVER HARTMAN SALOON

Joe Hartman, \$20 fine; 20 days in jail.

Charles Bowers, \$20 fine.

Ida Shaw, \$20 fine; 20 days in jail.

Belle Shaw, \$1.00 fine.

That is the record which appeared on Mayor Mock's criminal docket Friday morning.

The fines and costs are the result of a raid that was made by Night Policeman Deam, and Marshal Crosbie at about 2 o'clock that morning.

While on his rounds Mr. Deam saw the quartette go upstairs to the rooms over the No. 5 saloon. He at once called the marshal to assist him and in a short time they entered the place. In the upstairs room they found the two girls hiding in a cramped little space behind a dresser. They were at once placed under arrest and the search for their companions continued.

The men could not be found in the room with the girls nor were they below in the saloon department. The search was continued to the cellar under the place and finally the two culprits wre seen lying flat on their stomachs in an old potato bin. All four were yanked from their hiding places and taken to the county jail.

Friday morning they were arraigned before the mayor on a charge of associating. As they had been caught dead to rights, there was no way for them to get out of their difficulty and all pleaded guilty. The mayor assessed fines as stated above. Hartman had been frequently warned by the officers but their warnings fell on unheeding ears and he was given a heavy fine. He begged like a good fellow, mentioning the fact that the did not want to disgrace his family but the mayor refused longer to relent and he is now in jail serving out his time. Ida Shaw had been up before and she was also given a jail sentence. Belle was up for the first time and for this reason her fine was made lighter.

One of the Shaw girls had just returned from Fort Wayne on a visit and she finds that her visit is likely to be prolonged. Neither of the girls had the money with which to pay their fine and they are in jail with Hartman.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LVI, NO. 7  
Wednesday Evening, February 15, 1905. p. 7, col. 4.*

INDICTMENTS WERE FAULTY

Court was very quiet Saturday, the judge being on the bench but a short time. About the only business done of interest to the public was on the criminal docket. A motion to quash the indictment in the case of the State vs. Fox, for placing screens to obstruct the view of the interior of his saloon was sustained. This motion was brought on a technicality. A similar motion was filed in the cases against E. J. Wischaupt. This motion was not acted upon, however.

It seems that the indictments returned by the special grand jury were faulty in some little particular that made it necessary to sustain a motion to quash. Some of the saloon men did not attempt to question the accuracy of the counts but appeared and entered pleas of guilty and were assessed a

fine by the court. The fines amounted in each case to \$20 and the costs. It is said that all of them could have been released had they desired to show fight.

Frank Ewing, of Vera Cruz, was one who pleaded guilty Saturday a. m. to the charge against him, it being the same as in the other cases, obstructing the view of the interior by screens. However, he entered a plea of guilty and got the usual assessment. Twenty dollars and the costs is taxed against him.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. LVI, NO. 7  
Wednesday Evening, February 15, 1905. p. 7, col. 1.*

ALL SALOON KEEPERS  
SIGNED AGREEMENT

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In Return for Dismissal of Eighteen  
Cases will Keep Saloons Closed on  
Days in Question.

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Every saloon keeper in the city has signed an agreement to keep his saloon closed on Decoration Day and other holidays on which there is a question as to the legality of selling intoxicants or having the saloons open, such agreement to remain in force until a decision is given by the supreme court on the point. In return for this agreement the prosecutor will dismiss from the docket the eighteen cases which were filed because saloons were open on Washington's Birthday, February 22nd.

The proposition to dismiss the cases in return for an agreement to close on the days in question was made Wednesday by the prosecuting attorney at the time the cases were continued, but all of the saloon keeper[s] would not agree to this at that time. Later when they fully considered the matter they said that this was a fair proposition to all concerned and all signed the agreement which was circulated yesterday and last night.

The prosecuting attorney made the agreement to dismiss the cases because the saloon keepers were really innocent of intending any violation of the law on the 22nd, if any law was violated. It is a question on which lawyers are divided and even the supreme court has to be appealed to.

By making the agreement the saloon keepers do not run further risk of fines for being open February 22nd and also will run no risks on any other days in question. They probably would not have cared to be open until the question was settled by the supreme court.

Carrell vs. Manhattan Oil Co. and Clark vs. Mounsey, dismissed.

William vs. Josephus Yarger, continued.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 37. NUMBER 36  
Wednesday, March 7, 1906. p. 8, col. 3.*

SAYS REMONSTRANCE IN  
FIRST WARD WILL WIN

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George Cotton may not have It Ready  
for Next Monday but will be  
Ready Time the Next Man  
Applies

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George W. Cotton says that the work on the remonstrance in the first ward is going on rapidly and that there is not a bit of doubt but what there will be enough signatures of

voters secured to make the document effective. There is some doubt yet whether the remonstrance can be made effective for this term of commissioners' court but by the next time any one in that ward applies it is expected to be in working order.

Joel Gehring and Peter Pierce apply for license at this term of commissioners' court, which opens Monday and if they get license the first ward will not be totally dry for a year anyway. Ed Shoemaker is another applicant at this term of court and Cotton says he will not be able to get license as he has recently discovered evidence against him. He also claims to have procured some strong evidence against Lem Stout Saturday and says it will be used if Stout applies for license again but if he does not apply it will not be used. A well known town drunkard was in the rear of Stout's saloon Saturday beastly drunk and liquor was carried out to him but this Cotton says was not Stout's fault as others were getting the liquor for him but the evidence was of a different character.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 38. NUMBER 52  
Wednesday, June 27, 1906. p. 1, col. 3.*

CLARK SALOON ROBBED  
OF SIXTY-FIVE DOLLARS.

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Left the Money on the Desk and in  
Two Minutes Sneak Thief Had it.  
Edd Campbell and John  
Payne Suspected  
of the Work.

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John Clark, who owns a saloon on South Main street, was robbed of \$65 Monday morning by a sneak thief and Jake Hurt was arrested on the charge of getting the money.

About half past eight Monday Clark had counted his cash on his desk in front of the screen and had it lying on the rear of the desk. He went to the back room but was gone only a minute and when he returned the money was missing. At the time he left the room there were several men sitting in the room at a table talking and while Clark was out one of them left. This was Hurt and he was instantly suspected of getting the money. Those in the saloon at the time were Charley McBride, John Bennet, Hurt, John Payne and Ed Campbell, the latter having come in while Clark was out.

There is a railing which separates the desk from the entrance and whoever got the money had to make a pretty long reach for it as he would have to reach over the railing which is high as a man's shoulder, and then reach back a distance of three feet. The money could have been reached easier by getting up on the cigar case and this the thief probably did.

Hurt stated before going out that he was going home and this he did, being arrested at his home on the South Side about two minutes after he got there, by Officer Fox. Hurt has been working at the Gehring saloon and at other places about town.

Examination of Hurt convinced the officers that he was not guilty of the crime and he was soon dismissed and then a search for Payne and Ed Campbell began. Campbell was found but Payne could not be located and therefore the belief is pretty strong that he got the money. Payne was in the saloon drunk and was standing near the cigar counter but inside the screen. When Campbell entered he did not go entirely to the saloon but merely looked around the

screen and then went out. He denied knowing anything about the money.

Campbell was arrested by Crosbie at home in bed. He made a number of contradictory statements, among others that he had not been in the Clark saloon Monday, and that he had not been with John Payne. Crosbie knew that he had been in the Clark saloon twice and that he had also seen him going through the alley south of the court house in company with Payne.

Very little damaging evidence has developed against John Payne in the affair. John Vore, jr., a hostler employed by Dr. Horton, says that he met Payne about nine o'clock opposite the Bliss Hotel on Main street and that Payne was drunk and flashed a roll of bills. Vore says that Payne offered him a five dollar bill if he would not tell that he, Payne, intended to leave town. He says that in Payne's roll of money he saw two ten dollar bills and the rest were fives, answering the description of the stolen money. He declined the tender of five and Payne then started toward home on a run and crying. As soon as he changed clothes he ran south toward the Muncie interurban line and it is thought left town on the 9:20 car. He yelled to Vore as he left him that he would leave a five for him at the South Side grocery, but he did not do so.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 39. NUMBER 6 Wednesday, August, 8 1906. p. 1, col. 7.*

#### 1908 SALOONS.

Boivin, Alex. 213 West Market; phone 450.

Blackwood, Fred, 114 North Johnson; phone 289.

Clark, J. S., 113 South Main; phone 364.

Clark, Tilden, 111 East Market.

Ditzler, Calvin, 115 South Johnson; phone 534.

Hixon, Frank, 217 West Market.

Lovell, Renn, 806 West Washington; phone 281.

Marshall, Robert, 127 South Main; phone 188.

Scott, Lew I., 702 West Washington; phone 245.

Thornburg, Harve, 128 South Main; phone 287.

Wagner, George, 119 South Johnson; phone 502.

#### BAD FOR SALOONKEEPERS.

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Must Close Saloons on Two Successive Days.

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Saloonkeepers are bemoaning the fact that Washington's birthday comes on Saturday this year. Being a legal holiday all saloons will have to close at 11 o'clock Friday night and remain closed until the following Monday morning.

"It is rather tough sledding for the saloons just at present anyway," remarked the proprietor of a local booze emporium, "and we hate to lose any receipts, especially the sales of a Saturday." Saloons this year were compelled to close on ground hog day but then ground hog day came on Sunday and that's the reason.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 41. NUMBER 34 Wednesday, February 19, 1908. p. 4, col. 3.*

#### WIFE KNOCKED DOWN BY HER HUSBAND.

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#### JOE BENNETT OBJECTED TO BEING ESCORTED HOME BY HIS WIFE.

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Joe Bennett and his wife, a Wabash Avenue couple, created a scene on West Market street Saturday evening. Mrs. Bennett had found Joe in the saloon district on South Johnson street, badly intoxicated, according to report, and insisted that he accompany her home. He started, with reluctance and as they went down the business section of Market street they attracted much attention by their quarreling. Joe evidently objected to a "combing" which his wife saw fit to administer in a verbal manner and his forbearance gave out as they reached a point opposite the Mrs. Edna Studabaker residence, and in objection to something she said or wanted him to do he struck her a violent blow in the side of the face, with such force that she was knocked down, staggering under the force of the blow several feet into the lawn before she fell.

At the time of the trouble Officer W. H. Fox happened to be in the Young second hand store and he heard somebody in front of the door exclaim, "He has knocked her down", and he rushed out onto the walk just in time to see her fall. Bennett did not wait to give his wife the least assistance or heed after he struck her and not even waiting to see the effect of his blow staggered on west. Fox started in pursuit on the run and overtook Bennett at the next corner, and gave him a good shaking up as he caught him before he knew whom he had taken into custody. When he saw that it was old Joe he desisted from rough usage but told him he would have to go before the mayor (sic). As they passed back up Market street Mrs. Bennett, who had got to her feet, followed them to the mayor's office. Mayor Hamilton was not in and Mrs. Bennett begged the officer to let her husband go home with her, declaring that she was not afraid of him, that this was not the first time he had struck her, and she said that he had the keys and she could not get into the house unless he went along. Under the circumstances Fox consented to let Bennett go home with his wife but said that he would consult the mayor and prosecuting attorney later in the matter, and prosecution may follow.

Mrs. Bennett, when asked where her husband struck her, exhibited a badly swollen cheek. When Fox took Bennett in charge the latter declared he wanted to enjoy some privileges.

*Bluffton, Indiana: SEVENTEENTH YEAR NO. 19 Monday, October 19 1908 p. 1, col. 4.*

#### TWO ARRESTS WERE MADE TODAY

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#### GRAND JURY INDICTMENTS AGAINST GEORGE WAGNER AND ALEX BOIVIN.

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Two arrests were made Saturday by Deputy Sheriff Charles Pierce on indictments which were returned by the last grand jury. One of them charges George Wagner with selling liquors on Decoration Day and the other charges Alex Boivin with selling liquor on Sunday. Both of the men gave bond of \$100 for their appearance for trial at the February term of court. Wagner is already out of business on account of the blanket remonstrance against the business which is putting out all of the saloons as their licenses expire and Boivin also will be out of business before his case

comes to trial in February.

The incident that led to the indictment against Wagner will be recalled by most people. Last Decoration Day ministers who were watching the saloons declared that they saw several people men enter the Wagner or Ditzler place and the officers were called to make a search, but they failed to find anybody in the saloons, although a search of both places were made. No arrests were made at the time, but the matter was left to grand jury investigation.

The evidence against Alex Boivin is reported to have been given by a young man of this city who went before the grand jury. According to the story he went to Boivin's place on Sunday and wanted beer but was refused. This angered him and he went before the grand jury with testimony that Boivin was open on Sunday but whether he has any further evidence to substantiate this will require the trial to tell. It is said that the young man himself will be deep in the mire, because another responsible witness was called and testified that he bought beer on Sunday and when asked from whom gave the name of this same young man who testified against Boivin and said he got three bottles for a quarter from the young man.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 4. NUMBER 22 Wednesday, November 25, 1908. p. 1, col. 5.*

THE LAST SALOON  
ORDERED TORN OUT

CENTLIVRE (*sic*) COMPANY ORDERED  
FURNITURE MOVED FROM  
HERE TO GARY.

The last outfit of saloon furniture to remain set up in a Bluffton business room, that of the Centlivre Company of Ft. Wayne, in the building which they own on West Market street, has been ordered torn out and will be moved out of the city of Bluffton entirely. The saloon outfit in question is in the room where Alex Boivin last conducted a saloon, and where he has since operated at various periods a box ball alley, cigar store, soft drink establishment, etc. During all this time, however, the Centlivre (*sic*) Company has steadfastly left the furniture and fixtures in the room, possibly in the hope that when the local option election was held that the city and county would go wet and they would be in on the ground floor to commence business. But the overwhelming manner in which the "drys" carried the day in the local option election appears to have set all hopes of the company at rest, especially when the election was upheld farther by the supreme court decision. Therefore the company, Mr. Boivin, said today, had ordered the furniture to be torn out of the room and he understands that it is to be shipped to Gary, Ind., for a saloon at that place. Mr. Boivin has quit business in the room himself and says that he is now lookin[g] around for another location, but says that he does not expect to go to Gary with the Centlevres (*sic*).

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. EIGHTEENTH YEAR, No. 152. Tuesday, March 29, 1910. p. 2, col. 2.*

KALTWASSER BOUGHT  
A BUSINESS ROOM.  
PURCHASED CENTLIVRE BUILD-  
ING ON WEST MARKET

STREET FOR \$5,500.

By a deal which was closed Monday Charles Kaltwasser, the well known West Market street meat dealer, bought the brick building which the Centlivre Company of Fort Wayne, has owned for a number of years and which during Bluffton "wet" days was occupied by a saloon belonging to that company. The building is on the north side of the street, adjoining the alley, half a block west of Johnson street, and Mr. Kaltwasser, who is now running a butcher shop in the old Kapp block, now owned by E. S. Walmer, will move his shop across the street into the building which he purchased. Mr. Kaltwasser said Monday afternoon that the purchase price for the building was \$5,500. What will go into the building which Mr. Kaltwasser will vacate is not yet known. Since L. E. Roush must vacate the room he now occupies to make room for the new Sturgis and Stout double-room drug it is possible he may move across the street into the room vacated by Mr. Kaltwasser, but nothing of this kind has yet been settled. Mr. Roush had been figuring some on the room bought Monday by Mr. Kaltwasser.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 43. NO. 44. Wednesday, April 27, 1910 p. 4, col. 4.*

REGULATION OF SALOONS.

53 Counties Have Adopted Basis of  
One to One thousand.

Fifty-three of the ninety-two counties of Indiana have limited their saloons to one to each one thousand of population under the new regulation law, according to the reports gathered by the Association of Indiana Brewers. Twenty-four counties will have a limit of one to five-hundred inhabitants, some of them allowing the minimum limitation fixed by law to go into effect automatically. Many cities of the state have also taken advantage of the new law, forty-two of them having fixed their city license fee at \$500, the maximum under the statute. This county is one of the 53 to adopt the one saloon to one thousand basis and this city one of those to adopt the maximum fee.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 44. NUMBER 38 Wednesday, March 22, 1911. p. 5, col. 3. [embedded at end of Nov 2, 1910 online]*

anti-saloon v. Joe Hartman's open July 4th  
BB 7/8/1913 p. 9. col. 3.

Coinciding with the Northeastern Indiana Volunteer Firemen's association ninth annual convention meeting in Bluffton and having a mirror image front page headline, the newspaper reported on a raid.

EARLY MORNING RAID MADE  
AND BEER IS CONFISCATED

Fourteen Kegs And One Case of Beer Taken From Cellar  
of North Main Street Room--Lew Stout  
Working as Special Constable.

DRYS HOLD ALL NIGHT SESSIOIN

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 An early morning raid by Special Constable Lew Stout and representatives of the Bluffton anti-saloon forces resulted in the confiscation of fourteen kegs and one case of ice cold beer from the cellar in the Curry block room at the corner of Main and Perry street. All but one keg of the beer is said to have been labeled to the Bluffton fire department, but responsible members of the company said they had nothing whatever to do with it and claimed the beer was the property of two or three men.

The fourteenth keg was billed to the Montpelier department, according to the men making the raid.

#### All Night Conference.

The raid about 7 o'clock this morning followed an all night conference between Deputy Prosecutor John F. Decker and the members of the dry forces at the Presbyterian church. About twenty men spent the night arranging the plans and getting out search warrants in the court of Squire J. K. Rinehart. At an early hour Lew Stout, former city officer, was made a special constable.

The raid on the room, the first floor of which had been prepared as a check room by the firemen, was made by about twenty men. It was not necessary to force any doors and the check room at the time was in charge of John Britt. There was no one in the cellar at the time the beer was found.

#### Bar All Arranged.

According to the stories of the men making the raid, a bar had been arranged around the big tanks of ice cold water in which the kegs of beer were emersed. In all ninety-six tin cups were placed on the crude constructed bar or bench around the wet goods and the tin cups and air pumps were also taken.

The beer was loaded onto a dray and when it came to storing it in preparation of the trial of the case there was some difficulty. The beer is in the custody of Squire Rinehart and as his office is on the third floor of the court house the heavy kegs could not be taken up the steps and put there for safe keeping. After much parading on the streets it was finally decided to allow the beer to be stored in a small room adjoining the office of Sheriff J. A. Johnston.

#### Two More Raids.

Small squads of men armed with search warrants made trips to the Brice room on East Market street and the Wingfield store room on the West Side, but they did not find any booze. At the Wingfield room the large cooler was locked and the men took Mr. Wingfield at his word when he told them there was nothing in the cooler. Nothing was found in the Brice room.

#### Action Follows Statement.

The action of the drays followed the statement of Deputy Prosecuting Attorney John F. Decker, which was published in the Banner yesterday. Mr. Decker said that he would not allow the liquor laws to be violated on account of any entertainment that might be planned for the entertainment of the visiting firemen and he mapped out his plans. The dry forces immediately went to his assistance and the raids wre the result.

The county and city officers had nothing to do with the confiscation of the beer.

#### Much Beer.

Each of the kegs of beer is said to contain sixteen gallons.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening Banner VOLUME XV. NUMBER 183. Thursday, June 25, 1914. p. 1, col. 1, 2.*

#### DEAM ARRESTED FOR BOOTLEGGING

#### CLINT DEAM HAD BIG SUPPLY OF WHISKEY ON HAND WHEN SEARCHED.

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 On charges of peddling booze to people attending the street fair and also assault and battery, Clint Deam, well known police court character, is again confined in the county jail. When searched last night he had one pint and six half pints of whiskey distributed in his pockets and this morning the bootlegging charge was filed against him in circuit court. The assault and battery charge on which he was arrested resulted from his grabbing the hand of Mrs. Fred Gaunt, and making insulting remarks to her yesterday.

Deam was arrested after 7 o'clock Friday evening by Marshal Fritz and Deputy Sheriff George Albright and when told of the charge he wanted to get bond immediately and be released. While he was in a very nervous condition, however, the officers made a search of his pockets and were successful in finding the whiskey which they had suspected of being there.

From several sources the police learned that Deam was in the possession of whiskey illegally and they had their eyes on him all day yesterday. The evidence they have, obtained on this charge is strong and will show, they say, that he sold the whiskey for seventy-five cents a pint to several people. It is claimed that he made trips to Ft. Wayne and returned with a suit case filled with booze, which he sold. From the money found in his pockets when the search was made business had been flourishing. Before the whiskey was found Deam wanted out of jail very bad in order that he could attend the fair, probably thinking the officers would overlook what his pockets contained. When the search was made, however, he appeared to lose heart, although he stated that the whiskey belonged to him and he obtained it at Montpelier for his own use.

The presence of a few drunks on the streets yesterday showed that some person was handing out the booze and the officers had that in mind when Deam was picked up on the streets.

Mrs. Gaunt, formerly Miss Crist, reported to the police, that Deam had stopped her on Marion street Friday morning and when she started to move on he grabbed her hand and made insulting remarks to her. She was frightened by his actions and hurried away from him as soon as possible, telling the police immediately of what had occurred. The assault and battery charge was filed in the court of Mayor Mock and Deam will not be given a hearing until Monday. The minimum fine on the bootlegging charge is \$50 and the minimum jail sentence is thirty days.

Deam was arraigned on the bootlegging charge in circuit court this morning and entered a plea of not guilty. His bond was fixed in the sum of \$200. Deam is already held by the circuit court on a rape charge on which his bond is \$500. This he was able to obtain a few weeks ago.

The hearing on the assault and battery charge will be before Mayor Mock Mock at 9 o'clock Monday morning.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening Banner VOLUME XV. NUMBER 262 Saturday, September 26, 1914. p. 1, col. 7.*

MUST FILE CHARGE  
AGAINST DRUNKS

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STATE OFFICIAL SAYS IT IS  
ILLEGAL TO TURN THEM  
LOOSE NEXT MORNING.

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A deputy state statistician was in Bluffton this afternoon investigating the lack of prosecution for intoxication in this city. The official learned that there is little drunkenness here and in some cases the drunks are placed in the county jail at night and released after they have sobered up the following morning. If charges were filed it would be necessary in most cases to keep them in jail for at least ten days and this would result in a much greater expense to the county.

The deputy statistician say, however, that it is illegal to lock the drunks up for the night without charges and urged that in the future affidavits be filed immediately.

*Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening Banner VOLUME XV. NUMBER 304. Saturday, November 13, 1915. p. 1, col. 4.*

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES  
EXPLAIN WITHDRAWAL.

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To the Democratic Voters of Wells and Blackford Counties:

The undersigned, Democratic candidates for joint representative from the district of Blackford and Wells Counties, having withdrawn from the race, herewith submit the following statement in explanation of their courses:

Saturday, February 5th, was the last day upon which declaration by candidates could be legally filed. When the lists were closed on Saturday it was found that five candidates had filed their declarations for places on the Democratic ballot from this district. It became apparent also that the saloon question would be injected into the local campaign and that an effort would be made to make that question a controlling issue.

We found that of the candidates the undersigned and John M. Bonham were in accord upon the question, all being opposed to the saloon system; but we realized that if all of us remained in the race and appealed to our respective friends for support, the strength of the anti-saloon advocates of the district would be so divided that any person receiving the united support of the saloon advocates would easily win the nomination. We believed that the best interest of our party and the interests of good government required that we sacrifice our personal ambitions in behalf of the general welfare.

It was accordingly agreed among us that we would submit the whole question to a group of our friends who likewise had the best interests of the party and of the state at heart. Each of the four candidates selected one of his supporters to act for him, and those in turn each selected two more persons, making a group of twelve persons, six of whom were from Blackford County and six from Wells County.

These men met at Bluffton yesterday and after fully canvassing the situation and carefully considering every feature of it, gave it as their judgement that John M. Bonham of Blackford County is the most available candidate of the four who were under consideration.

Knowing him to be fully in accord with our views upon the question above referred to, we each cheerfully accepted the judgement of our said friends, and a cheerful withdraw from the race.

We desire to thank all of our friends for their assurances of support and for the uniformly kind treatment we have each

thus far received, and we each pledge our most earnest efforts in support of Mr. Bonham, believing that his nomination is to the best interest of Democracy and good government.

M. M. JUSTUS.  
C. O. FLEMING.  
D. V. LAMM.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 49.NO. 33. Wednesday, February 16, 1916 p. 4, col 4.*

TELLS HOW ELIMINATION  
PROCESS WAS DONE.

Although details of the committee's work here Wednesday in the selection of a "dry" candidate to make the race for the democratic nomination for the Democratic nomination for joint representative were not give[n] out here, some of those interested gave some of the inside information, evidently, to the Hartford City News, which publishes the following:

"John M. Bonham, of this city, secured seven of the twelve votes at the conference at Bluffton, Wednesday afternoon, while the other five votes were cast for C. O. Fleming, also of Hartford City, it was learned Thursday. There was one ballot taken and prior to it the two Wells county candidates, D. V. Lamm and M. M. Justus, had withdrawn, conceding the joint representative of Blackford county, as the senator is conceded to Wells.

Wm. P. Futrell, Frank Selig and Lee Sprague were selected by C. O. Fleming, while Charles Clamme, John L. McGeath and John H. Philebaum were selected by John M. Bonham. H. W. Lipkey, of Uniondale, A. A. Waugh, W. A. Redding, J. E. Preble, of Bluffton, and L. H. Leichbaugh, of Liberty Center, and Robert Stine, of Bluffton, represented M. M. Justus and D. V. Lamm. The meeting was held in the office of Judge Edwin C. Vaughn at 1:30 in the afternoon. The deliberations of the committee took one and one-half hours. The main contention was over which county should have the candidate. After the honor was given to Blackford a secret ballot was taken to decide which of the two candidates of Blackford county Bonham or Flemin[g], should drop out, and Bonham won out by a vote of seven to five."

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 49.NO. 33. Wednesday, February 16, 1916 p. 5, col 4.*

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