

WELLS COUNTY SCHOOLS

By Thomas Liby

Some newspaper articles related to Wells County schools.

Teachers have been secured for most of the schools in the township. Thomas Sowards takes his old school at Salem, T. M. Wasson the Hall school, Mr. Sturtevant, a young gentleman from Michigan, has been secured for the Center school, and Miss Laura Thomas is now in charge of the Routh school.

A brick school house has been built in the Sugar grove district, Rockcreek tp., this summer, Mr. Jacob Farling takes charge of the school this winter.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Banner. Friday, November 20, 1874. p. 3, col. 6.

DEDICATED.

Interesting Exercises Held in the Large and Beautiful Chapel of the New High School Building Tuesday Afternoon--
Address by Pres. Jordan of the State University.

Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock exercises celebrating the opening of the New High School building were held in its chapel, which were largely attended by patrons of the school and others. The printed program followed out was both interesting and instructive and reflected much credit upon its participants.

The following was the order of exercises:

AMERICA.

- Prayer.....Rev. J. E. Weir.
- Piano Duet-- Il Trovatore.
Grace Horton and Lizzie Rogers.
- Historical Sketch of the Bluffton High School.
Lillie Loser. '84.
- Duet-- Wild Birds.
Leona Merriman and Agnes Justus.
- A Senior's View.....Nellie Bonham, '91.
- Piano Duet-- Grande Valse de Concerte.
Lela Beil and Nellie Mason.
- A Freshman's View.....Bruce Williamson, '94
- Duet-- Meet Me by Moonlight Alone.
Jessie Martz and Gertrude Sturgis.
- Address to the High School
Pres. David S. Jordan.
- Chorus-- O Thou, My Hope, My Country

In the evening, in the Presbyterian church, President Jordan delivered a lecture on "The Value of Higher Education" at which was present a large and appreciative audience. The lecturer held the closest attention of his hearers during the hour's address and the benefit derived by those present is incalculable. The value of an education was shown up in a way that would leave no mistake "That we must educate." No doubt too much lethargy is shown by parents in having their children gain a higher education than that which they can acquire in our common schools. President Jordan made this the basis of his remarks and it surely could not fail to impress his hearers that what he said contained more truth than poetry.

The new building is the pride of all Bluffton citizens. It was erected at a cost of nearly \$12, 999 and reflects much credit upon the excellent school board, J. W. Tribolet, W. A. Gutelius and Geo. Gardiner, as also City Superintendent, P. A. Allen. It is situated at the corner of Washington and Oak street, is strictly modern in design and a handsome structure.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 22. NUMBER 21. Thursday, December 11, 1890. p. 1, col. 3, 4.

Herrmann School Report.

The following is a correct report of the Herrmann school, No 5, Nottingham township, for the second month.

The following pupils were neither absent nor tardy during the month: Lois McClunney, Mary Collier, Freddie Lambert, Ada McClunney, Vina Cassell, Lillie Marsh, Orville Deerer, Ida Cassell, Homer Ogle, Lela Cassell, Mearl Wilson, Sarepta Lambert, Geo. Deeren. Number enrolled; number withdrawn, 5; number belonging at end of month, 47; average daily attendance, 39; per cent of attendance, 90.

W. S. VAN HORN, [small caps] Teacher.

Report of Dist. No. 9, Rockcreek Township.

No of members during this (the fourth) month, 45. Those neither absent or tardy are, Agnes Maddox, Alice Braner, Oliver Highles, Henry Raber, Verne Gordon, Robert Gordon, Arthur Brown, Willis Brown, Agomy Brown, and John Brown. Per cent. of attendance, 90.

LEMUEL A. BACHELOR, [small caps] Teacher.

Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. XLV, NO 3 Wednesday, Jan. 17, 1894. p. 2, col. 1.

Report of the Kreps School.

The following is a correct report of the Kreps school in Nottingham township for the month ending January 12, 1894.

The following pupils were neither tardy nor absent during the month: Lawrence Watson, Wallace Gentis, Della Romey, John Speheger, Erbie Watson, Jessie Gentis, Carrie Gottschalk, Willie Speheger, Freddie Schlagenhauf, Ama Bossert, Ada Watson, Mary Schlagenhauf, Frank Kreps, Elma Romey, Eva Gottschalk, Sanford Kreps, Pearl Gentis, Leora Gottschalk, Dessie Kreps, Henry Schlagenhauf, Anna Speheger. Total enrollment for the month 30. Average daily attendance (sic) 27. Per cent of attendance (sic) 96.

THOMAS E. KIZER, [small caps] teacher.

Bluffton, Indiana: The Bluffton Banner. VOL. XLV, NO 3 Wednesday, Jan. 17, 1894. p. 4, col. 2.

Isaac Burroughs is building a brick school house in Rockcreek township. It will be known as the Fulk school.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 26 NUMBER 3 Wednesday, July 25 1894. p. 8, col. 5.

A crowd of pretty young ladies and intelligent young men, members of the Linn Grove graduating class, drove to the

city Friday. They ate dinner at the Bliss House, and were then photographed in a group. Misses Anna Adler, Delilah Hoffman, Effie Nederhouser, Ella Hall, Sarah Miller, Carrie Dunbar and Mrsrs J. A. Shoemaker, B. F. Kiser, Elroy Runyan, Lou Nederhouser, Oscar Huffman and John Hornady formed the party.

Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 26. NUMBER 41 Wednesday, April 17, 1895. p. 10, col. 3.

The Parthian
1897 Bluffton High School yearbook

history of school, classes, teachers, photos of school buildings and students

Dark Outlook for Oratorical.

The present indications are that the young people of the High School will not attempt to hold a contest in declamation and oratory this year. Those desiring to enter were to report this week and as yet only two or three have manifested a desire to enter. The High School issues a spicy and well-written magazine--the Bassoon; the High School boys are enthusiastic in athletic sports; and both the boys and the girls recently manifested their ability to give a dramatic and musical entertainment, but the oratorical spirit has never in late years reached the boiling point of enthusiasm. The winners of the contests in the last three years--Will Wade and Guy McBride in '97, Wesley DuBois and Ethel Saner in '98 and Clara Davis and Pearl Smith in '99--have all been a credit to the school and the city; but a few with oratorical inclinations are not sufficient to give a school the oratorical spirit. If no contest is held this year, one of the most stirring events of High School life, the event second only to commencement in importance and interest, will be omitted for 1900. It is thought that in another year some talent will be developed in the large first year class which numbers about fifty members.

It seems a shame that the city should not be represented in the oratorical contest abroad. Past defeats should only encourage stronger efforts. Persistency, practice and energy will develop talent that will one day bring home the honors.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 31. NUMBER 28 Wednesday, January 10, 1900. p. 9, col. 5.

Will Necessitate a New Building.

Next summer Rockcreek township will replace the Iron Bridge school building two miles north of Rockford with a new structure. The present building is 23 years old, and it has been an eyesore to the patrons adjacent. They have used all means to do it up, and a few nights ago some one placed a board in a yawning crack in the side and attempted to pry the school house in two. These benevolent intentions failed because the board broke, but the building was racked so that it became dangerous. Family after family withdrew their pupils until the teacher, Jasper Wall, faced ten or twelve pupils and forty empty benches. It was a case of build or break up the school, and Superintendent Stine and Trustee Redding inspected the building Friday. Iron rods will be used to brace it temporarily and make it safe, and in the summer a new school house will be constructed.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 32. NUMBER

BER 23 Wednesday, December 5, 1900. p. 9, col. 3.

R. W. Stine was at Ossian Tuesday to investigate conditions existing in school district No. 1 in Jefferson township. A new school building is to be built this summer and some of the patrons have petitioned to have it built a quarter of a mile east of the site of the old schoolhouse. Mr. Stine will decide the location.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 33. NUMBER 40 Wednesday, April 2 1902. p. 10, col. 4.

F. G. Haecker formerly principal of the Liberty Center high school and Rev. John F. Blocher, of the Baptist church will conduct a summer normal school at Liberty Center beginning April 7 and continuing to May 30th. They will give a review of the eighth year work, a course for teachers and the reading circle and pedagogical course.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 33. NUMBER 40 Wednesday, April 2 1902. p. 10, col. 3.

Enumeration Increased.

George Markley in totalling the school enumeration figures has found that mistakes made on the previous count will make a difference of 63 in the total enumeration. It was first figured that the number of children of school age in the city was 1,202 but the right figure is 1,265. In adding up the figures before Mr. Markley overlooked one page entirely and since then other children have been enumerated. The total is exactly the same as last year but there would have been an increase of one had not Orin Baumgardner moved over to Villa North.

Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. TENTH YEAR NO. 187. Thursday May 1 1902. p. 2, col. 3.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS,

I, Alva B. Sine, trustee of Jackson township, Wells county Ind., will received (sic) sealed bids for the construction of a one-room school building, to be erected at the present site of the school building known as District No. 7, Jackson township, Wells county, Ind., according to plans and specifications on file in the office of Cuno Kibebe, architect, Bluffton, Ind., and the office of the trustee, until 1 o'clock p. m., April 9, 1904, at which time the contract for the construction of said building will be let at the office of the undersigned trustee. 11-2

ALVA B. SINE.

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

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

County Superintendent Huyette has had his salary raised from \$4 to \$4.50 a day, the raise taking effect the seventh of this month. In th[i]s county the superintendent gets straight time and is paid for every day of the year except Sundays, Christmas and Fourth of July.

Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 63. NUMBER 39 Wednesday, March 29, 1905. p. 5, col. 2.

The Craigville schools were closed today and the teachers were in town this morning on their way to visit the Poneto and Keystone schools. Each school in the county closes in this way one day to give teachers a chance to visit other schools.

Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 37 NUMBER 18 Wednesday, November, 1 1905. p. 4, col. 4.

P. A. ALLEN SELECTED
AS SUPERINTENDENT

Was The Unanimous choice of The School Board, and The Ap-
pointment is Ratified by Bluffton People. Former Stu-
dents And Alumni Especially Pleased with His Selec-
tion. Occupied the Place from 1881 to 1891.

The city school board gave Bluffton a nice Christmas present last night by the announcement that they had selected by a unanimous vote Prof. P. A. Allen as superintendent of the Bluffton schools to succeed Prof. W. A. Wirt who has resigned to the superintendency of the school at Gary. Mr. Allen will take charge of his new duties on April first.

His selection over thirty-nine applicants, including a number of the best educators in the country makes the offer all the more complimentary. His previous work in the schools and his life in Bluffton were his chief recommendations though hundreds of patrons of the schools were urging his selection. Men and women who had gone to school under him before and especially the alumni of the high school were active in soliciting the board for the reappointment of Mr. Allen because they know of the good he had done before.

A native of Whitley county, he secured a common school education and attended Ft. Wayne college and the National Normal school at Lebanon, Ohio, but was a graduate of neither. He secured the superintendency of the schools at Ossian where in four years he made such an excellent record that he was called to take charge of the Bluffton schools in the spring of 1881. Before coming here he went to Europe and visited a number of the best schools in the countries he visited and added to his technical knowledge by travel.

When he took charge of the educational system in Bluffton there was but one building, the Central, and that consisted of ten grades or rooms. Only the common branches with a limited number of advanced studies were taught. He began immediately laying plans for a high school and the first class was graduated, after a two years' course, in 1883, the members of the class being Fred L. Burgan, Harry H. Crosbie, Harry F. Meck, Rena Burwell, Will R. Spencer, Alfred C. Spencer Burwell, Morris Meck, Nelson K. Todd and Nellie (Freeman) Bennett. During his administration the Washington Park school was built and the high school prospering on his ample foundation, a new building was commenced. He also founded the school library, the forerunner of our present big city library. The school board had no money to buy books but a system of donations among the students was established and in several years there was purchased a collection of nearly a thousand volumes, many of which are on the shelves today.

Improvements were made along many minor lines and from an overgrown country school Mr. Allen gave the city an advanced educational system that would have been a credit to a city double the size of Bluffton, accomplishing much of the work with a very limited supply of cash.

He resigned in 1891 and with the late John H. Ormsby bought the Bluffton Banner and he was connected with that paper for a little over ten years. For some time past he has been one of the proprietors of the Bluffton Business College, and institution that has been made to prosper by the superiority of the training it gives rather than the commercial facilities the city offers. The retirement of Mr. Allen from that school will of course mean a loss to it but this will be assured of the same liberal return for their tuition. The school is on such a foundation that it will continue to prosper and the retirement of Prof. Allen will not materially affect it or the students.

Before taking charge of the city schools Mr. Allen expects to visit some of the best educational institutions in the country and get ideas on their best lines of work.

Among the applicants for the position was Prof. Curtis Merriman, principal of the high school. He was also a favorite for the place and had Mr. Allen not been a possibility he would have been chosen in preference to foreign applicants. He too has made an excellent record in the city schools and the retainment in his present position will give Mr. Allen the aid of much valuable experience and add greatly to the success of himself and the schools.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 39. NUMBER 23 [marked out and 4 penciled in] Wednesday, December 12, 1906. p. 4, col. 3, 4.

PUPILS ENROLLED
NUMBER 4,654

FIGURES OF INTEREST ON
SCHOOLS OF WELLS COUNTY.
MORE BOYS THAN GIRLS.

County Superintendent A. R. Huyette has compiled figures on the enrollment of pupils in the schools of Wells County that make an interesting study in the comparison of townships, towns, high schools, etc. The figures show 4,654 pupils enrolled in the county with 136 more boys than girls. Bluffton has seven more boys than girls enrolled in a total of 955. The figures in detail follow:

	Males	Females	Total
Liberty Tp.	279	214	493
Union Tp	165	164	329
Rockcreek Tp	139	116	255
Nottingham Tp	215	256	471
Lancaster Tp	236	212	448
*Jackson Tp	211	205	416
Jefferson Tp	241	243	484
Chester Tp	257	230	487
Harrison Tp	171	145	316
Bluffton City	481	474	955

Total	2395	2259	4654

*Tocsin school not included; building not completed. Tocsin enrollment, including Beaty school (abandoned) estimated at 75.

Total enrol[]ment in graded schools, including high school pupils:
Murray 96

WELLS COUNTY SCHOOLS

Union Center	129
Craigville	145
Poneto	145
Petroleum	146
Liberty Center	146
Keystone	177
Ossian	211

Total 1228

Enrollment in High School:

Keystone	21
Ossian	55
Murray	2
Craigville	23
Poneto	18
Liberty Center	31
Petroleum	24
Union City	15

189

Bluffton City	178
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Grand Total 367

No. 5 in Rockcreek township enrolls 13 pupils, which is the smallest school in the county. Curtis Poling is the teacher.

No. 10 in Jackson township is the largest school in the county, enrolling 54 pupils. Frank McKee is the teacher.

Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening News. SEVENTEENTH YEAR NO. 19 Monday, October 19 1908 p. 1, col. 3.

County Superintendent A. R. Huyette was in Liberty township Tuesday and with Trustee John Dean looked after the negotiation of a deal for another one-fourth acre tract of ground to be added to the school grounds at the Roberts school, two miles west of Liberty Center. The additional ground will be bought from John Roberts, from whose farm the original school lot of one-fourth acre was secured. It is the desire to enlarge the playground.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 47. NO. 2. Wednesday, July 16, 1913. p. 5, col. 1.

GERMAN CLUB HAS
NAMED OFFICERS

MISS BLANCE KARNIS IS PRESIDENT OF THE ORGANIZATION.

The Deutche Gesselschaff, German club of the High school, met at the home of Miss Edith Goodyear last evening, reorganized and elected officers for the ensuing year. Some new members were also initiated. The officers elected are as follows: Miss Blanche Karns, president; Miss Marie Christman, secretary and treasurer. A board of directors was elected.

The members of the club at the present time are as follows: Misses Dorothy Runyan, Leone Moon, Elizabeth Dailey, Kathryn DeHaven, Mary Riddile, Mary Raber, Clara Drew, Justine Liechty, Frances Levenson, Elizabeth Spivey, Estelle Spivey, Mary Cline [?], Travena Herbst, Edith Goodyear, Sadie Nelon, Mrssrs. Henry Edris, Bob Nash, Lloyd Cline, John Painter, Phyllic Kretz, Lozier Funk

and Hillard Walmer.

Meetings will be held the first Monday in each month.

Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening Banner VOLUME SV, NUMBER 294. Monday, November 3, 1914. p. 1, col. 1.

COMMON SCHOOLS
IN FORCE TUESDAY

COUNTY COMMENCEMENT IN
GRAND OPSERA (sic) HOUSE TOMORROW AFTERNOON.

Tomorrow will be a big day in the lives of the common school graduates in Wells county. Plans are complete for the commencement exercises at the Grand theater tomorrow afternoon and a large crowd is expected to be in the city.

The program is as follows:

March, "World Peace" Zameenik
Orchestra

Invocation Rev. W. T. Arnold
Vocal Solo Louis B. Sawyer
Music--"Town Talk" O'Hare
Orchestra

Trombone and Cornet Duet, Orchestra Acpt. "Dreams of Devotion: Op. 91. Otto Langel Sawyer and Kline.

Class Address. . Albert Edwin Smith,
President of Ohio Northern University, Ada, Ohio.

Presentation of Diplomas
Co. Supt. Clifford Funderburg,
Huntington, Indiana

March, "Light Guards" Gibson
Orchestra

Benediction Rev. O. R. McKay
Postlude Orchestra

Music furnished by the Savage Orchestra, Bluffton, Ind. The orchestra will play from 1:30 to 2.

The Grand opera house will be opened to holders of tickets at 1 o'clock p. m., June 1, 1915. No admission except by ticket until 2 o'clock. At 2 o'clock the doors will be opened to the general public; all vacant seats and standing room may then be occupied by those present not having tickets.

Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening Banner VOLUME XV. NUMBER 60. Monday, May 31, 1915. p. 5, col. 4.

Accompanying the above article, was a three column wide list of names and addresses of graduates organized by township.

PLASTER FALLS IN
SCHOOL BUILDING

ONE GIRL SLIGHTLY INJURED--
PUPILS THROWN INTO
PANIC.

Six yards of plaster falling from the ceiling of room No. 11 on the second floor of the Central school building at 11 o'clock this forenoon, struck and injured Mary Huffman, the 10-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Huffman. She suffered a

small cut in her forehead near the scalp, another small cut in her mouth and a back bruise on her left arm. Four other children, Lois Barr, Eva Matson, Nile Stout and Homer Monroe, were also struck by the falling plastering but were uninjured.

The room is occupied permanently by the 6-A class of which G. Rolland Osborne is teacher. The class was reciting when the plaster, without any kind of warning, fell in one big sheet upon the heads of the pupils.

The teacher and pupils with the exception of Mary Huffman rushed to the door and out into the hall, fearing that more plaster was going to fall. Mary, who was stunned by the blow, remained in her seat unnoticed for a moment, and it was necessary for the teacher to carry her from the room to the teacher's rest room on the first floor of the building.

Dr. L. N. Hatfield was called and he bandaged the girl's injuries. It was unnecessary for any stitches to be taken in the small gash in the girl's head.

The cause for the falling of the plaster is unknown. Mr. Osborne, the teacher, stated that there were apparently no defects or cracks in it, and that when it fell, all came at once, and with a loud crash. Classes in the assembly and adjoining rooms were much startled by the loud crash, but did not leave their seats.

The pupils of the 6-A class were dismissed for the remainder of the day so that investigation and repairs can be made.

The entire school was dismissed for the remainder of the week to permit a thorough inspection of the ceilings in other rooms of the building. This was deemed necessary because defective places have been found in ceilings of other rooms.

Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening Banner VOLUME XVI. NUMBER 55. Thursday, January 27, 1916. p. 1, col. 6.

MAKE REPAIRS AT
CENTRAL SCHOOL

CONTRACTOR BERT KOONTZ
PUTS CEILINGS IN SAFE CON-
DITION.

Contractor Bert Koontz is today making a thorough inspection and repairs to the ceiling in the different rooms of the Central school building. Following the fall of about six yards of plaster from room No. 11 Thursday morning the school board ordered the pupils dismissed for the remainder of the week in order that the investigation could be made. Every room is being gone over thoroughly and all plaster that is loose is being taken off. It is fortunate that the accident of yesterday did not result more seriously and also that the condition of the plaster in several of the rooms was discovered at the time.

What caused the plaster to become loose is not positively known, but it is believed to have resulted from it not being put on properly. There has never been a leak in the building, which would cause the water to rot the plaster.

During the vacation next summer all of the plaster may be taken from the ceiling in the entire building and new plaster put on. For the present repairs will be made so that there will be no repetition of the accident of yesterday.

Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening Banner VOLUME XVI, NUMBER 56. Friday, January 28, 1916. p. 1, col. 2.

283 TOOK EXAMINATION.

County Superintendent Huyette reports that 283 eight grade students took the examination last Saturday. at the first examination for common school diplomas. Those who fail will have chances at two more examinations.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 49. NO. 38. Wednesday, March 22, 1916. p. 6, col. 2.

61 TAKE EXAMINATION.

The first examination of Eighth grade pupils for common school diplomas was held Saturday. 61 took the examination at the court house here.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 49. NO. 38. Wednesday, March 22, 1916. p. 4, col. 7.

8 SCHOOL HOUSES
WERE DEMOLISHED

Reports from local insurance agencies are to the effect that eight school houses were wrecked by the storm in Wells County Tuesday night, a heavier toll of school properties than first reported. H. M. Edris, whose agency has the insurance on the Chester, Jackson, and Liberty township buildings said this morning that Trustee Plummer, of Jackson township, reported to him that four school houses in his township were so badly wrecked that he considered them total losses, while in Chester [t]ownship he had reports of three school buildings demolished, the Slacum (sic), Hermann, and Chester Center. He had \$1,500 insurance on the Slacum building, about one-half the loss he estimates, while on the other buildings insurance was about \$800 on each building. He says that the average insurance on the school houses is about \$1,200, and that insurance ordinarily will not run more than about one-half the loss.

In the storm district there is a general expression of thankfulness that the storm did not strike the school building during the day, for in such event loss of lives of school children probably would have reached an appalling figure.

The eighth school building destroyed in the county was the Scott, in Nottingham on which the Lee Conklin agency had insurance.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 49. NO. 39. Wednesday, March 29, 1916. p. 2, col. 3.

KEYSTONE HIGH SCHOOL
COMMENCEMENT APRIL 28

CLASS OF SEVEN WILL RECEIVE
DIPLOMAS AT EXERCISES
THERE.

The Keystone High School will hold its commencement exercises in the M. W. of A. Hall, Friday, April 28. There are seven graduates, namely, Misses Cecil Kennedy, Chloe Walker, and Messrs. Don Scott, Jesse Blair, Gerald Neuswander (sic), Ralph Perry and Alex Ludlum. George Fox will deliver the class address. Also Seven at Roll.

The Roll high school, which this year has a four year course, will have seven graduates. Ther are thirty-three students in the high school at Roll, which, if present plans materialize, will be commissioned before the year is over.

The names of the graduates are Essie Alexander, Burr Johnson, Shirley Storms, Elbridge Stroup, Marie Tharp, Ines and May Wolverton.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 49. NO. 42. Wednesday, April 19, 1916. p. 1, col. 6.

SIXTEEN WILL BE
GRADUATED AT MARKLE.

Sixteen seniors will be graduated from the Markle high school at commencement exercises in the tabernacle April 25, when Dr. Gross, president of DePauw university, will deliver an address. The Markle band will furnish music. The baccalaureate sermon will be preached by the Rev. M. G. Long, pastor of the Markle Christian church, April 23 in the M. E. church.

There will be a number of social functions preceeding the baccalaureate and commencement programs. The annual junior reception to the seniors will occur next Friday evening. Senior class day will be observed April 21, and in the evening the seniors will present a play, "The Freezing of a Mother-in-Law."

Old rose and silver gray are the senior colors. The class flower is the pink tea rose, and its motto "Build for Character, Not for Fame." The members of the class are Hazel McGinnis, Clarence Highlen, Edna Thomas, Edna Wolfcale, Marion Plice (sic), Gretchen Gossardm, Roscoe Pratt, Fredith Langley, Marion Allen, Hazel Jones, Eulalia Lesh, Clovis McNatt, Attie Poorman, Merle Highlen, Ivan Walters, Charles Garber and May Boulware.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 49. NO. 42. Wednesday, April 19, 1916. p. 2, col. 1.

PLAN REBUILDING OF
WRECKED SCHOOL HOUSES

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

County Superintendent A. R. Huyette made a trip to Jackson township this morning to confer with Trustee Charles Plummer regarding the repair of some of the buildings damaged in the cyclone a few weeks ago. The worse damage, outside the buildings which were totally wrecked, was at the Batson Bridge school, where a chimney in falling broke through a slate roof and broke some of the rafters below. Mr. Plummer will repair the roof, put in new rafters and ceiling and erect a new chimney. A furnace will be installed in the basement. The advisory board has instructed Mr. Plummer to have plans and specifications prepared for a modern, furnace-heated building to replace the Banter school, which was a total wreck. New buildings will replace the Slacum school in Chester township, and the Scott school, in Nottingham township, but plans for their rebuilding are not yet under way.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 49. NO. 42. Wednesday, April 19, 1916. p. 2, col. 3.

BLUFFTON SENIOR CLASS
HAS SIXTY MEMBERS.

The Bluffton high school Senior class number sixty members and the complete list of names was furnished today by

the school authorities.

The annual high school commencement exercises will be held this spring on Monday evening, May 29th. at the Grand opera house and the baccalaureate sermon will be delivered on the preceding Sunday evening, May 28th.

The list of Seniors is as follows:

Lulu Marie Allen, Lucile Baker, Robert Baumgardner, Norman W. Brown, Guy Brubaker, Roger Lewis Dailey, Roberta Deam, Mary DeLong, Elizabeth Derr, Georgina Eaton, Henry Edris, Esther Fitzpatrick, Charles Julian Grimes, Trevena May Herbst, Helen Hitchcock, Frederick Humphrey, Harry W. Isler, Harold Kline, Phyllis Kretz, Catherine Krill, Marjorie Kunkel, Cletus Harold Kyle, Jeannette Lounsbury, Lorene Markley, William E. Mentzer, Leone Moon, Roberta Mosiman, Mary Elizabeth Painter, Helen Plessinger, Martha Plessinger, Paul Postal, Bertha M. Pribble, Sylvester Earnest Pyle, Mary Sale, Anna Louise Skiles, Hope Stine, Violet Stogdill, Charles Sturgis, Ella Troute, Helen Troutman, Merle Wetherbee, all of Bluffton; Harold L. Bickle, Bluffton, R. F. D. 9; Thelma Crowl, Bluffton R. F. D. 5; Russell Lee Johnson, Bluffton, R. F. D. 1; Doris Jones, Poneto; Robert M. Kleinknight, Bluffton, R. F. D. 1; George McAfee, Bluffton, R. F. D. 3; Donita McBride, Zanesville; Ruth Nordyke, Bluffton, R. F. D. 1; Hary Ray Oman, Uniondale; Walter Elijah Pease, Monroe, R. F. D. 1; Vera Phillips, Liberty Center, R. F. D. 1; Olive E. Powell, Craigville, R. F. D. 1; Gerald Dee Raver, Bluffton, R. F. D. 1; Ada Schindler, Linn Grove; Ernest H. Shoemaker, Bluffton, R. F. D. 3; Mildred Lucile Steiner, Bluffton, R. F. D. 6; Alfred C. Sweeny, (sic) Bluffton, R. F. D. 5; Herman S. VanZant, Craigville; James H. Woodruff, Bluffton, R. F. D. 9.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 49. NO. 42. Wednesday, April 19, 1916. p. 2, col. 7.

LIBERTY CENTER TEACHER
BECOMES A PREACHER.

(From Saturday's Daily)

A report from Liberty Center today is to the effect that Prof. Roberts, of the Liberty Center high school, has been appointed pastor of the Evangelical church at Elkhart, and that he will enter upon his pastoral duties there on Sunday, April 23rd. This will mean that the Liberty Center schools will have to seek a new teacher for the coming year.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 49. NO. 42. Wednesday, April 19, 1916. p. 3, col. 4.

MISS SADIE NEWLON TO
LEAVE BLUFFTON SCHOOLS.

(From Friday's Daily)

Miss Sadie Newlon, teacher of mathematics in the Bluffton High School, announced this morning that she has accepted a similar position in the Muncie High School, at a nice increase in salary over that received here. Miss Newlon has taught in Bluffton three years, and has been one of the most capable and popular teachers ever in the Bluffton High School. During her residence in this city she has made a host of friends who will regret her departure, but will wish her the best of success in the Muncie school. She was offered a position in the Muncie school some time ago, but declined to leave the Bluffton school in the middle of

the year.

Miss Newlon is very popular with the students and for the last two years has been coach of the girls' basketball squad, and has had charge of the speaking parts in the different plays given by the Bluffton school. In both cases she always put forth earnest efforts, with marked success. Her home is in Salem, Ind. Principal Moore, of the Muncie High School, will arrive in Bluffton early next week to have her sign a contract.

Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 49. NO. 42. Wednesday, April 19, 1916. p. 3, col. 5.

MORE COMMENCEMENT
PROGRAMS ARE ISSUED

LIBERTY CENTER, PETROLEUM,
AND TOCSIN PROGRAMS ARE
ANNOUNCED.

The Liberty Center high school commencement exercises will be held at the high school auditorium on Thursday evening, April 27, at 8 o'clock. Twelve will receive diplomas. The program follows:

March _____ "Our United Emblem"
N. Brown.

Invocation _____ Rev. Harper
Overture _____ "From Shore to Shore"
C. W. Bennett.

Address _____ "The Aristocracy of Work"
Jonathan Rigdon.

Selection _____ "The Girl I Love"
Sanford & Spencer.

Presentation of Diplomas _____
A. R. Huyette

Waltz _____ "Hesitation"
H. Peters.

Benediction _____ Rev. Mitchell
March _____ "Frolicsome Frolics"
J. C. Meredith.

Class Roll.

Arthur Hupp, Victor Mounsey, Ora Brineman, Nettie Osborn, Ruth Johnson, Nettie Osborn, Ruth Johnson, Freda Ernst, Earl Marshall, Merle Markley, Gerald Russell, Mearl Williamson, Ware Baker, Edwin Boltin.

Petroleum Commencement.

The Petroleum high school commencement exercises will be held at the Petroleum high school building on Thursday [e]vening, April 27th, and a class of eight will be graduated. The program follows:

Processional _____ Fern Taylor
High School Chorus _____ "Anchored"

Invocation _____ Rev. Carnes
Girls Quartette _____ "In May Time"

Address _____ Prof. L. F. Smith
Girls Quartette _____

_____ "Good Night, Beloved."
Presentation of Diplomas _____

_____ A. R. Huyette
High School Chorus _____

_____ Song of the Years
Benediction _____ Rev. Carnes

The graduates are Cecil Lockwood, Marion Wilson, Wilbur Wilson, Cleo Hornaday, Dessie Ochsensrider, Mandeville Prouty, Ralph Bloxsom, and Ford Mitchell. Tocsin Commencement Program.

Commencement exercises will be held by the Tocsin high school on Wednesday evening, April 26th, and the program follows.

Orchestra: March _____ R. B. Hall
Overture _____ "King Rose"
_____ Geo. D. Barnard.

Invocation _____ Rev. Farmer
Grand March _____ "The Princess"
_____ Jos. Gearen.

Class Address: _____ "Education for
Living in a Democracy"
_____ Harry G. Hill

Orchestra _____ "Wedding of the Winds"
_____ John T. Hall.

Conferring Diplomas _____
_____ Co. Supt. A. R. Huyette"

March _____ "On The Picket Line"
_____ George Rosenkranz.

Benediction _____ Rev. Farmer

TOWNSHIPS PLANNING
NEW SCHOOL HOUSES.

The advisory board of Nottingham township will meet at Petroleum, Tuesday afternoon, for the purpose of considering plans for the erection of a new school building at the Scott school. where the old brick school house was blown down in the cyclone of March 21st. The needs of the building on the basis of the new enumeration will be taken into consideration.

In Jackson township it has been decided already, to have erected a modern new brick school buildings (sic), to take the place of the Banter school house, which also was destroyed in the cyclone on March 21.

A practically new building also will be erected at Slacum, to replace the building leveled there in the cyclone. A second building may be erected also in Chester, as there is an agitation in that township for a new combined graded and high school building at Keystone, which those agitating the matter of a new building declare deficient in a number of ways. Nothing definite, however, has been decided in this matter.

Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 49. NO. 43. Wednesday, April 26, 1916. p. 5, col. 7.

CHANGES ANNOUNCED
IN CITY TEACHERS

SOME NEW TEACHERS EMPLOY-
ED AND TRANSFERS AMONG
OLD TEACHERS.

The School Board held their first meeting, since the close of the school term Monday evening, and decided upon many changes in the teachers of the grade schools. Miss Mary Weisell, who for several years, has been a very successful teacher of the fourth grade and as principal at the Park school, has been transferred, at her request, to the 13th room at the Central school, recently vacated by Miss Minnie Miller, who resigned on account of ill health. Miss Lettie Miller, teacher of the third grade at the Park, was selected as principal of that school, and Miss Lela Nordyke another experienced teacher, was selected to teach the fourth grade at the park. Miss Nordyke finished this last

school term, teaching the 13th room vacated by Miss Miller. Miss Eva Phillips resigned her position as teacher of the fourth grade at the Columbian school, on account of ill health, and Miss Ethel Heckathorn, who has taught several years in the Central building, has been transferred to the Columbian school, to succeed Miss Phillips. Miss Heckathorn is a very capable teacher.

There still remained one vacancy in the Central school, and Miss Martha Plessinger, a graduate of the 1916 class, was selected to fill that vacancy. She will teach either the fourth or fifth grade. Miss Plessinger is at the present time attending the Muncie Normal, at Muncie, Ind., and the board is confident she will make a very capable teacher.

It is the custom of the school board to hire the teachers and give Supt. P. A. Allen the privilege of placing them, which was done in this case.

The principal for the High School will be selected at a later meeting. The board has a large list of applicants and will be careful to select a well qualified teacher for the place.

The school board also decided to buy a new boiler for the heating system for the Columbi school, the old one being badly worn although not yet condemned. A new boiler is almost necessary.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 49. NO. 50
Wednesday, June 14, 1916. p. 1, col. 5.*

BLUFFTON HIGH SCHOOL
QUITS STUDY OF GERMAN

BY VOTE OF SCHOOL GERMAN
DROPPED AND FRENCH LAN-
GUAGE IS ADOPTED.

By a vote at the school it has been decided to eliminate from the Bluffton high school the teaching of German.

German has been taught in the high school this year merely as study of grammer (*sic*) and not as a study of the language and hereafter French will take its place.

German was also taught this year, in order to permit the pupils, who have started in German to get enough credits to qualify them for a college. By taking up French at this time, the students will have enough of the German this year to give them their credit, although only one credit will be given for the French to those who will drop German and take up French. Similar action has been taken in many of the schools.

Supt. P. A. Allen thought at the beginning of school last fall that there would be no desire for German, but when so many signified their intentions of taking German this year it was continued for the time, for reasons explained about. The French books have not come yet but Miss Christman who will have charge of the French is giving oral lessons to the pupils.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Chronicle. VOLUME 51. NO. 38
Wednesday, March 20, 1918. p. 4, col. 4.*

WORK PROGRESSING
ON NEW SCHOOL

The work on the new high school building on South Oak street is reported progressing very satisfactorily with a force of men and teams on the job. The excavation work was begun

Wednesday.

*Bluffton, Indiana: Bluffton Evening News THIRTIETH YEAR,
NO. 185. Saturday, May 6, 1922. p. 4, col. 3.*

BOUGHT 3 ACRES AS SITE
FOR POPLAR GROVE SCHOOL

LAND BOUGHT FROM FRANK AND
ED RUDY FOR \$300 PER
ACRE.

Trustee George Higman and the advisory board of Harrison township have completed the purchase from Frank and Ed Rudy of three acres of ground, three miles south of Bluffton, as the location for the new Poplar Grove school building, and today Contractor Lee Kimmel, with Architect T. H. Koontz, and the township officials, took the steps to get the new building underway. The location for the building was [s]taked off, and the location for the well selected. The building will now be pushed rapidly to completion.

The three acres of land bought cost the township \$900, or \$300 per acre, while the Rudys in turn agree to buy from the township the one-half of the old site. The sale of the one-half acre must be advertised and there may be other bidders, although not likely.

The site for the new building about 361 feet square, lies directly north of the old building, in the southwest corner formed by the intersection of the Pennville pike and an east and west road.

At one time there was a grove of poplar trees at the site of the old building, but they have disappeared.

*The Evening News TWENTY-EIGHT YEAR, NO. 214 Wednes-
day, June 9, 1920. p. 1, col. 3.*

The following headline appears in a two-column box with Lancaster underneath in column 3 and Rockcreek in column 4.

TWO NEW SCHOOL BUILDINGS
THROWN OPEN TO SCHOLARS

LANCASTER

With an enrollment of 105 pupils, the Lancaster township high school entered upon its year's work this morning.

A Banner reporter visiting the school found excellent school spirit and predicts great success there.

How could there be anything but success where there is such a fine school building and the excellent corps of teachers. While the building is not completed, and it will be two or three weeks before primary pupils will enroll, there is enough of the construction of it to permit the pupils to go ahead with their high school studies to a great advantage.

The Lancaster school building is a pretty one. One cannot help but admire the entrancem, with its green tile walls and its glass railed stairways.

On the lower or basement floor is the auditorium, which has seating room of 37x65 and a 20x30 foot stage. Four hundred chairs of the theatre type are arranged in pairs, triplets and singles. These can be removed and the auditorium used as a basketball hall. And, by the way, the reporter noticed some good basketball material among the boys, and if not mistaken, one or two of them have had experience on well-coached teams.

On the lower floor is found the boiler rooms.

Two domestic science rooms and the girls' toilet are found on the northwest part of the floor, and two manual training rooms and the boys' toilet are on the northeast part. A built in cabinet takes care of the manual training tools.

On the first floor, entrance to which is gained from the front doors, the six grade rooms are found. You enter the balcony of the auditorium from this floor also. In the west end is found the principal's office.

The high school is on the top floor. A large assembly room on the south permits the seating of 125 pupils. To the west of this in the southwest part of the building are the English, bookkeeping, recitation and cloak rooms. A boys' toilet is on one end of the hallway and the girls' toilet is on the other end. On the north side are four class rooms. One is for chemistry, another for physics, and the other two for art and general recitation.

The Lancaster high school offers two courses. One is academic and the other non-academic. The academic includes the four-year course that prepares for college, including domestic science. The non-academic course includes manual training and agriculture. Bookkeeping is also included in the latter course. Chemistry and physics are both made to apply to farm work.

According to the outsider the outstanding feature of the building is its pretty interior furnishings; its commodous (*sic*) hallways (*sic*); its well equipped auditorium and its well lighted class rooms. The good school spirit is exceptionally noticeable.

Thirteen pupils from Tocsin and three from Harrison township are hauled to this school.

ROCKCREEK

The consolidated school of Rockcreek township was opened today with an attendance far above expectations. Eighty-four are registered on the junior and senior high schools, while the grade and primary attendance is 123, making a total of 207 pupils.

Only a few touches are needed to put the school building into "ship shape." A little more equipment is necessary, but the teachers are not working at any handicap now.

There are two front entrances set off by large stone columns, which give the building a majestic appearance. On the first floor as one enters from the right are found the sewing and cooking rooms. Passing on to the end of the hall one enters the big gymnasium. The place is well-equipped to handle crowds attending basketball games. The reporter who visited the place did not see so much basketball material, but with the husky youngsters filling the seats of the junior high school there is no doubt that the material will soon come.

To the left of the east hallway are the girls' shower room and toilet.

The west entrance will be mainly a boys entrance since the manual training room is found there and there are the boys' showers and toilet rooms.

On the second floor one enters on the balcony of the gymnasium. The floor is raised in tiers, so that everyone may have a good view of the playing floor. Two class rooms on each end of this floor take care of the primary and secondary pupils. A cloak room is found there also.

On the third floor is found the auditorium. Two rooms to the west end may be turned into one lecture room by the mere slide of doors. On the east end the science room, with its tables, are to be found.

The principal's office, girls' and boys' toilets, library and rest room are on the north side of the hallway.

There are several features to this building. One feature is the basketball hall and its arrangement to care for crowds. Another is the shower baths and another the large amount of auditorium space.

A building now under construction will take care of the auto trucks.

Bluffton, Indiana: The Evening Banner VOL. XXII, NO. 272. Monday, October 9, 1922 p. 5, col. 3, 4.

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