

Register of Old Buildings  
Macon County Historical Coordinating Council

Address: 111 North Main  
The Singleton Building  
Resvy of blk 3 Original Town of Decatur Lot 18.

Date of original construction: Rebuilt, following a fire - 1915.  
(Decatur Herald news clipping 5/16/1915)  
Assessor's office est - 1915.

Name of original owner: Hue Singleton.

History:

1. Data from available city directories follows:
  - 1881- Huston Singleton (c) barber & hairdresser, ss Prairie 5W Water.
  - 1884- Huston Singleton barber, 158 E. Prairie, bis. 542 S. Main.
  - 1885-1921 Huston Singleton, restaurant, 111 N. Main, r 109 N. Main.  
(Note: in 1909 the Singleton residence was listed above the restaurant - 109 N. Main - but also as ss McKinley Ave. 1 w of Graceland, later as 800 West McKinley).
  - 1922-23 Bryan's Cafe.
  - 1924- Green Mill Cafe and Tea Room.
  - 1925- Bryan's Cafe.
  - 1926- Singleton's Restaurant.
  - 1927- J. W. Gucker, restaurant.
  - 1928-1929 Mrs. Zora Hawley, restaurant.
  - 1930- Green Mill Cafe (A. H. Gevatoski).
  - 1931- P. E. Conrad and H. C. Noble (restaurant).
  - 1932- Vacant.
  - 1933-1936 Stag Cafe (Hugh Davis).
  - 1937- Maxwell House Cafe (H. N. Rice).
  - 1938- Marie's Diner Restr. (Mrs. Mary G. Stamper)
  - 1939- Creighton's Cafe restr. (Curtis E. Creighton).
  - 1940-1944 Vacant.
  - 1945- Caterpillar Military Engine Co. (emp. ofc.).
  - 1946-1949 Nine-Cent Shoe Repair Sys. (Art. Collins, Mgr.).
  - 1950- Vacant.
  - 1951-1953 Emerson Piano House (repair shop).
  - 1954-1956 Robt. Gebhart Gifts, Paint.
  - 1957-1958 Vacant.
  - 1959-1960 Alltop Musical Instr.
  - 1961-1962 No. 111 N. Main listed.
  - 1963-1964 Vacant.
  - 1965-1973 Burchett Photog. Studios.
  - 1974- Linxweiler Ofc. Sups.
  - 1975- Vacant.

2. Data from office of Decatur Township assessor:

Size of lot 20'x76' 2 story and basement  
Year built - 1915  
3 rms and basement - poor cond.  
(stairs inside 1st)  
Brick walls cement footings Store  
Wood floor  
Built up roof  
2 single plumbing fixtures  
Forced gas heat

3. History:

(a) See the following clippings:

- Daily Review - Nov. 18, 1904
- Arcade Hotel fire - little damage to Singleton Cafe.
- Decatur Public Library vertical file - local history
- Summary of Big Fires in Decatur (1890-1925)
- 1912 picture of all of Decatur's fire equipment,
- picture taken in front of Hue Singleton building
- Hue Singleton Had Popular Cafe - February 20, 1957
- Decatur Review - April 30, 1924
- E. T. Coleman's - Story of Decatur, Chapter 150
- Town well, pump and watering trough (in 1866) nearly in front of what is Hue Singleton building.
- Decatur Herald - May 16, 1915
- New item - Singleton to Start on Building Monday
- Decatur Review - August 17, 1923
- Arrest Two in Singleton Case
- (confidence game worked on Hue Singleton)
- Obit. - March 16, 1926

(b) Quote from Samuel Houston Singleton's obituary, March 16, 1926:

O. B. Gorin, president of Millikin Bank:  
"He has been a good man, a good citizen. He has been a patron of the bank for many years....He was prompt and exact in his business dealings; fair and square....His credit was always good."

Other information from the obituary:

Born in Shelbyville, Tenn. - May 28, 1848.  
Came to Decatur as a small boy.  
Married Miss Laura Cousins in Gibson City, Ill. on Dec. 29, 1886.  
Leaves wife, brother, William H. Singleton, college faculty member in Chattanooga, Tenn., nephew, Dr. A. M. Singleton, Nashville, On Macon County Board of Supervisors as a Republican, many years. Member of many Masonic groups.  
Member of A.M.E. Church.  
Built a fine home at 800 W. McKinley where he and his wife lived 1909-1926.  
Mrs. Singleton continued there after his death, 1926-1930.



# Hue Singleton Had Popular Cafe

Outstanding among Decatur's restaurant operators during the half-century following the Civil War was Hue Singleton, who owned a restaurant for 37 years on Lincoln Square. After he sold his business in 1921, Mr. Singleton lived in his handsome home on West McKinley Avenue until his death in March, 1926 at the age of 77 years.

One newspaper account of his death stated that he came to Decatur with his parents in boyhood, but earlier newspaper stories say he came to Decatur in 1865.

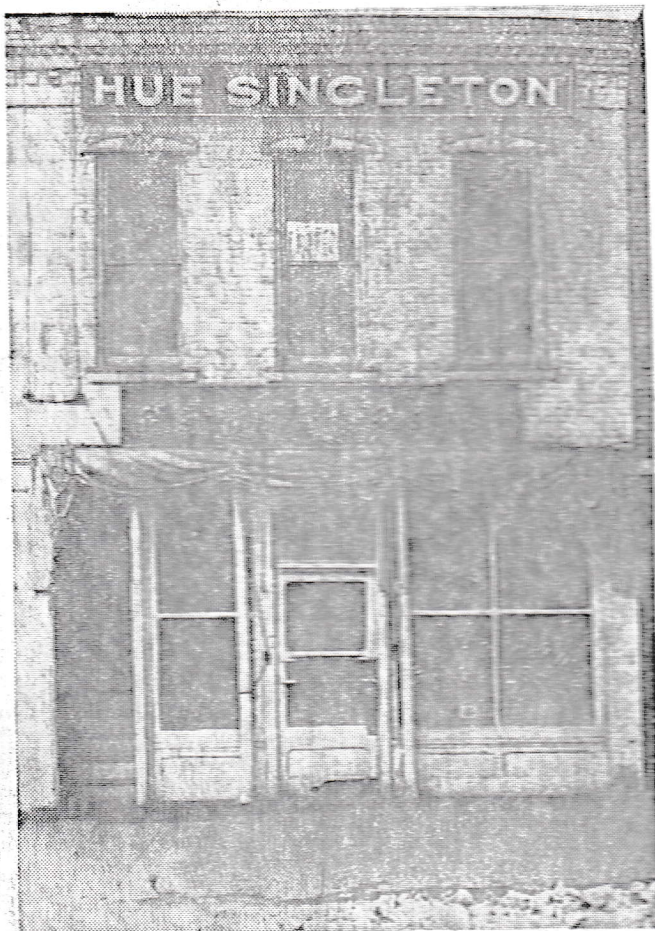
According to these stories, his family lived in Keokuk, Iowa, where Mr. Singleton had his first work as a bellhop in a hotel.

When E. G. Egbert sold the Keokuk hotel and bought the Revere House in Decatur, he brought Mr. Singleton to Decatur to work as a bellhop and waiter in the Revere House, which was destroyed by fire a few years later.

Mr. Singleton learned the barber trade and operated a shop in several locations, one in the basement of the National Bank of Decatur Building.

In 1884, a man who had been operating an untidy and poorly patronized restaurant in the northwest corner of Lincoln Square, walked out and disappeared.

Mr. Singleton bought the place for a small sum. His first fight was against rodents, cockroaches and dirt, but in a short time he



This building on Lincoln Square, occupied by Hue Singleton Cafe, was partially destroyed by fire in 1915. It was rebuilt and the popular eating place continued business under his ownership until 1921.

Feb 20 - 1957



Hue (Samuel Huston) Singleton

had the place sparklingly clean. One of the best cooks in the city happened to be out of work and agreed to take over the kitchen.

The few customers who appeared in the first few weeks spread the news about the good food served and as business increased, new equipment was installed.

Singleton's soon was getting business and professional men as guests and the place was serving small banquet dinners. Visitors from other cities including shoppers added their patronage.

Mr. Singleton took interest in civic affairs and became active in the Republican party. He was elected to the County Board of Supervisors for several terms. He built his McKinley Avenue home in 1908 and carried on a losing court fight to keep the Illinois Terminal railway belt line from coming too close to his home.

He was a successful business man. He knew and admired the late Booker T. Washington and flew a flag at half mast over the restaurant when the great Negro educator died.

A few years after retiring from business, Mr. Singleton was threatened with the loss of several thousands of dollars through a confidence game operated by two Chicago men selling stock in the Chin Chin Chemical Co., with promises of 40 per cent dividends.

The two men were arrested and convicted. They were admitted to probation after arranging to reimburse Mr. Singleton for his



# HUE SINGLETON, PIONEER CITIZEN, TAKEN BY DEATH

County Supervisor Dies in  
Hospital After Eight  
Day Illness

3/16/26

FUNERAL THURSDAY

Supervisor Hue Singleton, in all probability the outstanding man of his race in his day in Decatur, died at 11 o'clock Monday morning in Marion county hospital after an illness of eight days of pneumonia. When announcement of the nature of his illness was made, his acquaintances feared the worst for, with advanced years his physical strength noticeably had failed. Friends hoped for his recovery but their calm judgment was that all of the chances were against him. Announcement of the death occasioned no surprise, however much his friends regretted to hear it.

If establishing a name as a good business man is to be commended, then Hue Singleton made for himself in Decatur a record for which he can never apologize. Better than the mere name of business man, he demonstrated that he obtained was one of sterling worth. For many years he had a bank account, he was a patron of Middle's National bank, he just long before it became a bank under the Federal banking laws. Banking institutions of the man at their head perhaps a bit better than where set an insight into the character of their patrons. When the head of a big bank pays tribute to the worth of a man who has lived his time that speaks as a rule may be taken as an index of a man's character.

#### Good Man, Good Citizen

Last week when told of the critical illness of Hue Singleton, G. B. Gorman, president of that institution, commented: "He has been a good man, a good citizen. He has been a patron of this bank for many years. I could not say how many. He was prompt and exact in his business dealings, fair and square. I never knew him to do but one wrong thing in a business way, and that was when some fellows sold him some phony bonds. But what man has been in business as many years as Supervisor Singleton with out making one mistake. I might add too, that his credit was always good."

That last statement, with the majority of men, is the goal. When they have established with the bank of their choice credit for all their needs, what matters. Hue Singleton was good financially. The best of that statement is that all that he acquired was the result of his own industry, his frugality, his fair dealings with his fellow men.

#### Came Here With Parents

With his parents he came to Decatur when he was a little boy. Here he attended public school until he was big enough to hold a job and found his first steady employment in the old Bevere house on Franklin street, opposite Central park. Later he worked as a barber and conducted a shop of his own. In the early eighties he ventured into the restaurant business. That had been his goal. He was tenacious of purpose. He was patient and he won. Not only did he make his business a success but he bought the building in

which he conducted his business. After many years that building was dismantled and a new one erected on that site.

He served a number of years as a member of the board of supervisors, was a member at the time of his death. He was a member of the Methodist church and of Decatur lodge 27, A. F. & A. M., also of Hollinger chapter, 22 R. A. M.; Bokan commandery, No. 21; Western conspiracy 24, Hiram chapter, Rose Croix and St. Johns Perfection lodge 28, of Chicago and past patron of St. Mary's chapter, Order of Eastern Star.

Born May 25, 1854

Hue Singleton was born May 25, 1854 in Shelbyville, Tenn., and with his parents Henry and Minerva Singleton came to Decatur when he was a small boy. He was married to Mrs. Laura Cousins, Dec. 27, 1886 in Gibson City. He leaves his wife, his brother William H. Singleton, faculty member of the college in Chattanooga, Tenn.; his sister Mrs. Alice Townsend of Winchester, Tenn.; one nephew Dr. A. M. Townsend, Nashville, Tenn., and his niece Laura Moore of Jacksonville.

The body will remain in the home McKelley avenue, until Wednesday morning, when it will be taken to the chapel of Moran & Sons where funeral services will be conducted Thursday afternoon.

1965 Mrs Matilda M Wilkinson\*  
 1968 Leslie L Bramblett  
 1969 Vacant  
 2002 Frank M Green\*  
 2003 Fred E Baldwin  
 2008 John W Hargraves\*  
 2012 Wm I Baker\*  
 2020 Andrew J Sherman  
 2025 Lamont E Leaser\*  
 2026 Frank W Merrill  
 2033 Newton A Reed\*  
 2036 William L Adams  
 2037 James H Harris\*  
 2049 Sandy N Newell\*  
 2060 George E McWilliam\*  
 2061 Claude H O'Dell\*  
 2062 Fred G Cobb\*  
 2069 Julius Strocher\*  
 2075 Strocher Bros  
 2077 Wm F Strocher\*  
 2080 Clarence O Cowgill\*  
 2102 Samuel Price\*  
 2112 Arnold Wiedenkiler  
 2120 James E Daugherty  
 2130 Charles B McQueen\*  
 2144 Carl E Butzer\*  
 2150 Roy V Carr\*  
 2170 James O Crum\*  
 2180 Jacob Bridges  
 Sherman Carr\*  
 2210 Charley A Johnson\*  
 2438 Oris Armstrong  
 2443 Huey Ralston  
 2446 Wm R Coffey  
 2461 Floyd Crow\*  
 Roy Hornback  
 2510 Andy E Peterson\*  
 2520 Mrs Lora Chilcoat  
 2522 James Cochran  
 2539 J Clarence Freeman\*  
 2556 James Kilman  
 2564 Charles Janvrin

**MAIN—NORTH**

North from Lincoln Square, Dividing  
 City East and West

(All Loop Cars 100 to 600; Edward Cars  
 100 to 700; Condit Cars 100 to 1100;  
 Water Cars 100 to end)

103 Parlor Market  
 103 Frank N Goodman  
 (over) Mrs Margaret Love  
 (bsmt) Cummings & Dennis  
 105 Edward J Morris  
 109 Houston Singleton\*  
 111 Houston Singleton  
 113 Joseph A Bishop  
 P O Sta No 8  
 117 Lincoln Square Cafe  
 121 Lincoln Square Billiard Hall  
 125 Britton-Anderson Music Co  
 128 Stine Building  
 129 Wallender & Wilder  
 136 E A Denz  
 138 Denz Building  
 140 A C Brown  
 141 Lincoln Square Theatre

1918 City Dir.

Emerson Piano House  
 (over) I O O F Hall  
 144 Conklin Building  
 7-8 Illinois Mortgage Loan  
 146 J L Williams  
 E E Crow  
 147-161 Bachman Bros & Martin  
 148 Rodger & Thornton  
 201-211 The Motor Mart  
 Universal Safety Sales Corp  
 201-211 New Suffern Building  
 201 Mrs Carola Loos Tooker  
 Miss Angela Loos Tooker  
 202 Bartlett Frazier Co  
 203 Mrs Ida V Ainslie  
 204-206 L Earl Duncan  
 205 Elmer E Gibson  
 207 L Walter MacNeil  
 208 Murphy Grain Co  
 L M Sickles  
 209 Mrs May Delahunty  
 210-212 American Grain Co  
 213 Spence & Pease  
 214 E B Conover Grain Co  
 215 Miss Florence Bernice Gher  
 216 Suffern Wm H Grain Co  
 218 Daniel H Bonus  
 215 1, 2, 5, 6 George W Davidson  
 8 Mrs Winnie Frey  
 9 Albert F Sadowski  
 12 Wm H Wehrly  
 13 Bernice F Bilyea  
 16 Mrs Ceta Hawkins  
 217 Wells Fargo & Co  
 219 W T Delahunty & Co  
 222 Needham Hardware Co  
 223 Macon County Telephone Co  
 224 Pasfield Building  
 1 Lehman & Lewis  
 2 Mrs Bonnie B Patterson  
 3 A H Barnett  
 4-6 Miss Janet White  
 8-14 Douglas Telephone Co  
 11 C A Rucker  
 15 T D Wheeler  
 (2d floor) Mrs Anna E Dent  
 225 Home Telephone Building  
 1-2 National Investment Co  
 3-5 U S Brokerage Co  
 6 Lloyd Harrington  
 6 R S Patton  
 7 George H Hinkley  
 9 Walter Harnbeck  
 10 Byron Gucker  
 226 Pierce & Caldwell  
 227 The Paris Cleaners & Dyers  
 Robert W Meech  
 (3d floor) R Glenn Grindle  
 (3d floor) Robert W Meech  
 (3d floor) Samuel J Roberts  
 227 Mrs Mary J Fairchild  
 228 American Express Co  
 Toledo Scale Co  
 229 Samuel E Ranson  
 234-236 Norman Laundry & Dry C  
 ing Co  
 236 Norman Apartments  
 1 Frank A Bundy



PHONES: Main 3800 and 3801  
1250 North Main St.

- Sinclair Wm R (Lu), barber 337 N East av, r 339 N East av.  
Sine Eugene, sales, r 846 E William.  
Sine Ida L, wid Charles, r 1007 N Union.  
Sine Ida V, wid Albert, r 846 E William.  
Sine Richard A, cond Penn Lines, r Terre Haute Ind.  
Singer Julius, mgr Peoples Credit Clothing Co, r 272 W William.  
**SINGER SEWING MACHINE CO**, J P Dace mgr, 250 N Water.  
Singleton Benoit F (Florence E), foreman Wabash, r 227 N Witt.  
**SINGLETON HOUSTON** (Laura E), restaurant 111 N Main n w cor  
coln Square, r s s McKinley av 1st w of Graceland av.  
Sinnott George (Effie), boiler mkr Wabash, r 1426 E Sangamon.  
Sipe Charles (Anna), wks Max Atlass, r 337 E Stuart av.  
Sipe Charles P, clk Mueller Mfg Co, r 229 S Main.  
Sipe Clarence, r 337 E Stuart av.  
Sipe Leah M Miss, music tchr, r 229 S Main.  
Sipe Robert C (Anna), r 229 S Main.  
Siron Fred J, packer Am Hominy Co, r 306 W Cerro Gordo.  
**SISSON RALPH L** (Ethel Y), city editor Herald-Despatch Co, r 131  
mit av.  
Sisters of St Francis in charge St James' German Catholic Sch, con  
E Clay.  
Sisters of St Francis in charge St Mary's Hospital, 220 S Webster.  
Sites Eliza J, wid F A, r 1364 N Union.  
Sites Lydia A, wid Abraham, r 357 E Main.  
Sites Wm B (Emma), stove repr, r 1629 N Illinois.  
Sitz Angeline, wid Samuel, r 1120 N Monroe.  
Siweck Alma Miss, opr Home Mfg Co, r 1048 N Railroad av.  
Siweck August (Lydia), tmstr, r 1048 N Railroad av.  
Siweck Bertha Miss, maid 366 W Decatur, r 1048 N Railroad av.  
Siweck Emma Miss, r 1048 N Railroad av.  
Siweck Hattie Miss, student, r 1048 N Railroad av.  
Siweck Martha Miss, opr Home Mfg Co, r 1048 N Railroad av.  
Siweck Otto E, wks Wabash, r 1048 N Railroad av.  
Six Anna Mrs, opr Osgood & Heiner Mfg Co, r 657 W Wood.  
Six Charles H (Ella), barber Roy Haines, r 960 E Prairie av.  
Six Edgar N (Emma J), dept clk Mueller Mfg Co, r 1120 W Eldorado.  
Six Frances Miss, office asst High Sch, r 657 W Wood.  
Six Leonard W, order clk Mueller Mfg Co, r 1120 W Eldorado.  
Six Leslie W, mess W U Tel Co, r 1120 W Eldorado.  
Six Ray W (Emma), mach opr Leader Iron Wks, r 607 N East av.  
Six Russell, student, r 657 W Wood.  
Six Ruth B Miss, clk Review Publishing Co, r 1120 W Eldorado.  
Skeens Arthur F (Lucille), fireman I C, r 824 Leafland av.  
Skelley Edward S (Mattie V), painter 1198 W Cerro Gordo, r same.  
Skelley Frank (Anna), r 339 N Calhoun.





New Singleton Building

Decatur Public Library  
Decatur, Illinois

## Big Fires in Decatur

23 May 25

Wabash freight house, Nov. 21, 1890	\$ 44,000
Union Elevator, Nov. 21, 1890	100,000
Furniture factory, Nov. 19, 1891	50,000
Decatur Lumber & Mfg. Co., Nov. 19, 1891	12,000
Old Library block, Feb. 21, 1892	100,000
Old Smith opera house, Sept. 11, 1894	15,000
B. O. McReynolds, Feb. 9, 1895	10,000
P. Loeb building, March 15, 1895	75,000
Union Iron Works, Aug. 6, 1895	30,000
Powers opera house and Linn & Scruggs, Nov. 5, 1895	250,000
Gebhart block, Feb. 29, 1896	60,000
N. A. Cruzan and Wabash avenue property, April 12, 1896	60,000
C. B. & Q. factory, Jan. 17, 1899	35,000
Faries factory, Oct. 9, 1900	35,000
Shellabarger mill, Dec. 26, 1901	35,000
Mueller, Platt & Wheeland Co., Feb. 11, 1901	116,000
Decatur Gun Co., July 4, 1901	20,000
Charles T. Johnson store, July 6, 1901	21,000
Central Malleable Iron Works, Nov. 14, 1904	35,000
Decatur and Arcade hotels, Nov. 17, 1904	37,000
Decatur Cereal mill, June 8, 1909	265,000
Morehouse & Wells and other buildings, Aug. 22, 1909	508,049
Mantel factory, Jan. 8, 1911	200,000
Suffern-Hunt mill, Nov. 30, 1913	30,580
Linn & Scruggs and Powers theater, second fire April 7, 1914	565,117
Decatur and Arcade hotels, second fire, April 21, 1915	180,000
Seovill Furniture store, Oct. 1, 1917	140,000
Lender Iron Works, Nov. 6, 1920	125,000
Bowman Barn fire, Feb. 13, 1922	15,000
Shellabarger Elevator Co., Feb. 3, 1923	125,000
Wabash Shops, Feb. 26, 1924	250,000
Irwin Neteler, Dec. 25, 1925	100,000
W. C. Starr garage	200,000





Fire equipment of the City of Decatur lined up on the northwest corner of Lincoln Square for this picture in 1912. At the right is the Decatur Hotel destroyed by fire in 1915. De-

catur fire chiefs since the 1884 department was formed in 1884 have been W. T. Wayne, Frank

Winbrenner, W. W. Foster, C. W. Devore, Edward Platt, S. T. Lowery, Ed Platt, Charles

Osborn, Sam Crow, Ira Le and now Lynn P. Martin.



# The Story Of Decatur

By E. T. Coleman

## CHAPTER 150.

### AS DECATUR LOOKED IN '66

#### Hiram W. French of New Hampshire Is Compelled to Spend Day Here—He Grew to Like Our City.

Among the many letters that come to the Review concerning Decatur one of timely interest is from Hiram W. French at Quincy. While he does not contribute any information of special historical value, his first impressions of Decatur in 1866 have a delightfully intimate touch to them. He did not care much for the town as he saw it on that first day that he was compelled to stay here. But he came back later, became a resident and liked it much better. His letter follows:

Soldiers and Sailors Home, Quincy, Ill., April 17, 1924.

Editor Review:

I am very much interested in the story of Decatur which you are publishing. I came to Decatur at rather an early date. I came from New Hampshire in 1866.

I arrived in Decatur on the 4th day of April 1866, coming by way of the Wabash railroad. I had intended to go right on through to Harristown as I had a sister and brother-in-law living there whom I wished to visit. The brother-in-law was the late O. Z. Greene of your city. He was then the Wabash agent at Harristown.

When I reached Decatur the conductor told me that his train did not stop at Harristown and that I would have to wait in Decatur till 7 o'clock in the evening for a train which made that stop, so I reluctantly got off and went into the depot and began to look around for some breakfast. I noticed a small hotel back of the depot called the Western House to which I went and got my breakfast and it was a very good one, too.

#### HAD TIME TO SPARE.

Then as I had all day to wait I decided that I would go up and see the town. It did not take me long to do that all the place was not very large at that time. I walked from the station up Franklin street past the Dr. Stapp house where the stone lions were lying at each side of the door, then past the Revere House.

There was a hitch rack all around Central park and horses were hitched all the way around. There was not a foot of pavement any where in the town, neither was there any brick sidewalk. The walks were all made of oak boards. They were rather badly warped and rattled and flopped up and down as you walked over them.

#### LIKE COUNTRY ROADS.

The streets were just the same as the country roads. They had not been graded up any. They were just drying and were very rough. There was a hitch rack right in front of

the late T. T. Roberts were then resting that store.

Lincoln Square was the place where the farmers, many of them, parked their wagons and it was full of teams that day. I saw a woman and two children sitting in a wagon and they were eating their lunch. The horses were tied, one on each side of the wagon and they were eating their feed. One of the horses got scared and commenced pulling back and nearly upset the wagon. The woman screamed but did not jump out. Luckily the man appeared on the scene and quieted the horse.

#### CITY WATER WORKS.

There was a well, a pump and a watering trough on the square. They were not in the middle of the square but in the northwest corner nearly in front of the Singleton restaurant.

From what I saw of Decatur in my hasty inspection of the town I was not very favorably impressed, but later on I got to like it.

I walked back to the depot and got my dinner where I had my breakfast at the Western House. Then I had nothing to do but sit around all the rest of the afternoon and wait for my train, which was very tedious. I sat in the depot and watched the people coming and going.

#### BIBULOUS BARKEEP.

There was a bar in the depot where all kinds of liquors were sold openly and it seemed to be well patronized and it was very amusing to me to watch the customers come and go. The bartender seemed to know most of his customers and most of them extended the customary invitation: "Have one on me." I noticed that he did not decline any of them and I wondered how he could stand up under so much, but it did not seem to faze him a bit. This bartender was Sam Dychas. Some years later he was shot and killed in the Senate saloon which stood on the corner where the Lisa & Scroggs store now is.

#### MAKES NEW FRIEND.

While sitting around waiting for the train to Harristown I became acquainted with a young man who was also going to Harristown. His

name was Pete Cann and he was a brother to the late T. W. Cann of Decatur. He was a Civil War veteran, as I was myself, so we had a good time swapping tales. He had a sister, a Mrs. Holmes, living in Harristown. Pete Cann died years ago.

After visiting my folks in Harristown Mrs. Greene, my aunt, and I went down to Morgan county near Jacksonville where we had several relatives and visited there several days.

#### SUMMER ON FARM.

After coming back to Harristown I went to work for the Borthwick brothers, John and Sam, who were distant relatives of mine. They had a large body of land about four miles northwest of Harristown. I stayed with them until after harvest. They had eighty acres of heavy timothy grass. I helped to put up all of this. They had 400 acres in corn that year and three of us did all the corn plowing. But the land was new and did not need the cultivation it does now.

#### WITH THE WYKOFFS.

After harvest I went to Decatur to look for a job. I found one with the late Peter M. Wykoff who was running a meat market on the south side of Central park where the Citizens' National bank now is or possibly a little farther east. Mr. Wykoff was a fine man to work for, always good natured. His home was on the north side of West Main street. I boarded with the family. He also had a brother-in-law, George Fletcher, who was working for him. He, like myself, was a Civil War veteran. We had to bring in the stock for slaughter which Mr. Wykoff bought around the country. I well remember the partridge-hunting time George and I had bringing in a better which Mr. Wykoff had bought in the timber south of town. It was a hot day and we nearly ran our horses down trying to get that animal out of the timber. One I was nearly crushed from my horse by a low hanging limb. We finally succeeded. The slaughter house was on South Main street opposite the Danabier packing house.

Mr. Wykoff's family consisted of his wife and two little girls named Laura and Jennie. The girls got after their dad so he would take them to the timber to hunt for wild geese. I looked up all sorts of family tales and we drove to the woods west of town. I had my gun in a tree in a safe place, but little Jennie, leaning on my arm about every five minutes to see that I was all right. We got some game and the girls had a nice eating. I think Jennie married a man by the name of Joe Baker and that I have married Frank Palmer. I believe that she is still living about Decatur but on the west of that.

HIRAM W. FRENCH, Quincy, Ill.



### AGO IN DECATUR

30, 1914.

ber bought a lot of pipe from the fire and planned to bring plant at his of the city.

purchased membership board of trade. memberships now held Evans and H. I. he other two from

I decided to not let the drug stores mechanical medicine after May when went into ef-

education not added to giving a pay teachers the next

ing tax collection was a hitch rack right in front of







Aug. 11, 1923

# ARREST TWO IN SINGLETON CASE

## Men Caught By Chicago Police.

### TO BRING THEM BACK

### Lawyer Fails to Make Promise.

George J. Kohn alias Kain and J. M. Stetling, the two men charged with working a confidence game on Hue Singleton, prominent colored resident of Decatur, were arrested by Chicago police Friday morning for the Mason county authorities and Sheriff Underwood sent two deputies to Chicago Friday noon to bring the two men back.

They are the pair said to have traded \$500 in gold mortgage bonds on the Chin-Chin Chemical Company of Chicago to Singleton for about \$7,500 worth of notes and stock of the Decatur Water Supply and the Staley companies. The two notes for about \$2,500 each were made payable to self and then under another pretext Singleton was asked to authorize endorsement them with his name on the back.

#### NO CHEMICAL COMPANY

Investigation by the State's Attorney's office developed that there was no such chemical company in Chicago incorporated under the laws of Illinois. After making their escape from Decatur, they telephoned Singleton asking him to withdraw the warrants against them but at that time none had been issued. An attorney for the two was in Decatur from Chicago Thursday in an endeavor to make a compromise settlement but failed.

State's Attorney Evans was making further investigation Friday and planned to call the Secretary of State's office at Springfield to see if these two men had authority to sell the stuff they were selling.

# NO RULES FOR TOURIST CAMP

## Made Some but Tore Them Up.

There is no code of rules to regulate the motor tourists in the Decatur Automobile Camp. There has been a good deal of talk about preparing a set of rules. As a result of this President M. C. Nelson prepared a set of rules, had them nicely typed and left them on his desk over night to be erased. They did not look as well as they did the day after as they did the day before which is often the case. The rules were the rules have never been printed and probably never will.

# WHAT DID YOU SEE?

F. D. saw a freight train leave town Tuesday evening with a large lantern hung on the bumper for a light.

F. D. saw an automobile parked in the west part of town with a large lantern hung on the bumper for a light.

F. D. saw a woman at the State Hotel who had won four boxes of cracker bread by throwing rings over cans, still trying to add to the collection that she held under her arm.

M. H. saw two children hold their dog up to a drinking fountain to give it a drink. The dog carefully licked the whole top of the fountain with its tongue.

M. W. A. saw a car on the street in Decatur Wednesday night with the New York license number 1704-565.

#### WHAT DID YOU SEE?

# FAVOR VIBROLITHIC PAVEMENT HERE

## Cost Only Slightly More Than Concrete.

### LAY AT \$2.75 SQ. YARD

### Decatur Officials Are Much Pleased With It.

It is not unlikely that some Vibrolithic pavement will be put down in Decatur. At least this type of pavement will be given consideration. The Decatur officials, Mayor Elmer R. Elder, Commissioner Kayser and City Engineer O'Brien, who inspected this kind of pavement in Chicago this week, were not only favorably impressed with the pavement itself, but with the fact that it costs but little more than the ordinary concrete pavement.

#### AT \$2.75 SQUARE YARD

A street in Danville which is to have this sort of pavement will be built at slightly less than \$2.75 a square yard. The bid of a Decatur concern on the job was 1.75 a square yard but the contract went to Ralph W. McCallman of Danville. The Vibrolithic pavement is merely a super concrete pavement which is in effect a Terrazzo floor laid down. The pavement is surfaced with granite chips which are tamped into the wet concrete in such a way as to expel a large part of the water that is in the ordinary concrete pavement and thus reduce the consequent contraction and cracking and make a highly resistant and long wearing surface.

#### CONTROL METHOD

This type of pavement is controlled by the American Vibrolithic Corporation whose offices are in Des Moines.

# FOSTER MAY BE AT LABOR MEETING

## Expected in Decatur for At Art Institute Next Two Conventions.

### KNOWN AS AGITATOR

### To take Hand in Federation Election

In all probability, William Z. Foster, the Michigan man, passed usually as agitator and communist leader, will be in Decatur during the first two weeks of September to attend the Illinois state convention of the Farmer-Labor party and the Illinois State Federation of Labor. State officials of the state federation understand Foster will be here.

While probably a big majority of union labor men are opposed to Foster and his views are too radical, nevertheless, he has a following and local union leaders predict that Foster will try to figure prominently in their state convention and to inject some of his issues.

The Farmer-Labor organization now goes under the name of the Federated Farmer-Labor party and no doubt, many of the delegates sent to it from various parts of the state, will also represent their respective unions at the state federation meeting. Foster, it is believed will be at the Farmer-Labor meeting to get most of these delegates to come over to his side and then stand with him on the issues which he may try to inject into the state federation meeting.

# NEW BOOK ISSUED ON MIDDLE WEST

## Decatur Mentioned with Lincoln Lore.

People who have passed up the beauty spots and points of historic interest of their own state for those of foreign lands have something in store for them that may be worth while if they will take the time to read a new book by John T. Paris, "Seeing the Middle West," just off the J. B. Lippincott press. Mr. Paris is a disciple of the "See America First" doctrine and in his latest volume there are some fascinating revelations of the inland empire of the Middle West.

Illinois receives a prominent place in the itinerary of the various states with special reference to the waterways of the state and the historical legend that surrounds many of the settlements on the Illinois river, Rock River and the Great Lakes.

#### CHICAGO PLEAS

Of course Chicago receives attention and the writer seemed strongly impressed with the park system of

# FAREWELL SING FOR D. M. SWARTHOUT

## At Art Institute Next Day Evening.

D. M. Swarthout will make his public appearance in Decatur, he leaves, on next Tuesday at Art Institute where he will conduct a public sing on the Art Institute grounds. Dr. A. H. Taylor and Swarthout are working out the program for the sing. This will be the nature of a farewell sing.

Mr. Swarthout was asked the series of three sing he had planned but his work at the university his plans for leaving will not allow him to take the time to arrange more than one community sing.

# FIND UNCONSCIOUS GIRL ON BRIDGE

## Unable to Tell Her Name to Police.

Minnie Lynch, 497 South Broadway, employed in a north-end grocery, was found unconscious on County bridge about 10 o'clock Friday night, apparently having fallen in the river by some fire and when visited Friday morning Chief of Police Crump, she regained consciousness in short and no information could be obtained from her. It is not believed the condition is serious, however.

She was found by Vernon at 405 East Olive lying on the sidewalk of the but not having room in the car for her, they stopped a pass which took Miss Lynch to hospital. At first it was thought she might have taken poison, stomach pump was used, but no poison was found. Miss Lynch said to have started to a job outside the city and was seen late a taxi cab.

# SUPERVISORS TO PICNIC

## Outing Will Be Held in Park.

The picnic which the city supervisors plan to give to the board, the county and town officials and committeemen has changed somewhat as to date and time. It has been delayed the affair in Fairview and the date will be Wednesday, Sept. 5, instead of the next week. Full details are reported to attendants for the families too. To be a fish-fry also.

#### DEATHS.

WILLIAM PASCHAL  
The funeral of William Paschall will be held at the residence