

1936 Scrapbook, image 87

Wednesday, January 20, 1937

"AS ONE BIG MAN TO ANOTHER" WIRES BABY FRANKLIN FLECK TO THE PRESIDENT

"AS ONE big man to another," reads a telegram sent today to President Franklin D. Roosevelt by Baby Franklin Fleck, of Ari, on the Allen-Noble County line, who at birth weighed 17 pounds and four ounces, one of the largest babies ever born. The telegram, congratulating the President on his inaugural, continues:

"I offer my sincere congratulations. I was named for you, which honor I greatly appreciate. I weighed 17 pounds, four ounces at birth December 29 and today's metropolitan papers report that I am the largest baby ever born alive in the United States, American Medical Association confirming."
"EQUALLED NINE DIONNE BABIES"

The weight of the baby at birth at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer H. Fleck, was equivalent to the combined weight of nearly nine children the size of the famous Dionne quintuplets at birth, the combined weight of the Dionne babies having been less than 10 pounds.

Measurements of the champion Fleck baby at birth were taken by Dr. Jesse H. Briggs, Churubusco physician, who delivered the baby without use of instruments, as follows: Chest, 16 ½ inches; length, 24 ½ inches; abdomen, 16 inches; head 16 inches in circumference; right and left biceps, 5 ½ inches; right and left calves, 5 ½ inches; right and left thighs, 8 inches; each ankle, 4 ½ inches, and neck circumference, 9 inches.

"OTHER BIG BABIES IN FAMILY"

The November issue of the journal of the American Medical Association told of a 25-pound still-born baby girl born in 1916 in Pelham, Ga., and of a 24 and nine-tenths pound baby born in Italy. Medical records show that babies weighing 13 ½ pounds at birth occur once in every 200,000 births and those weighing 15 pounds once in every 250,000 births.

The three other children of the Flecks were large at birth, Amanda, now aged 2 ½ years, tipped the scales at 13 pounds at birth; Sammy, aged 5, weighed 12 pounds, and Howard, aged 8, weighed 10 pounds when born.

Mr. Fleck, who is 56 years old, is a WPA sub-foreman. The mother is 30 years old.

Baby Franklin Fleck was reported by Dr. Briggs to be normal in every...(cut off) (STAFF PHOTO PROVIDED..."CHAMPION-SIZED BABY FRANKLIN FLECK WITH MOTHER AND BROTHER, SAMMY, AND SISTER, AMANDA")

Friday, April 9, 1937

(cut off..) ACTIVE AT 104

Mrs. Elizabeth Speheger

Believed to be the oldest resident of Indiana, Mr. Elizabeth Speheger, aged 104, is still active about her (cut off...) on the Adams-Wells County line near Craigville.

She has never been seriously ill, contributing her health and great age to plenty of hard work, good food, (cut off...) living and obeying the precepts of the Bible.

A native of Switzerland, she speaks only the German and Swiss languages. Mrs. Speheger is the mother of five children, all living. (PHOTO PROVIDED)

Friday, April 9, 1937

WABASH SPAN NEAR CENTURY MARK

“Covered Bridge Four Miles Southeast of Berne”

Spanning the historic Wabash River four miles southeast of Berne, the covered bridge shown above is said to be approaching the century mark in service. It is one of the few remaining wooden bridges in the state. Removal of this relic of pioneer days is expected soon, since its structure is believed to have been weakened slightly by the January floods of this year. (PHOTO PROVIDED)

1937

STATE OFFICER

C.G. Egly

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind, Jan 21,-C.C. Barnes, Winchester, and C.G. Egly, Fort Wayne, were named president and vice-president respectively, of the Indiana Grand Dealers Association at a meeting Wednesday. (PHOTO PROVIDED)

Adams County Historical Museum

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Transcribed by Deb & Michelle Schevenius