

(Handwritten date: Monday, May 29, 1939)

## YOUNG THIEF ADMITS GUILT

Leon Furnas, 15, of Marion, Pleads Guilty to Vehicle Taking

(Photo) Leon Furnas, 15-year-old Marion lad, pleaded guilty to a charge of vehicle taking when arraigned before Judge Fred Fruchte in the Adams circuit court at Decatur Saturday. Judge Fruchte delayed sentence until later, but may do so late today, or during the middle of the week. It was indicated the lad may receive a term to the boys' school.

Furnas was returned to jail after he appeared before Judge Fruchte.

### PARENTS VISIT HERE

The lad's parents visited at the Berne Review office Friday, in an effort to obtain information about the thefts of automobiles here. They were on their way to Decatur to see their son. They reported the lad had never been in any trouble before, but a few weeks ago quit school and became restless. Before leaving Marion Wednesday he stole a car owned by his uncle, Harry Nose, and a suit belonging to his uncle. The car he abandoned on the streets here.

### LAD IS ARRESTED

A miniature career of crime ended abruptly late Thursday for Leon Furnas, 15-year-old Marion lad, who stole two autos in Berne Wednesday night and Thursday morning.

Furnas was returned to the Adams county jail by state police Officer Russel Prior after being apprehended by Kendallville police and members of the state police late Thursday.

Under questioning by Officer Prior, prosecutor Arthur E. Voglewede, sheriff Ed Miller and police chief James Borders, Furnas confessed to a busy day of crime.

He admitted stealing an auto and a suit of clothing in Marion Wednesday night, authorities reported. He confessed to driving to Berne, abandoning the Marion car and stealing one owned by Robert Fox.

Driving the car northeast, he wrecked it when he struck a cement culvert. Returning to Berne on foot, the young man again picked up the stolen Marion auto and drove out to the wreck scene in an effort to pull the wrecked car out of the ditch.

Unsuccessful in this attempt he returned to Berne, once again abandoned the Marion car, and stole still another, owned by Ervin Schindler. Then he started north. Near Kendallville he had the gas tank filled at a service sta- (cut off)

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(Handwritten date: Thursday, May 18, 1939)

## DEATH TAKES W. J. ARCHBOLD

Father of County Agent, Former County Treasurer, Dead at Decatur

William J. Archbold, 74, former public official and prominent De- (crease in paper)

...day morning at 3:45 o'clock at his home, 318 North Tenth street.

Death was attributed to heart trouble, following an illness since (crease in paper)

...Crist, former superintendent of Adams county memorial hospital. She survives.

Surviving also are the following children, L. E. Archbold, Adams county agricultural agent; M. J. Archbold of LaGrange; Earl J. Archbold, of Atlanta, Georgia; Mrs. Esther Risley of West Allis, Wisconsin and Mrs. Kathryn Helm, of Decatur.

A brother, Zack Archbold, of Washington township; two sisters, Mrs. Malinda Darwachter and Mrs. Julia Anspaugh, both of Decatur, and seven grandchildren, also survive.

The deceased was a member of one of the oldest families in the county and a direct descendant of Thomas P. Archbold, the county's only Revolutionary soldier.

#### FUNERAL FRIDAY

Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the residence on North Tenth Street at Decatur and at 2:30 at the First Methodist church, of which he was a member. The Rev. R. W. Graham, church pastor, will officiate. Burial will be made in the Maplewood cemetery.

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(Handwritten date: Monday, May 22, 1939)

#### NEW ARRIVALS

Wilbur and Adeline Neuenschwander Berkey of Smithville, O., are the parents of a baby boy born May 20. The baby weighs 7 lbs. and 5 ounces and is named Ted Wilbur.

A baby girl was born to Harve and Fannie Moser Neuenschwander, of near Decatur, Saturday.

Norman and Mary Abell Liechty, of Tucson, Arizona, are the parents of a boy, Emil Andrew, born Friday.

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(Handwritten date: Thursday, April 20, 1939)

#### NEW STATION OPENS

The new Hoosier Pete gas station along road 27 just north of Berne, was opened to the public today. The station is being operated by Evan Yake, Robert Kolter, and Herman Wulliman.

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(Handwritten date: Thursday, May 25, 1939)

## ADAMS COUNTY MAN DROWNS EARLY TUESDAY

### Ed Alt, 30, Drowns Near Pleasant Mills, While Fishing in River

An evident pleasure fishing trip ended in death Tuesday morning for Ed Alt, 30-year-old St. Mary's township resident, whose body was (crease in paper) ...of the village.

Deputy Gillig and Coroner Yager agreed, after preliminary examination, that the body had probably been in the water approximately five hours. Young Alt lay face down with only part of his back showing and his legs criss-crossed around a pair of fishing poles.

Reports of intimates of the young man revealed that he had been subject to epileptic seizures and this was offered as a cause for his falling into the stream. It is considered likely that he was stricken while fishing and plunged forward head first.

#### VERIFY TRIP

The grief-stricken parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Alt, of northeast of Bobo, with whom the young man lived, verified this version of the accident.

They stated that he had purchased a fishing license on Monday and that evening signified his intention of going out early Tuesday morning.. They stated that he arose about 4 o'clock and left before others were awake at the home.

Bud Steele, of near Bobo, reported to Deputy Gillig that he had seen the Alt car, parked on the road east of the river, about 5 o'clock Tuesday morning, thus corroborating the fact that he could have been in the water five hours before being discovered.

Aided by spectators, mostly from Pleasant Mills who had gathered at the accident scene after learning of the drowning, the coroner and deputy succeeded in getting the body out of the water. The body was taken to the Zwick funeral home at Decatur.

#### NEVER MARRIED

Alt, who was 30 years old, was never married. He had been making his home with the parents. Surviving, besides the parents, are a brother, Orval Alt, who resides near Decatur, and two sisters, Alma Alt of this city and Ruth Alt of Fort Wayne.

After further examination Tuesday afternoon, Coroner Yager stated that his verdict would be death due to accidental drowning. He also stated that a watch in the dead man's pocket had stopped at 5:05 a.m. leading him to believe that he had fallen into the stream five minutes after arriving.

The funeral was held at 1 o'clock this afternoon at the home of the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Alt. (Cut off)

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## WOMAN BADLY HURT IN WRECK

### Mrs. Edna Liechty Stookey Suffers Brain Concussion; Other Injuries

PORTLAND, May 29 - Mrs. J?? Stookey, was severely injured Thursday evening when the Dodge automobile she was driving north of Portland near the Pleasant Ridge church, skidded in oil on a wet highway and struck a telephone pole.

She was brought unconscious to her home on North Pleasant and attended by Dr. A. C. Bad?? who reported that she had suffered a concussion of the brain and numerous bruises. The automobile was demolished.

Mrs. Stookey was formerly ?? Liechty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Liechty of Linn Grove, and is a sister to Mrs. Tim Kirchhofer of Berne. She was on her way from Linn Grove to Portland when the accident happened.

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## MARY NEUSBAUM HURT

BLUFFTON, May 22 - Mary Neusbaum, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Neusbaum, received a ??ful, but not serious burn when she thoughtlessly placed her handbag on an electric stove burner at the Neusbaum home Thursday evening. Her mother had turned on the electricity a short time before the mishap.

**Adams County Historical Society 1939 Scrapbook, Image 052 -  
Transcribed by Karin King**