

(Handwritten date: Monday, May 22, 1939)

## JUDGE SMITH RITES TODAY

### Former Adams Circuit Court Judge Dies at Fort Wayne

David E. Smith, 71, a former resident of Decatur and judge of the Adams circuit court from 1913 to 1919, prominent in legal and Masonic Lodge circles for many years, died at 2 o'clock Saturday morning at his home, 709 Kinnaird avenue, Fort Wayne, following a heart ailment.

The direct cause of death was attributed to thrombosis of the heart. His condition was considered critical for a week and little hope was extended for his recovery.

Besides serving as judge of the Adams circuit court, Judge Smith was also elected to two terms as prosecuting attorney of the 26th judicial court. He had been a member of the Indiana bar since 1892, beginning the practice of law in Decatur. Following his study of law at Indiana university, he furthered his studies as a student in the offices of Van Vorhees and Judge Wm. Spencer of Indianapolis.

Judge Smith was born in Mercer county, O., Dec. 20, 1867, a son of James H. Smith, who moved to Decatur from Montezuma in 1868, and was employed in the old Shackley wheel works.

On March 27, 1897, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Ethel Hale, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Hale. The death of Mrs. Smith occurred in 1936.

He was graduated from the Decatur high school and following his professional studies, became a member of the law firm of Schurger, Reed and Smith of Decatur. Judge Smith was the last surviving partner of the partnership.

Judge Smith is survived by six children, namely Byard H., an attorney of Chicago; Mrs. Ramona Smith Triplet, Dorothy M., Gretchen, a teacher in the Fort Wayne schools, Richard and Robert Smith of Fort Wayne.

Funeral services were held at 1 o'clock this afternoon from the Klaehn Funeral Home, Fort Wayne. Burial was in the Decatur cemetery.

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(Decatur, Indiana, Wednesday, December 27, 1939)

## CLYDE TROUTNER TAKES OFFICE AS COUNTY CLERK NEXT MONDAY

Clyde O. Troutner, a veteran in the rural teaching ranks of Adams county, despite his youth, will be one of the two newly-elected county officers to assume their duties next Monday, January 1, 1940.

Mr. Troutner is the clerk-elect of Adams county and for the past several weeks has been making almost daily visits at the county clerk's office to acquaint himself with the tasks of that office preparatory to the time when he will take over.

He was elected clerk on the Democratic ticket last November in the fall election, defeating Ralph Kenworthy, the Republican candidate, by a large majority.

He was selected as the party's choice in the previous May, being nominated over G. Remy Bierly, the incumbent clerk, who was seeking re-election.

#### TAUGHT FOR 10 YEARS

Mr. Troutner has been a teacher in Adams county for the past 10 years. He taught for 7 years in Washington township, of which three years was spent at the Brandberry school, two at the Raudenbush and two at the Washington. He also taught two years at the Kimsey school and one at the Jacob school in Blue Creek township. His last term was in the school year of 1938-39 at the Jacob school.

Mr. Troutner is 29 years old. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Troutner of Pleasant Mills, and has spent his entire life in the county. He was graduated from both the Pleasant Mills grade and high school, and was graduated from Manchester college at North Manchester.

Mr. Troutner is married and has 4 children. His wife is the former Miss Maxine Dellinger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Will Dellinger of Jefferson street, Decatur.

The children are Tommy, Billy, Sue and Max Arlen. Mr. Troutner and his family reside one mile north of Pleasant Mills on federal road 33. He indicated that he plans to retain his residence there at least for the present, driving to and from his work in Decatur.

Mr. Troutner is the son of Democratic parents and has always been an active Democrat. He is one of the better known young men of the county and his popularity was well evidenced in his successful race for the office of clerk.

The race was his second. He was defeated in the May primary in 1934 by close margin, losing to Mr. Bierly, who was elected in November.

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(Date cut off)

Judy Kae is the name of the baby daughter born Thursday morning at the Adams county memorial hospital to county coroner and Mrs. J. Jerome Yager of Berne. The baby weighed eight pounds, four and one (cut off)