

(Handwritten date: Monday, March 25, 1940)

LLOYD BIBERSTEIN (rest of title cut off)

Berne Witness, Berne, Indiana

Dear Editor:

I was very much disappointed and grieved when I read in a recent issue of your paper a front page article, entitled, "Lloyd Biberstein Is Arrested." The article stated that I was charged with the stealing of a generator from the Ford Garage at Bluffton and that I allegedly stole a number of other articles.

I wish to emphatically deny any and all of these charges. In the first place I was never charged with stealing a generator, but was questioned about a distributor head which was missing from the Bluffton Ford Garage. I know absolutely nothing about this distributor. I went into the garage to inquire about some other automobile parts. Afterwards, I was told a distributor head was found to be missing at their garage. Incidentally, I also went at that time to the Bluffton Auto Wrecking Co., seeking to purchase or trade some used auto parts, the ownership of which cannot be disputed. These circumstances caused the Bluffton Ford Garage to suspicion me with regard to the missing distributor head. Evidently they got in touch with the state police, who came to see me and I voluntarily accompanied Russel Prior to Bluffton Wednesday evening. After lengthy questioning the Ford people did not file charges, because as they stated the next day, they had no evidence against me whatsoever. But Truman Bierie filed an affidavit against me. Were he not a state police officer he would pay dearly for this false arrest. I furnished cash bond on Thursday forenoon and was subsequently released, before your paper appeared in print.

The newspaper article also stated that I have a police record, and recently was involved in an automobile crash which killed two women. I admit I have a police record, but since my complete and final discharge on March 7, 1934, I have tried to go straight in everything and have done so as far as I know. Regarding the automobile crash, the Allen county coroner absolved me of any and all blame.

I am not blaming the Berne Witness but rather the sources from which this story came. Those who gave the information are trying to maliciously smear my reputation and trying their best to get me in bad with the law. Already on previous occasions they have charged me with thefts and later convicted other parties for the crime with which they charged me.

I am just trying to let the public know my side of the issue.

Yours truly, Lloyd Biberstein.

(Handwritten date: Monday, March 11, 1940)

LOCAL AUCTIONEER, J. A. MICHAUD, DIES THIS A.M.

Final Rites For Widely Known Man Are On Wednesday P.M.

Justin Album Michaud, familiarly known as "Jess" or "Colonel", 64, one of Adams county's most widely known citizens, died at his home here on East Main street at 8:30 this morning. Death was caused by complications.

While because of his long illness which several times in the last year or so had become critical, the numerous friends and the Adams county public had become prepared in a measure, for the death of the prominent auctioneer, his passing at this time came as a shock to many.

The decedent had been in the auctioneering business for more than 40 years, having started with his late father, Henry (Dad) Michaud, as a young man. He had also been engaged in the barber business for 14 years and made a wide host of acquaintances while in business.

Mr. Michaud, in his most recent illness had been bedfast for 16 days. Previously he had been ill, suffering from diabetes. He underwent an amputation of his right leg, July 25, 1938. He had been critically ill prior to that but fought bravely and partially regained his health and again conducted auctions with the assistance of Amos Neuenschwander, whom he tutored several years ago.

The deceased was born on the banks of the Wabash river near Vera Cruz January 25, 1874, the son of Henry and Julia Hanni Michaud. He moved to Berne with his parents and became an expert auctioneer early in his youth.

His marriage to Bertha A. Baumgartner took place at the farm home of Christian W. Baumgartner, now known as the C. P. Hirschy farm, on November 17, 1901.

Children born to the union and surviving to mourn the death with Mrs. Michaud, are Howard, head of the Fort Wayne North Side high school biology department and a tutor for the state park guides each year, Lores, affiliated with the Buescher Band company at Elkhart, Miss Marcella, a teacher in the Mishawaka high school and Mrs. Lofton Moser of this place.

Two grandchildren, Ted Michaud, son of Howard and Ruth Michaud, and Sharon Lee Michaud, daughter of Lores and Margaret Michaud, survive.

A brother, Albert, of Van Buren, survives.

One sister, Mrs. William Broadwell, and two brothers, Henry and Anthony, preceded. The latter, a filling station-fruit stand operator, was cruelly murdered in the early morning of August 28.

Justin Michaud was intensely human in all his relations and took a great interest in his fellow men, thus winning a host of friends.

He was interested in music and was a member of several band organizations while a young man joining the old German Co?? Band in about 1892.

Mr. Michaud, even after ill?? and years began to weigh ??? continued to work and conducted numerous auctions. And to the last he retained his interest in the business that had been his life blood, and in his family and friends.

The body will be removed to the Michaud home on East Main street from the Yager mortuary Tuesday at 9 a.m.

Funeral services will be conducted at the Mennonite church at 2 p.m. Wednesday following a service at the home at 1 o'clock. Dr. C. H. Suckau, pastor of the Mennonite church, and Rev. C. P. Maas, pastor of the Evangelical church, will officiate. Burial will be made in the M.R.E. cemetery.

(Handwritten date: Monday, April 1, 1940)

TRIPLETS OBSERVE 17th BIRTHDAYS

Adams county's youngest triplets, sons of Homer and Olive Raudenbush, of route three, today marked their 17th birthdays. The three are Roscoe, Robert and Raymond.

They were born in Washington township 17 years ago today. The Raudenbush family now resides four miles southeast of the city.

(Handwritten date: February 21, 1940)

FRAUHIGER PLEADS (rest of title missing)

...Remanded to County Jail

Calvin Frauhiger, 23, of northwest of Berne, entered a plea of guilty Tuesday afternoon when arraigned before Judge Pro Tem Ferd L. Litterer in Adams circuit court in Decatur.

Frauhiger is charged with vehicle taking. He was arrested Sunday morning by Sheriff Ed Miller at his home. He is specifically charged with taking a car belonging to Laverne Ringger, son of Ed Ringger, of that community.

Frauhiger was remanded to jail by the court, while his punishment is taken under advisement.

Sheriff Miller also charged that Frauhiger had stolen a pistol from the Ed Bauman home near Berne. It is believed by authorities that Frauhiger planned to commit a robbery or robberies with the stolen gun and auto.

(Handwritten date: Monday, April 1, 1940)

MARRIAGE LICENSE TO AMISH COUPLE

Dan Cupid apparently is resuming his routine duties in Adams county after a several weeks' layoff occasioned by the new marriage laws becoming effective.

For some time after the law came into effect no licenses were issued at at the office of county clerk Clyde O. Troutner. With a license issued today, however, three have been issued in the past few days.

The latest couple to secure a license:

Noah M. Schwartz, of Geneva, route two and Mary Ann Yoder, of Canton, Ohio. Both the applicants are members of the Amish faith.

Adams County Historical Museum

1940 Feb-Dec Scrapbook - image 021-022

Transcribed by Karin King