

(Handwritten date: Wednesday, June 16, 1943)

Mrs. Charles Stevens and daughter Sharon Kay returned to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Steury, yesterday from a two weeks' visit at the home of her husband's parents in Fort Wayne. Her sister and brother, Florine and Ernest Steury, went after her.

(Handwritten date: Wednesday, June 9, 1943)

BIRTHS

Scherry Ann is the name of the baby girl born this morning to Henry W. and Kathryn Opal Teeter Schug at their home. Mrs. Schug's mother, Mrs. Alvie Teeter, is caring for the mother and baby.

Announcement was received on Tuesday of the birth of a baby boy, John Weldon, to Rev. and Mrs. Weldon Klopfenstein of Momence, Illinois, on June 6 at the Kankakee hospital. The baby is the grandson of Mrs. Jacob U. Amstutz of this place.

Barbara is the name of the baby girl born to Mahlon and Rosie Schwartz Miller of Burton, Ohio, on June 4th. The mother is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John P. Schwartz southwest of town.

(Handwritten date: Monday, May 24, 1943)

FALL, EXPOSURE FATAL TO AGED BLUE CREEK LADY Mrs. Amanda Ayres Suffers Long Exposure; Rite Tues. P.M.

Mrs. Amanda Holmen Ayres, 83, a native and life-long resident of Blue Creek township, died of exposure and myocarditis Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock at her home northeast of town, following a fall which she told her rescuers occurred last Thursday evening.

Mrs. Ayres, who was the widow of Alfred Ayres, who died in 1919, has been living alone during her widowhood and had become quite feeble. On Thursday evening she went to her woodshed and fell. Too weak to get back on her feet, she crawled back to the house, but was unable to get back on the porch or into the house. Her plight unnoticed by anyone, she lay out on the wet earth and rain and was not discovered until Saturday morning when a bread man, Lawrence Carver of Willshire, Ohio, found her while making his route.

The aged woman was very weak by this time, wet to the skin and cold. Mr. Carver got her into the house and immediately summoned a local physician.

Neighbors who have been keeping close watch over her, happened not to call at the house Friday.

Due to her age and senility, it is probable that she might have been mistaken about the length of time of her exposure. It was intimated today that she might have been confused about the time she fell, however, it is believed that she was lying outside overnight and that the exposure was sufficient to cause her death.

The deceased was a daughter of Andrew and Amy Moore Holmes and was born in Blue Creek township on January 15, 1860. She lived her entire life in the vicinity of her birth and owned a 120-acre farm on which she lived. There are no immediate survivors. Funeral services will be conducted at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Yager funeral home here with Rev. Albert Kenneth Timmons, pastor of the Decatur First Christian church, officiating. Burial will be in Spring Hill cemetery, northeast of here.

(Handwritten date: Friday, July 16, 1943)

FOREMAN IS PAROLED FROM STATE PRISON

Man Sentenced Here is Granted Parole

Elver Foreman has been paroled from the Michigan City prison after serving less than six years of a 10-year sentence for auto banditry, according to a copy of his parole, signed by Gov. Schricker, received in the county clerk's office here today.

Thus is written one more chapter in the story of one of the most bitterly contested criminal cases in the county's annals.

Foreman, now 49 years old, with an accomplice, Bernas Clark, allegedly bound, gagged and robbed the late Amanda Ayres, reputedly wealthy Blue Creek township lady on August 17, 1932.

Foreman was arrested after a time and charged with the offense. Clark was never located. Rumor had it once that Clark died in an insane asylum. Foreman's arrest, however, did not close the case.

For more than five years he and his attorneys fought to save him from prison. Practically every session of a grand jury during those five years resulted in another indictment against the pair - this, in addition to the charges of auto banditry filed against him originally.

Finally he was tried and convicted in May, 1937 in Adams circuit court here. His attorneys filed a motion for a new trial. It was denied. Then they appealed to the supreme court. Months later, a decision came through upholding the conviction.

Foreman, out on bond and working in Fort Wayne, where he resided, heard of the decision. He called former sheriff Dallas Brown and said "I am ready." Had he entered prison soon after arrest he would have had five years of "his time" served. In September, 1937, Foreman was taken to prison and started serving his sentence. He met the sheriff on a street corner in Fort Wayne and started the long drive to Michigan City.

Now he is out on parole and reported to be back in Fort Wayne, working. Clark has never been apprehended. Should Foreman live a model life and not violate his parole the case is permanently closed. Two criminal classification packets, stuffed with records of the various proceedings, and three docket cards remain in the clerk's office here as mute evidence of the long struggle of the state to make the former WPA bookkeeper and mechanic pay his alleged debt to society.

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Miss Elda Nussbaum and Miss Alma Liechty arrived here on Sunday evening from Lake Charles, Louisiana, and will spend the next two weeks visiting with relatives and friends in Berne and vicinity.

Adams County (IN) Historical Museum

1943B Scrapbook, image 93

Transcribed by Karin King