

## NEW OFFERS REASON FOR CONFIDENCE

Improved Position of Farmers  
Basis of All Pros-  
perity.

An improved position of farmers, the basis of prosperity for all classes, making for a gradual betterment of economic conditions, was offered by Senator Harry S. New as a reason for confidence in the National Administration, in his speech to members and guests of the Kiwanis Club in the Riley room of the Claypool Hotel today.

No denial was made of the fact that the country has suffered a period of severe depression, perhaps unequalled in its history, by Senator New.

"So far as the country was concerned, it was up to the Government to point the way out, through administrative recommendations and legislative acts," Senator New said. "The fact is, however, that the country was staggering under a debt of about twenty-four billions of dollars. The money has been spent, the debt created, not by the present Congress, but by preceding ones. It profits nothing now to say that perhaps part of it was injudiciously created, not by this Congress, but by the preceding ones, and certainly not to tax any one with that fact."

Unpopularity of the revenue bill was admitted by Senator New. He said, "No revenue bill was ever popular and none ever will be. But after all has been said, it is none the less true that it has reduced the public burden, by over eight hundred million dollars a year."

A policy of retrenchment was agreed upon and savings introduced which amount to four million dollars a day."

The task confronting the Congress in framing tariff legislation was characterized by Senator New as being a great one. The tariff will be passed, he said, in a short time and it will "be a Republican tariff."

Answering to criticisms of Congress formed a prominent part of Senator New's address. He said: "There has been complaint that Congress has not yet passed the tariff bill. I will admit it has been a slow process, but it had better be slow and reasonably right, than to be made in haste and utterly wrong."

## CHARGE GAS COMPANY IS EXTRAVAGANT

(Continued From Page One.)

Majestic building, on which the company has a lease to run ten years from 1923, will cost \$600,000 to \$800,000. The cost of the building was devoted to questions of whether this expense was justifiable in view of the emergency alleged to exist in the company's affairs.

The space was absolutely necessary in the opinion of Forrest, who said the Indianapolis Gas Company was using the same facilities ten years ago when accommodations for handling 33,000 meters were made. Since that time the number has doubled.

"Have you ever heard a patton kick?" on anything except the amount of gas bill?" Groninger inquired.

"Many times," replied Forrest.

Commissioner Van Auken took a hand in the proceedings at that point, saying that the company was somewhat inconsistent in view of the emergency in the company's financial condition.

**GRONINGER WAXES  
VERY PERTINENT.**

"When did the board decide on these improvements?" Groninger asked.

"Some time in 1920. The arrangements were subject to the extension of the lease," Forrest said.

"When will you actually decide to go ahead with the plans?"

"Early last fall."

"And you knew there was an emergency in the gas company's affairs pending?"

"Yes. We were compelled to lay \$100,000 worth of mains, too, and we knew the financial condition," Forrest replied.

"You had to do it if you were going to continue in business," Van Auken said.

The original idea of the expense to be involved was said to have been \$25,000.

"You knew that the 90-cent rate would stint the company when the improvements were decided upon, didn't you?" Groninger asked.

"It seemed inadvisable to me that you should go ahead. The quarters served you in 1920 when the company did its biggest business," Van Auken said.

"We were made desperate by censure," Forrest replied.

**SALES AGENCY  
SELLS COKE.**

The Gas Company employs a sales agent to dispose of its coke, according to Forrest. The price is set in the contract with the sales company, according to Forrest.

"What effort has been made to sell coke in the last year?" Groninger asked. "Did you employ a demonstrator?"

"It was suggested that the coke could have been sold at a lower price, a price of seven dollars a ton, which Groninger said was less than Pocahontas coal was selling for last year, had been put on it."

Forrest declared that it was his conviction that 10,000 tons could not have been sold.

Stress was laid by the city's counsel on what was intended to be injurious purchases of coal. In 1919, just before the price of coke was introduced to the market, the company had purchased much coal and during the fluctuation had purchased most coal when prices were up.

When sales decreased the company continued to buy, Groninger charged. This was not the case, according to Forrest, who said the company continued to receive coal contracts, but was not buying excessively.

Testimony of witnesses yesterday centered on the supply of coke held by the company. Mr. Forrest spent several hours on the stand and brought out facts to show liquidation through disposal of the coke supply is not only bad business but is less than less than two years' time.

Mr. Groninger, in his opening statement, had previously declared that the gas company should have sold its coke, disposed of other assets and by taking a loss such as many other businesses had done, made no demand for an increased rate on an emergency.

"There have been constant efforts made to dispose of our surplus coke stock," Mr. Forrest said. "It has always been the practice to sell it on the competitive basis except at Indianapolis, where it is sold below the competitive scale. Here, our effort has been made to move the largest possible tonnage, and our prices have always been too low locally to permit of outside competition."

**ST. LOUIS MAN  
GIVES TESTIMONY.**

Relative to the disposal of coke, Parker H. Woods of St. Louis, representative of a coal company, said that in 1919, an extensive advertising campaign his company had been able to dispose of 50,000 tons of coke in a population of 800,000.

Mr. Forrest was asked by Glenn Van

## Decorates Bazaar



## 4 PRISONERS ESCAPE FROM GUARD AT POST

Alleged Deserters Strike Pri-  
vate, Who Had Taken  
Them to Labor.

A net of military and civilian police has been spread around the northeast section of the city and over all roads leading from Ft. Benjamin Harrison to Indianapolis in an effort to apprehend four fugitives, who, while awaiting trial for desertion, escaped from their guard yesterday after having beat him into insensibility. None of the four has been captured, but one of the four attracted the guard's attention. As the guard turned, he was struck from behind and beaten into unconsciousness. He did not recover until three hours after he was taken to the post hospital.

The supposition at the fort is that the fugitives separated and went in two different directions. At about 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon some one fired one shot at Lt. Carter M. Kolb, post adjutant, as he was passing through a wood. The shot narrowly missed Lieutenant Kolb, who said that it followed an exclamation from someone in hiding. A search of the woods resulted in the capture of bushes, from which the shot came. No further trace of the shooter was found.

The prisoners, Charles Henderson, Gaylord Paitoroff, Robert Allen and Robert Ruggins, had been taken to work on a post road. The guard was Private J. Tabotsky, company, 11th Cavalry.

Consideration is given to the theory that all of the four escaped the post storehouse a few days ago, stealing eight regulation Army revolvers.

All automobiles coming into the city from the direction of the fort were stopped by the soldiers. Military police were sent to the city to cooperate with the civil authorities in the attempted apprehension of the escaped prisoners.

## TWO SOLDIERS SURRENDER

Two soldiers who left Ft. Benjamin Harrison April 3 without leave surrendered to the civil authorities last night and are held at the city prison for the military authorities.

Joseph Flanagan, 21, and Carl Lumbaugh, 18, both of whom are stationed at Ft. Harrison, told their left together to go to Terre Haute, where Flanagan was to be married. Lumbaugh said he "just went along."

## GOVERNMENT'S NEW OIL POLICY CAUSES FIGHT

Conservation Issue in Senate  
Revives Old-Time  
Struggle.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—Another great "conservation" fight recalling the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy of the Taft Administration looms as the result of the action of Secretary Fall and Secretary Redfield in attempting to reverse the policy of Secretary Fall.

Wyoming and California to private interests, Secretary Fall, admittedly, has won his first real victory in his plan to open up vast national resources to private development through the signing of contracts with the Mammoth Oil Company of Delaware, a Sinclair concern, for taking oil from the Teapot Dome, Wyoming naval reserve and with the Pan-American Petroleum Company for the California

oil fields.

Mr. McCord asked if there were not some coal operators among members of the committee. Mr. Forrest said he believed there were no coal operators on the committee but that he could not say positively.

"Well, the coal operators naturally want to keep you from doing that," Mr. McCord declared, "and they would not encourage you by making a offer."

Mr. Forrest's testimony showed that the supply of coke held by the company April 1 amounted to 115,022 tons. This is given a book value of \$10 a ton and the company has not disposed of this stock because of the decrease in value.

**TROUBLE FOR  
BOTH SIDES IN  
POLITICAL ROW**

(Continued From Page One.)

asked him why he had not reported. He answered that he did not intend to, he believed.

Walker, according to Triplett, said "if you are not for Beveridge you had better check out."

Donaldson last night informed Triplett that he "was laid off" and gave no further explanation. The former janitor is "there's nothing," said Triplett.

"More than a week ago I told Triplett to wash the windows in the board of safety office. You can't see them through. He didn't do it. Monday I told him to do it again. Yesterday I asked him how about it and he said he could do it. He could thus, however, never was no such meeting as he said there was on Monday night. I have never told any of the janitors either collectively or individually that they have to be for anybody. I don't care who Triplett's for. I don't care who Hayes and Tilden are as far as I am concerned. They're all right."

But the conservationist forces insist in keeping this oil field clean. Triplett was always quarreling with the other janitors and getting himself in bad general. He isn't worth a chew of tobacco anyway."

Walker said he was not sure that he even knows "who Triplett is," but he is certain he did not talk to him about it. He didn't talk to him at headquarters and I make it a rule not to talk about such matters at the city hall," said Walker.

The charge of McCarty, that Superintendant Newby, of the munitions garage, tried to hit him with a spade was met by Newby, who stated that he was not at all surprised when he was hit.

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## Heads Committee



## WOOLLEN WARNS AGAINST BEING TOO OPTIMISTIC

Rocks, as Well as Roses, Lie in  
Path of Business, Says  
Woollen.

That there are bad signs as well as good ahead of business was the declaration of Evans Woollen, president of the Fletcher Savings and Trust Company, in an address today before the annual convention of the Indiana Wholesale Grocers' Association of Indianapolis. The urgent need of consideration for European conditions was stressed by Mr. Woollen.

"There is no time for complacency," said Mr. Woollen. "We must be alert and prepared in which prudently conducted business will prosper moderately," said Mr. Woollen. "But let us not be fooled. There are good signs and just as surely there are bad signs."

"The bad signs are not so much remarkable as being in the path across the sea, they are not so vicious."

"And why, is it impatiently asked, should we bother about Europe? Why should a wholesale grocer in Indiana concern himself with that which is so remote? Is not the United States self-sufficient enough to take care of its own?"

The note read as follows: "Report to Prof. F. L. Anderson, Apartment No. 4301 East North street, Monday 13th of March, at 8:30 a.m."

The address given in the note is the Clarina flats, Apartment No. 4, owned by Mr. Benjamin Harrison since April 7, to day failed to throw any further light on the young man's mysterious disappearance.

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Guthrie pointed out that Indiana has lost approximately only 15,200,000 board feet of hardwood (saw timber size), distributed over 1,500,000 acres. He said the State's industries are using 3,150,000 board feet of lumber annually or at the rate of 150 cubic feet per capita, exclusive of timber used as fuel. Considering wood used as fuel, the annual per capita consumption is 300 cubic feet, he said.

Guthrie invited out that Governor Preus of Minnesota, was unable to attend the conference. Indiana delegates are: Mr. Guthrie and Frank Shepherd, Indianapolis; Ed J. Hancock, Greenburg; Hiriam Foster, Deputy; J. V. Stinson, Huntington; C. H. Barnaby, Green castle; Walter Crim, Salem; Bruce Montgomery and D. I. Neher, Franklin; A. J. Smith, Decatur; George H. Palmer, Sheridan, and Lew M. O'Bannon, Corydon.

## Mail to Announce Health Exposition

Letters and other mail matter sent out by the local post office will carry an announcement of the Indiana health exposition to be held in the Coliseum at the fairground May 19-27.

Postmaster Robert H. Bryson received a note today from the Indiana Health Exposition, May 19-27, Indianapolis, which had been authorized by Congress. Mr. Bryson placed an order for the die immediately.

Special to The Times.

CHICAGO, April 19.—Governor McRae of Indiana favors a comprehensive forestry policy for his State in order to protect agriculture, timber which future generations will need, William A. Guthrie of Indianapolis, chairman of the Indiana conservation commission, told delegates from eight Central States at a forestry conference opening at the Union League Club today and which will close on Friday night.

Mr. Guthrie said Governor McRae had been invited to the State investing \$50,000 in forest lands in the hill country of Indiana for the creation of State forests, providing this land can be purchased at a reasonable price.

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## SAYS MCRAY WOULD FAVOR STATE FOREST

Speaker at Forestry Conference Tells of Proposed Policy.

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