

# CITY ATTORNEY SETS \$1.10 AS LIMIT IN GAS RATE BATTLE

## SCHOOL OFFICERS CHARGE THEY ARE FRAME-UP BUTTS

Accounts Board Charges of  
Illegality Meet With  
Denial.

Charges against members of the former board of school commissioners filed by the State board of accounts yesterday were branded as a "frame-up" by several former board members today.

The State board charged that \$1,576.06 had been paid illegally to H. A. Roney by the old board, consisting of Charles L. Barry, Mrs. Julia Belle Tuteviller, D. W. Allison, Clarence E. Crippen and Bert S. Gadd. Robert H. Bryson, former city controller and treasurer of the school city, also was named in the report.

"It looks like Barry and Twiname are behind it," Commissioner Gadd said.

Walter J. Twiname, formerly accountant for the State board of accounts, now is business director of the board. It is generally believed that he will be replaced in the near future.

### Old Fight Recalled

"It is the old Twiname matter over again," Mrs. Tuteviller said. "Ever since we refused to employ his father as superintendent of buildings and grounds we have been in trouble with the State board of accounts."

"I opposed the employment of Roney and of Charles J. Orbison as attorney from the first," Commissioner Gadd said. "There was no need of the investigation of the books. The expenditure of the money was not justified and I also opposed payment for their services."

### Will Hold Meeting

Clarence E. Crippen said several members of the old board probably would hold a meeting soon to determine what course of action to take.

"We feel sure we were within our rights in anything we did," he said.

Roney was employed to examine the books of the school city after it had been claimed by a majority of board members that George Hitt, then business director, and George H. Ricks, superintendent of buildings and grounds, had done things without obtaining proper authorization of the board.

## WAR ON FIRES BEGAN IN 1666

According to a representative of the National Board of Fire Underwriters this year is the 256th anniversary of the birth of organized fire fighting, which has been traced through the centuries by the National Board to ascertain the rapidity of development from the inception of the feasibility of the introduction of such protection.

The first organized fire-fighting organization is credited to have been established on Sept. 2, 1666, at Pudding Lane, in the heart of old London, following a disastrous conflagration that wiped out 436 acres of closely built dwellings and store rooms.

### Rise of Insurance

Modern fire insurance is said to date from this time also, as soon after the great conflagration Nicholas Barbon formed a company to insure property against such disasters. Later this company organized and supported a fire company to protect insured buildings, which were designated by a houseplate.

Other companies formed rapidly, the members being known as "watermen." Each brigade restricted its service to fires originating in or spreading to property insured by the company supporting it. Such brigades responding to the alarm of the towncrier were able to identify "company property" by plates on the front of dwellings and store rooms on which was painted "fire-marks."

This policy became so fixed that finally men of brigades not interested, if they happened to arrive first on the scene, would step back to await the coming of the proper brigade, allowing the property to burn.

These brigades became very skillful in extinguishing fires, considering their limited equipment and facilities. At first this equipment consisted of a few lengths of stout hemp rope, an assortment of iron hooks and some leather bags and axes.

### Hand Pumps Appear

Hand pumps and awkward syringes for spraying the flames soon appeared, which were the prototypes of modern pumping engines and connected hose. The flexible hose manufactured from leather, which was the invention of the Van de Heyde brothers of Amsterdam, appeared after 1750.

Difficulty was experienced when the insurance companies talked of merging the brigades, as members of various outfits were jealous of their reputation and of the distinction which they had earned. However, in 1825, three companies merged their respective brigades and others joined later. Within seven years they were all united under the head of the London Fire Engine establishment, which continued until 1865. At this time the municipality took over entire control.

## DIAMONDS UNCOVERED BY DUTCH GUIANA DIGGERS

Gold Lands Yield Seven Gems to Prospectors.

PARAMARIBO, Dutch Guiana, Jan. 13.—Diamonds have been discovered at Brownsweg, about eighty miles from this city, according to the members of a local syndicate whose prospectors have just brought in seven stones after a search of only a few weeks. The district in which the diamonds were uncovered has yielded gold for the last forty-seven years.

## 'Fans' in Front Line at Bastrop Murder Hearing



## ALLEGED SLAYER SPIRITED AWAY

Distillery Guard Killed—Crowd  
Gathers About Courthouse.

By United Press  
LEXINGTON, Ky., Jan. 13.—Clarence Satterly, 21, arrested near Bardstown last night in connection with the killing of government distillery guard at Lawrenceburg by alleged whisky bandits, was brought here today for safe keeping.

When a crowd gathered near the Bardstown courthouse dry agents spirited Satterly through a back window and brought him by auto.

B. F. Huffaker, Old Joe distillery guard, was slain when the alleged bandits attempted a raid on the whisky stocks.

Second Attempt to Compromise Is Scheduled  
—Company Is Reported to Be Willing  
to Accept Lower Fee.

The city of Indianapolis will agree to no gas rate higher than \$1.10 a thousand cubic feet, Taylor E. Groninger, city corporation counsel, declared today. He said he expected to confer with the public service commission this afternoon relative to the proposed compromise between the Citizens Gas Company and the commission.

It was indicated that if a compromise is reached, the city, as well as the commission and the company, would be a party. The first meeting at which a compromise was suggested was held at the commission's offices Friday afternoon. It was admitted no agreement had been reached.

**City and Commission Agree**  
Members of the commission refused to say what rates were discussed other than that they ranged from \$1.10 to \$1.25. It was reported, however, that the commission and the city were in accord as to the rate that would be fair and that the gas company, while it would not agree to the \$1.10 rate, has indicated that it would accept a rate lower than the \$1.25 recommended by William P. Kappes, master in chancery for the Federal Court, who heard the petition for a rate increase. It was reported from one source other than the commission that the company might agree on a rate as low as \$1.15.

The members of the commission admit they are handicapped because of the lack of a valuation of the property of the gas company and propose as a basis for a compromise that they start immediately a valuation of the property to determine what actually is a fair rate. It was indicated that additional engineers could be employed and put to work as early as Monday if a compromise is reached.

**Would Necessitate Refund**  
If a rate of less than \$1.20 is agreed upon it probably would be necessary for the company to refund to consumers the difference between the new rate and the present rate of \$1.20 already paid to the company. By order of the Federal Court the company has impounded the difference between the old rate of 90 cents and the present rate of \$1.20 in order that it may refund to consumers any payments found to be in excess of the actual value of the gas.

**Carpenter 'Afraid'**  
Witnesses said that Stockwell, a little man weighing about 140 pounds, was afraid to go to work in the morning until his neighbor, who weighed more than 200 pounds, and who had threatened to "mash his face in," had left with his dinner bucket. He and Mrs. Stockwell will sleep furtively from behind closed curtains, the wife said, until the coast was clear.

Stockwell was on the stand in his own defense all morning. Evidence showed that Baldwin's four children upheld in tormenting the neighborhood by their parents, were the cause of the shooting. A neighborhood quarrel developed, witnesses said, and the death of Baldwin on his own lawn the evening of Sept. 9, 1922, with a bullet in his heart came after both men had made threats to "get" each other and had procured revolvers.

**Stockwell Is Urged  
TO RATIFY PACT**

Naval Scrapping Treaty Holds  
Up Plans of U. S.

By United News  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Suggestions that the naval scrapping treaty be ratified promptly, have been made to France by the United States.

This action, it is explained, would enable the powers to put into effect sweeping economies which are highly desirable at this time, especially in the case of France and Great Britain.

The suggestions were made recently, but whether in connection with conversations regarding the reparations crisis cannot be learned.

An overhead cost of \$1,000,000 a month has been piling up in the United States because of the inability to inaugurate the scrapping provided for.

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**HEIRESS REQUIRES  
\$24,000 A YEAR**

By United News  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Members of the United States Senate have met Senator-elect Earle B. Mayfield of Texas, he is said to have won his seat through the support of the Ku Klux Klan.

His coming to town revives the rumor that a fight against his taking his seat after March 4 will probably be waged and will equal in intensity the fight made against Senator Newberry.

Mayfield, however, professed ignorance of any impending storm of which he would be the center.

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troubles. Read the  
poignant Romance  
of Maggie Quanne—  
loved by the world,  
and still the lone-  
liest woman in the  
world. See**

**FEBRUARY**

**JAIL RELICS SOLD**

By United News  
LONDON, Jan. 13.—A surprising number of eager bidders appeared when a collection of jail relics and medieval instruments of torture were auctioned off. An iron thumbscrew brought \$25, while handcuffs and leg irons went like hot cakes at \$2.50.

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