

## MAROTT URGES NON-POLITICAL GAS CO. BOARD

valuable property would be wasted, he thinks, unless safeguarded.

Need for non-political management of the Citizens Gas Company, to insure successful operation by the city utility board, was cited today by George J. Marott, who organized the Citizens Gas Company in 1905.

The city has a valuable equity in the gas property. I hope that if it is taken over, it can be operated without political interference. I have no faith in the economy of operation under a political management," Marott said.

"The plant has millions of surplus assets above its liabilities, all of which easily can be wasted by improper management. The millions of surplus will be of no advantage to the people unless the plant is conducted by experienced trust officers, such as the company has enjoyed.

"If the Citizens Gas Company ever becomes a football for politicians, its value and advantage to the city are lost. I hope the legislature has insured a non-political board," Marott declared.

### UTILITY DISTRICT AUTHORIZED

The legislation authorized creation of a utility district to operate and manage the plant after it is taken over by the city. Mayor L. Ert Slack is awaiting nominations from Circuit Judge Harry O. Chamberlin and city council before naming the board. Redemption of the common stock has been started by gas officers.

In 1905, when a plan was under way to turn the old Consumers Gas Company lines over to the Indianapolis Gas Company, Marott saw that a monopoly would be created, resulting in higher gas for Indianapolis citizens.

With his associates, he opened offices at 37 East Court street and started a city-wide movement for 60-cent gas. Marott employed twenty salesmen to sell the Citizens stock, at a total personal expense of \$14,000 in putting over the project. He had difficulty in obtaining public support when he started, but finally succeeded in arousing public sentiment favoring the trust plan.

He had 50,000 buttons, "I am for 60-cent gas" distributed at mass meetings and before civic organizations to arouse city-wide interest. Byron C. Quimby, of Massachusetts, filed suit in federal court on behalf of the Indianapolis Gas Company interests, opposed to Marott's plan.

### SOLD FOR \$412,000

The 132 miles of gas mains, seventy of which were under paved streets, were sold to the Citizens concern for \$412,000, through a United States court order. The natural gas supply had become exhausted, making the Consumers property useless to its owners.

Battling strong opposition, Marott and his associates appealed to the old Commercial Club and the Board of Trade for support. Through leadership of Edgar H. Evans, the Board of Trade got behind the movement.

The Commercial Club was without funds, so Marott gave the late Alfred Potts, then club president, three checks totalling \$1,500 to support the movement. Marott has his check stubs, along with a scrap book of newspaper clippings of the campaign.

### FIGHT IS WON

Basing their fight on the motto of the late Theodore Roosevelt, "Take your case to the people," Marott finally won support of the middle class. The stock was sold as a "profitable investment and public benefaction."

Louis A. Coleman, law partner of John W. Holtzman, mayor when the city granted the twenty-five-year franchise to the Citizens company, was employed by Marott to draft the first franchise. William Ketcham and John Cochran were other lawyers who received \$2,500 each for services.

Mayor Holtzman ran on a "cheap gas" platform, which resulted in his election and granting of the gas franchise. He is special counsel for the city in the present fight to enforce the city's option on the plant.

### PROTEST PAVING ROUTE

Newcastle Group Asks Road Pass Through Spiceland.

Protest against the proposed route for repaving State Road 3 between Newcastle and Dunreith was registered with the Indiana highway commission and John J. Brown, director, by a delegation of Newcastle citizens Tuesday.

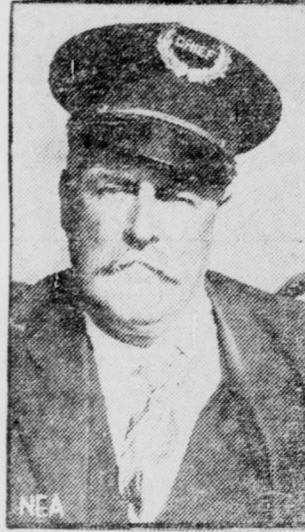
The route proposed by William J. Titus, chief highway engineer, would pass the edge of Spiceland. The Newcastle delegation wants to pass directly through Spiceland.

**W** **AH!**  
Pain  
Stops  
**Ingrown Nail  
Turns Right Out.**

A few drops of "Outgro" in the crevice of the ingrown nail reduces inflammation and pain and so toughens the tender, sensitive skin underneath the toe nail, that it can not penetrate the flesh, and the nail turns naturally outward almost over night.

"Outgro" is a harmless antiseptic manufactured for chiropodists. However, anyone can buy from the drug store a tiny bottle containing directions—Advertisement.

## Central Figures in Strike



## GRAPE RAISERS WELCOME QUIZ BY DRY CHIEF

Business is legitimate and will be protected, says Director.

*By United Press*  
WASHINGTON, April 17.—California fruit growers have nothing to fear from the prohibition bureau's investigation into the sources of illegal wine. Donald C. Conn, managing director of the California Vineyardists' Association and Associated California Fruit Industries, told the United Press today.

"We have a legitimate commodity and will have it treated as such," Conn said. "We shall be glad to cooperate with the prohibition bureau in enforcing any reasonable regulation. At the same time, we stand ready to resist unreasonable regulation. We want to do anything we can to help the enforcement of prohibition, but the interests of our grape growers must be protected."

The two organizations, headed by Conn, have a larger membership than any co-operative in the world and include most of the grape growers of California.

Prohibition commissioner Doran

## Home City Will Back Gene Howe for His Slaps at Lindy and Mary Garden

*By United Press*  
AMARILLO, Texas, April 17.—Gene Howe, fiery Amarillo editor, who fears neither Mary Garden nor Colonel Charles Augustus Lindbergh, has come into his own at Amarillo.

When Editor Gene criticized Lindbergh several months ago, Amarillo was dumfounded. Citizens felt the publicity was not good for the town.

Now, because Editor Howe said what he thought about Mary Garden and her Chicago Grand Opera Company, Amarillo business men, 1,000 strong, are going to fete the editor at the biggest and best din-

ner ever given in the cow country of west Texas. Furthermore, according to Mayor Ernest Thompson, the sixteen Amarillo business men who signed the \$16,000 guarantee for the Chicago Grand Opera Company are refusing to pay the amount, claiming the "goods were not delivered as de-

scribed."

"We are going to keep Gene here," Mayor Thompson said. "At the dinner we are going to tell him just how much we think of him, and also that we will increase our advertising with him if he will stay here with us."

## DRYS TO TAKE OATH

League Will Ask Pledge to Constitution.

*By United Press*

WASHINGTON, April 17.—The presidential oath to "preserve, protect and defend the constitution" will be distributed throughout the nation by the Anti-Saloon League in the hope that "every citizen" will take it and realize that prohibition violators break the fundamental law of the land.

In announcing the plan today Ernest H. Cherrington, education director of the league, said it would be almost impossible to stop shipment of grapes destined to be made into wine.

"Public schools, high schools, col-

leges and universities generally will be invited to co-operate in this campaign for recognition as well as observance of the fundamental law," said Cherrington.

"Officials of various fraternal organizations such as the Masons, the Knights of Columbus, Odd Fellows Knights of Pythias, Elks, Eagles, etc. will be asked to request their members to voluntarily enroll themselves as supporters of the constitution."

*By United Press*

STOCKHOLM, April 17.—Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf of Sweden

spoke with King Alfonso of Spain in inauguration of the new Stockholm-Madrid telephone line yesterday. The Crown princess and the Queen of Spain also exchanged greetings.

## BOSTON JEERED FOR BOOK BAN

Notables Attend Meeting to Lampoon City.

*By United Press*  
BOSTON, April 17.—Those whose books have been banned in Boston joined in lampooning Boston's book-banning law at a meeting "by undesirables for undesirables" at Ford hall here last night.

Clarence Darrow, Oswald Garrison Villard, Mrs. Margaret Sanger, Percy Marks, Arthur Garfield Hays and Morris L. Ernst were among the 700 "undesirables" present.

The hall was decorated with placards bearing the names of books frowned on in this city.

## HEADACHE RELIEVED QUICKLY

**CARTER'S  
LIVER  
PILLS**  
This Purely Vegetable Pill quickly corrects the digestive disturbances, removes the intestinal poisons, and sick headache quickly disappears. Your whole system enjoys a tonic effect, constipation vanishes, and you feel a renewed vigor. Avoid bromides and dopes, they are depressing and harmful. All Druggists 25c and 75c red pkgs.

# The State Savings and Trust Co. ANNOUNCES

That all deposits of the  
**INLAND BANK**  
and **TRUST CO.**  
were consolidated with the  
State Savings and Trust Co.  
on Monday, April 15.

Beginning Tuesday morning,  
April 16, all deposits of Inland  
Bank and Trust Co. customers  
should be made at the State  
Savings and Trust Co. Checks  
of the Inland Bank and Trust  
Co. Customers will be paid by  
the State Savings and Trust Co.

Now In Our New Home

**The State Savings and Trust Co.**  
123 East Market Street



### JUNK THEFTS PROBED

Two men arrested here turned over to Crawfordsville Police.

Two men were returned to Crawfordsville (Ind.) police and two other men are being held for investigation in default of \$2,000 bonds in connection with the theft of junk in Crawfordsville.

The men returned are Roscoe Gray, 39, of 537 North Tremont street, and Fred Tracey, 25, of 411 East St. Clair street. The two men arrested at the East St. Clair street address and held for investigation are Walter Kendrick, 28, and Walter Tracey, 22.