

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 it to pass directly through Spiceland.

Central Figures in Strike



With more trouble looming in the threatened strike of thousands of mill workers in Elizabethton, Tenn., property of the Bemberg and Blanzoff textile mills will be guarded by Chief of Police E. J. Crumley, left, and a force of thirty armed men. He heads the private police force of the Bemberg plant. Dr. Arthur Mothwurf, pictured at the right, is president of two of the large textile plants in Elizabethton. Both of the mills, of the Bemberg and Blanzoff corporations, are concerned in the labor dispute.

STRIKERS SEEK AID

Textile Officials Silent on
Workers' Demands.

ELIZABETHTON, Tenn., April 17.—Attitude of officials of the American Blanzoff and American Bemberg textile plants remained unchanged today toward recognition of a worker's union demanded by 5,000 striking employees.

Appeals by strikers to President Herbert Hoover and Governor Henry H. Horton of Tennessee were unanswered. They asked assistance in securing their "right of collective bargaining."

Nearly 150 national guard troops are on duty patrolling the two plants. Adjutant General Boyd of Tennessee is in the city closely watching developments.

No disorders have resulted since the workers walked out of the plants last Sunday after five employees of the Blanzoff plant were discharged the day before.

POLICE POST ELECTS: PLAN FIREMEN GROUP

Harry Smith to Command Legion
Cops; Meet Monthly.

With election of officers Tuesday in the Police post of the American Legion, officials pushed their campaign to organize a post of firemen.

Harry Smith was elected commander of the Police Post No. 56. Other officers are Leo Troutman, adjutant; Roy F. Conaway, first vice-commander; J. P. Gibbons, second vice-commander; Wayne Bear, finance officer; Everett Steel, chaplain; Harry Bridwell, sergeant at arms; and Claude Reidenbach, service officer. Members of the executive committee of the seventh district are Smith, Troutman and Melvin Wilkerson. The meetings will be held the first Wednesday of each month in the city council chamber. John R. Smith, of Gary, vice-commander of the northern Indiana district of the legion, will speak at the May meeting.

TRACTION COMPANY NAMED IN COMPLAINT

Indianapolis and Southeastern Line
Criticism.

B. Frank Ditzer, Indianapolis, and twenty other patrons of the Indianapolis and Southeastern traction line, Tuesday filed complaint with the public service commission regarding equipment.

The petition contends that cars have been inadequately heated throughout the winter by electric heaters and were often on sidings with heaters shut off.

Crowding ninety-four persons into a thirty-eight passenger car is another allegation in the complaint. Tracks are said to be in bad condition.

The petitioners oppose proposed one-man cars on the grounds that present so-called "inefficient" service will be made even worse.

FARMERS MAY HAVE OWN INSURANCE FIRM

Life Protection Department to Be
Considered by Federation.

Establishment of a life insurance department will be considered by directors of the Indiana Farm Bureau Federation here April 25 and 26, it was announced today.

Farm bureau officials believe a life insurance department will prove as successful as the bureau's automobile insurance division. More than 40,000 Indiana farmers are protected in the State Farm Mutual Auto Insurance Company.

Other matters to come before the board include final decisions on departmental budgets for 1929 and reports of departments for the first quarter of the year. W. H. Settle, president, who has been in Washington testifying before the senate and house agricultural committees, will report the status of farm relief legislation.

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.

GRAPE RAISERS WELCOME QUIZ BY DRY CHIEF

Business Is Legitimate and
Will Be Protected,
Says Director.

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 co-operate 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 dinner 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 described."

"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."

has announced his decision to find out whether there is any connection between the phenomenal growth of the grape juice industry and difficulties of prohibition enforcement.

"This has come upon us so suddenly we don't know exactly what the effect will be," Conn said. "We are studying the situation to determine what action is necessary, if any, to protect our members."

"So far as we can tell, the amount of the grape crop manufactured into wine is negligible in comparison with the total consumption."

Conn said he plans to call on Doran as soon as he has an opportunity to offer his co-operation. So far, he has not discussed the matter with Doran.

Justice department officials, questioned on the matter, said it would be almost impossible to stop shipment of grapes destined to be made into wine.

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 the country would be asked "to join with Herbert Hoover" in affirming to uphold the constitution.

"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."

Phone Links Spain and Sweden

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.

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bances, removes the
intestinal poisons, and sick head-

ache quickly disappears. Your whole
system enjoys a tonic effect, consti-

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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.

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The State Savings and Trust Co.

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Stops

Ingrown Nail Turns Right Out.

A few drops of "Outgro" in the crevice of the ingrowing 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.