

# 'QUIT TALKING; START TAXING,' SAYS ZOERCHER

State Official Hits Back at Marion County Assessor in Power Plant Case.

Marion county officials could add millions to the tax duplicate if they attended to their business instead of going about criticizing the state tax board, they were told today in a letter from Philip Zoercher, veteran state tax commissioner.

The letter was sent to Robert Sloan, county assessor; Charles Grossart, county auditor, and Charles Clark, county attorney. It contained an explanation of the Indianapolis Power and Light Company assessment made by the tax board and the target of an attack by Sloan.

The latter threatened court action to change the \$1,105,000 state board valuation of the new Harding street power plant to the \$6,000,000 set by the county.

Zoercher's letter explains that should the higher figure be accepted it merely could be deducted from the \$35,178,210 set by the state board.

**Charges "Tip" Was Ignored**  
"If all other property in the city of Indianapolis would be assessed as nearly its full cash value as the property of the Indianapolis Power and Light Company there would be an increase in the duplicate to a considerable extent," Zoercher's letter sets out.

He then cites how \$3,715,080 was put on the duplicates in Vanderburg county through information supplied from the inheritance tax department of the state board, and says similar information was supplied Sloan, but no action resulted. Several months ago I personally told Sloan that it was his duty to place this omitted property on the duplicate," Zoercher's letter to Clark states. "He has made no attempt to do so, but has criticised continually the action of the state board in reference to the valuation of this power plant."

**Defends Board's Action**  
"If Sloan would work as faithfully in trying to discover omitted property as he seems to want to place this property on in Decatur township he could increase the duplicate greatly."

"The statute makes it our duty to assess the utility as a whole and deduct the local assessment and certify the remainder as our assessment."

"As far as the Indianapolis Power and Light Company is concerned, it rather would have this assessment in Decatur township, because it would reduce the total valuation in Center township, or within the city of Indianapolis, where the tax rate is higher than in Decatur township."

The letter closes with the following:

"I believe that Sloan would be better serving the public if he would get busy and place the omitted property on the duplicate as the statute clearly makes it his duty to do."

Sloan will describe the state tax board's cut in valuation of the Harding street plant of the Power and Light company, at a meeting of the central committee of South Side Civic Club Wednesday night in the Garfield park community house.

This will be the first meeting of the club since new echo-eliminating material was installed in the community house by the park board, members of which have been invited to attend. Walter C. Rohermel, chairman of the club's utility committee, will report on activities of the committee.

## Attend Hooch Trial? No! Tex Off for N. Y.



Tex Guinan

**By United Press**  
CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—A hearing on the pre-New Year's dry raid on Texas Guinan's Planet Mars night club will be held Tuesday, but the night club queen will not be there. Tex packed her bags today and prepared to return to Broadway where "Hello, Sucker" and "Give the little girl a great big hand" first won her fame. "I told the boys I just worked at the Planet Mars," Miss Guinan said, explaining why her presence had not been requested for the prohibition hearing in federal court.

## RECEIVER IS NAMED

Schlusser Appointed for Meyer-Kiser Bank.

First step to collect double liability from more than seventy-five stockholders of the defunct Meyer-Kiser bank was taken today with the appointment of Chalmers Schlusser, attorney, as the fund receiver.

Schlusser, former law partner of Superior Judge Joseph R. Williams, was named receiver by Williams Saturday afternoon.

Under Indiana law, shareholders in a defunct financial institution can be assessed twice the value of holdings to obtain assets for liquidation of the bank's finances.

The appointment was made on petition of Marvin Markowitz, creditor of the bank, which closed last May 12.

Attorneys say many of the shareholders will pay the double liability, while others have announced their intentions of resisting the assessment in courts.

**Dresser to Be Honored**

**By Times Special**  
TERRE HAUTE, Ind., Jan. 11.—The Women's Department Club of Terre Haute has purchased sycamore trees which will be planted in the spring for a mile along the sides of a highway which is a memorial to Paul Dresser, author of "On the Banks of the Wabash," Indiana's state song.

## NEW AFFIDAVIT IN FOUR COUNTS FACING CORONER

Bribe Solicitation Charge Replaces Indictment in Criminal Court.

An affidavit against Coroner Fred W. Vehling, charging him in four counts with soliciting a bribe, today was filed by Prosecutor Herbert E. Wilson in criminal court, replacing an indictment on the same charge which was filed Jan. 2.

Sworn to by Margaret Elizabeth Arnold, the affidavit is based on charges against the coroner in the gas deaths of Benjamin Stickel, Letha Stickel and William Coble.

Vehling is charged with attempting to obtain \$150 from relatives of the victims under a threat that he would change the verdict in Benjamin Stickel's death to suicide, unless paid.

**Ready for Surrender**

Vehling's attorneys and bondsmen were ready to surrender Vehling to custody of Sheriff Charles Sumner. Vehling was released Saturday, under the indictment charge, on a \$10,000 bond.

Criminal Judge Frank P. Baker was absent when the affidavit was filed, but was to return to court this afternoon to fix a new bond.

The affidavit sets forth that "Vehling when he viewed the bodies of the gas victims, March 4, 1931, corruptly, unlawfully solicited from Samuel Stickel, Harmon Stickel and Miss Arnold a promise to employ the said Vehling as an undertaker for the gas victims."

**Promise Is Charged**

Vehling promised to serve as undertaker "for a consideration of \$150, one Ford automobile valued at \$25 and proceeds of certain life and accident insurance policies upon the lives of the three victims," the affidavit charges. Vehling is an undertaker.

The indictment against Vehling was nolledd with filing of the new writ, which dodges issues set up by Vehling's attorneys in a plea of abatement filed last week.

## PARTY OPENS CAMPAIGN

National Faction to Hold State Convention Here in April.

Indianapolis members of the National party will meet at 7:30 Tuesday night in the Assembly room at the English to plan the state convention here in April.

It will be the first meeting of the year for the party, and committees will be appointed to handle various phases of state organization work. The meeting is open.

## Common sense and COLDS

When you realize that it is the "ultravirus" (cold germ) infection within the system that produces all the discomforts of a cold, common sense indicates that it must be destroyed and expelled from within.

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25x42-Inch size. Extra heavy quality. Suitable for bedroom, bathroom and kitchen.

**Chenille Rugs 84c**  
Dainty patterns in two-tone color effects. Special PETTIS—third floor.

## Furniture Sale

Disposal of Odds and Ends in Bedroom Pieces

**\$176 Fine Bedroom Suite \$99**  
A striking suite, in new design, finely veneered walnut. Consists of Bed, Chest and Vanity Dresser. A very special value!

**\$177 French Provincial Suite \$129**  
Bed, Vanity, Dresser, Chest, Bench, Chair and Nightstand.

**\$210 Oak Suite \$119.50**  
Consisting of Vanity, Bed, Chest and Bench. Floor sample only!

**\$98.50 Walnut Veneered Suite \$49.50**  
A floor sample only. Bed, Vanity, Chest and Bench

**\$69.50 3-Pc. Walnut Veneered Suite \$39.50**  
One only. Bed, Chest and Dresser

**\$59 Mahogany Finish Suite, 1 Only \$29.50**  
Attractive suite. Bed, Dressing Table and Dresser

**\$45 Green Decorated Dresser \$14.95**

**\$12.50 Walnut Finish Chest of Drawers 7.95**

**\$5.25 Brown Finish Metal Beds 3.95**

**\$5.95 Upholstered Vanity Benches 3.98**

**\$1.25 Feather Pillows, pair .79**

**\$7.50 Wood Seat-arm Rockers, Walnut Finish 3.98**

**\$29 Walnut Veneer Dresser 17.95**

**\$22 Maple Finish Dresser 14.95**

**\$29 Value Veneer French Vanity 16.00**

**\$1.25 Costumers .69**

**Floor Sample Mattresses 10% to 50% Off.**

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Some of the most popular and fashionable include: Cornsilk, Nile, Coral, Pistachio, Black, Navy, Roman Red, Jade, Midnight, Maize, White, Orchid, Pink and Brittany Blue. 39 Inches wide. Heavy quality.

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Silks, satins, rayons, velvets and other materials. Pay just half the price marked.

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Buy Them for House Dresses and Dainty Frocks  
What an opportunity to purchase materials to make up for Spring. All are absolutely fast color and extra fine quality. Yard

**Comfort Challis 36 Inches Wide 10c Yd.**  
Large assortment of bright and varied colors.

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