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The First Page Section

Contains one of the best and most up-to-date maps of Indiana it is possible for us to obtain. In striking colors it shows plainly—

The counties, county seats, and all the towns in the state.

The congressional districts, plainly outlined and numbered.

The railroads, interurbans, rivers and canals.

The distances between all railroad stations.

Around the margin of this map are good photographs of all the governors of Indiana, from Governor Arthur St. Clair of the Northwest Territory down to and including

Gov. J. Frank Hanly

On the reverse side of the map is a complete list of all towns and postoffices in the state, arranged in alphabetical order, with the population of each. The map is indexed with marginal figures and letters, so that a town, however large or small, may be instantly pointed out.

With the establishment of rural routes the postoffices of many small towns have been closed and the people are served by rural route out of a neighboring town. This map shows how to address mail for such places.

The Second Section

Contains a handsomely engraved map of the United States; and four smaller maps, in colors, showing Alaska and our Island Possessions.

Also a map of the United States showing dates of accession of territory from 1776 to the present day.

This is an exceptionally fine map, is up to date in all details, shows all the state capitols and all the principal cities, railroads, etc. Around the margin of this section are good portraits of all the presidents, from George Washington down to

Theodore Roosevelt.

On the reverse side of this section is shown the population of all the principal cities of the United States arranged in alphabetical order by states, and growth is indicated by the census figures in parallel columns for the years 1880, 1890 and 1900.

There is also much valuable data and interesting information about the possessions of the United States, and the Panama Canal Zone.

The Third Section

Contains a map of the world engraved especially for this chart. It shows the ocean routes, and distances and length of time required to travel between different ports, the countries of the several continents are all brought out sharply in colors, and the capitals and principal cities are all shown.

There are also TWO NEW MAPS OF THE

Panama Canal Zone

Showing in relief with actual measurements, the great work the U. S. government is undertaking there. The map shows the lock canal as proposed by the latest plan, the artificial reservoirs, dams, spillways and other important features.

This section also shows photographs of all the rulers of the nations of the earth, and their flags and coats of arms.

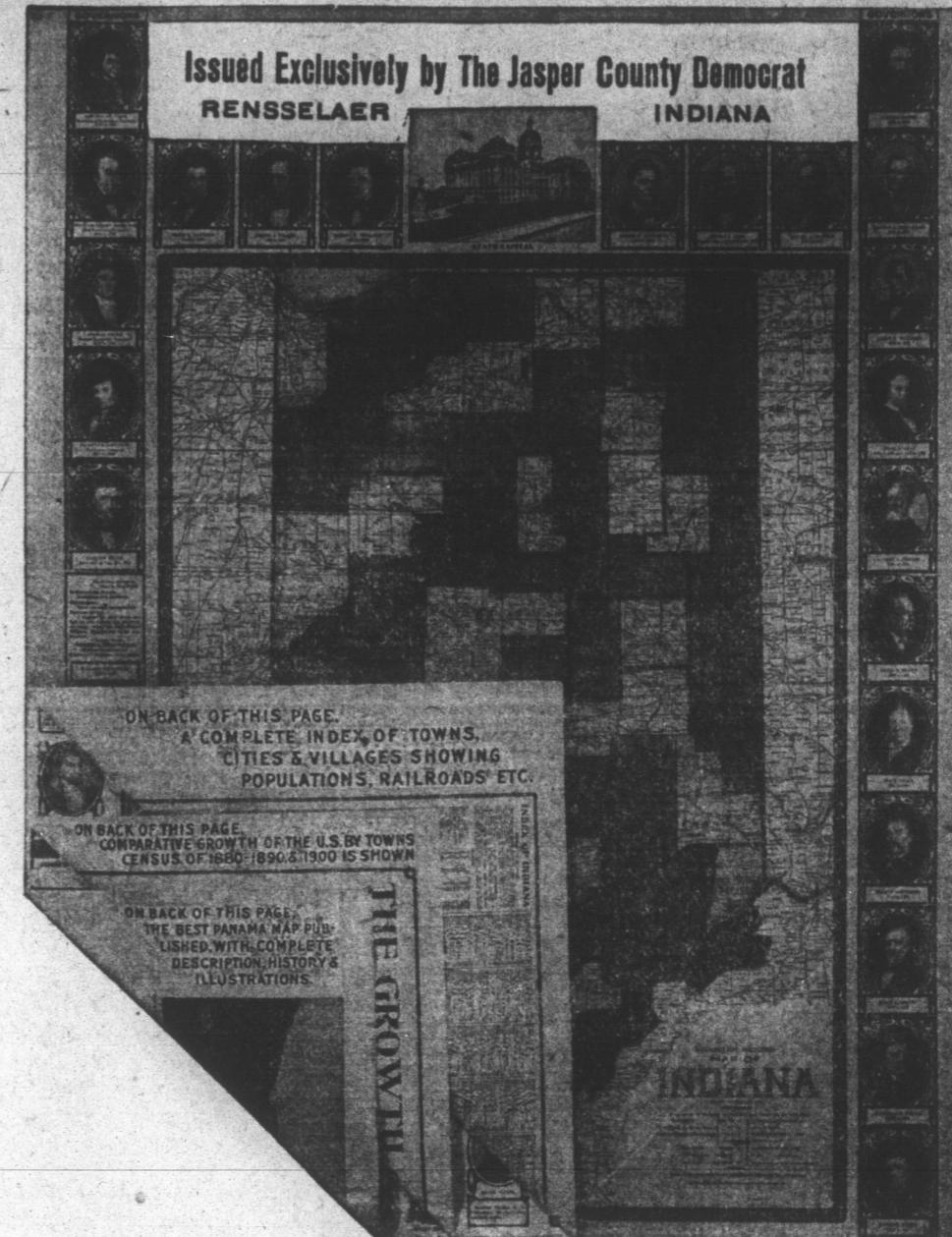
The reverse side gives an up-to-date historic sketch of the Panama Canal, profusely illustrated, with pictures taken during President Roosevelt's recent trip of inspection to the Isthmus.

Only by co-operating with several of the publishers of the leading newspapers in Indiana, and ordering thousands of copies at one time, is the Jasper County Democrat able to secure

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JASPER COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

F. E. BABCOCK, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

SATURDAY, JAN. 18, 1908.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SEVEN DEAD

That Is the Story of the Boyertown, Pa., Tragedy.

NONE OF THE DEAD INCINERATED

Many So Badly Disfigured That Identification Will be Very Difficult.

BODIES FOUND IN GREAT PILES

Cause of the Frightful Tragedy—Cry of Fire! Brings the Panic That Cost So Much in Life.

Boyertown, Pa., Jan. 15.—When nightfall put a stop to the work of recovering the dead from the ruins of the Rhodes Opera House where the holocaust occurred the official roll of victims numbered 167. Whether any more bodies are buried beneath the ruins cannot be positively stated, but it is the belief of those who had charge of the gruesome work that all of the dead have been removed, and that the total list of victims will not go above 170. The ratio of women and girls to men and boys is about nine to one.

Whole Town Is in Mourning.

The inhabitants of the little borough in the Berks county hills are steeped in grief. The calamity is terrible when it is realized that the population of the place is about 2,500, and has paralyzed the town, and the people are going about dazed. They do not realize what has happened, and cannot believe that their loved ones, friends or acquaintances were lost in the awful panic and fire. It is safe to say that every body in the place either lost one or more relatives, or was intimately ac-

quainted with those who died in the fire. In several cases whole families were wiped out. If ever a community was truly in mourning it is the substantial town of Boyertown.

Gruesome Work Begins.

It was almost daylight before the flames were extinguished and rescuers were able to enter the ruins to remove the dead. The morning was bitter cold, and by the time the benumbed and exhausted firemen began the task of disentangling the mass of burned beams and twisted iron the entire ruins were coated with ice, and there was danger of the walls falling. The work went slow at first, and it was 7 o'clock before the first body was removed. The bodies are so badly burned that there is little to describe them by, and it is safe to say that not half of the victims will ever be identified. The second victim was taken out about an hour after the first.

RAILWAY COMPANY SENDS AID

COVERY OF CORPSES PROCEEDED RAPIDLY—CAUSE OF THE TRAGEDY.

At this time the Philadelphia and Reading company sent two carloads of laborers to help, and the work of recovering the corpses proceeded rapidly. The cause of the tragedy is being investigated. The Rhodes Opera House was located on the second floor of a three-story brick building. The first floor was occupied by a national bank and several stores and the third floor was used for lodges rooms. The entertainment hall was a large room about fifty feet wide and seventy-five feet long. It had no gallery. There was a stairway at the front of the building and a narrow exit in the rear of the stage. Fire escapes were built on both sides and on the front of the building.

So far as can be learned there were about 425 persons packed in the room, most of whom were adults. A number of children was present. There were about sixty-five persons, all local talent, on the stage, who were giving a performance of the Scottish Reformation. The entertainment was nearly over, the audience waiting for the curtain to go up on the last part, when something went wrong with the calcium light apparatus that was perched on a small platform near the front entrance of the building, and at the back of the audience.

The light was in charge of H. W. Fischer, of Carlisle, Pa., and he says rubber tube slipped from one of the tanks. At any rate there was a loud hissing sound, which caused many in the audience to turn their heads in curiosity to see what it was. There was absolutely no panic up to this time, and nothing probably would have happened if one or more of the performers behind the curtain had not been curious to learn what was causing the noise. Who he or they were probably will never be known.

Hearing the hissing sound and the

slight commotion in the audience one of the performers raised the curtain from the floor. In front of the curtain, and serving as footlights was a tin tank perhaps eight feet long, three inches wide and three inches high. It contained coal oil, and ten lights. In raising the curtain the performer accidentally turned this tank over, and it fell to the floor within a few inches of those persons in the front row. Rev. Adam A. Weber, pastor of St. John's Lutheran church, for the benefit of whose Sunday school the entertainment was being given, tried to pick up the tank with the assistance of others, but before they could do so the oil flowed out and caught fire.

DREAD CRY OF "FIRE!"

THEN THE MAD RUSH EN MASSE FOR THE THEATER DOOR.

Then came the inevitable cry of "Fire!" and what followed has been impossible to accurately tell. Eyewitnesses say that the audience rose en masse and the one impulse was to reach the front door. All attempted it, but few got out. The seats in the center of the hall were loose chairs. In the scramble to get out many persons fell over the chairs and were never again able to regain their feet. Those who did reach the front entrance found it jammed.

One of the double doors had been bolted shut so as to better enable the ticket taker to take up tickets. Not more than two persons could pass this door at one time and after the first half dozen got through the narrow passage it became clogged with the struggling mass of humanity. Men, women, boys, girls, and chairs were tangled up in a solid mass that no one on the outside was able to disentangle.

All this time the flames from the oil tank were creeping toward the terrible mass of people who were frantically shrieking and fighting to get out. The noise was terrible and few heard the cries of those who found the fire-escapes. Some of the bravest who had gained the fire-escapes pulled dozens from the struggling mass and directed them to the sides of the building. While the frenzied people were fighting to get down the front stairs the calcium light tank exploded and fire was spread over the entire mass of people.

DEAD ARE FOUND IN PILES

AWFUL SIGHT THAT MET THE EYES OF THE RESCUEES.

When the flames were extinguished and the rescuers entered the building a horrible sight met their gaze. Bodies were piled in one solid mass six feet high on the second floor. So solidly were they wedged that pick axes and

crowbars had to be used gently to separate the victims. As each body was taken from the pile a tag was attached and the body placed on boards. The body was then covered with a quilt, hundreds of which were furnished by stores and citizens, and lowered to the street by means of ladders. They were placed in wagons and taken to the four morgues.

Dr. J. H. Evans, burgess of Mervin, who supervised the removal of the bodies in behalf of the coroner, said that there were nine female victims to one male. He did not believe that 10 per cent of the victims would ever be identified. In nearly every case the upper portions of the bodies were burned away.

Following are some of the dead:

Mrs. John Becker and two children, Dr. Charles Mayer and daughter, Robert Lapish, child of Rev. A. M. Weber, Lulu Fegley, Miss Elma Engle, Mrs. Ira Shober, Mrs. Richard Turner, Mrs. Daniel Krause, Mrs. George Romine, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Gottschal, Herbert Gottschal, Ellen Gottschal, Henry Brinder, Blanche and Mabel Kochel, Mabel Graff, Mrs. J. J. Becker and three children, Lottie Graves and sister, John Graves, Charles Meyer and daughter, Daniel Krause, Morris Anderson and two children, James Anderson, wife and two children, Charles Maurer, Stella Kulp, Carrie Weand, Edna Poyer, Keeley Boyer, Mamie Fole, Mrs. Maggie Lefevre, Mrs. Mary Leinbach, Laura Grim, Mrs. Adam Meyer, David Gable, Franklin Ledy, Anna Leidy, Esther Cullen, Lottie Bowman, Ella Johnson, Anna Zeigler, John Fritz, Cora Fritz, Mrs. John Glaze, Mrs. Renben Hoffman and daughter, Mrs. Johnson.

Harrison Must Answer Questions. New York, Jan. 16.—E. H. Harriman was directed, in a decision given by Judge Hough in the United States circuit court, to answer all questions propounded to him by the interstate commerce commission, except those relating to the purchase of Union Pacific and Southern Pacific railroad stock in connection with the dividend of August, 1906. Judge Hough also directed Otto H. Kahn, of Luhm, Loeb & Co., to answer all questions asked him by the interstate commerce commission.

FIVE SKATERS ARE DROWNED.

Connellsburg, Pa., Jan. 16.—Of six persons who formed a skating party at the Jimtown reservoir, near here five were drowned—John Luxner, nineteen years old; George Cochran, twenty-one; Frank Cochran, Jr., a brother, seventeen; William Fulmer, twenty-three, and Elizabeth Fulmer, seventeen, a sister.

PIONEER GRAIN DEALER DEAD.

St. Joseph, Mo., Jan. 16.—Justice C. Gregg, pioneer Missouri valley grain dealer, and ex-president of the St. Joseph city council, dropped dead of heart disease at his home here, aged sixty-one years.

We have never before been so entirely prepared to handle all departments of the building trade as we are this year. The prospect of increased building this year has caused us to lay in a larger line than at any previous period and we have the largest stock in the country. More than 25 cars received before April 1st.

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No Money in the Dog Fund.

Crawfordsville, Ind., Jan. 16.—Claims aggregating \$306 have been filed with Samuel D. Symmes, trustee of Union township, growing out of the ravages by sheep-killing dogs during the first two weeks of the new year. The township dog fund is already overdrawn \$300. In addition, J. W. Ramsey demands \$15 for hogs killed by dogs, and W. H. Scott because of chickens slaughtered.

PREDICTED HIS OWN DEATH.

New Harmony, Ind., Jan. 16.—"I shall soon follow my sister to the grave," predicted Ludwig Voelkel, a wealthy business man of this city, a week ago, when attending his sister's funeral. He died within the week. Voelkel had not been in the best of health for some time, but his illness was not deemed serious until shortly before the end.

STATE COMMITTEEMAN HURT.

Jeffersonville, Ind., Jan. 16.—Adam Helmberger, of New Albany, second vice chairman of the Democratic state committee, was struck on the leg and badly crippled by a stone thrown through a window of a train just as it arrived in Jeffersonville.

One half price sale on clothing, cloaks, remounts, etc. Jan. 6th to Saturday, Jan. 25.

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