

EARLE AND T. KNOTTS AGREE NOW

Big Property Owner Gets Franchise for His Pet Scheme, and in Return Withdraws Objections to the Burns Ditch Project.

AUGERS WELL FOR NEW INTERURBAN

Incoming Company Secures Right-of-Way Over Gary Electric Line Already Established — Change of Ditch Route Is Satisfactory to Everybody.

George Earle, the big land holder southeast of Gary, has now withdrawn his objections to the Burns ditch project in a written statement to the town board through a compromise by which the Gary, Hobart and Valparaiso electric line receives franchise over the tracks of the Gary and Interurban into Gary.

The decision of Earle is the result of the diplomatic action of the town board in refusing to grant them the franchise which they requested while they still opposed the pet project of the region. George Earle and his sons wanted the interurban franchise, and they wanted it bad. They were also as strenuous in their opposition to the ditch, but as long as the town board of Gary held the whip hand over them it was necessary to take a choice, with the above result.

Earles Last to Get Into Line.

The Earles are the last of the large property owners to fall in line and withdraw their opposition after years of effort by the promoter, Randall H. Burns. He was also one of the two largest land owners, the others being the Toleston Gun club (who are known as chronic "kickers"), which originally opposed the plan. It now appears probable that the Burns position will have clear sailing and that the work of the commissioners will be unhampered.

When asked why the opposition had been withdrawn, John Earle, a son of George Earle, said:

"There are several reasons why we have withdrawn, the most important of which is the fact that we are now entirely satisfied with the way in which the ditch will be cut, according to the change in plans. Instead of making Deep river run into the Calumet at that was formerly known as Lake Station, it will be cut in at the old town of Liverpool, both of which places are now called East Gary.

Sees Good in Change.

The advantages in making this change in the plans are evident. In the first place, the distance between Deep river and the Calumet at Liverpool is about a fourth that of the distance between the two streams at Lake Station, and that, in addition to the fact that there is a natural channel at Liverpool, makes the latter a much more desirable place to make the cut. In the other place it would be necessary to dig through several large hills which would make a great additional expense.

Another matter which must be taken into consideration is that, if the ditch were dug at Lake Station, causing a reversal in the flow of Deep river, that section of the stream west of the ditch would be dried up and the farmers would lose a valuable source of irrigation. As the river west of Liverpool is not used so much for this purpose, the damage accruing will be considerably less. Still another reason I might mention is the fact that a ditch at Lake Station would necessitate the construction of two bridges and at Liverpool it would not require one."

Burns Decoration Day.

Simultaneous with the securing of the franchise, Mr. Keator announced that the engineers will be put to work on the surveys, and that he does not expect that it will take them over two weeks to complete the work of laying out the right of way for the Gary, Hobart and Valparaiso line.

As soon as the surveys are completed the grading will be begun, and the actual construction of the road will be well under way. It is the purpose of the promoter to have the road completed by Decoration day, according to original plans. Mr. Keator says that the grading will be completed, if possible, before the frost settles in the ground. The written agreement given to the town board by George Earle is as follows:

"Whereas, the Gary, Hobart and Valparaiso Traction company has submitted to the board of trustees of the town of Gary, Indiana, an ordinance for permission to enter into a direct contract with the Gary and Interurban railway for an entrance into said town of Gary;

"And whereas, it is the desire of said board of trustees to have withdrawn the remonstrance and objections against the Burns ditch proposition, heretofore made by John G. Earle;

"Now therefore, in consideration of the passage of the aforesaid ordinance the said John G. Earle hereby agrees not to file any further objections to said ditch. It, however, being mutually under-

GOES TO WASHINGTON FOR CONVENTIONS

E. W. Wickey Is Delegate to Three National Gatherings.

WILL BOOST HARBOR PROJECT

Duty of Presenting City's Claims to Congressional Committee Falls on Attorney and Mayor.

(Special to THE TIMES)

East Chicago, Ind., Dec. 2.—Representative E. W. Wickey will be one of the busiest men in Washington (D. C.) next week. Mr. Wickey will attend three national conventions, in the councils of which he is actively interested. He will leave on Monday evening and for the balance of the week will be "eternally at it." The National Conservation committee, in the Indiana branch of which Mr. Wickey is a member, will meet on Dec. 8 to consider the educational and complicated proposition of the conservation of the country's natural resources. This is one of the serious questions confronting the United States and Mr. Wickey's appointment to a committee for its consideration is indeed an honor for the East Chicago man.

East Chicagoans Interested.
On Dec. 9, 10 and 11 the National Rivers and Harbors congress will hold its sessions. This congress will consider a project that closely interests East Chicagoans, and in fact all residents of the north end of Lake County—that of the governmental harbor in this city. Upon their final recommendation, the matter will be more forcibly brought to the attention of the congressional committee upon this subject with the result that Indiana Harbor will be given a substantial appropriation for the building of the water way. The bringing of this matter to the attention of the National Congress has been entrusted to Mr. Wickey, and to De Brule, who with Councilmen Walton and Lewis yesterday received an appropriation covering their expenses to the sessions.

Congressional Meeting.
Concurrent with the congressional meetings, Mr. Wickey will attend the sessions of the executive committee of the National Farmers' congress, of which he is also a member. The East Chicago attorney will return about Dec. 14 and prepare to take his seat in the Indiana legislature, despite the appeals of Hon. Ed Simon for recognition.

COMES WITHOUT PAPERS

Fred Winter, Gary Contractor, Furnishes Bail in Circuit Court.

Fred Winter, the Gary contractor, who was arrested in Chicago for the larceny of a load of the, has agreed to be good and will come to Lake County, Indiana, and stand trial without compelling the authorities to go to the trouble of getting out requisition papers.

Yesterday Deputy Sheriff Trost was expecting to go to Chicago to take the necessary steps to compel Winter to come to Lake county, when he was informed that Winter had gone to Crown Point and furnished bail there.

This will insure his appearance in the circuit court here and will avoid all of the trouble which was expected to extradite him. The case was set for trial in February.

Winter is said to be a man of considerable means and he is said to have a fine residence in Chicago. The case has attracted a great deal of attention in Gary and the rest of the county.

MORE BLIND PIGGERIES

Gary Police Buy Liquor in Speak-Easies With Ease.

It is known to the police of Gary that there are several saloons in the "Patch" in Gary which are supposed to be closed and have no licenses, and yet are "speak-easy" places.

A representative of the police department went into five of these places yesterday and succeeded in getting a drink in each of them. He found that both beer and whisky were being sold. The police will make another investigation in the near future, and if the condition is not improved there will be a number of arrests under the "blind tiger" law.

There are very few of the saloons on the south side which now have licenses, and yet it is understood that practically all of them have supplies of beer and whisky on hand to sell to those who can be trusted.

The Gary police do not propose to tolerate this sort of lawlessness, and there will be arrests in the very near future if the practice is not stopped.

"Signed, JOHN G. EARLE."

Advice.

The man who comes to you for advice will be almost sure to take it if it agrees with what he has made up his mind to do.

WHO IS TO BLAME FOR SAND

In a Letter to Town Board Captain H. S. Norton Tells Members that Gary Land Company Is Not Responsible for Conditions.

CALLS ATTENTION TO STREET CAR COMPANY

Says That Delay in Paving Broadway Is Cause for Unsightly Conditions Existing on That Thoroughfare—Co-Operation, However, Is Assured.

In a reply to the letter of the Gary town board, yesterday, concerning the drifting sand, Captain H. S. Norton, property agent reported in a way that suggested "What more do you want?" He also took the opportunity to take a shot at the Gary and Interurban, whom he blames to a certain extent for the sand accumulating on the streets.

In regard to the drifting sand which has been a menace to Gary for the past two years, Captain Norton said in the letter that they had already done everything that they could in protecting the streets and the comfort of the people by covering the residence property with black dirt and sowing grass seed. He also says that in addition to this that they had built fences to protect the west side of the first subdivision, extending from Eighth to Fifth avenue.

Captain Norton Answers Letter.
The Land company stated that it was their intention to do everything in their power to mitigate the nuisance.

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THE GARY LAND COMPANY HAS CREATED GARY

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BIG FIRE IN GARY THIS A. M.

Largest Frame Structure South of Wabash Tracks Goes Up in Smoke.

ORIGIN OF FIRE A MYSTERY

High Wind Threatens the City and Occupants Jump From Burning Windows.

APPRISED WITH A SAD SHOCK

Carl Smith, Agent at Wabash Depot, Called to Hobart for the Inquest.

The largest frame building north of the Wabash tracks, in Gary, was totally destroyed this morning at 3 a. m. The building was the property of John Proshack and was valued at \$9,000. It was covered by \$7,000 insurance. The building contained twenty-four apartments and many of the occupants of the building had narrow escapes to avoid being overcome by the smoke or consumed by the flames.

HIGH WIND PREVENTS DEPARTMENT

As quickly as possible the chemical equipment and the hose was taken to the scene of the fire and an effort was made to stop the progress of the flames.

When this was found impossible the efforts of the volunteers were directed to saving the surrounding property. The high wind was carrying the flying embers a long distance and it was feared that other buildings might catch on fire.

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