

NEWS DEMANDS

AN INQUIRY

Congress Should Investigate Panama Canal Deal, Says Indianapolis Paper.

REPLIES TO CROMWELL.

"WAS THIS GOVERNMENT THE VICTIM OF A HOLD-UP?" IS THE VITAL QUESTION—INVOLVES MANY THINGS.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 12.—Replying to William Nelson Cromwell's explanation of the Panama Canal deal, the Indianapolis News, whose owner, Delavan Smith, was added to the Ananias Club by President Roosevelt, Roosevelt, says:

"It seems to us that a congressional investigation into the Panama Canal negotiations is necessary. The statement of Mr. Cromwell, which is given to the public, makes it more necessary than it was before. We believe that a properly chosen committee acting under it would get at all the fact. We are glad to believe that Mr. Cromwell is right when he says that no man in public life, either in or out of congress ever had any pecuniary interest in the canal, and that neither Mr. Robinson nor Charles P. Taft had the remotest connection with the enterprise. But the real question is whether or not this government was the victim of a hold-up at the hands of any American citizens who may have been interested in the new Panama canal company.

"Many other things are involved, but after all that is the question that must be answered."

WORKS ON ORATION

Miss Fenimore Should Win High Place in State Oratorical.

CONTEST FEBRUARY 12TH.

At the state intercollegiate oratorical contest, Friday evening, February 12, Earlham will be ably represented by Miss Janet Fenimore. Entered in this contest will be the best orators of Butler, DePauw, Franklin, Notre Dame, Wabash and Hanover.

Last year the contest was won by the Earlham representative, W. R. Miles, one of the best orators in the history of the college. Since these contests have been held, Earlham has made an enviable reputation, winning four first places and four second places. A large Earlham delegation has always attended these contests and it is planned to send to the next contest the largest delegation in the school's history.

Miss Fenimore, on whom the Quakers place their hopes of victory, confidently and enthusiastically, is a graduate of the Anderson High school of the class of 1905. She has been working untiringly with her oration and should Earlham not win first place at the contest it will not be through her neglect.

LOCAL POST GIVES TO ORPHANS' HOME

Annual Custom to Make Xmas Offering.

At the meeting of Sol Meredith Post G. A. R. this week, \$5 was contributed as a Christmas donation to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home at Knightstown. It has been the custom of the post to contribute something to the Home annually for a number of years.

RED MEN FEAST.

Dance Follows Special Occasion at Hagerstown.

Hagerstown, Ind., Dec. 12.—Nearly two hundred people attended the Red Men's feast Friday evening. A bountiful supper was served from eight until ten, after which dancing was indulged in until an early hour in the morning.

The I. U. R. M. band entertained the company early in the evening. Several members and their families from Greensfork were present.

CITY IN BRIEF

Roast Pig at William Torbeck's, 21 N. 8th, tonight.

Electric Lamps, Nicholson's Leather Goods in great variety at Nicholson's.

Pictures framed for Christmas until the 17th Inst. at Nicholson's.

Roast Pig at William Torbeck's, 21 N. 8th, tonight.

Framing Pictures a speciality at Nicholson's, 729 Main.

Prepares Agricultural School Bill

Measure Is Now Being Prepared By Lewis Bowman and Will Get Support of all County Trustees It Is Declared.

The rough draft of a bill, which it is proposed to introduce into the next legislature in the attempt to secure the establishment of an agricultural school in Wayne county, has been prepared by Lewis Bowman, trustee of Jefferson township. The bill will have the support of both the retiring and incoming trustees in this county and will be lobbied for by them at Indianapolis.

CERTAIN TO CARRY OLD WAYNE COUNTY

Anti-Saloon Leaders See the Doom of Saloons Here They Now Claim.

MOVEMENT OVER STATE.

EXPECTED THAT 379 SALOONS WILL BE FORCED TO CLOSE THEIR DOORS BY SPECIAL COUNTY OPTION ELECTIONS.

Indianapolis, Dec. 12.—That it is the plan of the liquor interests in Indiana to fight county local option elections by means of the injunction has developed in the counties where the new law is to have its first tests. In Whitley county the liquor men have secured a temporary restraining order against the commissioners preventing them from calling a local option election before February 4, when the final hearing for permanent injunction will come up.

According to E. S. Shumaker, superintendent of the Indiana Anti-Saloon league, county local option elections have been called in Lawrence and Wabash counties for December 29 and in Pike county for Dec. 31.

The Anti-Saloon league is counting on putting out of business within the next month 379 saloons in the counties where election agitation has been started. The number of saloons in each of these counties as given out by Superintendent Shumaker, is as follows:

Delaware, 107; Fayette, 29; Gibson, 23; Hamilton, 22; Hendricks, 3; Jay, 15; Lawrence, 14; Marshall, 11; Martin, 11; Ohio, 4; Pike, 1; Porter, 7; Putnam, 10; Randolph, 4; Switzerland, 4; Wabash, 20; Wayne, 57; Whitley 11 and Huntington, 26.

Petitions for county local option elections are being circulated, according to Mr. Shumaker, in Hendricks, Marshall, Huntington, Wayne, Porter, and Switzerland counties and movements looking toward option elections have been inaugurated in Putnam, Randolph, Jay, Whitley and Hamilton counties.

There is also some agitation in Fayette, Marshall, Delaware and Ohio counties. January, Mr. Shumaker says, will see a large number of local option elections.

Trick is Alleged.

"The Anti-Saloon league," said Charles C. Pettijohn, secretary of the Liberal league of Indiana, "is organizing to carry counties that are already practically dry. Out of the ninety-two counties in Indiana, we believe there are at least seventy-five that cannot be made absolutely dry.

"The Anti-Saloon league is practically certain of carrying counties where local option elections are being called now, for the reason that there are not enough liberal business interests involved to put up a stiff fight."

Fighting Floating Islands.

There is a clear waterway between Cairo and Uganda, the equatorial lake country of Africa. At times, however, the entire stream becomes blocked with masses of "sud," great masses of paprus and other floating vegetation, says Dr. Milne, British medical officer of the upper Nile district, in Harper's Weekly. To undo these blocks the men jump down into the grass with the ship's anchor and fix it firmly in the roots, the order "Full speed astern" is given, and the steamer backs out. After a varying number of jerks the island is forcibly torn away and goes floating down the stream. Now the Nile is open from lake to sea, and a constant patrol of steamships prevents the "sud" from impeding navigation.

Impure Water on Interurbans

H. E. Barnard, Secretary of the State Board of Health Shows Travelers on T. H. I. & E., Westward, Drank Bad Water.

Indianapolis, Dec. 12.—Need of improvement in the quality of water furnished on interurban trains is declared by State Food and Drug Commissioner H. E. Barnard in a report made public yesterday after an examination of the water furnished by the interurban lines running into Indianapolis. Complaints as to the character of water had been made frequently to the state board of health and an investigation was started. In order to make the work thorough the cars were vis-

ited daily for a period of one month and the water tanks inspected. Samples of water were taken for analysis.

The water furnished by the Terre Haute, Indianapolis & Eastern on the line running between Indianapolis and Martinsville was found excellent, the report stating the tanks were in good condition and the water of good quality. On the line running between Indianapolis and Richmond water was found of poor quality at the beginning of the test, but as there were repeated examinations it improved.

HINT LIMELIGHT

FOR PULLMAN CO.

Interstate Commission Said To Contemplate Inquiry.

GENERAL PROBE IS HINTED

COMPLETE INVESTIGATION MAY DISCLOSE METHODS OF THE CORPORATION WHICH CONTROLS SLEEPING CARS.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 12.—Important evidence bearing on the operations and earnings of the Pullman company is expected to be made public on Monday when the interstate commerce commission begins its long postponed investigation. This will be in connection with complaints which have been filed with the commission charging that the company is demanding excessive rates for berths on its cars.

Commissioner Franklin K. Lane will arrive in Chicago on Monday to take evidence in three cases against the company, which are on the commission's docket. One of them is the famous Loftus case, involving the question of the comparative merits of upper and lower berths, which has been several times postponed.

Officials of the Pullman company say they have no knowledge of any other cases against them than the Loftus action, which was originally started in St. Paul, but was adjourned to Chicago to permit an inspection of the company's books and records. The adjourned hearing was set for Oct. 14, but was postponed indefinitely at the request of the complainant's attorneys until after election.

Sweeping Inquiry is Hinted.

It has been persistently rumored from Washington that the interstate commerce commission intended to investigate at an early date a complete investigation of the operations of the Pullman company in connection with its taking of evidence in the Loftus case—which only concerns individual rates. Also that this investigation would be a sweeping one, going into details of the company's vast earnings and dividend payments with the object of ascertaining whether the present scale of charges for berths is unreasonably high. That such an inquiry is imminent is not, however, admitted by the Pullman officials.

The case started in St. Paul was on complaint of George S. Loftus of that city, that the rates charged for sleeping car berths between St. Paul and Chicago and St. Paul and Seattle, and other northwestern cities to which he was accustomed to travel, were excessive and unreasonable and ought to be reduced by half. Particular attention was attracted to the case at the time by his contention that the rate for an upper berth from St. Paul to Chicago ought not to be more than half that for a lower berth, instead of being \$2 in both instances.

Advance Expected on New Rates.

The advance in freight rates included in the new transcontinental tariffs which were filed with the interstate commerce commission about two weeks ago and which take effect under the required thirty days' notice on Jan. 1, are likely to provoke a storm among the shippers. This may result in an attempt to prevent the roads from charging the new rates by injunction proceedings.

IS OFFERED PLACE

Cortelyou May Become Head Of Union Trust Company Of New York.

HE IS INVITED TO ACCEPT

New York, Dec. 12.—Secretary of the Treasury George B. Cortelyou has been invited to become president of the Union Trust company, to fill the vacancy created by the death of Edward King. Mr. Cortelyou has taken the offer under consideration, but has given the trustees no other indication that he is inclined to accept. One of them today thought their negotiations with the secretary rather pointed to the opposite termination, but expressed a wish that the offer might meet the secretary's approval.

The office is one of the most dignified and important in local financial circles, for the Union Trust is one of the oldest and most conservative trust companies in the city. It ranks fourth in resources, being surpassed in this latter respect only by the Central Trust, the Farmers' Loan and Trust and the United States Trust. It was organized in 1864, has a capital of \$1,000,000 and surplus and undivided profits of \$8,180,000, and, according to the last report of the state banking department, has \$53,387,000 deposits and \$36,700,000 loans. It pays dividends at an annual rate of 50 per cent.

Several of the democratic members

are in Washington and at informal conferences with the democratic congressmen from Indiana the question of a congressional apportionment has been discussed in all its phases.

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