

CITY ATTEMPTS OBSERVANCE OF HOUSING LAWS

Mayor Outlines Practical Policy of Enforcement to Improve General Health Conditions.

A fair and practical enforcement of the state housing law in Richmond is to be undertaken in co-operation with the movement to improve health and sanitary conditions. This announcement was made by Mayor Robbins today.

"We have found during the campaign we have been making the last few days for a strict observance of the garbage ordinance, that quite a number of tenement houses are in a very unsanitary condition," the mayor said today. "To correct such conditions the city intends to act under the provisions of Section 3 of the state housing law, which reads:

"The owner of every tenement house shall provide for said building proper and suitable conveniences or receptacles for ashes, rubbish, garbage, refuse and other matter. Garbage chutes are prohibited."

"We have found that quite a few tenement houses are equipped with these garbage chutes. Tenants of such houses have not been prosecuted for using these chutes, which dump into alleys, because it has been difficult to ascertain the people responsible for using them, but the state law gives us authority to proceed against the property owners. These owners will be ordered to remove such chutes and to provide sanitary arrangements, and be given a reasonable length of time to make such improvements."

"To avoid any doubt as to the meaning of tenement house, I will cite the definition contained in the state housing law: It is a building which houses two or more families."

Expects Health Survey.

Mayor Robbins expressed confidence that the United States public health service would detail one of its experts in the near future to make a health survey of the city.

"After this survey has been made, the city health department will be prepared to proceed at once to eliminate all building which are found to be, by the government expert, a menace to the health of the community. The health board will act under the authority given it by Section 79 of the housing law, but this authority will not be used arbitrarily nor with unnecessary severity. Buildings, however, which are disease breeders will have to be improved to eliminate such conditions or be removed."

"Whenever it shall be found by the board of health that a tenement house or any part thereof, is infected with contagious disease or that it is unfit for human habitation or dangerous to life or health by reason of want of repairs, or of defects in the drainage, cabin or ventilation, or in the construction of the same, or by reason of existence on the premises of a person likely to cause sickness among the occupants of the house, the board may issue an order requiring persons thereon to vacate such or part thereof within not less than twenty-four hours nor more than five days, for the reasons to be mentioned in such order."

May Order Vacation.

"In case such order is not complied with within the time specified the board of health may cause such tenement house or part thereof to be vacated. The board, whenever it is satisfied that the danger from such house or part thereof has ceased to exist, or that it has become fit for human habitation, may allow such house to be occupied. An appeal in such case may be taken from any order of the board of health declaring any such tenement house unfit or unsafe for human occupation or habitation, which appeal may be taken by any owner, agent or agent of said tenement house, or by any holder of any lien thereon, or any person interested therein, which appeal may be perfected without any bond, by the filing with the said board, a petition giving notice of the intention of such petitioner to appeal from said decision or order, and thereupon the said board of health shall cause to be transmitted to the clerk of the circuit court of the county in which said tenement house is located, a copy of all papers, orders and entries on file or entered in such court a suit wherein the state of Indiana shall be plaintiff, and the said person so taking such appeal shall be named the defendant, and such proceedings shall be conducted to final termination in the same manner as a civil action, and it shall be the duty of the prosecuting attorney of such county to represent the plaintiff in such proceedings."

POSTPONE MEETING

The officers of the local order of Modern Woodmen of America have postponed the meeting which was to have been held Monday night to initiate a class of candidates until the night of the first Monday in June. During the interim an effort will be made by the lodge members to secure a large number of candidates.

CITY ALMOST FREE OF ALL CONTAGION

"Unusually good" were the words used by City Health Officer Smelser to describe public health conditions in Richmond. During April there were only sixteen cases of contagion. Today Dr. Smelser reports that only two houses are under quarantine for chickenpox. Only one person out of each thousand of the city's population died. The complete report follows: Deaths, 27; births, 35; chickenpox, 3; measles, 9; typhoid, 1; scarlet fever, 1; diphtheria, 1.

PLAN MOTHERS' DAY.

ECONOMY, Ind., May 1.—Mothers' day will be observed at Sugar Grove Sunday, May 2. Extra preparations are being made for the occasion. Rev. O. E. Evans of Muncie, will deliver the address. Special music by home tal-

How One Man Cured Dread Consumption

BY D. W. DENNIS.

From my earliest recollections, an intimate friend of my father was a consumptive; the mother of his children was also a consumptive; five of his children died one after another in early manhood of consumption; another boy had tuberculosis of the spine instead of the lungs, and is alive and a very useful man today; a seventh child, a young man, showed every evidence of the disease in its insipidity. He volunteered in the cavalry. It was freely predicted that he could not possibly survive the exposure of camp life for six months.

He, however, began at once to get better instead of worse; horseback riding furnished just enough exercise, but not too much; outdoor life, sleeping under the open sky, helped on the cure; in Stoneman's raid he was made a prisoner and sent to Andersonville. Here for nine months he slept under the open sky in all weathers; he

CHINA REJECTS JAP PROPOSALS

PEKIN, May 1—China's final reply to Japan's demands is reported to have been handed to Dr. Hicki, the Japanese ambassador, by the Chinese foreign minister Lu Chen Hsiaung this afternoon.

According to information from Chinese sources the reply was a flat rejection of the demands in so far as they relate to the virtual surrender of China's sovereignty.

City Statistics

Deaths and Funerals.

HUDDLESTON—Martha Huddleston, widow of Isaac Huddleston of Dublin, Ind., died Friday night at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Charles Benner two and one-half miles southwest of Richmond, at the age of 79 years. Besides the daughter she is survived by one son, Frank, of Dublin, ten grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. The funeral will be held Monday morning at 10 o'clock at Dublin. Friends may call any time.

POOR RELIEF LOW DURING LAST MONTH

Poor relief is steadily on the decrease, as shown by the report of Township Trustee Edgerton for the month of April.

The poor relief for the first four months shows a rapid decrease. The total amount and the number helped follows:

January \$921, 922; February \$762, 900; March \$618, 668; April \$320, 367.

"The poor relief is indicating those who will always be public charges," said Mr. Edgerton today. "I find most of the families who were helped in the winter for causes of non-employment have some one working now and have an income."

The allowance for coal was \$3.42 as compared with \$4.94 for the first month of last quarter. The allowance for shoes was \$4. The biggest item was groceries for which the township paid \$2.33 which is lower than any of the preceding months of the year. The March bill having been \$3.93; February, \$3.85; January, \$3.93.

HAT FORMS ONLY CLUE TO MURDER

EVANSVILLE, Ind., May 1.—With an old black derby hat as they only knew, the police today continued their attempts to solve the mystery surrounding the death of Joseph Beelies, proprietor of a line of transfer wagons, whose body was found in an alley with a bullet in the head.

Although Beelies is said to have sustained financial reverses recently, the suicide theory is scouted by the police, who point out that Beelies was left-handed while the bullet entered his head from the right side. The absence of powder burns also lends color to the murder theory and there were indications of a struggle near the scene of the tragedy. Beelies clothes were badly torn and disarranged and his empty pocketbook and false teeth lay on the ground nearby.

CHARGES ASSAULT

Alleging he was attacked by a black mail while on a train en route from New Castle to Walnut Level August 14, 1914, by employees of the railway company, Frank Retz, 40, farm hand, who resides at Jacksonburg, Harrison township, filed suit in circuit court asking for \$10,000 damages against the Pennsylvania railroad.

SUES FOR PARTITION

A partition suit to divide property left by Aletha Wilson twenty years ago under a life estate to her husband, was filed in circuit court by Jeffries Wilson and his wife, Nettie B. Wilson. The defendants are Georgiana Collins, Morris E. Wilson, Minnie W. Fry, Clarence Carl, George Carl and Charles Edmund Ellis. George Wilson, the widower of Aletha Wilson, died in 1900, and the property has not been divided among the heirs, the suit says.

MISS GASTON NAMED

Miss Laura Gaston, head of the music department of Earlham college, has returned to Richmond after attending a two days' session of the Indiana Music Teachers' association convention held in Greencastle. Miss Gaston was elected a member of the executive committee. Miss Gaston was leader of a round-table discussion held yesterday afternoon during the convention.

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WILSON TRAVELS TO CHRISTENING

NEW YORK, May 1.—President Wilson arrived at 6 a.m. today on his way from Washington to Williamsburg, Mass., to attend the christening of his grandson, Francis Sayre.

Shortly after the train to which the president's car was attached left Philadelphia early today considerable excitement was caused. The emergency brake was set, causing a bump that broke the window.

The secret service men made an investigation.

PREACHERS TO SPEAK ON CLEAN-UP WORK

Some of the ministers of Richmond churches will make a few remarks to their congregations at services Sunday regarding clean-up work. There is no concerted movement among the pastors to preach special sermons on the subject, but it is probable that many of them will refer to the work of cleaning up the city, which began today. The members of the congregations will be reminded that the assistance of all is required to make a campaign of this kind successful.

QUAKES FOR 2 HOURS

WASHINGTON, May 1.—An unusually severe earthquake lasting two hours was recorded on the day, as shown by the report of Georgetown university. The tremors began at 12:12 o'clock, reached their height at 12:45 and continued until after 2 o'clock. The quake was at an estimated distance of 5,500 miles but Father Torndorf was unable to determine in what direction. He said that if it was on land, it was one of the most destructive in many years.

AUTO SCRAMBLES HUCKSTER'S EGGS

ANDERSON, Ind., May 1.—Mrs. Eliza Lewis, 67, of Pendleton, and Mr. and Mrs. L. V. Mays of this city, became the central figures for a huge omelet of four hundred dozen eggs when the automobile in which they were riding south of here collided with a huckster's wagon belonging to Mauzy & Chalfant of this city. They were uninjured.

JOHN GEETING DIES.

ELDORADO, Ind., May 1.—John Geeting, a retired farmer, who had been making his home with his son-in-law, John Shewmon, of this town, died Wednesday evening from heart disease, from which he had been suffering for some time.

Funeral services were conducted at the Otterbein church Saturday afternoon. Interment was in the Otterbein cemetery.

TO REPLACE HITCH HACK WITH NEW GARAGE

ALEXANDRIA, Ind., May 1.—Merchants who contributed a fund to build a large hitching rack for use of farmers have found their judgment misplaced. The hitching rack has few patrons and a movement now is on foot to build a garage in which farmers can park their cars.

DRIVES 21,900 MILES.

ROCKVILLE, May 1.—During the eight years Harry Wolf has driven the school wagon in Reserve township, he has covered 21,900 miles. He has never missed a day or been tardy. He treats the eighteen pupils who ride in his wagon to daily portions of candy and other delicacies.

FIND MONEY IN CAN.

HARTFORD CITY, Ind., May 1.—The ruins of a building more than fifty years old, torn down to make room for the Elks' temple, are being diligently searched following the finding of two \$10 gold pieces in an old tin can by a workman.

PASSES BAD CHECK.

CHICAGO, May 1.—Frank W. Woodward, 20, who says his parents are wealthy and that he ran away from school in Indiana and came to Chicago, was held by the police today on a charge of passing a worthless check for \$20 on John Salzman, a pawn broker.

CARPENTERS STRIKE.

MORRISTOWN, May 1.—Building operations in this town were blocked yesterday by a strike of carpenters who refused to accept the wage scale under which they have been working. The carpenters object to working with higher paid men brought from Philadelphia.

Berlin Street Scene



Off for the front—the picture was snapped in Berlin on a street leading to a railway station. The time is early in the morning, and the young soldier is entraining that day for the front. The girl, who is carrying his rifle, is walking to the station to say goodbye. She has twisted flowers and leaves in his helmet and about his waist. Despite the imminent parting, the young soldier looks happy at the prospects of getting into action. Neither does the girl betray undue regrets that he is off for the front.

NEW GIANT CANNON OF GERMANS HURLED SHELLS INTO DUNKIRK

PARIS, May 1.—Belated explanations that the bombardment of Dunkirk was affected by a great German gun twenty-two miles away from the French port, instead of by German warships caused an increase of anxiety today as to the situation on the north coast.

It was the Germans use of 17 inch guns, whose existence had not been even suspected by the allies, that resulted in the fall of Liege, Namur and Maubeuge. If the Kaiser possesses a still more powerful weapon there must be quick action by the French and British to cope with it.

A few months after the war began, reports reached the French war ministry that in the Krupp works at Essen the Germans were perfecting a

gun capable of hurling shells 27 miles. It was said that the guns of this type would be used for bombing the British coast from the French side of the English channel.

Whether it was one of these guns that shelled Dunkirk, war office officials refuse even to guess, but the French military experts are inclined to think that it was, despite reports from correspondents at the front that the bombardment was effected by 15 inch guns whose range had been increased by mounting them so that they could be fired at a high angle.

Another theory was that the Germans had brought up some naval guns, but as far as can be ascertained no German warships have guns with a range of more than 17 miles.

INSURANCE AGENTS BANQUET STENCIL

Representatives of the Richmond office of the Prudential insurance company gave a dinner at the Westcott hotel last night in honor of J. F. Stencil, who leaves soon to become assistant agent at New Castle, Ind. Mr. Stencil is succeeded in the Richmond office as assistant superintendent by J. W. Ferguson, who was promoted.

The dinner was served at 7 o'clock and was followed by a smoker and extemporaneous speeches and expressions of good fellowship. The following agents who worked with Mr. Stencil were present: R. L. Miller, R. M. Miller, P. M. Smith, C. L. Schmidt, J. H. Church, J. F. Stencil and J. W. Ferguson.

LECTURES ON MOSLEM.

Rosa Hadley, assistant superintendent of Friends' foreign missions, is to give a stereopticon lecture on "The Moslem World" tonight in Lindley hall under the auspices of the Earlham Junior Girls Mission Study class. The public is invited.

FORMER EATONIAN GETS LIFE TERM

NOBLESVILLE, Ind., May 1.—Charles R. Hunter was today found guilty of the murder of John Bain at Indianapolis. He was sentenced to life imprisonment. Hunter roomed over Bain's saloon and had been reprimanded for entertaining women there. Inanity was the defense. Hunter was formerly a resident of Eaton, O.

EXEMPTIONS FILED.

Only three mortgage exemptions were filed last night when the auditor's office was kept open until 9:30 o'clock for the accommodation of those who do not want to pay taxes on mortgaged property. The office will be open again tonight. Today is the last day for filing exemptions.

SETS ROBERTS CASE

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., May 1.—Hearing of the appeal from the impeachment verdict of the city council against Mayor Dona M. Roberts has been definitely set for Monday in the Vigo circuit court. A decision by the attorneys for Roberts as to their choice between George I. Kiser and Frank Carmack, local attorneys, for special trial judge, will be made today, but a change of venue from Vigo county was denied.

TEACHERS GET PAY.

Township Trustee Edgerton handed Wayne township teachers their last pay checks for this school year today. The teachers will receive no pay until a month after the opening of the 1915-1916 year. Most of the teachers in the township signed blanks signifying that they want to return to their schools next year.

FAMILIES OCCUPY ALL HOUSES IN CITY

WALDRON, Ind., May 1.—Every time a new family moves into this town of about 750, some other family has to move out. It is John Dexter's turn now and he is moving to St. Paul, away from his friends and relatives and much against his will. The house in which he lived was sold and there was not another vacant house in town.

LARGER BIRDS PREY ON ENGLISH SPARROW DECREASING NUMBER

That the English sparrow is decreasing in numbers in Indiana is the opinion of Walter Ratliff, who represents the inland division of the United States biological survey for eastern Indiana. Mr. Ratliff made this statement in his last report to Amos W. Butler, who is the Indiana representative of the biological survey.

"Sparrows are the prey of carnivorous birds," Mr. Ratliff said. "While they exist they will be a protection to song birds, because the birds which prey on them will not touch the other birds when they can get sparrows. Sparrows will be regarded as valuable birds for this reason when they are reasonably exterminated, and for the reason that they are insect destroyers of great worth."