

## WATERWORKS DECISION IN NEW ALBANY CASE OF LOCAL INTEREST

A city water company, operating under an indeterminate franchise under the public service commission law, is liable to any individual property owner whose property is destroyed by fire through negligence of the water company in failing to provide water for extinguishing the fire. This decision was handed down by the appellate court of Indiana Friday and is of interest to local people and concern because of its application to conditions in Richmond.

The case which brought the decision did not arise in Richmond, but the law would apply to any like case that might arise here, for the reason that the Richmond water works is operated under the same kind of permit that the water company that was defendant in the suit just decided was operating.

**Reverses Former Ruling.**

The decision was made in reversing the Washington circuit court decision in sustaining a demurred to the complaint of the trustees of the Jennie DePauw Memorial Methodist Episcopal church, of New Albany, seeking to recover \$25,000 for the destruction of their church. The trustees asserted that the New Albany water works was negligent in failing to keep its fire hydrants in condition to supply water for fire protection. It asserted that the flames were discovered in time to have been extinguished if the water had been available.

It is held in the decision that while at common law, under special charter from the city, an individual property owner could not recover damages for the loss of property due to failure to provide water for the fire hydrants, where the company has surrendered its special charter and has elected to operate under an indeterminate charter, as provided by the public service commission law, the company will be liable to the individual owner for any of its negligence which causes loss.

### Under State Permit

The Richmond water works company surrendered its charter granted by the city and took an indeterminate franchise under the Indiana public utilities commission a few years ago.

It is now operating under this franchise. This being true, under the decision just rendered, should a Richmond property owner suffer loss of property by fire, through the negligence of the water company failing to provide water for the extinguishing of the flames, such property owner could hold the water company responsible for his loss.

No case of this kind has arisen here, according to local officials, and there has been virtually no complaint that the Richmond water works company fails to keep its mains and fire hydrants in condition to meet emergencies, or that it fails to supply adequate pressure or sufficient amount of water in times of fire.

## REHEARSE MONDAY FOR MAY FESTIVAL

Every member of the Richmond May Festival chorus is expected to be in attendance at rehearsals Monday evening, it is announced by the committee. The Symphony orchestra will be present and the rehearsal will be held in the Coliseum instead of the high school. Everyone is asked to report at 7:30 o'clock promptly. Three rehearsals remain and there is still much work to be done, it is reported. In order that it will not be necessary to entail any extra work and expense of extra rehearsals in the various programs as far as the adult chorus is concerned, it is requested that everyone report.

Plans are being drawn for the erection of an immense platform at the Coliseum to accommodate a chorus of 1,000 children and the orchestra participating in the coming May festival. It is said.

The seating capacity of the Coliseum, it is expected, will be taken at capacity at the four festival performances, as more than half the house is taken up by holders of tickets, and it was decided at a meeting Thursday of the finance committee that other seats in the house should be sold for each performance at from 25 cents to \$1.00 including reservation. All seats, it has been stated, will be sold from Weisbrod's music house. Full details are to be announced later.

Members of the Rotary, Kiwanis and Young Men's Business clubs and the Richmond Symphony orchestra who have not yet made reports on concert tickets given them for the Richmond Symphony Orchestra association are requested to give this matter their attention at once so a full report may be compiled by the secretary, Ray Weisbrod, who has charge of the tickets.

## RICHMOND RESIDENTS TO APPEAR IN MOVIES

Thousands of feet of moving pictures are to be taken of Richmond very soon. Arrangement with the Prisdale Industrial film company of Chicago, have been made by manager of the Washington theater, Mr. Bell to show the completed pictures at his theater for one week.

It is said that \$17,000 worth of moving picture equipment will be necessary for the "shooting" of Richmond. A camera car truck, with a director and camera man to man it, will come into play during the filming. The pictures are to be taken in character, showing schools, and public, churches, clubs, societies, city officials, public buildings, boy scouts, and the police and fire departments in action.

Operations of local industries are to be shown to the public. Methods used in making articles seen or used daily, and which are made here, will be exhibited. The advance agent for the film company was in town Saturday. He said that 99 per cent. of every one in Richmond will want to see these pictures because if a person is not in it himself, he will have a friend or relative in them.

**WOULD JOLLIFY WITH PERU**

WASHINGTON, April 23.—The United States would be represented by a commission at the coming centennial celebration of Peruvian independence under a resolution reported favorably by the senate foreign relations committee on recommendation of President Harding.

## Junior Life Saving Corps Starts Lessons Wednesday

Junior Life Saving corps of the Y. M. C. A. will hold its first class under the direction of T. P. Wilson at 3:45 o'clock Wednesday afternoon at the Y. Mr. Wilson stated that the first lesson would be nothing but general instructions as to what to do when what to do when in the water.

The class will not enter the water this lesson and all the members of the class are to bring their note books.

## COMPLETE PLANS FOR BIBLE SCHOOL RALLY; EXPECT LARGE CROWD

Annual Rally Day of the Wayne county home departments of the City Bible schools, which opens at 2:15 o'clock Sunday afternoon, in the First Presbyterian church, with representatives of the departments from all parts of the county, is expected to be one of the largest rallies in the history of the organization here.

Informal discussions in which every one will take part, including a large number of visitors, not members of the departments, will be one of the features of the afternoon. Special music has been arranged for the occasion, as well, and a number of speakers from the city and county will appear on the home mission board.

Mrs. Jessie Cornell, county superintendent of the organization, will be among the township speakers, it is announced. No collection will be taken, it is said.

The program as it will be presented follows:

**Devotional and Opening Exercise—Dr. J. J. Rae, of the First Presbyterian church.**

"Holy, Holy, Holy"—Congregation.

"The Pastor's, Visitors' and Members' View of the Home Department"—Mrs. H. S. James.

Solo, "Great Peace"—Marie Deuker.

"The Home Department and Missionary Enterprise"—Discussion lead by township representatives.

Quartet—Mt. Moriah Baptist church.

"The Home Department and the Message of the Gospel"—Township speaker.

"Work, for the Night is Coming"—Congregation.

Miss Helen Nicholson, organist of the First Presbyterian church, will preside at the organ.

## MINER'S DELEGATES MEET; WILL CONFER WITH LLOYD GEORGE

(By Associated Press)

LONDON, April 23—Delegates of local unions of the miners' federation of Great Britain met here today, but it was understood before the meeting that no definite decision relative to the controversy with mine owners, which caused the miners' strike on April 15, would be reached until after leaders of the federation conferred again with Premier Lloyd George on Monday.

Mr. Lloyd George conferred with the miners yesterday and at the close of their conversation the situation was considered quite hopeful. It was said the prime minister had appealed to both sides in the mine controversy to renew negotiations regarding the wage question, and that the government was disposed to agree to a sort of a national wage pool, one of the chief demands of the miners.

Frank Hodges, secretary of the miners' union, who had been in a rather delicate position since the breakdown of the triple alliance strike, received a vote of confidence from the miners' Federation yesterday.

## RAIL FREIGHT LOSS \$104,000,000 IN 1920

(By Associated Press)

ATLANTA, Ga., April 23.—Railroads of the United States lost \$104,000,000 in 1920 from robbery of freight and damage caused to freight, the latest due chiefly to negligence of employees and defective equipment, according to figures presented here today at a conference of 75 freight-claim agents and operating officials of railroads in the southeast.

Loss in robberies alone amounted to approximately \$32,000,000 a month in the United States during 1920, it was declared.

## Chauncey M. Depew Honors 87th Birthday

(By Associated Press)

NEW YORK, April 23.—Eighty-seven years old today, Chauncey M. Depew said he did not think the occasion worthy of much comment but that he looked forward "with enthusiasm" to entering his one hundredth year.

The former United States senator, who now is chairman of the New York Central railroad board of directors, planned to make his usual trip to his office and to receive a few of his old friends at a dinner given in his honor by Mrs. Depew.

## New York Bank Reserve Shows Decrease This Week

NEW YORK, April 23.—The actual condition of clearing house banks and trust companies for the week shows that total \$9,594,320 reserve in excess of legal requirements. This is a decrease of \$6,847,860 from last week.

## Albert S. Barleson Sails For Antwerp, Saturday

(By Associated Press)

NEW YORK, April 23.—Albert S. Barleson, former postmaster general, who now registers as a "cotton planter" in Austin, Texas, was listed as a passenger aboard the steamship Zealand, sailing today for Antwerp. He said he would visit Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Greece and Czechoslovakia.

Dr. M. Okada and K. Oshima, Japan's representatives to the meeting of the League of Nations at Geneva in May, were among other passengers.

Many single blocks in New York city contain retail stores in larger number and of greater variety than are to be found in many whole towns of considerable size.

## ANNOUNCE SESSIONS OF FRIENDS BOARDS FIVE YEARS MEETING

Friends' Five Years boards will hold their annual sessions in the South Eighth street Friends' church, the week beginning May 8. First sessions begin at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon, when the Indian affairs committee of the home mission board convenes.

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