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NEW CITY HALL

Sentiment Among the Commissioners Is Strong for It.

Present Building Is Crowded and the Roof Leaks.

VARIOUS SUGGESTIONS MADE

Of Plans to Relieve the Present Difficulties.

Only Thing That Appears Certain Is an Elevator.

City officials are dissatisfied with the present city hall. In the opinion of the city fathers there are various things which should be done to Topeka's town hall. There is at present no apparent unity of opinion as to just what should be done. Suggestions run all the way from merely installing an elevator to building an entirely new structure.

Mayor House and all members of the city commission, with the exception of W. G. Tandy, contend that there is not enough room in the present city hall conveniently to quarter those having offices there now, to say nothing of places for two more new offices in the near future. Mr. Tandy, city commissioner of streets, contends that there is room enough for all in the present building, but he also contends that his particular department is cramped and should be given more commodious space.

Mr. Tandy would solve the problem by partitioning off the council chamber into small rooms to be used for offices.

"Fine," remarked W. L. Porter, commissioner of parks and public buildings, when told of Tandy's idea. There was a suggestion of sarcasm in his exclamation.

"Where would he have the meetings of the commission held?" Porter then inquired.

"An architectural monstrosity!" That is what Jay E. House, mayor, styled the city hall, and Mr. House has made a study of architecture.

"The addition of another story might be a solution of the problem."

The Roof Leaks.

"Why not an entirely new building?" suggested W. H. Wasson, city commissioner of finance, when approached upon the question of more room in the City hall.

"Other cities, even much smaller than Topeka, have city halls which are not only commodious, but which are beautiful. I see no reason why Topeka should not do as well."

And, to this Mayor House says "ditto."

W. L. Porter joins the cry for more room in the city hall. He, too, thinks the addition of another story may be the right thing, but is not prepared to declare himself without giving the subject more study.

It is for Porter to reach a decision soon, for the present building is in such condition that it must soon be replaced with a new one. After two years of attempts at patching the old roof Porter was dismayed this morning when he saw how the rains had found their way to new plastering and papering recently done.

"It would be a poor investment to put a new roof on the building and then have to tear it off for the construction of another story," remarked Porter.

Frank M. Newland, city commissioner of water, has a suggestion.

"The entire first floor of the City hall should be used for offices. The fire department should be moved entirely away from the City hall and placed in a station of its own. Move the fire department out and there will be plenty of room in the City hall. Of course, if this were done, the city would have to build a new building for the fire department."

All agree that whether the City hall remains only three stories or is run up to four that an elevator should be installed.

"That elevator is going to be put in this year, or I am going to know the reason why," declared W. L. Porter.

Whitmarsh Heads Grocers.

San Francisco, May 22.—The National Wholesale Grocers' association of the United States in the closing session of the ninth annual convention elected the following officers: President, Theodore F. Whitmarsh, New York; vice president, W. C. McConaughy, Parkersburg, W. Va.; treasurer, Joseph S. Seeman, New York city.

SODA SEASON ON

Sale of Soft Drinks Opens With a Rush.

Several New and Ornate Fountains Have Been Installed.

NUMBER OF FREAK DRINKS

The "Billy Sundae" and Tipperary Have Appeared.

Limeades Continue to Hold Place of Popularity.

"Give a coke." The soda squirt behind the bar at the corner drug store finished mixing a lime and viewed the long line of waiting straw-hatted customers with furrowed brow. He flipped a quantity of cracked ice high in the air, deftly caught it in a glass, shot the required mixture into the same glass, placed it before the speaker and pointed his digit toward the next man in line. The attitude of a bush league catcher trying to bluff the umpire.



As He Appears to the "Soda Jerk."

The soda season was on. Behind the onyxed bar a half dozen louts were attempting to serve what appeared to them half the town. On the other side of the aisle, Myrtle, the blonde queen of the cigar and candy counter perched on her throne—a three legged stool—and pursued the trials and tribulations of a hero chasing his rival across the country via the popular fiction route. Between lines she tried to freeze out the Chicago cigar drummer and tell Billy—Billy was the squirting sodas for his life—that she wasn't trying to flirt. Myrtle wasn't selling any cigars today. It was too hot for men to smoke. The boys across the aisle were making a good showing toward getting a corner on the government mint's output of nickels and dimes.

Began With a Rush.

Such was the stage setting in most any Topeka refreshment store when the soft drink season began with a rush this spring with the mercury hovering around summer temperatures. And local proprietors, like wise generals, were prepared.

In the last month no less than five of the finest soda fountains in the state have been installed in Topeka stores. Combined with the cost of others recently installed they aggregate in value about \$50,000—an amount that would be considered a goodly fortune by the average Topekan.

The new fountains are the last word in decoration, construction and sanitary requirements. Among the stores which have placed new fountains in service are: The Rosser drug store, 803 Kansas avenue; the Arnold drug store, 523 Kansas avenue; Flad's drug store, 607 Kansas avenue; the Oxford drug store, 530 Kansas avenue, and the Waggoner drug store, 731 Kansas avenue. The White Swan establishment installed a fountain this spring. G. E. "Punch" Rigby has opened a new confectionery and refreshment store on West Fifth street between Kansas avenue and Jackson street.

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New fountains were installed the latter part of last year by the Mills company and the Warren M. Crosby company. The latter two companies were among those who inaugurated the refreshments-for-shoppers idea in Topeka.

Freak Drinks. This season the usual quantity of "freak" drinks have been introduced to Topeka people. The Billy Sundae, the Tipperary and others with names derived from current topics are among the latter. However, limeade continues to hold its own as a hot weather drink. A few years ago limeades were unknown in this city, but since their introduction have sprung into popular favor as thirst quenchers. Standbys of coca cola may be interested to know that all the year 'round there is no drink sold so much. In the winter "coke" is the principal source of the fountain man's income.

IN A SPECIAL TRAIN.

The Wortham Shows Require 27 Cars for Their Transportation.

The Wortham shows will arrive tomorrow evening from Wichita in their own special train of 27 cars. Work will be started at once moving the equipment to the fair grounds so that

everything will be ready for the opening after the Shriners' parade which leaves Gordon and North Kansas avenue at 8:45 o'clock Monday evening. L. C. Beckwith, special agent and promoter for the Wortham shows, announced that the carnival would be located north of the grandstand at the fair grounds about where the state fair midway has been located in years past. A contract has been let for the brilliant illumination of the Shrine carnival grounds. The Wortham band will make a serenading trip on Kansas avenue, playing in front of the State Journal office about 1 o'clock. The Wortham shows will be in Topeka all of next week.

IN A WHOLESALE RAID

Men and Women in N. Y. Arrested for Running Medical Museums.

New York, May 22.—Twenty-two men and a woman were arraigned in the court of special sessions Friday as a result of the police crusade against medical museums several weeks ago. Six of the defendants were fined, ten were released on suspended sentences and the cases of the other seven were put over until next Friday. The fines ranged from \$150 to \$500.

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