

# MAKES PLEA FOR CITIZENS' PARTY

Judge John A. Aiken Opens the Campaign For Local Movement With an Address at the Auditorium.

Declaring that efficiency will never follow party government in municipal affairs and asking his hearers to support a citizens' ticket if they want a "business administration", Judge John H. Aiken of Ft. Wayne made the opening speech in the campaign of the "citizens" at the Auditorium Friday evening.

A. E. Martin, attorney, law partner of John A. Hibberd, state senator, preceded Aiken with a speech attacking the present administration for what he termed "costly mistakes" and charging a "hand in glove relationship" between the city officials and the public service corporations.

Sen. Hibberd presided at the meeting which drew a crowd that nearly filled the lower floor of the theater. Music was furnished by Elbel's band before the meeting and by a male quartet.

**Says He's a Democrat.**

Aiken, the principal speaker of the evening, is judge of the Allen county superior court. In national and state politics Aiken claims adherence to the democratic party. In his speech Friday evening he "vigorously" denied it meant the loss of party relationship for a voter to espouse a "citizens' movement".

Municipal government, according to Aiken, should be strictly business. "So a man can't be said to have deserted his party simply because he voted for his business interests in a city election."

"For my part I fail to see what application the tariff or any of the other national questions have in municipal government and I believe the time has come when the national and state dividing lines shall be obliterated in the cities."

Aiken declared the greatest reason for the inefficiency in city government which he charged exists wherever party rule obtains, is the appointment of political henchmen to positions which they are not qualified to hold.

"A political party is a faction," said the speaker, "and a faction can't run a city. In the first place the officials do not represent the people, they are subservient to the party bosses, they must appoint the men who helped nominate and elect them if they are to remain in good standing with the bosses."

**Question Always Raised.**

"Every action the official takes is preceded by the question: 'How will this affect my standing in the party?' Will it hurt me in case I want to run again? An efficient business administration is obviously out of the question when such conditions prevail."

"What gives our American politics the general reputation of corruption among other peoples, is not so much genuine crookedness as it is genuine incompetency."

Aiken pointed out that although good men might be nominated on party tickets, if the influence of their party backers is bad, the administration will be bad.

The speaker paid a tribute to women and their influence in politics, declaring a voteless woman can often exert more influence for good than the man with a ballot often does.

"Unless the church people are too lazy and the business men too busy" South Bend can have officers who are responsible to the people," said Aiken.

"Down in Ft. Wayne the young ladies are boycotting their young men friends when they find they are standing for the partisan candidates. And they're doing a lot of good."

The speaker then traced the origin and the development of the citizens' movement in Ft. Wayne. Aiken presided at the meeting last week which nominated Charles Buck as independent candidate for mayor.

Martin's speech was an impassioned plea for the citizens' movement. He declared a city administration must stand on its record of achievements and failures when judgment is to be passed. He condemned the officials for granting the franchise to the two railway companies to cross the LaSalle bridge and declared that both gas and electric rates in this city should be lowered. He intimated that the reason there has been no reduction in rates was the "hand in glove" relationship which he charged existed between the officials and the companies.

# BATTLESHIPS SUNK IN MAKE BELIEVE WAR

**NEW LONDON, Conn., Aug. 9.**—The entire battleship fleet of the Black squadron attempted Friday to run the gauntlet of Forts Terry, Thibault and H. G. Wright, defending the eastern entrance to Long Island sound. Theoretically the attempt was a failure and the squadron was sunk.

The trial at running the forts was spectacular, as the outer rim of the fortifications was outlined by flame for nearly half an hour. In that length of time the last of the battleships had been sunk. The outcome of the battle is regarded as a complete demonstration of the supremacy of the coast defenses against naval attack.

The battleships in two lines started from a point near Block Island, and steamed directly toward Fort Wright. The fort in the extreme western end of Fisher's Island and commands a range of the race. West of the race is Fort Michie and farther west Fort Terry. The guns of all three forts opened on the battleships.

# EXPLOSION OF PIPE CAUSES A SHUT DOWN

The Elkhart Paper Co.'s mill, which employs 193 hands, will be idle until Monday, while repairs are being made. An explosion of a 12-inch exhaust pipe at 11:30 Friday forenoon inflicted such damage as makes operations impossible pending repairs.

E. T. Gilman, the general manager, while enforcing a rule prohibiting the entrance of non-employees from entering the damaged portion, stated that the reports of the extent of the damage had been grossly exaggerated and that the actual loss would not exceed \$200.

**MISS KATE DRAKE.**

Miss Kate Drake, 76, a resident of Elkhart and vicinity for 50 years and a pioneer teacher in Elkhart public

# POTATOES AND CORN AFFECTED BY DROUGHT

According to Government Report Corn Crop Will be 452,000,000 Less Than the Yield of Last Year.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9.—A loss of 300,000,000 bushels of corn, the nation's greatest farm crop, has resulted from the great damage wrought by drought and other conditions since July 1, the government's agricultural experts estimated Friday in their August crop report. A total production of 2,672,000,000 bushels of corn was predicted. This is 452,000,000 bushels less than last year's crop.

The general condition of corn was placed at 75.8 per cent of normal, compared with 86.9 per cent on July 1. Kansas was hit hardest, the condition there having been reduced from 81 per cent in July to 30 per cent on August 1. Oklahoma came next with a condition of 44 against 87 in July and Nebraska reported 67 against 97 July 1. These three states have almost 19 per cent of the total area planted to corn this year.

A bright spot in the monthly grain report, however, was the preliminary statistics showing a production of 511,000,000 bushels of winter wheat. This is the greatest harvest of wheat ever gathered in the United States, exceeding the record crop of 1902 by 19,000,000 bushels. Today's figures exceeded by 28,000,000 bushel the estimate made by the department in July.

Spring wheat, too, was given an increased estimate of production, it being 15,000,000 bushels more than the July estimate, the total being placed at 2,234,000,000 bushels. With the bumper winter wheat crop and a fairly good spring wheat production the total harvest of fall wheat is estimated at 744,000,000 bushels. A crop this size would place the year's production second only to the record crop of 1901 when 748,000,000 bushels were produced.

The harvest of white potatoes, it is estimated, will be smaller by 82,000,000 bushels than the crop of 1912. A total of 339,000,000 bushels is estimated.

# FIRE LOSSES LESS IN JULY

Monthly Reports Cover Work of Various City Departments.

Fire losses were decreased several thousand dollars during July in comparison with the previous month. The total loss during July was \$9,385, while the June losses were several thousand dollars in excess of this. The damage to the buildings and contents is about one-ninth of the value of the buildings and contents at risk.

Hose Co. No. 1 laid more hose than any of the other companies, 8,000 feet of "pipe" having been used by this truck. No. 5 came second, with 3,600 feet used. Outside of the companies at the Central station which go to most of the fires, No. 3 company made the most runs, answering 20 alarms.

To make 177 arrests during July, the same number of runs were made by the police, covering a total of 715 miles. Out of the 177 arrests 17 of these were women. Goods to the amount of \$342.50, reported as lost or stolen, were recovered by the police department.

Three gas meters were inspected by City Sealer Peters and all of them were found to be correct. A total of 23 butter prints were inspected, 10 of which were found to be correct. Four of them were over-weight and the others short. In all \$53.25 was collected by the city sealer for inspections during the month.

The condemnations were condemned last month by the city electrician. Permits to wire buildings were issued to 138 persons.

# SAVES LIVES OF TWO BUT LOSES HIS OWN

**HARBOR SPRINGS, Mich., Aug. 9.**—Hal Souter, 19 years old, Shelby, Mich., Friday night lost his life in Little Traverse bay, after saving the lives of his sweetheart, Miss Teresa Miller, and his chum, Arthur Cook. Cook and Miss Miller were standing on a roof, where they had gone bathing, when the undertow from a storm swept them from their footing. Souter rushed to their aid and held his two companions above the water until life savers arrived. In the excitement attending the rescue, Miss Miller and Cook were hauled aboard the life boat while Souter, exhausted by his struggles, sank and was temporarily forgotten. Two hours later his body was washed ashore.

# ANOTHER HIGH MARK REGISTERED BY SOL

Once again Old Sol showed his teeth Friday and let it be known that he still has few hot spots up his sleeve. During the afternoon the mercury went up to 92 where it stayed the greater part of the time, according to local weather man, Henry Swaim. Swaim predicted that the mark would likely be reached again Saturday.

The absence of any breeze during the afternoon enhanced the heat, pedestrians and office workers suffering to no little extent. During the morning hours a slight breeze blew while the temperature ranged between 85 and 90. Shortly after noon the wind died down and the thread in the tube arose until it reached 92 degrees above and the old phrase "Gee whillikins it's hot again" became popular.

schools, died at 10 o'clock Friday forenoon following an illness of nine months from a dropsical affection.

We Don't Know How We're Standing These Days of Quick-Disposal Selling

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New merchandise & odds & ends sacrificed alike.

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The time for stock reduction is growing short

**NEXT WEEK!**

It has been combined with our Annual July Sale

Next Week Will be a Three-day Race to Clean Shelves and Counters Before Moving Days

# FIREMAN LOSES HIS LIFE DURING BLAZE

Luther J. Sevison Answers Alarm at the Frederick T. Shigley Home Although It is Day Off.

**ELKHART, Aug. 9.**—While fighting flames in the basement of the home of Luther J. Sevison, No. 330 W. Crawford st., at 6:40 o'clock Friday morning, Frederick T. Shigley, electrician of the Elkhart fire department, was fatally shocked. An hour's efforts on the part of his comrades and the use of the pulmotor in forcing artificial respiration proved futile and he was pronounced dead shortly before 8 o'clock.

As it was Fireman Shigley's day off but he responded to the alarm.

The dead fireman is survived by a wife, four children ranging from 11 months to 15 years of age, parents and a brother. He was a member of the Firemen's Benevolent association and the Loyal Order of Moose.

Funeral services will be held Sunday at an hour not yet determined. Burial will be made in Grace Lawn cemetery.

The exact cause of Fireman Shigley's death will probably never be known as he grasped a seemingly harmless telephone wire which had been burnt off. It is generally believed that the telephone wire became temporarily crossed with a high tension wire in the distant part of the city. A thorough investigation by officials and linemen from the Home Telephone and Indiana & Michigan Electric companies had availed nothing up to a late hour Friday night.

The furnishings of the Sevison home were damaged to the extent of \$600, fully covered by insurance. The residence is owned by Roy M. Stark, cashier of the St. Joseph Valley bank who refused to estimate his loss, although stating that it was also fully covered by insurance.

Mr. and Mrs. Willard Shigley, the

parents, are spending the summer at Simonton lake and were notified over the telephone by their son, C. B. Shipley. They hastened to Elkhart in their motor car.

# FARMER DROPS DEAD.

**BLOOMINGTON, Ind., Aug. 9.**—John Slipp, 75 years old, one of the most prominent and wealthiest farmers of Monroe county, dropped dead from heart failure on the court house lawn here Friday. He is survived by seven children.

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The Best August Sale We've Ever Held

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