

# WIDOW BLAMES DOCTOR

### Indiana Harbor Physician Said to Have Given Wrong Cause For Pa- tient's Death, to Protect Casualty Company.

# DEMISE ATTRIBUTED TO TYPHOID FEVER

### J. A. Teegarden Whom Mrs. John Davis Accuses, Enters General De- nial; Says Family Would Put Up a Job to Collect Insurance Dam- ages Which They Are Not Entitled.

There are sensational developments in the case of John Davis, who died Sunday night following an accident, suffered while employed in the Inland Steel company's mills at Indiana Harbor.

Incidentally Dr. Teegarden of Indiana Harbor is put forward in a bad light by the widow of the deceased.

The physician on the other hand, denies flatly most of the story as told by Mrs. Davis and says her reasons for maligning his motives have no foundation in fact, but are the result of a desire on her part to get money to which she is in no wise entitled.

Mrs. Davis claims that her husband died of the injuries he suffered in the accident, while Dr. Teegarden declared he died of typhoid fever and said he would make out a death certificate to that effect. The widow claims the physician had an ulterior reason for assigning typhoid fever as the cause, and that this reason was the protection of the Inland Steel company from liability for the death, and of the insurance company from its obligations to make good on a \$1,000 accident policy held by the deceased in his wife's name.

Dr. Teegarden, it was claimed by the widow, is in the employ of both the Inland company and the Continental Casualty company in which her husband

was insured. The physician admits that he is the Inland Steel company's physician, but denies any connection with the casualty company.

The accident which caused the alleged injuries which, according to Mrs. Davis, were responsible for her husband's death, occurred on March 25. That part of the mill in which he was employed was filled with escaping steam at the time, and Davis, his vision obscured by the heavy vapor, stumbled while in the act of walking across the floor, and fell heavily. He was badly hurt about the head and body, according to his wife, and the next morning was unable to arise from his bed. Dr. Teegarden was called into the case and attended the injured man. Later he was removed to a hospital, Dr. Teegarden still attending him.

He died Sunday and when the widow learned that the physician was about to render a death certificate naming typhoid fever as the cause, she demurred. She declared it a scheme to cheat her out of the money due her on the accident policy and likewise hurt her chances in a damage suit against the Inland mill people. She demanded an inquest and Dr. Teegarden admitted that it might be as well to inquire into the cause of death more closely by means of an autopsy, and proposed to hold the autopsy himself, according to Mrs. Davis. She again demurred and insisted upon an inquest by the coroner which was accordingly held, the inquest taking place yesterday at Indiana Harbor.

The finding was that Davis came to his death from pneumonia, "either as the primal, or the secondary cause." The verdict also found that the body showed marks of the injuries his wife claimed he had suffered.

Dr. Teegarden in giving his side of the story said: "The man was my patient for a week before he went to the hospital, coming to my office and asking my advice for both himself and his children. He mentioned the fact that he had sustained a fall while at his work and said that he had suffered the loss of a toe nail. He thought little of the injury, however, as he did not take the trouble to show me the injured member. He was consulting me about an intestinal disorder that afterwards developed into typhoid fever. The finding of the coroner's jury that pneumonia may have been the secondary cause of death, or the primal cause does not affect my diagnosis in the least. Pneumonia frequently follows intestinal disorders.

As for my protecting the Steel company that is ridiculous. The case in the first place was not a company case and in the second place I did not treat the patient for any injuries he suffered while in the employ of the company. The family would never have thought of attributing his death to an accident if they had not held an accident policy and when the man's sickness was reported to the Casualty company, as is customary when with holders of policies to do, he gave a signed statement to the effect that he was ill of fever.

As to my wanting to hold the inquest, I did not dream of such a thing until the family requested me to hold it. I did not want to hold it, as I was in the employ of the Inland Steel company and I wanted some one else to officiate

# CHARGE FRAUD IN GARY REALTY CO.

### Well Known Real Estate Company in Gary Gets in Court.

# FOREIGN CLIENTS PLAINTIFFS

### Charge That Realty Men Have Misrepresented Sales They Had Made.

Several sensational cases were filed this morning in Justice of the Peace Fitzgerald's court in which one of the most prominent real estate firms in the city is alleged to have used fraudulent methods in disposing of their property to foreigners. There have already been seven cases filed against the Gary Realty company and there will undoubtedly be as many as a dozen more filed in a short time if the present plans of the attorneys for the plaintiffs, Harris & Bretsch, are carried out.

The context of the charges are that the firm misrepresented the location and value of certain property which they disposed of to the foreigners and that they made other assertions in regard to the sale which were entirely false. The sales were mostly made by agents of the company to people living many miles from Gary where they were unable to see for themselves what property they were about to purchase and ascertain its value. As soon as they began to arrive in Gary they flocked to several of the attorneys of the city and demanded that their money be refunded. Harris & Bretsch had their desk piled high with the abstracts and deeds brought into them by foreigners who claimed that they had been defrauded. The latter part of this week Attorneys Houren, Sefton and Kenneliet will also file a number of cases against the Gary Realty company with practically the same charges that are embodied in those of Harris & Bretsch.

Nearly all of the stories of the foreigners were the same but the complaint referred to is that of John Nizan and Stephen Vorkulitz vs. the Gary Realty company: Here the complaint alleges that the Realty company claimed to own the steel mills at Gary and that if the prospective purchaser would invest in a lot that they would insure his employment while he was in Gary. That they could work for at least two or three years at wages of from \$2 to \$3 per day, and because of the hard times which exists at the present they readily grasped an opportunity to secure employment. They also represented the lots according to the complaint, to be but five minutes walk from the steel mills, which would necessarily be

in the first sub-division when in reality they were forty-five minutes walk from the steel mills. The complaint also states that the foreigners illiterate and ignorant, unable to speak the English language, unused to the ways and customs of this country and ignorant of the wiles and trickeries of the shrewd agents of this defendant. That they made these false representations for the purpose of cheating and defrauding the plaintiffs and hundreds of other foreigners whose names are unknown to these plaintiffs. The defendant in the case mentioned was from Youngstown, Ohio, and paid his own fare to Gary. It is expected that the cases will be tried the latter part of this week.

# MAY RESUME BUILDING

### South Chicago Shipyards May Reopen Its Con- struction Department.

There may be a possibility of the Chicago shipbuilding company taking up construction work at their East Side plant. Superintendent A. G. Smith left yesterday for Cleveland on a mysterious mission to confer with the company's head officials. Before leaving, Mr. Smith was interviewed, but refused to state just what was doing in the head offices.

When asked whether or not there was a chance of the company taking up construction work at their East Side plant he laughed saying he would tell all about it when he came back—providing there was anything doing.

The East Side plant abandoned construction work over a year ago, which resulted in laying off over 3,000 men. Since then, only repair work has been taken on at the plant. However, from time to time the matter of taking up construction work has come up before the officials, but each time the work has been turned over to their plants at Milwaukee or Cleveland. If ship building was again taken up at the East Side plant it would mean the re-employment of 3,000 men which would be a Godsend at the present time.

# BRYAN CLUB MEETS AT GARY LAST NIGHT.

### Forty Members Wax Enthusiastic Over Speeches Made.

The South End Bryan club, of Gary, a political organization recently launched, held a great meeting last night at their hall and over forty were present. Speeches were made in English, Roumanian and Polish and the prospects for a good club was encouraging.

# The Born Leader.

Many a man who was born to be a leader has been out of a job most of the time because he couldn't find anybody who wanted to be led.

# DELEGATES ARE ELECTED

### Hammond, Gary and Whit- ing to be Represented at Meeting.

The Chicago Association of Commerce has taken hold of the matter of the pollution of the water of Lake Michigan and at a conference of delegates from all of the cities in the Calumet region which will be held at the Great Northern hotel in Chicago, April 11, there will be delegates present from Gary, Hammond, Whiting and East Chicago.

At Gary Dr. T. B. Templin and Thomas E. Knotts were selected to represent that municipality, in Hammond the matter will be taken up soon and delegates will be appointed to represent this city. In Whiting the Commercial club will take the matter up and appoint their delegates, and in East Chicago the delegates will be appointed by the president of the Booster's club.

The meeting is to be one of the most important from a sanitary point of view that has ever been held in the west and instead of considering the matter of relief through the medium of the drainage canal it is proposed to interest the cities which will never have access to this canal and get them to adopt the system of sewage filtration instead of polluting the water of the lake.

Dr. T. B. Templin will address the meeting on the advantages of the septic system of sewage purification and will illustrate the system that Gary is installing.

The governor of Indiana will be asked to appoint several delegates at large to attend the meeting and represent the interest of the state as a whole in this most important matter.

It is believed that if the interest of all of the smaller cities in the region about Chicago can be aroused in the advantages of sewage filtration that the lake water will some day be as pure as it was before the white man came and polluted it.

It is understood that the delegates will be royally entertained by the Association of Commerce and it is expected that the meeting in Chicago will be an epoch making one from a sanitary standpoint.

# HOBOS FREELY USED

### Gray Authorities Put All Tramps at Work Yesterday.

In an effort to protect a cofferdam which was being constructed for the purpose of receiving the surface water which has accumulated in large quantities in the vicinity of the Wabash

tracks and Washington street in Gary, a force of twenty hoboes were put to work, many of them against their will, to fortify the sides of the cofferdam until the water could be pumped out of it.

Some of the hoboes who had figured on a month of rest and recreation at the county jail, were very much put out when they were compelled to get out and fill sand bags in order to prevent the collapse of the cofferdam.

They were forced to do the work, however, and were then fed and paid off by the city. As a result of the successful effort to save the dam, the water on the south side has gone down several inches in spite of the heavy rains of the past few days.

# COMMISSIONERS MEET

### County Council Will be Called for April 25 By Board.

Crown Point, Ind., April 8.—(Special.)—The county commissioners transacted a grist of unfinished business carried over from Monday's session.

In the matter of the Crown Point-Gary Interurban franchise, the commissioners granted the right-of-way for the proposed route across the intersecting roads. According to the law, the commissioners recommended a meeting of the county council about the 25th of this month, for the special purpose of appropriating money, for the Gary bridge and recommended an appropriation of \$50,000 for this purpose. The party composed of the commissioners, county council and representatives of the Business Men's association, will make an examination and survey, of the proposed improvement, and Gary is now practically assured of her long desired bridge.

# FLINTS MAKING BIG HIT.

The Flints, who have just closed a successful week at Towle's opera house in Hammond with their hypnotic performances, have created a furore in Michigan City where they are performing this week for the first time. Hammond has been the only city in Northern Indiana which has had the pleasure of seeing the Flints in action. They have, however, visited Lafayette during the past year. The Flints have established the reputation of drawing some of the largest houses in Hammond and they promise to break the record in Michigan City.

# GARY CLUB MEETS.

There was a meeting of the executive committee of the Gary Republican club at which the first draft of the constitution and by-laws was made. The committee put considerable work on the document and another meeting will be held in the near future at which the constitution will be finished and later presented to the club for its approval.

# IS AFTER NEW SURVEY

### Representative E. D. Crum- packer Introduces a New Resolution.

Representative Crumpacker has introduced a resolution in the house at Washington providing for a preliminary survey by the war department of the Grand Calumet, from Calumet harbor to the mouth of the river, in the northeastern corner of Lake county. He would have the board of engineers in the department investigate with the view of recommending the improvement of the river and harbors along the south shore of Lake Michigan from the Calumet harbor to the east line of Lake county. The scheme is not entirely new. The government has made one preliminary survey of the Calumet and has done some work on the channel of the river. Mr. Crumpacker believes the time will come when the government will see the advisability of developing the south shore of the lake.

# CITY ENGINEER REED RESIGNS AT EAST CHICAGO.

East Chicago, April 8.—(Special.)—The resignation of City Engineer Robert W. Reed has been accepted by the city council, and the council adopted resolutions Monday night deploring his loss and paying flattering tribute to his capabilities as an engineer.

Later in the session the question of a successor came up and the names of J. Lawson of Chicago, and A. G. Dorland of Laporte were submitted. Quite a heated discussion arose among the councilmen regarding whom to appoint, some favoring Mr. Lawson, some Mr. Dorland and some preferring to continue in charge the brother of Engineer Reed, who is at present looking after the work. No decision was reached, it being decided to call a special meeting for next Monday at which the question will be settled.

# COMMITTEE REPORTS ON FIRE STATION LOCATION.

East Chicago, April 8.—(Special.)—The committee appointed to look into the matter for a site for the location of a fire and police station for Indiana Harbor have reported. They have decided upon a triangle lot on the southwest corner of Elm and Guthrie streets, with 126 feet frontage on Elm, and 111 on Guthrie and ninety-six feet in the rear. The lot belongs to Mrs. Mary Crawford and the deal is being put through by W. J. Tiley, her agent. The price agreed upon is \$2,050. The council has sanctioned the location and work will be begun in the near future, as soon as possible after the papers are signed up.

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# \$5.00

# HAMMOND REALTY COMPANY

### HAMMOND BUILDING, HAMMOND, IND.