

FAIRMONT IMPROVEMENT BONDS BRING FINE PREMIUM

CINCINNATI BOND HOUSES GET ISSUE FOR 773,777.77

Seven Bidders Were Represented at the Formal Award.

ONE LOCAL BID MADE

National Bank of Fairmont Offered Premium of Six Thousand Dollars

At the meeting of the city Board of Affairs at noon today for the sale of bridge and improvement bonds of the city of Fairmont to the amount of \$780,000, Well, Roth and Company and Seasongood and Mayer, both of Cincinnati, Ohio, in a joint bid, were the successful bidders. The figure at which the bonds were purchased was \$773,777.77 and accrued interest to the date of delivery. The bonds sold at \$1.0181.

Finance Commissioner J. Walter James read the bids promptly at noon. Mayor Anthony Bowen, Street Commissioner Albert Lehman and Water Commissioner Ira Smith were present with City Clerk Albert Kern recording the bids. The bids of the various firms in the succession in which they were opened follow:

Alexander Brown and Sons, Baltimore, Md., \$771,538 and accrued interest to date of delivery of bonds.

Field, Richards and Company, John Nevins and Company and the Provident Savings and Trust company of Cincinnati, Ohio, \$768,360 and accrued interest.

Robert Garrett and Sons company, Baltimore; Lyon, Singer and Company and the Fidelity Trust company of Pittsburgh, \$768,137, and accrued interest.

Well, Roth and company, Seasongood and Mayer, Cincinnati, \$773,777.77.

Hornblower and Weeks, New York, \$746,840. The same bid for \$640,000 the sum of \$846,576 and accrued interest. For \$120,000 they bid \$129,264.

Otis and Company, A. B. Leach and the Tillotson and Wolcott company, of Cleveland, Cincinnati and New York, bid for interest payable per annum \$766,232 and for semi-annual payment \$769,832.

The Sidney, Spitzer company, of Toledo, bid \$8,433 for the premium with accrued interest.

The Fifty-Third National Bank of Cincinnati missed the bonds by \$21.78 by bidding \$773,756 with accrued interest. This however, was for semi-annual payment. For annual payment they offered \$771,552 and accrued interest. The National Bank of Fairmont, Fairmont, W. Va., offered by letter the sum of \$766,000.

There were but seven bidders who had representatives here in person. These agents were J. P. Hans of the Fifty-Third National Bank of Cincinnati; O. J. Tillotson and Wolcott company, of Cleveland, O., was represented by D. L. Fullerton; C. B. Emery, bid for the Sidney, Spitzer company; J. H. Cassin, of Hornblower and Weeks was the only agent for a New York house here. George E. Kelly represented Robert Garrett and Sons of Baltimore, Md. Clifford T. Diehl, the Provident Savings and Trust company, of Cincinnati, and T. F. Davis was the lucky bidder for the Well, Roth company, of Cincinnati.

After the reading of the bids was completed, Street Commissioner Albert Lehman made a motion that the firms of Well, Roth and company and Seasongood and Mayer be awarded the bonds. The motion was seconded by Mayor Anthony Bowen and passed unanimously by the Board.

Morgantown Has Scarlet Fever Case

MORGANTOWN, Jan. 23.—A case of scarlet fever was quarantined in the Fourth ward of this city today. There are several children in the family besides the one that is ill and there has been several children in to visit the sick child. All of these children are placed under quarantine also. There have been no new cases of infantile paralysis reported here since yesterday.

Bandit Strickler Gets Two Years

Joe Strickler, bold and famous bandit and near jail breaker, was this morning sentenced to two years in the penitentiary at Moundsville by Circuit Judge Raymond. In pronouncing sentence the judge reviewed the long list of offenses committed by Strickler, beginning with the robbing of the Everson supply store. It has cost the county a very considerable sum to bring Strickler to justice, the officers finally catching him at Bellaire, Ohio, with the aid of the Ohio officers.

A TURNING POINT (An Editorial.)

IT lacks one day of being three weeks since the proposition to bring the plant of the American Valve and Tank company from Indianapolis to this city was broached at a Chamber of Commerce dinner, yet \$20,000 of the \$55,000 in preferred stock which it was agreed at that time should be purchased in Fairmont remains to be subscribed for. But that is not the worst of the situation: Most of the stock subscriptions that have been handed in have come from the Greater Fairmont Investment company and a handful of men who are leading spirits in the municipal advancement which the Greater Fairmont company was created to promote.

To put the matter bluntly the Fairmont business men, who will be the first beneficiaries and the only ones who can count upon continuous benefits from an increase in the industries of this city, are staying out of the only kind of a movement which will bring to them the thing upon which they declare their future business success depends—larger population and enhanced buying power.

But for one thing we would be tempted to compare the action of the local business men with the condition of a man who prefers to die by slow starvation rather than exert himself enough to reach for nourishing food in plain sight which might be obtained by merely putting out a hand. But we prefer to believe that the popular indifference toward this vitally important proposition is due to the fact that they have not been given the proper amount of information about it. It has not been driven home to their business consciousness.

When they understand it fully we feel sure they will agree with The West Virginian that Fairmont cannot afford to let this American Valve and Tank company project fail. It comes to us endorsed by competent business men and to let it fall to the ground would give a black eye to the movement to make Fairmont a larger, more prosperous and more influential community which is starting with such brilliant prospects, and it would play into the hands of the doubters and the pull-backs who are never so happy as when they are rejoicing over an individual failure or "knocking" the town in which they live.

But if the movement is to be crowned with success it must be given the support of the business men—all of them who expect to remain in business here and prosper with the growth of the community. The way some of the men who are familiar with the details of the Valve and Tank proposition have acted with regard to it puzzles this newspaper a great deal, but we are not so much in the dark regarding the mental processes of the average business man. Preferred stock offered upon terms as favorable as those of this Indianapolis concern would have been snapped up in a few days, perhaps in a few hours, in manufacturing towns in the Mississippi Valley States and New England. Business men in those communities, long familiar with manufacturing conditions, understand perfectly the intimate connection between busy factories and prosperous retailing. At present this is not much of a manufacturing community as that term is understood in the great factory districts. Fairmont business men have little beyond theory and the concrete example of the prosperity that exists in manufacturing communities to guide them. But they have come to a turning point. If they want to increase their businesses and prosper they must get behind this American Valve and Tank company preferred stock and speedily subscribe for the amount yet unsold.

We understand that letters are to be sent to individual business men outlining the proposition to them. It is to be hoped that favorable answers will be forthcoming in a very few days. Much valuable time already has been lost. Spring is not very far away and construction upon the building which the new company is to occupy should begin as soon as the weather permits.

MEXICAN RETREAT IS NOW ADMITTED

War Office Ordered Pershing to Draw Off Outposts.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—Withdrawal of the outposts of General Pershing's force in Mexico has been ordered by the War department with the approval of President Wilson. There were intimations today that as soon as outposts are brought in the movement of the main body of troops toward the border will be begun.

City Hall Notes

The street department's Ford is laid up for repairs. The old machine has been run over muddy and paved and dilapidated streets until it is just about ready to fall to pieces. It is a good old machine however and with a few dabs of paint a new wheel or two and several new rods it ought to be as good as new.

The City Commissioners will meet next Monday with the various engineers to talk over the bridge situation. It is possible an engineer for the work across Coal run ravine and the Monongahela river will be selected at this meeting but this cannot be stated definitely.

After the sale of the city's \$780,000 bridge and improvement refunding bonds this morning the work of consummating the deal started. Both sides will have their attorneys straightened out the title to the bonds and within 30 days he bonds themselves should be delivered to the owners.

Jones and Nuzum, architects in the city of Fairmont have presented the city with a beautiful design for a bridge across Coal Run ravine and according to several it is the best looking piece of work thus far sent in. The bridge, however, contains the market house which was discussed several months ago and this adds considerably to its appearance.

It will be found necessary to use an egg when making an omelette, but with "clam chowder" a clam isn't quite so important.

SAYS PRESIDENT IS A LOBBYIST

Senator Jones, of Washington, Attacks His Visits to Capitol.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—President Wilson's plan to visit the capitol frequently urging action on his legislative program was attacked today by Senator Jones, Republican, who declared it indicated a course of "systematic lobbying" by the President.

TWO MORE CHILDREN UNDER OBSERVATION

Now Eight Officially Admitted Paralysis Cases in Fairmont.

A new case of infantile paralysis reported last evening brings the total in the city to eight since January 9 when the first case was discovered. The new case is that of three year old Margaret Smith, of Albert Court, who is abed with her legs paralyzed. There are two cases under observation, one of these has about cleared of all suspicion and the other has shown no positive symptoms of the disease. The official record to date is as follows:

- No. 1. George Carr, aged 6 years, Carleton street. Died.
- No. 2. Bryan Colebank, aged 18 years, Merchant street. Legs paralyzed.
- No. 3. Nan Johnson, aged 7 years, Chicago street. Legs and arm paralyzed.
- No. 4. Pauline Halstead, Pierpont avenue. Legs partially paralyzed.
- No. 5. Margaret Kurchen, aged 4 years, 406 Walnut avenue. Arms paralyzed.
- No. 6. Olin Frost, aged 1 year, 332 Walnut avenue. Legs paralyzed.
- No. 7. James Bennett, Ninth street and View, aged 7 years. Face paralyzed.
- No. 8. Margaret Smith, Albert Court, aged 3 years. Legs paralyzed.

ABATING IN GRAFTON. GRAFTON, Jan. 23.—It is one week today since the last case of paralysis developed in this city. Quarantine measures will remain in force this week, however.

PROHIBITION LAW CHANGES ARE REPORTED

Rosenbloom's Resubmission Measure Referred to Debt Committee.

SOME BILLS ARE PASSED

Long Debate Characterized Morning Session of the House.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 23.—With only four dissenting votes each based on the failure of a minor amendment to carry the mothers pension bill was today passed by the senate.

Senate bill relating to the marriage of blood relatives and relating to the admission of students to the university were also passed each with a full vote.

Chairman McAboy of the committee on prohibition of the senate reported as senate bill 116, a prohibition measure meeting with approval of a large number of advocates of prohibition and Chairman Harvey of the House committee on prohibition will take the same measure into that branch.

The double election board bill advanced to third reading. Senator Ben Rosenbloom presented a resolution calling for joint meeting of legislature to take up the question of resubmitting the prohibition amendment to popular vote but after considerable debate the resolution was referred to the Virginia state debt committee.

Fourteen new bills originated in the Senate and 19 in the House. Debate followed favorable report of the committee on House concurrent resolutions providing for appointment of an Efficiency commission.

Delegates Weir and Bouchell, Patrick, Sweeney Weiss, Hall, Shaw, Johnson, John, Talbott, Tyman and Heavens each had something to say on the subject and it was noon before the vote was taken.

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 51 to 37. Speaker Thurmond announced the appointment of Reverend T. C. Johnson, D.D., as House chaplain and J. E. Arbuckle, of Lewisburg, as clerk to the sergeant at arms.

Political Crisis Exists in Japan

TOKYO, Jan. 23.—Japan is confronted with an internal political crisis. The opposition to the administration of Count Terauchi has opened a vigorous campaign on the ground that the Terauchi non partisan cabinet was framed in violation of the spirit of the constitution. The constitutional party which has a majority in the House of Peers and is under the leadership of Viscount Kato, former minister of foreign affairs, has joined hands with Nationalists group in the lower house for war against the Premier.

COLLEGE STUDENT HELD BY POLICE AS HIGHWAYMAN



KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 23.—County-wide search for the third of four highwaymen who took \$102,000 in uninsured bank notes from a train at Dedridge City, W. Va., October, 1915, is said by the police to be ended with the capture of H. Grady Webb, freshman at Eclectic Medical University here, through information from Webb's roommate, J. C. Wright. Wright, according to the police, found a picture of Webb sent to post-office inspectors and took detectives to Webb's classroom. Webb, who is 26, admitted, the police say, he was the man they sought, and said he spent most of his share of the money the four highwaymen took.



SHERMAN L. WHIPPLE.

OHIO RIVER TOWNS GET FLOOD TODAY

Families Living on the Lowlands are Fleeing to Safety.

WHEELING, Jan. 23.—Preparations were being made here today to meet the flood of 37 to 39 feet which is expected in the Ohio river tonight. Wheeling Island will be partly inundated and large forces have been working diligently since last night moving pianos and other furniture to place of safety.

The weather bureau has sent flood warnings broadcast and in the lowlands scores of families are arranging to meet the high waters.

NEW MARTINSVILLE, W. Va., Jan. 23.—The wharf boat went out with the flood Monday night and landing on a sand bar was damaged. The gasoline ferry boat owned by D. C. Lipman, sank. The business section was reached by the water during the night and some damage was done.

Saw Strange Vessel Near Porto Rico

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic, Jan. 23.—The American steamer Marliana, trading between San Domingo and Porto Rico which arrived here yesterday from Ponce, reports having sighted a suspicious steamer. The strange vessel was seen in the vicinity of Vieques Island otherwise known as Cran Island about 13 miles east of Porto Rico. The American Atlantic fleet passed here yesterday.

GERMANS AGAIN ON MOVE IN DOBRUDJA

BERLIN, Jan. 23.—The Teutonic troops have resumed their advance in Dobrudja it is announced officially. Bulgarian forces crossed the southern estuary of the Danube near Tulcha and held the ground against Russian attack. Successful reconnoitering operations by a German detachment and the repulse of a British party which attempted to move against the German lines northwest of Fromelles on the Franco-Belgian front are announced in today headquarters' statement regarding operations there. The breaking up of a Russian raid after the advancing troops had entered German first lines west of Dvinsk is also announced by the army headquarters' statement on developments along Russian front.

PARIS, Jan. 23.—There was rather violent cannonading between the Oise and the Aisne last night, the War office said today. Elsewhere along the front in France quiet prevailed. In aerial operations two German machines were brought down by French aviators.

69 Were Killed in London Explosion

LONDON, Jan. 23.—The casualties to date in last Friday's explosion were officially announced today to comprise 69 killed, 72 seriously injured and 328 slightly injured. This it is stated is believed to comprise the complete list.

RIVER HAS FALLEN SEVEN FEET SINCE NOON YESTERDAY

Flood Was the Highest Since That of the Year 1888.

DAMAGE WAS NOT LARGE

Railroads and Trolleys Lines Getting Back on Their Schedules.

The water in the Monongahela river today has dropped down 23 feet which is a lowering of seven feet since noon yesterday. This drop is partially due to the cold weather which followed the rain yesterday.

Reports from various sections concerning the damage done by the flood indicate that other than the loosening of two bridges from the abutments and the washing out of one there has been no great loss.

The water stations at each of Clarksburg and Fairmont were each in danger of closing down to the menace of the welfare of the communities in which they are located but the water stopped rising just in time to permit light repairs to be made so that these stations can operate.

The main line of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad was tied up at a point near Parkersburg 600 feet of the track being under water at Cornwalls. When the water went down the track bed went part of the way with it thereby making a soft bed.

The street car lines are running on regular schedule again. Numerous crews have been put to work by all public service corporations clearing away debris. The telephone and telegraph companies suffered comparatively little. The interurban and the steam roads had lots of trouble with mud and rocks slipping to the track. These have all been cleared away and the tracks put in shape for the rolling stock.

The steel bridge which formerly crossed the Paw Paw creek at Baxter is lodged against the Woods run concrete bridge and is being held by that bridge. Many swinging foot bridges so characteristic of the mining towns between Fairmont and Clarksburg were washed away. The water in all the creeks in the valleys above Fairmont started on rampage Sunday evening and in several places live stock was drowned by the rushing waters as the animals tried to cross.

Ridgesville, Mannington, and Baxter suffered most from the water entering houses but all of this has gone down now and the river is falling.

Yesterday was the highest flood stage in the history of the Monongahela, with the exception of the flood of 1888, for which there were no records, but which was supposed to have been about 40 feet. High water dates and flood stages since then are as follows: July 25, 1896, 28.2; February 23, 1897, 27.8; March 10, 1905, 29.0; January 17, 1907, 30.7; January 30, 1911, 29.2, and yesterday's, 31 feet even.

Brotherhoods Oppose New Adamson Bill

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—W. S. Stone, Grand Chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, and L. E. Sheppard, acting president of the Order of Railroad Conductors, testified today before the House Commerce committee in opposition to the Adamson bill to prevent interruption of railroad traffic by creating a special investigating commission during whose deliberations strikes and lockouts will be unlawful.

Co-Operative Store Dividend A dividend of 5 pct. was declared on the stock of the Fairmont Co-Operative store at a meeting of the board of directors last night. The checks will be presented to stockholders in Wilder Hall, February 10. It was reported that the store did nearly \$4,000 business for the month just ended.

Official Thanks for Knocking Man Down

NEW YORK, Jan. 23.—Signal Quartermaster L. H. Luksich, attached to the recruiting office of the United States coast guard here, on January 3, while on duty at the Battery, knocked a man down for wiping his muddy hands on the American flag displayed at the recruiting station, has been officially commended by Treasury department officials.

Luksich is a naturalized citizen born in Austria. Official mention of the incident was made to the department by Captain G. L. Carden, recruiting officer in charge, who also on receiving the report on the matter from Luksich personally commended him for his action in resenting an insult to the national colors.

Wires Fire Home of U. S. Marshal Smith

The Central fire station was called this morning to answer a call to the home of Ned Smith on Quincy street. The chief and several men with chemicals went in the chief's car to the fire and found nothing but a short circuit between the flooring. The flames were easily extinguished and repairs made to the damaged floor.

Announcement

We are pleased to announce the opening of the New Watson Hotel Cafe. Service and cuisine unsurpassed. Open 5 a. m. to 12 p. m.