

THE KEY WEST CITIZEN

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VOLUME L. No. 43.

KEY WEST, FLORIDA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1924.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION WILL BE ORGANIZED IN KEY WEST

Principal Movement Is That of Erecting Commercial Hotel — Meeting Tonight To Discuss Question

Some of the foremost business men in the city have signed the proposal to organize a building and loan association to erect a commercial hotel in this city. With those men behind the proposition, together with others who have promised to be present at the meeting, the undertaking will undoubtedly meet with success.

The question of whether or not the association will be financed by the selling of bonds, or by the forming of a stock company, will be discussed in detail at the meeting to be held at 7:30 this evening in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce.

No Key Wester, so far as has been heard, doubts the necessity of another large hotel in this city, and there is every reason to believe that such a structure would be exceedingly successful. The large crowds of tourists that are now visiting this city are a good indication of the still larger crowds that will be here next winter and every succeeding winter, with the numbers materially increasing every year.

To Be Ready Next Season

The intention is to lose little time in beginning the erection of the hotel, so that it will be ready for occupancy by early next season. The advertising of the proposed new structure can be embodied in the general advertising that will be given the city by the raising of the fund of \$10,000, for which arrangements have been made by the Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club and the Exchange Club.

ASTOR YACHT ARRIVES HERE

VESSEL WILL LEAVE FOR HAVANA AFTER STAY AT THIS PORT

The yacht Nounthal, owned by Vincent Astor, the New York multimillionaire, arrived in port this morning and will sail tonight for Havana. From that city she will go to Miami and then return to Key West for Mr. Astor and his guests to enjoy the excellent fishing in local waters.

The yacht Palmetto came into port last night and will remain here a few days, when she will proceed to Havana. She is owned by Walter L. Preston, who has cruised in Florida waters for several winters.

"HELD TO ANSWER"

is the title of the play to be given at the Monroe Theatre tomorrow night, with House Peters and Grace Carlyle. A fighting parson, an actress and her jewels and the inevitable villain furnish the nucleus for a plot that proved so popular the novel had a greater sale than any of recent years. This play will be shown

AT THE

MONROE THEATRE

TOMORROW

Startling Report In Oil Scandal

SENATE COMMITTEE MAKES EARNEST EFFORT TO AIR MATTER IN SESSION HELD TODAY

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—An effort to run down the latest and one of the most startling reports of the oil scandal was made today by the senate committee.

Henry Payne Whitney, financier, and officials of the J. P. Benkard & Co., New York stock brokerage firm, had been asked to meet with the committee, but were not on hand when the session began behind closed doors.

After the session had been in progress nearly an hour, the members of the Benkard firm arrived, but Whitney has not been located.

STORM WARNINGS ARE DISPLAYED

SMALL CRAFT ARE CAUTIONED ON GULF COAST BY WEATHER BUREAU

The following storm warning was received at the U. S. Weather Bureau here this morning from Washington: "Advisory, 9:30 a. m.—Northeast storm warnings displayed on the Atlantic coast, Cape Hatteras to Boston and small craft warnings displayed on gulf coast, Bay St. Louis, Miss., to Cedar Keys, Fla. Disturbance central over southern Louisiana moving northeastward. Will cause strong northeast and east winds reaching gale force this afternoon or tonight. (Signed) "MITCHELL."

Knights of Pythias To Hold Anniversary Celebration Tomorrow

Sixty years ago today, in the city of Washington, J. H. Rathbone and a few of his intimate friends organized the first lodge of the order Knights of Pythias. From this small beginning the order has grown until today it has a membership of more than a million men. The supreme lodge of the order has requested the subordinate lodges to hold public exercises commemorative of this great event. In compliance with this request the local lodges will hold a public anniversary ceremony tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock in the Red Men's hall. The following members have been selected to fill the various offices: Chas. H. Smith, chancellor commander; Geo. Schrader, vice chancellor; Rev. Wm. E. Bryant, prelate; Wm. Bell, master of works; W. M. Chancellor, master-at-arms; J. Winfield Russell, keeper of records and seal.

Five minute addresses on the cardinal principles of the order will be delivered as follows: Friendship, Alfred Higgs; Charity, Wesley P. Archer; Benevolence, W. E. Bryant; Patriotism, Chas. H. Ketchum.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies the committee will serve refreshments.

SPECIAL SHOW AT THE STRAND TONIGHT

The films "The Black Oxen" did not arrive in time to be shown at the Monroe yesterday, and will be shown tonight at the Strand.

Manager Fleitas makes this arrangement in order not to disappoint the many patrons who had anticipated seeing this show.

TENEMENT HOUSE FIRE TODAY IN NEW YORK TAKES THIRTEEN LIVES

KU KLUX KLAN TURN OUT IN FULL FORCE PUTTING ON PARADE

PROCESSION FOLLOWED BY NATURALIZATION CEREMONIES AT BAYVIEW PARK; IMMENSE CROWD VIEWS SCENE

The local order of the Ku Klux Klan put on a big demonstration here last night with a spectacular street parade and naturalization ceremonies held at Bayview Park, which were attended by an immense gathering which assembled at the park grounds to witness the initiation.

The parade, headed by one of the officers of the organization on horse back, started from the corner of Margaret and Fleming streets, marching down Fleming to Duval, up Duval to Division, thence to the park grounds.

Immediately following the mounted guard in the line of march, came the next member of the order bearing the fiery cross, which brilliantly illuminated the road ahead in which the remaining ones in the procession followed.

Following next was another mounted officer, whose horse was covered also with a robe, harmonizing with garments worn by the klansmen throughout the parade, which was immediately followed by the exalted officers of the order riding in an automobile.

About 75 On Foot

Following close upon the automobile bearing the distinguished officers, came about 75 members of the organization on foot, all of whom were clad in their white robes and masks, with one of the mounted guards bringing up the rear end at intervals, incidentally keeping the street clear on either side as the members of the mysterious organization wended their way over the city, finally reaching the park grounds where they were greeted by one of the largest crowds that has ever assembled in Key West. All along the line of march the streets were literally lined by hundreds of people also, who assembled to witness the long procession.

Many Taken In Order

A short time after arriving at the park the naturalization ceremonies began, with the various applicants being initiated into the order, the ceremonies lasting for several hours. These were presided over by General N. B. Forest, Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, of Georgia.

The local Ku Klux Klan has received altogether, within the last few weeks, 690 applications for membership, but thus far only about 300 have been acted on, and of that number 151 were prepared for naturalization in Bayview Park last night. Other candidates will be acted on later and will make the local order among the largest in the state.

COOLIDGE SAYS CONDITIONS GOOD

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—President Coolidge regards business generally as being in a healthy condition, and believes the American people can feel safely that the great bulk of the country's business is carried on without any suggestion of wrong doing.

TWO HURT WHEN BOMB TOSSED INTO WINDOW

CHICAGO, Feb. 19.—Two occupants of the place were pitched down into the basement and bruised when a bomb tossed through a window of the Gingham inn, on the south side, exploded with terrific force.

Every window in the inn and in many adjoining buildings were shattered.

The detonation was heard for blocks.

Norris Vrane, porter, and William Wing, another employee, were the first hurt.

Four Men Are Held In Connection But Are Later Released By Police

SUBSCRIPTION FOR CONCERTS IS NOW FAVORED BY MANY

ACCORDING TO DIRECTOR MARUCCI'S STATEMENT NO FURTHER ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE TO CONTINUE THEM

Joseph G. Marucci, director of the Key West Band, left last night for Miami for a short stay. He said that he intended to return on Wednesday. Before leaving Mr. Marucci said he had not been definitely informed whether or not a concert will be given in Bayview Park on Wednesday evening, as no definite arrangement had been made for it.

The abrupt discontinuance of the concerts has caused much regret among residents, many of whom have declared that sufficient money could have been obtained had public subscriptions been taken up to pay the bandmen.

Due to the popularity of the concerts, that phase of the matter is readily admitted by everybody who has been present in the park while concerts were being given, and who have heard the favorable expressions made by the listeners. But the difficulty is, as has been explained before, to find any person or persons who are willing to assume the responsibility of raising the money.

Movement Favored

The proposal, expressed some time ago, that the services of young women be enlisted to do the soliciting and to pay them for their trouble, by giving them a certain per cent of the collections, has been commented on favorably. It would be a good idea if some leading resident brought such a movement to a head, in the event that it is definitely decided that the money promised by the county can not be obtained in time to resume the concerts immediately.

There are yet six weeks or more remaining of the winter season, and as it is admitted on all sides the playing of the Key West Band is an attraction that is not only appreciated by residents but by tourists also. Indeed, some of the most complimentary comments about the band have been made by visitors to Key West.

Chas. Lund, Former Key West Man, Dies Suddenly In Miami

News was received in the city this morning announcing the sudden death of Chas. Lund, father of Will Lund, of this city, whose Key West residence is 625 Francis street. The deceased removed to Miami several months ago, where he has resided ever since.

The body will be brought here for burial, the exact time for the funeral not having been decided on as yet.

Mr. Lund was a cigarmaker by trade, and has many friends here who will be grieved on learning of his death.

FIRST TO SINK U-BOAT

LONDON, Feb. 19.—Justin A. Rogers, the first gunner to sink a German submarine in the war, died leaving his family in poverty.

AMUSEMENTS

MONROE THEATRE TODAY—Wm. Farnum in "The Gunfighter." Comedy—"The Snow." TOMORROW—"Held To Answer." Also "Fighting Blood."

STRAND THEATRE TONIGHT—The Black Oxen

Seven of Victims Are Children—Fire Sweeps From Basement To Roof of Five-Story Building

(By Associated Press) NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—Thirteen lives were snuffed out in a few minutes in a fire believed to be of incendiary origin which early today swept from the basement to the roof of a five-story tenement house in the heart of New York's lower East Side, Ghetto. Seven of the dead are children.

The blaze flared up the staircase fanned by a draft from the tenement's open front door, blocking the escape of eight families, who occupied the building.

Four men were arrested as they ran from the burning entrance. One of the men is named Louis Schoenfield, who is believed by the police to be mentally deranged.

Later Schoenfield and the others were released, the police being convinced that they had no connection with the fire.

OTHER BODIES TAKE ACTION ON FREE RIDING

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ORGANIZATIONS THROUGH STATE COOPERATE IN DISCOURAGING PRACTICE

In commenting on the story published in The Citizen yesterday about the decision of the local Chamber of Commerce not to provide free rides for all excursion parties that come to Key West, Dr. Joseph Y. Porter, the president, said that he had been informed that other chambers throughout the state had taken the same action. Recently, according to information received here, excursionists had been making it a point to request Chambers of Commerce in the state to provide rides free of cost, until the practice came to be little short of a nuisance.

Enjoy Free Rides

In most instances, it was pointed out, the excursionists merely stopped in a town for a few hours, practically all of which time they passed getting a free ride. In some instances the excursionists were enthusiastic boosters of their own towns, which, of course, they were perfectly right in being, and entertained no ideas whatever of settling in any of the towns they visited. That was one of the chief reasons that led Chambers of Commerce in many parts of Florida to decide that, if the excursionists wished to go for a ride, they should be willing to pay for it.

Chambers elsewhere in the state have made the same exception as the local chamber made, that is, to give rides only to excursionists who are known to be in a position to help the town, such as the passenger agents, mention of whom were made in the story published yesterday.