

IOLA SECURES A FINE FOUNTAIN

TO BE ERECTED AT CORNER OF WASHINGTON AND JACKSON.

FROM THE LEE ENSIGN FUND

RICH MAN LEFT MONEY TO PROVIDE BIRDS WITH WATER.

Miss Grace Acers and Current Events Club Persuaded the Location of One Here.

It is now settled that Iola is to have an Ensign Fountain. When Mr. Seavers, secretary and treasurer of the Humane Alliance, was here about the middle of last March, he selected the intersection of Jackson and Washington streets as the most suitable location for a fountain. It is one of the requirements that the fountain must be placed in the location selected by the representative of the Alliance, and thus it was plain that if Iola was to have a fountain those promoting the project must first secure the consent of Messrs. L. L. Northrup, Harry Sleeper and T. B. Shannon, owners of the site. The proposition was submitted to these gentlemen Saturday, and they stated to a Register reporter this afternoon that their consent would be given. It will probably be several months, however, before the fountain is brought here and set up.

The fountain will be of Maine granite, six feet tall, and will weigh five tons. A red light will be placed at the top of the fountain as a warning at night. This light does not come with the fountain, but will be purchased from a private fund. The Ensign fountains are located in nearly every state in the Union, and many states have two or three. When Iola's new fountain is erected there will be three in Kansas, Topeka and Kansas City each having one.

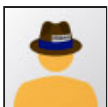
Miss Grace Acers is to be thanked for having originated the movement that secured the Iola fountain. Four or five years ago she wrote to Mr. Seavers about a fountain for Iola she having read about another town securing one. In reply Mr. Seavers stated that her application would be filed. No further word was heard from him, and as time passed it was thought the matter had been dropped by the Alliance. In March, however, Miss Acers received a letter from Mr. Seavers stating that he would be in Independence about the middle of the month, and that he would then come to Iola and look over the town. When Miss Acers's application was backed by members of the Current Events club she turned Mr. Seaver's letter over to that club, and they took the matter up. The club appointed a committee of three women, Mesdames Boyd, Stoddard, and Sucher, to take the matter up with Mr. Seaver upon his arrival. Mr. Seavers was very favorably impressed with the town, and decided that a fountain should be located here.

Meriman Lee Ensign, to whose philanthropy the fountain is due, was a wealthy business man of New York, who, upon his death some time ago, left a large fortune to be used in the erection of fountains throughout the country. The purpose of the fountain is, as the pamphlets issued by the Alliance state, "for the refreshment of bird, man and beast." An inscription on the base of the fountain will give the name of the donor.

It is required that the city shall furnish a base for the fountain, and also light and water. The Booster Club will pay the freight.

Iola to get fountain 1910

Clipped By:



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