

## Another Power Election

A total of 138 Decatur residents signed a petition asking the city council to hold a third election on the power question. This is slightly less than the number of signers on the last petition, but 38 more than enough to meet the legal requirement of 100 petitioners.

The city must now set a time for the election that will be suitable for the county election board. The city, probably from the income to the light plan, will then have to pay the cost of this third election.

As we have pointed out before, it is to the advantage of this community to settle the power question finally and speedily. It was two years ago when I&M first made the offer. Surely everyone who plans to study the question has had ample time to do so. Every facet has been argued and counter-argued time and again.

The main remaining argument of those who wish to prevent the sale of the plant is this: to do so would place Decatur in the hands of a giant monopoly, which will be able to raise rates and make power expensive.

Now there is no doubt but that I&M is a monopoly in the areas in which it sells power. But it is not an uncontrolled monopoly in any sense of the word.

To raise rates, or to lower them, it must appear before the public service commission and argue its case. The city of Decatur, the citizens committee, the betterment association, or any group of private citizens would be informed, through legal advertising, and news stories, and have ample time to appear.

Now this is exactly the same procedure that would occur if the city of Decatur would want to raise rates. Each individual has just as much right, and power, to stop I&M from raising rates as he has to stop Decatur.

But I&M is no more interested in raising rates than the people of Decatur are interested in having them raised. They make their profit by

(1) Making and distributing electricity in the most efficient manner. Decatur cannot do this, because it does not have and cannot get, the capital necessary today to produce power in competition with private industry.

(2) By keeping its customers, both rural and city, industrial and commercial, happy with good, prompt service and low rates due to number 1. Again, Decatur cannot, and is not, nor did it, under former Mayor Doan, satisfy the rural customers, the industrial customers, nor those in new, growing areas where electric heat is used.

(3) By encouraging the use of new electric services, from electric heat to electric water heaters to electric blankets, clocks, washers, etc. This is something that the publicly-owned city plant has never even attempted to do. I&M will help local stores increase the sales of their own electric appliances. The local I&M office will not retail these appliances.

I&M is a large, efficient corporation. It is, according to private studies made by Indiana University, the most efficient private company operating in Indiana. Decatur needs plentiful, cheap and efficient power to grow.

## Christian Growth Institute Is Held

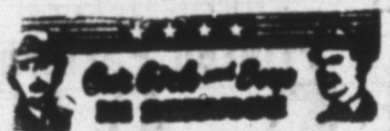
More than 75 people attended the Christian growth institute at St. John's Lutheran church on route 27, north, Monday night. It was sponsored jointly by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League of St. Paul's church (Freble) and St. John's church. Mrs. E. C. Doehrmann was chairman of the institute.

Both topics were presented by the Rev. Edwin A. Neger of St. Paul's Lutheran church, Fort Wayne. In speaking on "Christian Service," he gave the Biblical reasons, motive, as well as the amount of service, the aim and reward of the same.

The group then broke up into buzz sessions for discussion of the topic. Reporters for the buzz sessions were Mrs. Rudy Meyer, route 1; Mrs. Ed Reinking and Mrs. Robert Weber of route 2; and Mrs. Carl Busse and Mrs. Robert Scheumann of route 1, Hoagland. Revs. Neger, Louis A. Schulenburg, and E. A. H. Jacob, and Marvin Meyer and Herbert Witte were counselors of the five groups.

The second topic presented by Rev. Neger was a phase of Christian service, a report on Lutheran world relief in India. He illustrated his lecture with color slides taken on his inspection trip which he made for Lutheran world relief some time ago.

Doughnuts and coffee were served during the coffee break.



### New Address

The new address of Pvt. Frederick R. Schlemmer has been received by his mother, Mrs. Irene Schlemmer, route 5, Decatur. Schlemmer enlisted in the U. S. army reserves in October, 1959. Upon completion of basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., he was transferred to Fort Sill, Oklahoma. His address is: BR 16632070, Btry. D, 2nd Tng. Bn. USATC FA, Fort Sill, Okla.

## To Elect District Officers Tuesday

District officers will be elected at a meeting of the third district of the Fort Wayne regional blood program at Decatur next Tuesday, the Rev. Vergil Bjork, of Portland, chairman, said today. The meeting will include all county blood program officers, and will be held at the Fairway restaurant at noon Tuesday. Reservation cards have been mailed to those expected to attend. Anyone interested is invited to attend, however.

"Volunteers in the blood program" will be the subject for discussion, and unusual services performed by volunteers will be told by those present. A district chairman and vice chairman, to take office April 6 and serve for one year, will be elected. They will become members of the regional executive committee.

## TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES' (ABSTRACT) REPORT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 1959

Funds	Jan. 1	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance
Township	\$ 1,029.54	\$ 2,228.13	\$ 1,629.61	\$ 2,628.06
Special School	2,055.82	27,532.10	4,682.85	24,904.07
Tuition	11,332.53	57,527.10	54,408.00	14,451.63
Dog	256.00	256.00	256.00	0.00
TOTALS	\$21,673.89	\$87,543.33	\$69,976.46	\$108,150.46

### DETAIL OF RECEIPTS

Source	Township Fund	Amount
Taxes — June	\$1,531.23	
Taxes — December	1,387.97	
Total Township Fund	\$2,919.20	
Special School Fund		
Taxes — June	\$2,543.42	
Taxes — December	2,369.39	
State Dist. Transportation	5,672.86	
Transfer Tuition	57.71	
Miscellaneous Revenue	34.75	
Refunds		
Total Special Sch. Fund	\$10,678.23	
Tuition Fund		
Taxes — June	\$17,227.73	
Taxes — December	14,893.57	
Congressional Interest	49.19	
State Dist. Tuition (Net)	17,066.37	
Retirement Assessments	1,687.50	
Transfer Tuition	5,682.82	
Total Tuition Fund	\$57,527.10	
Dog Fund		
Dog Tax from Assessor	\$ 256.00	
Total Dog Fund	\$ 256.00	

### DISBURSEMENTS

Classification of Expense	Amount
Pay of Trustee, Clerical Help, Rent and Travel Expense	\$1,540.00
Liability Insurance	250.00
Total	\$1,790.00
Books, Stationery, Printing and Advertising	
Bertha Everett	167.55
Bertha Everett	117.89
Bertha Everett	123.69
Harold Hoffman	418.72
Care of Cemeteries	5.00
Roger Snyder	12.00
Woodrow Finkham	65.00
Jerry Smith	19.00
Robert Johnson	118.00
John Frey	119.00
Total	\$1,190.00
Other Civil Township Expense	
Citizens Telephone Co.	48.40
Cowens Insurance Agency	200.00
Adams County Recorder	100.00
William Noll	100.00
Glen Poor	100.00
Lyle T. Bailey	50.00
Charles Smith	50.00
Total	\$600.40

### Special School Fund

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