

## On The Electric Issue

A number of developments have taken place this past week on the issue which is probably upper-most in the minds of the residents of the Decatur area, the electric issue.

First, Judge Parrish promptly appointed three appraisers, and both sides seem to be pleased with the appointments, at least for the time being.

Second, city attorney Anderson made public his reply to Judge Parrish's letter asking for advice on some technical points. This, presumably, made possible the appointments in such quick fashion.

Third, 138 people in Decatur petitioned for a third election on the question of the sale.

Now a fourth question has been raised. Since the petition asks for a "special election," can the election be held on the regular primary election day? Actually, it seems that both sides hope that it can. Since the election law defines a "special election" as one to replace an official who has died in office, and that light plant elections are actually "city elections," it seems quite likely that it will be held that this election is special in the sense intended; that is, not an election for regular officials, but on a special subject—even if it is held during the primary election. Otherwise, city attorney Anderson estimated it will cost the city \$5,000 to hold it. We hope that the petitioners did not plan it that way.

We also heard this week that Mayor Gage spent three days at Columbia City, Bluffton, and Portland, examining their city-owned utilities. It is understood that he now hopes to propose that the sale of the plant be defeated, and that a sub-station be constructed for \$180,000 (engineer estimates have run from \$250,000 to \$350,000), and that \$100,000 be used to repair rural lines.

It is unlikely that this would be possible. In the first place, the rural and industrial users would not receive the relief that they desire most—rate relief. They, together with the other users in the Decatur area, pay \$100,000 a year more for electricity when buying from the city than they would for the same amount from I&M. They don't like that, for obvious reasons. Even if service, within a couple of years, is raised to standard, it would not alter the rate problem.

It is quite likely that the rural group would place an injunction against the city to prevent any further expenditures on the lines and plant until it is determined if they can withdraw from the system.

And the withdrawal of the industrial and rural users would be a disasterous blow to the city utility. It would cut the gross income by 50%.

Furthermore, it would make impossible the lowering of Decatur's tax rates. Only the sale of the plant will do that, by: adding the value of the substation and lines that I&M would own to the local assessment; paying off the outstanding debts; building up interest while the remainder is placed in U.S. bonds; and lowering the cost of electricity to the other city departments, including the schools.

## TV Programs

WANE-TV  
Channel 15  
WEDNESDAY

6:00—Ames & Andy  
6:30—Tom Calenberg News  
6:45—John Edwards News  
7:00—San Francisco Beat  
7:30—Our Guest  
8:30—Men Into Space  
9:00—The Truth  
10:00—You Got a Secret  
10:30—Circle Theater  
11:00—Paul Wilson News  
11:15—99 Riverfront News

THURSDAY

7:30—Peppermint Theater  
7:45—The Wonderful  
7:50—CBS News  
8:15—Captain Kangaroo  
9:00—Coffee Cup Theater  
10:00—The Ed Sullivan Show  
10:30—On the Go  
11:00—I Love Lucy  
11:30—December Bride

Friday

12:00—Love of Life  
12:30—Search for Tomorrow  
12:45—Guiding Light  
12:55—Colony Show  
1:00—As the World Turns  
2:00—For Better or Worse  
2:30—The Millionaire  
2:35—Verdict in Yours  
4:00—Good Morning Day  
4:30—Sports Today  
4:30—Edge of Night  
5:00—Dance Date

Evening

12:00—Ames & Andy  
12:30—Tom Calenberg News  
12:45—Doug Edwards News  
7:00—Sea Hunt  
7:30—The Truth  
8:00—Betty Hutton  
8:30—Johnny Ringo  
8:30—Zane Grey Theater  
10:00—Belvoir Variety Hour  
11:00—Paul Wilson News  
11:15—The American

WKJG-TV  
Channel 33  
WEDNESDAY

6:00—Gateway to Sports  
6:00—News Jack Gray  
6:22—The Weatherman  
6:30—Yesterday's Newsreel  
6:45—Eyewitness Report  
7:00—Hannibal Hall of Fame  
7:30—Ferry Come  
7:30—Our Life  
7:30—Wichita Town  
7:30—News and Weather  
7:45—Sports Today  
11:00—Jack Paar Show

THURSDAY

6:00—Continental Classroom  
6:30—Today  
8:00—Ding Dong School



SPACE DISH—The search for a lightweight source of power for space craft has led to the development of a Lilliputian solar generator, shown above. It is a small dish with a highly polished surface. A shaft in the center is capped with a tiny ball. Placed at the proper angle, the sun's rays are focused on the ball, creating a blinding spot of light and temperatures of thousands of degrees Fahrenheit. Scientists at Hamilton Standard Division of United Aircraft Corp. developed the unit.

## The People's Voice

This column is for the use of our readers who wish to make suggestions for the general good or discuss questions of interest. No articles will be published without signature of the author.

## From Russia

The following is from the Norn Newsletter, Sept. 1959.

Russia, from the standpoint of anti-tobacco education, is apparently a few sputniks ahead of us.

An official medical mission from the U. S. Public Health Service reports that Russian progress in medicine since 1917 is as impressive as the appearance of sputnik.

There is no commercial advertising of tobacco and smoking in the U. S. S. R.; and the ministry of health warns: "It is fully clear that smoking is more than a mere anti-hygienic habit—it is a dangerous form of chronic poisoning of the system which can lead to serious illness!"

It is not only with regard to smoking that Russia is getting ahead of us as far as health is concerned.

Recently, due to a government campaign, the consumption of vodka was greatly reduced

... in 1958 the Russian people bought 29,832,000 fewer gallons

than in 1957. Drunkenness has become by legislation a crime against the state: "The liquidation of such a survival of the past as drunkenness will facilitate the improvement of the health of the people, strengthen family life, and improve public manners."

All of this is showing up in an improvement in longevity of the Russian people. A 960 page book of statistics has just been published in Russia, called "The Economy of the U.S.S.R. in 1958." It shows that the number of deaths per thousand of population in 1958 was 7.2. In the United States, for the year 1958 it was 9.5. We are dying at a rate 32% higher than the Russians. Without our being aware of it, they have overtaken us.

Of course, you can say that the Russians are lying, but might it not be like the boy who cried "wolf?" However, instead of a wolf it's a bear. The bear is there all right. Let's not shut our eyes to him and keep crying "wolf."

Mrs. Lawrence Michel

504 N. 11th St.  
Decatur, Ind.

Floodwaters Roll  
Over Dixie Today

## United Press International

Floodwaters rolled across Dixie today and the Weather Bureau said another round of thunderstorms could make matters worse.

Rivers from Alabama to the Carolinas, swollen by a week of heavy rains, broke from their banks Tuesday and swept across thousands of acres of bottomland.

No towns were affected, but officials at Columbia, S.C., said the Congaree River there rose to the top of its banks.

In the lowlands below Columbia, the Congaree flood was described as the worst in years. In addition, the Cape Fear and Neuse rivers went out in eastern North Carolina and the Waccamaw flooded near Camden, S.C.

Swamp flooding was reported on the Santee in South Carolina and the Tombigbee, Warrior and Chattahoochee rivers were on the rise in the Tennessee Valley, eastern Mississippi, north Alabama and Georgia.

More thunderstorms were forecast for the Southeast today.

The Weather Bureau said a heavy snow storm predicted for Kansas and Nebraska failed to materialize.

The storm swept across the Rockies from New Mexico to southwest Wyoming Tuesday and dumped 10 inches of snow at Durango, Colo., but petered out just as the weathermen warned Plains states residents to brace for four inches or more.

Instead, the storm was expected to drop light snow on Kansas, the Oklahoma Panhandle and northeastern New Mexico.

Snow mixed with freezing drizzle was forecast for the Dakotas into the western Great Lakes, with rain from Iowa across Illinois and the Tennessee Valley into the Appalachians.

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Q. Is it proper to abbreviate the name of the month on the date line of a business letter?

A. No. Neither the month nor the name of the state of the addressee is abbreviated—even of the states of Mississippi or Pennsylvania. It is considered more polite to write them out.

Q. When a guest in my house persists in telling off-color jokes, what can I do about it?

A. If the absence of any laughter from you is not enough to stop him, then you have a perfect right to take him aside and tell him pointblank that his kind of stories are not acceptable in your house-hold.

Q. When one is eating a steak or roast, or something similar, is it all right and more convenient to cut the meat up into several mouthfuls at a time before eating it?

A. It may seem more convenient to get your "cutting-up" all done at the same time—but it certainly is not considered in good form. One should cut off a single bite at a time.

Q. Is it proper for the bride-groom to give his bride something for their home as his special wedding gift to her?

A. This is not customary. His special gift to her should be something for her own personal adornment—usually jewelry of some kind.

Q. Isn't it the girl's privilege to select the table when entering a restaurant with a male escort?

A. No; she should allow her escort to do this.

## INDIANAPOLIS LIVESTOCK

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI) — Live stock:

Hogs 6,700: weak to 35 lower

180-240 lb 13.00-13.50; top 14.00

240-270 lb 12.50-13.00; top 13.10

270-300 lb 12.00-12.50; 3-33 lb

11.50-12.50; 160-180 lb 11.75-13.00.

Cattle 900: calves 100; steady

good steers 23.00-25.50; good and

choice 25.50-26.50; choice 26.50

28.00; good and choice heifers

23.00-25.00; choice 26.00; vealers

steady, good and choice 33.00-37.00.

Sheep 1,300: steady; good and

choice wooled lambs 18.00-21.00.

Mrs. Lawrence Michel

504 N. 11th St.  
Decatur, Ind.

PRESTIGE

THIS EMBLEM

WELCOME WAGON  
MEMBER  
INTERNATIONAL

WPTA-TV  
Channel 21  
WEDNESDAY

6:00—Poppy and Rascals Club

7:30—TV Hour of Stars

8:30—Ozzie and Harriet

8:30—Hawaiian Eye

10:00—The Big Show

10:45—Sports Desk

11:00—Split Second

THURSDAY

11:00—Adventures in Living

12:00—Prestige Gun

1:00—Love That Bob

1:00—About Faces

1:30—Sword of Freedom

2:00—Gale Storm

2:30—Beat the Clock

3:00—Who Do You Trust

3:30—American Bandstand

5:30—Little Rascals Clubhouse

5:30—Rocky and His Friends

6:00—Poppy and Rascals Club

6:00—uckleberry Hound

7:00—Rod 'N Gun Club

7:30—The Big Show

8:30—The Real McCoys

9:00—Pat Boone

10:00—Man Alone

12:00—Sherlock Holmes

WELCOME WAGON

Five Of Family  
Die In Fiery  
Traffic Crash

FRANKLIN, Ind. (UPI) — An Indianapolis man who borrowed \$3 to take his family to Kentucky for a visit with relatives, lost his wife and all four of his young children in a fiery traffic accident Tuesday.

The family's panel truck was hit by a car entering U.S. 31 from a side road a half mile south of here. It flipped over on its side and burst into flames.

Francis Howard Rogers, 41, was burned seriously in frantic attempts to free his wife and children from the burning wreckage. He was taken to Johnson County Hospital here with burns over the upper part of his body.

Hospital officials said he was in fair condition. Those who perished in the fire were Rogers' wife, Edith, 33; three daughters, Sherry Gail, 4, Donna Marie, 1, and Linda LaVerne, 2 months, and a son, Leonard Lee, 2.

State Police said the truck was hit by a car driven by Mrs. Bettie Lou Petro, 33, Nineveh.

Mrs. Petro entered U.S. 31 from Nineveh Rd. and failed to yield the right of way, officers said. She was not hurt.

When authorities arrived, Rogers still was trying to rescue his family.

"We couldn't get him away from the wreckage," Franklin Patrolman Kenneth Rund said.