

INVESTIGATE CONDITION AT COURTHOUSE

Janitor Service by Contract
Advocated Before
Council.

\$22,000 BUDGET ASKED

Efforts of three members of the Marion county council to prevent a motion of Councilman Russell T. Byres from being carried, called for a complete investigation of the work of the politically appointed janitors and the janitors' pay roll at the courthouse before an appropriation of \$22,000 was made for courthouse employees for 1921, met with defeat yesterday at the annual appropriation and tax levy meeting of the county council.

Councilman Byres called upon the members of the council to defer the making of the \$22,000 appropriation as salary of courthouse employees next year, which includes the salary of the janitors and custodian, until a committee of the council could determine if conditions could be bettered by advertising for bids for janitor service instead of continuing the old system of appointing political workers.

Mr. Byres' motion contained the provision that the amount requested for janitor service should be included in the tax levy, but stipulated that the appropriation be not made until the committee of the council should report at the next meeting.

Councilman John Shearer arrived after the meeting started and at once became the spokesman in behalf of Custodian Benjamin P. Byers, who is in charge of the present janitorial conditions against which the three judges of the county have voted protests.

President William D. Haverstick explained the purposes of Councilman Byres' motion and called attention to some points of the report regarding the janitorial conditions of the courthouse.

"I made an investigation myself of conditions in the courthouse," explained Councilman Shearer, "and I thought conditions were in fair."

"When did you make that investigation?" asked Councilman Frank Brown. "Last week," replied Mr. Shearer. "I noticed that a cigar had been placed on one of the judge's benches and it had fallen off and burned a hole in the carpet."

"I don't know who did that," asked one of the councilmen.

"No, but I would hold the judge responsible," said Mr. Shearer.

Councilman Byres asked Mr. Shearer if he investigated the records in the county recorder's office and saw the dust on the books because a vacuum cleaner had not been used.

Mr. Shearer admitted he had not called at the recorder's office but found the jury rooms of the courts in better condition probably than "some of the jurors' homes."

Mr. Shearer contended that the awarding of a contract for cleaning the courthouse by competitive bids would not assure service.

Councilman Byres contended that the unsatisfactory conditions at the courthouse were due largely to the custodian not having the power to hire and discharge the janitors, and this power would be vested in the man who would hold the contract.

"A man holding the contract would not put inefficient workmen on the pay roll," said Mr. Byres.

Mr. Byres also did not reflect on the county commissioners or Custodian Peirce.

County Auditor Leo K. Feiler joined in with Councilman Shearer and spoke of the janitor who was employed in the office of the county auditor, and advised the council to make the appropriation and make the investigation afterward.

Auditor Feiler evidently remembered this was campaign year and the janitor's force and pay roll is always increased in the fall of campaign years.

**WOULD MAKE
BID FOR SERVICE.**

Councilman Albert Neuby stated he favored making the appropriation and then rescinding it if the investigation showed the contract plan was the best.

Councilman Byres declared he refused to change his idea and his motion was carried by a vote of four to three.

Those voting in favor of Councilman Byres' motion were Councilmen Byres, Brown, Williams, McGaughey and Neuby. Those voting against it were Councilmen Shearer, Neuby and President William D. Haverstick.

The president of the council declared the motion carried and appointed Councilmen Byres, Neuby, Orme and Shearer as members of a special committee to investigate the advisability of letting a contract for janitorial bidding for cleaning the courthouse.

Under the motion passed by the council the tax levy will include the \$22,000 for courthouse employees, but the appropriation was not made in the budget pending a report of the special committee.

The successful efforts of Councilman Byres to investigate modern methods of doing business at the courthouse with the view of putting them in effect is considered a disastrous blow against the old system of putting political ward workers on the courthouse employees' pay roll.

**ASK RIGHT TO
INSTALL TRACK**

The city council may hold a special session this evening for the purpose of acting upon an ordinance granting the Westinghouse Lamp Company the right to lay a switch track across Moore street from the belt railroad into its new property at Michigan and LaSalle streets.

The council will also consider the ordinance and pass the ordinance at the meeting Monday evening, but Councilman Louis S. Carney dissented and the measure was sent to committee.

Westinghouse Lamp Company officials feared their building operations would be held up if the switch were delayed and they urged city officials to try to hurry up the company's work.

The company has taken out a building permit for the construction of the first unit of its new factory today.

The building is to be four stories high, 50 feet by 400 feet of footprint construction, excepting the roof, and will cost \$700,000.

D. P. Robinson & Co., Inc., are contractors for the construction.

**First Move to Check
Coal Strike Is Made**

LONDON, Sept. 9.—The first definite move toward settling the national coal strike which is scheduled to begin Sept. 25 was made when officials of the federation of miners agreed to meet representatives of the government today for a conference.

Biggest Quakes in History of World

157—Macedonia, 150 towns destroyed.
742—Syria, 500 towns destroyed.
1137—Cantania, Sicily, 20,000 killed.
1456—Naples, 40,000 killed.
1530—Lisbon, 20,000 killed.
1626—Naples, 70,000 killed.
1693—Sicily, 100,000 killed.
1708—Tokio, 200,000 killed.
1721—Peking, 100,000 killed.
1734—Cairo, 40,000 killed.
1797—Central America, 40,000 killed.
1808—Ecuador and Peru, 25,000 killed.
1885—Lisbon, 70,000 towns destroyed.
1902—Martinique, 32,500 killed.
1908—Sicily and Italy, 200,000 killed.

INDIANAPOLIS 1921 TAX RATE IS UP 80 CENTS

Marion County Council, in
Noon-Day Action, Puts
Figure at \$2.40.

BUDGET IS CUT DOWN

The total city and county tax rate for 1921 in the city of Indianapolis within Central township is \$2.40, according to action taken during the noon hour yesterday by the Marion county council.

This is an increase of 80 cents over the tax rate for the past year, which was \$1.60.

The new tax rate is made up as follows: State, 18; city of Indianapolis, \$1.01; school, \$0.50; township, \$0.54; county, \$1.35; sinking fund, \$0.10; tuberculosis, \$0.15; and fire, \$0.10.

Last year the tax rate was made up as follows: State, 18; city, \$0.72; school, \$0.40; township, \$0.48; county, \$1.20; tuberculosis, \$0.10; and fire, \$0.10.

**AND THOSE JANITORS
WILL GET THEIRS**

The county council fixed the 1921 budget at approximately \$668,320 after deducting the original requests by about \$40,000.

The budget for 1920 totaled \$1,418,058.30, but this was increased during the year by making many additional appropriations.

The council also appropriated \$54,070.46, including \$7,000 for janitors and courthouse employees for the remainder of the year.

The council to show its expression of the efficient work being done by Miss Isabelle Summerville, chief probation officer of the juvenile court, and Mrs. Susan Pray, superintendent of the detention home, raised the salary of the former from \$1,500 to \$1,800 a year, and of the latter from \$900 to \$1,200 a year.

The council expressed a desire to employ Mr. A. R. Thomas, who resigned as adult probation officer of the juvenile court.

The council raised the salary from \$1,200 to \$1,800 a year for the probation officer in an effort to have Mr. Thomas reconsider his resignation.

Councilman Orme moved the motion increasing the salary of Mr. Pray and Councilman Byres moved that the salary of Miss Summerville and Mr. Thomas be increased.

Councilman Orme protested against the waste of gravel on the gravel road project, declaring that it is due to lack of proper inspection.

The council, in considering the various requests for appropriations, a county officer and institutions for 1921, did not make material reductions, but refused to make appropriations at this time to pay for the janitors at the courthouse.

The various township advisory boards were in session today fixing the township tax rates, and these will be reported to County Auditor Peirce before Saturday.

Before the council adjourned, the council went on record as expressing "appreciation of the co-operation given them by Mr. Peirce and Mr. Feiler returned the compliment in equally as complimentary language."

**BINGHAM BREAKS
UP 'PLAYHOUSE'**

"If Judge Pritchard leaves that man on the bench in city court he will break his playhouse," declared a police officer Tuesday, as Special Judge Remister Bingham sentenced nineteen negroes captured in a raid on an alleged craps game at 7th and Blake street.

The raid on the alleged craps game, captured in the poolroom owned by Perry Porter, negro republican politician, Monday day, came as an evident surprise in the city court.

"Bondsman's row," as the row of chairs on the north side of the courtroom is called, was well filled with professional bondsmen, as Judge Bingham started to sentence the alleged gamblers there was excitement among them.

Then "Bull Moose" Walker, professional bondsman who has been granted special privileges in the city government, walked to the side of the judge's bench and whispered to Probation Officer Smith, but Smith shook his head and kept quiet.

Allen Sims, negro republican politician and professional bondsman, who is employed at the assessor's office in the courthouse, moved to the front of the judge's bench and waited until it was time for the city clerk's office and sign the appeal bonds for nineteen negroes.

Charges against Perry Porter were continued for a week to permit the state to bring in more evidence, as Porter, who admitted he owned the fixtures of the poolroom, was not present when the raid was made.

John Mose, bartender, was convicted of keeping a gambling house, and fined \$100 and costs and sentenced to serve ten days in jail. He testified that he rented the poolroom from Porter and denied there was gambling in the place.

Steve Jones, in whose possession dice were found, and Norman Greer, alleged to have tried to get away with \$2.45 from the top of the pool table, were convicted of gambling and each was sentenced to ten days in jail on charges of visiting a gambling house; the jail sentence was suspended.

The negroes testified they were not gambling, but were playing pool. The police said they had raided the place twenty-five times, but had never been able to capture money and dice before.

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Live Stock Exhibit Fair Feature



Three prize bulls on display at the state fair. After all the live stock displays are the backbone of the Indiana state fair. There are amusements galore, there are refreshment stands and displays of all kind, but none attracts so much interest as the displays of prize animals.

Crowds gather around the judges as they examine the animals one by one and there are cheers when some animal walks proudly away wearing a blue, a red, or a white ribbon.

**WISE MANAGING
NEED—FRENZEL**

Banker Takes Fling at City Government.

John P. Frenzel, president of the Indiana Trust Company, told members of the board of public works during a hearing upon a street improvement yesterday that while the cost of conducting his business has increased only 2 per cent over the figures of the years before, particularly his own, because taxes have risen, the cost of government has increased 14,000 more than was expected.

Mr. Frenzel indicated that there has not been the same careful, thoughtful management of governmental affairs in the city that there has been in his own business.

Mr. Frenzel was one of a party of business men who came to offer an informal objection to the resurfacing of Virginia avenue from Delaware to Pennsylvania street on the ground that the street is not in bad need of repaving and money may be saved by waiting for lower prices.

The board should have some consideration for the business houses along the section of the street, Mr. Frenzel said, particularly his own, because taxes have increased \$14,000 more even than was expected.

To this, Mark Miller, acting chairman of the board, responded that Mr. Frenzel did not take into account the fact that the cost of government has increased very materially and hence taxes must be increased just as the cost of doing all kinds of business has risen.

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CITIZENS GAS CO. ASKING FOR HIGHER RATES

Under Guise of 'Suggestions'
Commission Gets Pro-
posal.

SLIDING SCALE IS IDEA

The Citizens Gas Company, whose manager declares the company does not need increased rates for dividend purposes, has suggested to the public service commission the following schedules of increased rates to gas consumers.

Schedule A—For the first 2,000 cubic feet or less monthly, 60 cents a thousand; over 2,000 and not over 3,000, 75 cents; over 3,000 and not over 4,000, \$1.00; over 4,000 and not over 5,000, \$1.50; over 5,000 and not over 6,000, \$2.00; over 6,000 and not over 7,000, \$2.50; over 7,000 and not over 8,000, \$3.00; over 8,000 and not over 9,000, \$3.50; over 9,000 and not over 10,000, \$4.00; over 10,000 and not over 11,000, \$4.50; over 11,000 and not over 12,000, \$5.00; over 12,000 and not over 13,000, \$5.50; over 13,000 and not over 14,000, \$6.00; over 14,000 and not over 15,000, \$6.50; over 15,000 and not over 16,000, \$7.00; over 16,000 and not over 17,000, \$7.50; over 17,000 and not over 18,000, \$8.00; over 18,000 and not over 19,000, \$8.50; over 19,000 and not over 20,000, \$9.00.

Schedule B—For the first 2,000 cubic feet or less monthly, 60 cents a thousand; over 2,000 and not over 3,000, 75 cents; over 3,000 and not over 4,000, \$1.00; over 4,000 and not over 5,000, \$1.50; over 5,000 and not over 6,000, \$2.00; over 6,000 and not over 7,000, \$2.50; over 7,000 and not over 8,000, \$3.00; over 8,000 and not over 9,000, \$3.50; over 9,000 and not over 10,000, \$4.00; over 10,000 and not over 11,000, \$4.50; over 11,000 and not over 12,000, \$5.00; over 12,000 and not over 13,000, \$5.50; over 13,000 and not over 14,000, \$6.00; over 14,000 and not over 15,000, \$6.50; over 15,000 and not over 16,000, \$7.00; over 16,000 and not over 17,000, \$7.50; over 17,000 and not over 18,000, \$8.00; over 18,000 and not over 19,000, \$8.50; over 19,000 and not over 20,000, \$9.00.

Schedule C—For the first 2,000 cubic feet or less monthly, 60 cents a thousand; over 2,000 and not over 3,000, 75 cents; over 3,000 and not over 4,000, \$1.00; over 4,000 and not over 5,000, \$1.50; over 5,000 and not over 6,000, \$2.00; over 6,000 and not over 7,000, \$2.50; over 7,000 and not over 8,000, \$3.00; over 8,000 and not over 9,000, \$3.50; over 9,000 and not over 10,000, \$4.00; over 10,000 and not over 11,000, \$4.50; over 11,000 and not over 12,000, \$5.00; over 12,000 and not over 13,000, \$5.50; over 13,000 and not over 14,000, \$6.00; over 14,000 and not over 15,000, \$6.50; over 15,000 and not over 16,000, \$7.00; over 16,000 and not over 17,000, \$7.50; over 17,000 and not over 18,000, \$8.00; over 18,000 and not over 19,000, \$8.50; over 19,000 and not over 20,000, \$9.00.

These three schedules of suggested rates are for domestic consumers.

**EXCEPTION TO
SCALE MADE**

In relation to industrial use of gas and its use by hotels and hospitals it is suggested by the company that the proposed ascending sliding scale should be applied to them only with respect to their consumption in any winter month.

He then looked the safe at his leisure and escaped after locking the cashier and two other employees in the vault.

The robber fled in a motor car toward the border and police are attempting to intercept him.

**TELLS ALL ABOUT
OUR GAS AND OIL**

Geologist Issues Book on Two
State Resources.

"Petroleum and Natural Gas in Indiana" is the title of a publication just issued by the department of conservation.

The book was written by Dr. W. N. Logan, state geologist, and is a preliminary report of the petroleum and natural gas industry which bears such an important relation to the industrial development of this state.

A more comprehensive publication on the geology of the state is in course of preparation but the sale of this report and the demand for information it contains combine to make it ideal for nearly all uses.

The report is authentic, gives actual conditions in each county in Indiana and is complete in data up to this date. It contains 279 pages, is profusely illustrated and contains much information pertaining to these two important industries.

**INVALUABLE
AS HANDBOOK.**

By reason of the fact that it contains data of the very latest geological research relative to the oil and gas resources of the state, it is a valuable book to all who are interested in the development of the state, and there is information for use to all who may expect to engage in such exploitation, the publication will be invaluable as a handbook.

"In this report," says the author, "those who are seeking petroleum in Indiana would do well to bear in mind that the geologist does not use 'divining rods' or 'witching' methods in the location of oil."

"He studies the structural conditions of the strata to determine whether such structural conditions are favorable to the accumulation of oil."

The oil industry suffers from two classes of individuals, the purveyor of oil stock of the "blue sky" brand and the activities of the fake oil expert, the author points out.

The report urges corrective legislation that will deal with these evils and insure protection to the small investor.

Attention is called to the thousands of dollars wasted and still being wasted in "wild cat" drilling for gas and oil, with reference to the presence or absence of geological conditions favorable to the accumulation of oil and gas.

Because no industry is more dependent upon science than is the petroleum industry upon the science of geology, the state is urged to give every aid possible in the further legitimate development of the field.

Copies of this report may be had by addressing the state geologist, 106, statehouse.

The price is 50 cents mailed within the state and \$1 out of the state, postage prepaid.

**McCray Says He Runs
Not for 'What's in It'**

Warren T. McCray, republican nominee for governor, in an address before the Indianapolis club at the Hotel Severin yesterday, told the Kiwanis club that the race because he believed it was his patriotic duty and "because my friends who are legion over the state demanded it."

"I am not in this race for what I can get but for what I can give," the speaker declared.

"The time has come when we as business men should stand boldly in the forum and express our views in no uncertain terms."

Mr. McCray promised if elected governor to surround himself with men of large affairs and business ability, men whose integrity can not be impeached.

"The problems of today will fade in a year, so it is feasible for me to say I will do it made your governor, except give the people of Indiana a strictly high-class business administration," he said.

**Ad Company May Not
Remove Billboard**

Walter B. Stern, commissioner of buildings, announced yesterday that permission to move a billboard from Fair Creek boulevard and Central avenue to a point in the same block several hundred feet west, has been refused the Thomas Cusack Company.

The outdoor advertising company desires to move the board because new buildings being erected on the corner will be in front of it.

The board of park commissioners requested Mr. Stern to refuse the permit some time