

## NEW FIRE RATING FOR CITY HINGES ON 2 IFS

Board of Safety and Water Company Must Make Improvements Agreed Upon.

If the board of public safety carries out improvements in the fire department, and if the Indianapolis Water Company makes changes in the water system recommended by the national board of fire underwriters, which the board and representatives of the underwriters agreed today are possible of accomplishment, Indianapolis may be placed in the second class as to fire protection.

This was brought out at another conference of the board of safety with E. R. Townsend, traveling representative of the underwriters, and E. M. Sellers, manager of the Indiana inspection bureau of the insurance organization. The conference was in effect a continuation of the meeting held Tuesday afternoon at which it was disclosed that the underwriters consider the board of safety's recent purchase of \$60,000 worth of motor equipment for the fire department in excess of the actual needs of the city.

Indianapolis when last surveyed by the underwriters in 1919 had a rating of 1575. This would place the city in the fourth class as to protection and basic insurance rates, were it not for the fact that the underwriters, relying on promises of city officials, arbitrarily placed the city in the third class. A deficiency rating of between 1000 and 1500 marks the third class and between 500 and 1000 the second class.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS.** The underwriters representatives on Nov. 11, submitted to the board of safety a set of thirty-nine recommendations for improvements, which if made would give the city a rating of only 715. At the conference each of these recommendations was given close consideration and the board of safety designated certain things which are already under way or can be done in the near future.

The underwriters' representatives indicated that if the board of safety will live up to its promises to make these improvements the city's rating will be raised to a total of 902. This would put the city in the second class. Only two other cities in the United States, both small municipalities in Massachusetts, enjoy such rating.

The board, however, would not definitely promise to carry out all of the improvements, there being some changes in

## Indianapolis Lad of 12 Travels All Alone From France

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—With only \$3.02 in his pocket, Silvio Giuliani, 12, and a native of Indianapolis, departed from the French liner La Provence here today, having made the trip from the interior of France all alone.

The boy had expected to meet his father, Amos Giuliani, upon his arrival, but the elder Giuliani was not on hand. An agent of the Travelers' Aid Society took young Silvio in charge and he will be cared for pending the arrival of relatives.

## Starke County Boy Killed by Accident

KNOX, Ind., Dec. 2.—Bennie Slavin, 7, was accidentally killed by a bullet from a rifle in the hands of John Burkett, 11, at the Burkett home near Ora, Starke County. The bullet passed entirely through the victim's body.

## Watson and Penrose to Meet This Week

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Senator Watson, Indiana, will confer at Philadelphia this week with Senator Penrose, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, concerning revenue and tariff legislation. Watson is a member of the committee and may be Penrose's lieutenant, if the Pennsylvania Senator is unable to come to Washington.

## Dogs Put on Trail of 4 Mail Train Robbers

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Dec. 2.—Four masked bandits held up and robbed passenger train No. 6 on the Southern Railway at Onieda, Tenn., today. The men escaped after the mail and express cars were looted. The postoffice at Onieda also was robbed, presumably by the same band.

## Charge 4 With Murder of Philadelphia Man

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 2.—Despite the confession of Harry Treadway that he killed Henry T. Pierce, wealthy manufacturer's agent, the district attorney's office today announced that all four persons in the room at the time of the murder would be charged with murder in the first degree.

## Drag Man Into Car, Rob Him, Ditch Him

CHICAGO, Dec. 2.—Four men leaped from a black automobile in the 2400 block on Southport avenue today and dragged into their car Edward Van Horne, secretary-treasurer of the National Milk Company, took from Van Horne \$1,900, which he had on his person and then threw him from the car at the corner of Fifteenth street and Turner avenue, a few miles away.

## Jury Is Still Out in Dampier Auto Case

After deliberating all night the jury in the case of John Dampier, charged in Criminal Court with receiving stolen automobiles, was still out this afternoon. The jury took the case yesterday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock.

## Woman Drinks Lysol

Mrs. Margaret Linn, 25, of 1335 East Raymond street, drank Lysol at her home today, and as a result she is in a serious condition. Jean Linn, her husband, told the police the poison was taken by his wife by mistake.

## Nearly a Billion Dollars Held Out on Uncle Sam in Recent Tax Payments

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Republican leaders, striving to work out an economy program, were informed by Government actuaries today that Federal revenues next year may be increased by nearly \$1,000,000,000 in delinquent taxes.

This additional revenue will be possible, they were informed, as a result of new audits by experts showing that thousands of individuals and corporate concerns understated their tax obligations to the Government on returns filed in the two or three preceding years.

Revenues from this source, it was said, may mean a lightening of the tax load in some other directions.

Corporations are the chief offenders in understating their taxes, under the income and excess profits provisions of the war revenue law.

Auditors have found that some corporations scaled down their payments as much as \$1,000,000 under the amount actually due the Government. Many instances were discovered of men of wealth giving themselves the "benefit of the doubt" in sums ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000. These amounts must be made good to the Government, according to the plans of officials. All delinquent taxes of this character will be assessed by the Government against such individuals and corporations for payment in 1921.

## CLAIM \$75,000 STATE SAVING ON PURCHASES

Joint Committee Gives Figures in Annual Report of Its Services.

SUPPLIES COST \$600,000

A saving of approximately \$75,000 has been effected in the purchase of supplies for the various State institutions by the State Joint purchasing committee, according to its annual report, given out today for publication in the year book.

The purchase of supplies made by the committee for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, other than those articles covered by the purchase of this merchandise, will amount to not less than \$600,000, according to the report.

The report, which gives the history of the purchasing board, follows: "The several institutions forward to the committee estimates of supplies needed for a quarterly period and bids are asked on the combined amounts of each of the various items of merchandise. By pooling the estimates of all institutions the total quantity of each item is of sufficient size to attract competition and interest, manufacturers, brokers and jobbers, who have heretofore declined to bid on the quantity desired by a single institution. The committee and its secretary have endeavored to keep in touch with the trend of the market and to recommend to institutions the advisability of increasing or decreasing estimates for the purpose of taking advantage of rising or falling prices.

**FISCAL YEAR CLOSED SEPT. 30.** The purchase of supplies made by the committee for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1920, other than those items covered by term or annual contracts will amount to not less than \$600,000, according to the report.

Prevailing market prices of the various articles purchased, an estimated saving of \$75,000 has been effected by the committee in the purchase of this merchandise. Purchases now made usually move direct from mills or producers insuring to the institutions, fresh, clean and unadulterated, at the time of purchase, at original cost.

"In addition to the above the subcommittee has entered into yearly contracts for supplying institutions with coal, electric lamps, cleaning supplies, lubricating oils and other grades of oil, wax and greases, auto and truck tires and stores." (Continued on Page Two.)

## PLAN PROVIDES NEW RELATIONS WITH MEXICANS

Exchange of Scholarships Approved by Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce.

Approval of a plan for the interchange of scholarships between Mexico and the United States has been given by the educational committee of the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce. The plan was submitted to the committee by Will A. Peairs of Des Moines, Iowa, representing the American Chamber of Commerce of Mexico.

## DENIES SCHWAB IS IN STUTZ DEAL

Management of Company to Remain Same—Thompson.

Reports that arose coincident with the visit of Charles N. Schwab to Indianapolis a few days ago that he would take over control of the Stutz Motor Car Company of America is denied in a telegram received today by Thomas H. Marshall, sales manager of the company, from W. N. Thompson of New York, president of the company.

"Referring to news item of Tuesday that Schwab is taking over Stutz interests there is not a word of truth in it. Allan A. Ryan, W. N. Thompson and associates will remain in complete control of the situation. The organization will remain under the supervision of Thompson.

Mrs. Ryan is president of the board of directors of the company.

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## Churches Not to Be Blamed For Divorce Evil, Says Judge

Holds Moral Delinquency of Husband and Wife Same.

By JUDGE W. W. THORNTON. The question is often asked: Is the church to be blamed for the divorce evil? I think the church and the keeper of the morals of the people, not even of its own members. It can only assist people to keep their morals. It cannot reach people who never come near it.

As the law now is, a wife has the right to demand support of a husband; but if she knows before marriage that he is unable to support her, or unable to support her in the style she will insist upon if she marries him, then she has no moral right to marry him. If she marries him for the fellowship of the bed then she is not far above the woman of the street who sells her body for gold. If the husband marries his wife for the fellowship of the bed then he is treating her practically as a woman of the street. If he would treat a woman of the street as he gives her money in exchange for her virtue.

If the woman knows her husband will not be able to support her, then it is her moral duty to assist in supporting herself.

**UNKEPT HOUSE OFTEN FATAL TO MARRIED LIFE.** The husband has the right to demand that his wife keep the home in good condition, as well as can be by a reasonable expenditure of effort. An unkept house—dirty dishes, dirty beds, unwashed clothes, unwashed floors—are very often fatal to the marriage relation; and are a constant source of complaint in the courts.

I cannot say that the present divorce laws are a mockery to the sanctity of marriage vows.

The divorce laws of Indiana are probably as good as the divorce laws of the average State; and better than quite a number of them, especially those of a number of Western States.

It is often in the administration of these laws where the State and society suffers. A judge with lax notions in his administration is very apt to grant divorces where they should not be, and such a judge will find many more divorce cases on his docket than you will find on the docket of a judge who rigidly holds to the line and who refuses to be influenced by the importuning and badgering of counsel or the distinguished social position of the fair plaintiff.

**PLAINTIFF'S COUNSEL OWES COURT DUTY.** The counsel for the plaintiff owes a duty to the court in the bringing of an action for divorce; for the bringing of the action is an implied representation to the court that his client is worthy in her past and present personal conduct.

(Continued on Page Four.)

## YOU GO FIRST, GASTON; NO, DEAR ALPHONSE, AFTER YOU, PLEASE

ON BOARD STEAMSHIP PAS-TORES, Dec. 2.—(By Wireless).—President-elect Harding has signified his willingness to confer with President Wilson on the League of Nations, upon the former's arrival in Washington next week, but will not seek a conference unless the President expresses a desire for it. Better words prevail and the Pastors is making good time.

## FLIRTS WITH SANDMAN AS PARENTS WAR FOR CUSTODY

Willard G. Marsh, 5, known as the "not wished for baby" before the arrival of the star, today sat in a large chair in Superior Court, room 4, as his mother and father waged a bitter battle for his possession.

Master Willard, while Judge Vincent Clifford was hearing the evidence of Mrs. William L. Marsh, 57, East Thirty-First street, today, was being held by a divorce on a cross-complaint filed against William L. Marsh, employed by the Kiefer Drug Company of this city, quarreled around in his seat and looked wistfully around the courtroom.

Willard saw none of his little playmates in the courtroom, but he heard the joyful yells of the school children on their way home for lunch. The lad was interested in the gavel used by the court.

The father of Master Willard in his original suit asking for an absolute divorce and the mother for the custody of his son, Marsh, the mother of the bright-eyed lad, filed a cross-complaint, seeking custody of the boy and a divorce.

Judge Clifford is hearing the case on the cross-complaint of Mrs. Marsh. Many witnesses have been summoned and the courtroom was so crowded during the morning session that many persons stood, but the President-elect had signified his desire to call on the man he will succeed.

## France and Britain Agreed on Greece

LONDON, Dec. 2.—Premier Lloyd George of Great Britain and Premier Legeyas of France have reached an agreement by which the two countries will adopt a similar attitude toward Greece. The joint note will be dispatched to Athens tonight, it was learned from an official source this afternoon.

In the meantime Britain and France will postpone any attempt to modify the terms of the Versailles treaty, which partitions the old Turkish Empire.

## WIFE GRANTED SECOND DIVORCE

Richards Family Troubles Come Before Court Again.

For the second time a divorce decree has been granted to Mrs. Vivian D. Richards and H. Virgil Richards, whose domestic troubles have been the cause of much newspaper publicity in the last two years.

Mrs. Richards was granted a divorce by Judge Harry Chamberlin of the Circuit Court when Mr. Richards failed to appear. She was granted the decree by default and by the orders of the court will not be able to remarry for a period of two years. Because service by publication was obtained from Mr. Richards instead of personal service, Mrs. Richards' request for \$5,000 alimony was not granted.

According to the evidence submitted, Richards is in New York City. Some time ago a limited divorce was granted the couple, but they became reconciled and were remarried Dec. 19, 1919, but separated Jan. 23, 1920.

Mrs. Richards charged her husband kept another woman in a splendid apartment and lavished money on her. She also said Richards refused to support her but lavished money on Irene Reuz. A few days ago the Marion County Grand Jury returned a recommendation that Richards be discharged from prosecution on a charge of criminal libel against Mrs. Richards.

While many of the State institutions are badly in need of repairs, those that have been visited thus far have all been found to be well managed, according to Senator Estes Duncan, member of the legislative visiting committee. Senator Duncan and the other members of the committee, Representative David Curry and Representative Otto Fifeled, were in Indianapolis today.

Senator Duncan said he was well pleased with the management observed thus far. Twelve of the State institutions have been visited, and the committee hopes to have completed its work by Jan. 1.

Many of the institutions visited have been found to be badly in need of repairs," said Senator Duncan. "They are not in an exceptionally bad condition now, but owing to the lack of funds, they have been necessarily allowed to deteriorate, until they now face the necessity of having small repairs now, or much work in the near future."

**Enforcement Officer, in Jail, Awaits Trial** WINDSOR, Ontario, Dec. 2.—The Rev. J. O. L. Spracklin, charged with shooting and killing Verley Trumble, road house keeper, while conducting a raid as special liquor license inspector, today was taken to Sandwich and is held in the jail there. He was given an examination before Magistrate W. J. Grady of Windsor. He will stand trial next spring.

## 'HAMON AFTER FUSS CAME TO ME DRUNK AND LIKE BRUTE I SHOT'



CLARA SMITH HAMON.

## WOMAN, FLEEING MURDER PAW OF LAW, TELLS TALE

Texan, Who Motored Mrs. Hamon, Not a Wife, Swears She Confessed.

OTHERS TANGLED IN WEB

ARDMORE, Okla., Dec. 2.—Activities in the search for Mrs. Clara Smith Hamon were intensified today and the scope of the investigation was made real to the result of startling revelations made by E. W. Sallis of Dallas, Tex., who declared in a sworn statement that Mrs. Hamon confessed to him that she fired the shot that caused the death of Jake L. Hamon, multimillionaire member of the Republican National Committee. Sallis' statement is in the hands of County Attorney R. B. Brown.

Sallis drove Mrs. Hamon, he declares, from Dallas to Cisco, Tex., last Tuesday and Wednesday. Prosecutor Brown believes the woman may still be in the vicinity of Cisco, although he is convinced she intends to make her way into Mexico and already may have succeeded in crossing the border.

In addition to the search for Mrs. Hamon, the county attorney planned to investigate statements said to have been made by her that wealthy friends of the slain magnate in Ardmore aided her in her flight.

Sallis, driver of a heavy motor car, made his original statement to Prosecutor Brown. His affidavit was witnessed by Police Sergeants L. J. Vittrup and C. F. Ishell. The story of the Dallas man, it is declared, links in other details already investigated and given substantiation.

Sitting, nervous and unstrung, in the rear seat of Sallis' car on the lonely road toward Cisco, Mrs. Hamon said, according to Sallis, "Then he came in drunk and treated me like only a brute would treat a woman."

"You see, I've been with him ever since I was 17. He's married, but he and his

(Continued on Page Two.)

## 5 LIVES LOST IN APARTMENT BUILDING FIRE

Blaze Spreads Out of Dumb Elevator Shaft, Trapping Victims.

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—Five persons were burned to death early today in a fire that wrecked a five-story apartment house in West Fifth-seventh street, just off Fifth avenue. More than one hundred families living in nearby apartments and houses were driven into the street by the blaze.

Four of the dead have been identified: Miss Marjorie Lescomb, 20, film actress.

Mrs. Boswell Reid, concert singer from California.

Mrs. Reid's sister, who has been visiting her, and whose name is believed to have been Mrs. Jennie Jenkins.

Dr. F. M. Foster, attached to the staff of the Hippodrome Theater.

The fifth body was that of a young woman who had passed the night with Miss Lescomb, but whose name was not learned.

The fire started in a sub-cellar and spread upward through a dumb waiter shaft, trapping the fire victims on the third, fourth and fifth floors. The bodies were recovered by firemen.

The blaze was discovered by Miss Annette Bracy, 23, who lived on the third floor. As soon as she smelled smoke she rushed to the door of her apartment and her bedroom and screamed for help. This aroused a family in an adjoining apartment house who summoned the fire department.

Firemen said Miss Bracy's action probably saved a number of lives. Mrs. Irwin Coyle, summoned by Miss Bracy, also was killed.

(Continued on Page Two.)

## PROPOSES TAX ON ALL SALES MADE

Smoot Would Have Consumer Pay 1 Per Cent on Everything.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—A 1 per cent tax on the cost of a commodity, a consumer will be proposed as a substitute for the excess profits tax, Senator Smoot, Utah, said today on his return to Washington. This is one of the devices which, according to Smoot, the Republicans will use in revising the revenue schedule. Other details of the financial program which will be taken up at the special session of the Senate, the country was outlined by Smoot as follows:

Increased tariff on many articles, including beet sugar which Smoot said probably will carry a tariff of a cent and a half instead of the present rate of about 1 cent.

Revision of the income tax schedule probably increasing some rates. Smoot said the small rates both as to individual and corporations cannot be lowered.

Reduction by at least 50 per cent of the force of the Government employees both in the District of Columbia and throughout the country.

Smoot also announced he will introduce a bill next week providing for an embargo on wool for one year. Such an embargo, he said, would give the American wool grower a chance to dispose of his piled-up stock to American manufacturers who could then make woolen goods for domestic use. If foreign wool is used, it will be taxed at a cent and a half.

However, Smoot said, the American wool industry will be wiped out within a short time.

## Judge Dies in Court

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—Judge James T. Malone of General Sessions died of apoplexy Wednesday outside his chambers just after hearing a murder trial. He had served thirteen years.

**Chore Boy to Maid** WINNEPEG, Dec. 2.—"Mike Franche," 14, worked as a chore boy for Mrs. Fred Smith for several months when she discovered "Mike" is a girl. Now Miss "Mike" is Mrs. Smith's maid.

**Witnesses for the plaintiff** in the case of Bernard Kenna of Cincinnati, against Albert Killen of Muncie, a personal injury case, testified today when the suit began before Federal Judge A. E. Anderson.

The plaintiff seeks \$20,000 damages for alleged injuries resulting from being struck by an automobile driven by Killen when Kenna slipped from a street car in Cincinnati, according to the complaint.

**Muncie Man Sued for \$20,000 Damages** Witnesses for the plaintiff in the case of Bernard Kenna of Cincinnati, against Albert Killen of Muncie, a personal injury case, testified today when the suit began before Federal Judge A. E. Anderson.

The plaintiff seeks \$20,000 damages for alleged injuries resulting from being struck by an automobile driven by Killen when Kenna slipped from a street car in Cincinnati, according to the complaint.

**Governors Take Up Farm Conditions** HARRISBURG, Pa., Dec. 2.—The conference of Governors today devoted its attention to the problem confronting agriculturists throughout the country. A committee of five appointed to consider the credit, marketing and other conditions affecting farmers was expected to report. The Governor of Iowa, Louisiana, Indiana, North Carolina and Connecticut compose the committee.