

EXPECT ACCEPTANCE OF SCHOOL ADVISER'S RESIGNATION TONIGHT

Albert Baker Quits, 'Effective April 1,' After Conversation Regarding Opinion on Woodruff Place Contract.

BOARD CALLS SPECIAL MEETING

Dissatisfaction of a majority of the members of the board of school commissioners with legal opinions given by Albert Baker, for many years attorney for the board of school commissioners, has resulted in Mr. Baker handing in his resignation.

The resignation will be considered at a special meeting of the board tonight, and there is no doubt but that it will be accepted.

Mr. Baker's action followed a conversation held several days ago with Clarence E. Crippin, member of the board, during which Mr. Crippin informed Mr. Baker that a majority of the board considered an opinion given at the last meeting of the board regarding the contract between the board and the school board of Woodruff Place as an attack on the board and an undue defense of George C. Hitt, business director.

MR. BAKER'S LETTER OF RESIGNATION.

The resignation is dated April 2 and is as follows:

"Board of School Commissioners,
"Indianapolis, Ind.

"Gentlemen:
"Mr. C. E. Crippin of the board called on me this morning and showed me a copy of the resolution the board passed at request of your business director in Jan., 1920, and said, in substance, that the board thinks that resolution had application to your Woodruff Place contract. I told him I did not think it had any application.

"In the course of the conversation Mr. Crippin in substance said that the majority of the board share the same opinion on Woodruff Place contract an attack on or criticism of the board and an undue defense of Mr. Hitt as business director.

"It is, therefore, apparent that I cannot longer usefully and with proper self-respect, serve the board, and I now resign my position as your attorney, effective as of April 1, 1921.
"Yours truly,
ALBERT BAKER."

WIDENING BREACH APPARENT SOME TIME.

For some time past it has been apparent that there has been a constantly widening breach between a majority of the board and Mr. Baker. On several occasions he has handed in opinions that plainly were disconcerting and unwelcome to the majority. Several weeks ago he advised the board to follow the wishes of the majority.

Mr. Baker has responded to criticisms made by that board of plans and specifications for engineering in school buildings, prepared by the firm of Snider & Rotz, engineers for the board.

His reference to the State board as being "superior" to the school board did not please some of the members. However, the climax came at the last meeting of the board when he opined in regard to the contract entered into with the school board of Woodruff Place.

This contract was signed by Mr. Baker, business director of the board, without having been referred to the board or approved by it. By the terms of the contract the high schools in the city at an approximate loss to Indianapolis of \$6,500 a year.

Mrs. Julia Belle Tutewiler, president of the board, addressed a letter to Mr. Baker, asking him the following questions:

Does such a contract need to be submitted to the board for approval?

Can the business director without consulting the board or reporting to the board the contract for approval have authority to bind the school city to such a contract?

If such a contract is illegal can the board rescind it or refuse to approve it?

If there is a loss to the school city by reason of the execution of the contract by the business director, and the contract is found to be illegal, is the business director liable on his bond for an unauthorized act?

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE.

With the exception of the third question Mr. Baker answered every one of these questions in the negative. In the cause of a bitter discussion at the last meeting of the board, Clarence E. Crippin and Bert S. Gadd being particularly strong in disapproval of the opinion while Charles L. Barry defended it.

After a long argument the matter was referred to a committee composed of Messrs. Gadd, Crippin and Allison, with Mr. C. E. Crippin as legal counsel. At the time the name of Mr. N. A. Walker was mentioned as the attorney whose services would be obtained.

It is believed that this action resulted in Mr. Baker's resignation, although he has refused to make a public statement. A number of lawyers have been mentioned as the probable successor of Mr. Baker, and it is believed that Mr. Walker has the inside track on the position if he desires it.

Seeks Additional Plot for Turkey Run

The State conservation department announced today that condemnation proceedings are being conducted in the Parke County Circuit Court in an effort to obtain a tract of 190 acres of land adjoining Turkey Run, which it hopes to add to the park which now covers about 280 acres. The Hoosier Venerers Company has control of the land and has already removed much of the large timber. The conservation department expects to bring about the construction of a new road into the park if the land is acquired.

Bandits Get \$50,000

ST. PAUL, April 5.—The State bank of Wirthrow, Minn., northeast of here, was robbed of \$50,000 some time last night, the sheriff's office reported today. A squad of deputies was sent out to trace the bandits. Some useless loot was found in a school house near Wirthrow, where the bandits had divided the loot.

WEATHER

Forecast for Indianapolis and vicinity for the twenty-four hours ending 7 p.m. April 6: Fair tonight; Wednesday unsettled with probably showers; continued mild temperatures.

HIGHLY TEMPERATURE.

6 a. m. 57
7 a. m. 57
8 a. m. 59
9 a. m. 69
10 a. m. 71
11 a. m. 74
12 (noon) 76
1 p. m. 77
2 p. m. 78

Indiana Daily Times

INDIANAPOLIS, TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 1921.

Subscription Rates: (By Carrier, Week, Indianapolis, 10c; Elsewhere, 12c.
(By Mail, 50c Per Month; \$2.00 Per Year.)

NO. 282.

BRITAIN'S PLAN TO STAY LABOR WAR REJECTED

Horne Turns Down Suggestion Government Continue Coal Control.

ARMY LEAVES STOPPED

LONDON, April 5.—Hopes for abatement of the British industrial crisis caused by the coal strike received a serious setback this afternoon when Labor Minister Sir Robert Horne, in the course of the parliamentary debate rejected the suggestion of an additional monthly government control of the mines and coal pending efforts to reach a settlement.

In such a plan, supposed to be favored by Premier Lloyd George, was seen the last of hope for averting a general nation-wide industrial upheaval, with the transport workers and rail men joining the miners.

Almost simultaneously with this announcement it was disclosed that all Army leaves have been stopped. A similar measure had been previously announced for the Navy, and this was regarded as a further indication that the Government reckons with the necessity of strong military measures to prevent labor disturbances on a large scale.

FORMER FOOD CONTROLLER ATTACKS GOVERNMENT.

J. R. Clines, former food controller and now of the Board of Trade, attacked Parliament, attacked the government during the debate for its methods of handling the situation. He urged it, however, to bring the contesting parties to gether:

"It is better to think it out than to fight it out."

The debate on the emergency resolution was marked by tumultuous interruptions of the ministerial speeches by labor members.

The Prince of Wales was one of the spectators in the gallery. Minister of Labor Horne opened the debate with a speech deeply deplored the strike, saying it was robbing the British markets of sorely-needed revenues. Already orders were being placed in America which otherwise would have gone to England, he said.

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