

CLUB OPPOSES PROPOSED NEW TRAFFIC RULES

Hoosier Motor Organization Declares Problem Needs Careful Study.

MAKES SUGGESTIONS

Declaring the proposal to eliminate parking of automobiles on Washington street should not be considered, and that the proposal to make Meridian street a one-way thoroughfare at certain times of the day will only add to the traffic confusion, officials of the Hoosier Motor Club today issued a statement going on

record as opposed to both these suggested traffic changes.

"The Hoosier Motor Club represents the organized motorists of Indianapolis," the statement says, "and regardless of the fact that many car owners are not members, we have always conceived it as our duty to work for the best interests of the entire body of motorists.

"The proposal that has been made concerning the elimination of parking on Washington street is not for the best interests of the motorists, and the proposal to make Meridian street a one-way thoroughfare, with the Washington street barren of automobiles, that thoroughfare would resemble Main street of Gopher Prairie at 2 a. m.

MOST MOTORISTS DO OWN CHAUFFING.

"The suggestion which accompanies the parking proposal to the effect that car owners drivers remain in them will be made clear to visitors and a one-way-part-of-the-time rule for our main thoroughfare, so-called thoroughfare, added to our present 'no left turn,' would result in a hopeless tangle."

URGES MERIDIAN

RIGHT-OF-WAY.

"What Meridian street needs is a positive right-of-way as a through traffic

lane, with each cross intersection marked 'stop' in large letters on the pavements. At all cross traffic would be stopped before proceeding to enter or cross Meridian street. Chicago has this system for some of its boulevards and even Gary has the same system for its chief streets—and they both work. Then it would be a simple matter for a few motorcycle cops to keep it moving briskly at rush hours. This would eliminate the jay driver who wishes to camp out in the middle of the street and the 'stop orders' at all cross streets would eliminate many accidents."

"The suggestion that traffic towers be erected downtown to regulate the movement of traffic for several blocks at a time might work—does work, of course. In some cities, but we believe the proponents of this plan have not considered the fact that street cars might make right or left turns across the straight-forward movement of automobiles."

"In the case of Ohio and Pennsylvania streets, with interurban cars 'ganging up,' it is conceivable that automobile traffic could not move with a go signal given from a tower two or three blocks

away. With all the street car traffic in and out of Washington street, the situation would be different from Fifth avenue in New York City where there are no street cars."

"The suggestion that assessments be made by a police official at headquarters when traffic violators are sent in does not strike us as an improvement over the present plan. It certainly does not take care of speeders and the like violators, who, but even violator of parking or other regulations would be 'stuck' with at least a \$1 assessment, instead of getting off with an educational lecture."

"We would advocate heavier penalties for driving while under the influence of liquor or for passing street cars which have stopped to load or unload. The cases for which such a charge of these offenses is a potential murderer and should be dealt with accordingly."

"The entire traffic situation needs the most complete study before changes are made, and then any changes decided upon should be made gradually, instead of arbitrarily adopting a lot of radical changes."

TRIALS BEFORE JURY TO COME EARLY IN YEAR

Cases of 1921 Kept Prosecutor and Assistants Busy.

The new year begins in the office of Prosecutor William P. Evans with several important trials scheduled to be held early in the year.

The summary of jury trials for 1921 shows Prosecutor Evans has had thirty-one jury cases, twenty-five of which were held in Marion County, two convictions for manslaughter obtained. Three trials on manslaughter charges were held in Shelby County and one conviction on a second degree murder charge was obtained and one conviction of manslaughter and one jury disagreed in the same county.

Of that number there were seventeen convictions, seven acquittals and six disagreed juries. Two of the latter were

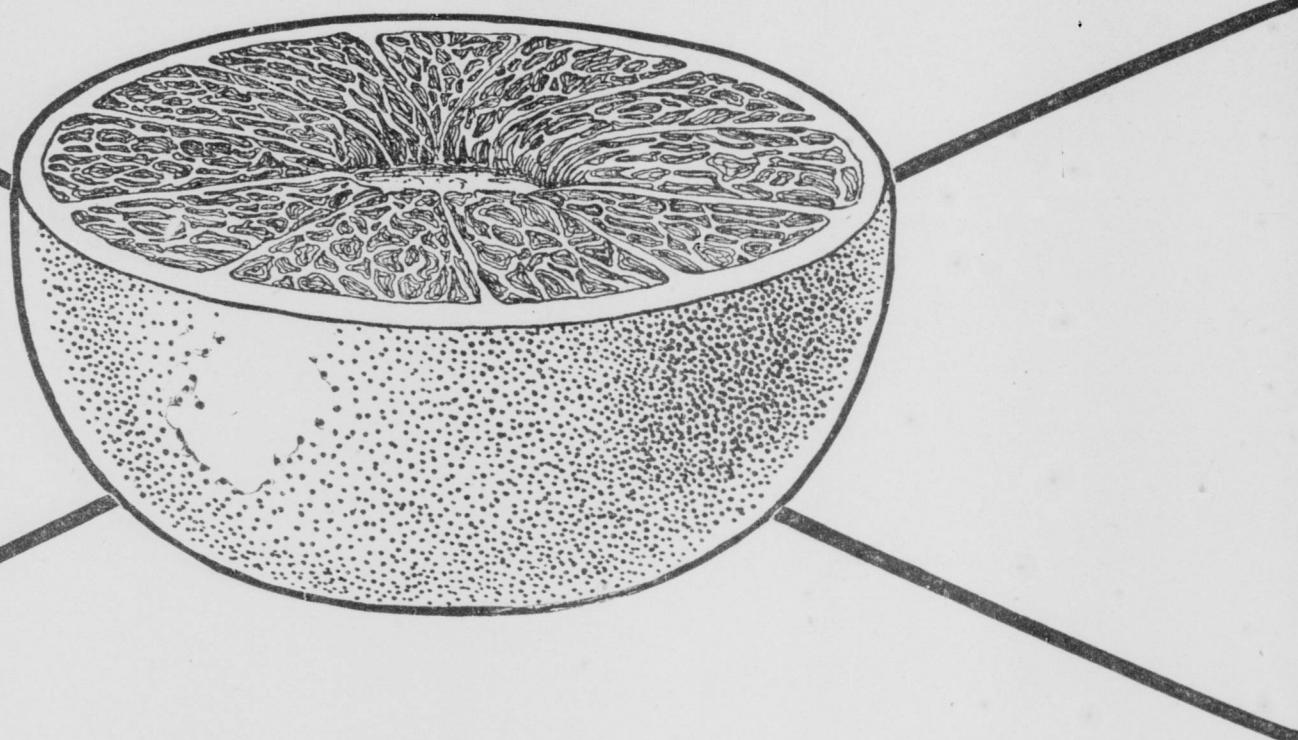
tried later and convictions were obtained.

The summary of Mr. Evans shows one case was withdrawn from the jury resulting in an acquittal. Three robbery cases were tried before a jury in this county, resulting in two convictions and one acquittal. Two rape cases were tried here, resulting in one conviction for assault and battery with intent to rape and one conviction for assault and battery.

One embezzlement case was started before a jury but was withdrawn and submitted to the court.

One case charging conspiracy to commit a felony, was tried twice before a jury, resulting first in a disagreed jury and then an acquittal. A case involving the charging operation of a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, resulting in an acquittal. The jury in one case alleging operation of a house of ill fame returned a verdict of not guilty.

This summary of Prosecutor Evans does not take into account the majority of the work done in his office which does not contain the hundreds of cases investigated by the grand jury and many cases tried before the court without a jury.



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