

Indiana Daily Times

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THOSE THREE JITTERY will hardly be sufficient to relieve the congestion in traffic, however.

MERCY! The school board is going to meet weekly instead of every two weeks as heretofore.

YESTERDAY the city hall rested while Mayor Shank enlightened some of our neighboring populous!

WHY NOT move the Shriner avenue bridge to approaches on Delaware street instead of building another?

TESTIMONIALS for Senator New continue with a regularity that indicates there is something else besides spontaneity behind them!

INCIDENTALLY, the law says that a suitable place shall be provided for the impounding of dogs and the present quarters do not appear to be suitable.

For Lower Rates

Lower electric light rates for the people of Indianapolis are practically assured with the announcement of the public service commission that it will open the whole subject of rate schedules in connection with the petition now pending for a revision of power schedules.

The petition is set down for hearing on Feb. 17 and in the meanwhile annual reports will be filed by the two electric utilities. It is known that the Indianapolis Light and Heat Company's report will disclose that the present rate schedule is yielding it a greater return on its investment than can be reconciled with the intent of the public utility law and there is no likelihood of opposition from this company to a reduction in the schedules.

The situation brought about by the competing companies is peculiar. The public service commission cannot make rates for one company and different rates for another, but it appears from the operation during the last year that rates which are not unreasonable when viewed from the one company's premises are too high when viewed from the standpoint of the other.

The natural inclination of the public service commission is to provide a reasonable earning for each of these two companies, but the consumer doubtless views the predicament of the one company and of the commission as of no particular concern to him. He wants as low a rate for electricity as it is possible for him to have and will contend that it is the business of the commission to establish such a rate regardless of the effect in the competitive field.

Cognizance of this situation appears to have been taken by the Merchants Heat and Light Company, which has not been heard to protest over the prospective reduction of electric rates.

In this hearing, the consumer does not stand to lose in the popular plea for a reduction of utility rates, a fact that makes the case considerably different from any that has been heard by the commission since the wartime conditions brought so many utilities to its door.

Bonus Prospects

Washington correspondents who are not hampered by the necessity of pleasing Republican editors back home do not hesitate to say that the administration has no present intention of granting a bonus to ex-service men. They regard the proposed bonus taxes as methods evolved for the purpose of creating sentiment against a bonus rather than as methods to raise the money necessary to pay them.

President Harding's position is described as that of a man who is shifting from his stand during the primaries to a stand as the Nation's executive through a tortuous course that involves getting around certain obstacles in the form of promises without breaking them. Mr. Harding is declared to remain in favor of a soldiers' bonus, but not so thoroughly in favor of it as to be willing to assume responsibility for a method of raising the money to pay it.

As one correspondent says, the Republican administration has discovered that there are more taxpayers than ex-service men and it is now confronted with the possibility of the loss of the support of the taxpayers through the granting of a bonus, just as it is threatened with the loss of the support of the ex-service men if it fails to provide a bonus. How to retain the support of these two elements is a question that Congress would like to have Mr. Harding to solve. And the only solution that has yet been evolved lies in "indefinite postponements" such as will keep both the ex-service men and the taxpayers guessing.

As was stated in these columns only a few days ago, it is apparent that the business interests which are in control of the Republican party do not propose to pay the soldiers' bonus and it does not at this time seem possible to saddle it on the little fellow. Until the money can be raised for the bonus without interfering with the big interests and without alienating the votes of the little fellow, there will be no bonus.

Mr. Ralston's Decision

The announcement of Samuel M. Ralston that he will not be a candidate for the Democratic nomination for United States Senator is a distinct disappointment to thousands of members of his party who saw in his candidacy the prospect of a rehabilitation of the party organization and an excellent opportunity to recover Indiana.

Mr. Ralston's refusal to seek the nomination is based purely on personal reasons over which none may dispute with him, but it is nevertheless a hard blow to Democrats.

With the prospect of Mr. Ralston's candidacy out of the way there are a large number of aspirants and "possibilities" coming to the fore and it does not seem unlikely that there will be a contest in the party ranks over the nomination. Mr. Thomas Taggart might obtain the nomination without opposition were he inclined to listen to appeals from all parts of the State. But, Mr. Taggart has steadfastly refused to accept the suggestion and it is known that he was very much in favor of Mr. Ralston for the position. Whether with Mr. Ralston removed from the list of possibilities he will look on the matter in a different light remains to be seen.

This year is an excellent time for the Democrats to unite in the support of a proper candidate and elect a United States Senator.

Corrigan's Case

In the matter of John Corrigan, patrolman, charged with neglect of duty, the board of safety has chosen the expedient course rather than the legal or proper method of dealing with a recalcitrant member of the police department.

Corrigan received an order from the board to report to the police physician for examination as to his fitness to remain on the force. He failed to report as directed and the board quite properly took steps to uphold its order. Corrigan pleaded that he was prevented from reporting to the physician by conditions he could not control, but he admits having been advised by some other authority than the board not to continue attempts to report and he admits having acted on that advice.

Thus, he opens the question of whether the board's orders may be set aside by another authority and in failure to punish Corrigan the board admits that such is the possibility.

Insomuch as it averts, at least for the time, friction between the board and the mayor, the recession of the board has its advantages. But precedent is dangerous and the issue remains unsettled.

AD MILLER AND 'HICK' APPEAR IN COURT SCENE

In 'Lightnin,' but It Was Milt on Nobles Who Got All Applause

BY WALTER D. HICKMAN.

I made my stage debut yesterday afternoon.

I didn't receive any applause because Lightnin' Bill Jones grabbed off all of the applause and wouldn't share honors with me at all.

Yesterday afternoon, I journeyed over to English's to interview Milt Nobles, that grand old veteran who is turning all box office records upside down and doubling them in "Lightnin'."

Manager A. F. Miller, known as Ad Miller, suggested that I go on in the courtroom scene and "report."

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