

ECONOMY IS KEYNOTE OF MAYOR'S PROGRAM FOR 1923

INSTITUTIONS DUE TO RECEIVE BIG CUTS IN BUDGETS

State Unable to Allow Increased Appropriations Asked by Departments.

SALARIES WILL BE AFFECTED

Merging of Commissions May Save Funds—Committee Hears Requests.

If the Legislature should grant all the requests of State institutions and State departments for appropriations, the State could not obtain sufficient money to pay them, Jesse E. Eschbach, head of the State budget commission, declared today.

The commission has been hearing requests of officials and institution heads for appropriations preparatory to making recommendations to the Legislature. It took a recess today will resume its activities tomorrow. It already has heard most of the requests.

"There is not an institution or a department in the State heard thus far that has not asked an increase over the appropriation of two years ago," Eschbach said.

All May Be Cut

"There probably will not be an institution or a department that will not have its estimate cut."

Eschbach intimated that some of the cuts will be large. He said he believed the requests of most of the State institutions are more reasonable than those of most departments, and that the cut in the institution estimates may not be so large on the average as those in department estimates.

It was indicated that the cuts in institutional estimates will be applied largely to salaries and expenses of employed personnel rather than to items that concern the inmates directly.

Some Want Buildings

Some of the institutions are asking for specific appropriations for new buildings. Some of these probably will be cut. Among the institutions asking for new buildings are the School for Feeble-Minded Youth at Ft. Wayne and the Tuberculosis Sanitarium at Rockville.

State commissions, indications were, probably will be the hardest hit by the cuts of the budget commission. There is a movement to combine the State historical commission with the State library, putting an assistant to the librarian in charge of the historical work. This would reduce the appropriation considerably.

The longest time before the commission was spent by representatives of the conservation department, who asked for some increases. Indications were that this department will be among those suffering the greatest cuts.

Collects Fees

Under the 1919 law, the conservation commission collects numerous fees, which are put into a fund for the exclusive use of that department. One member of the budget commission suggested that these fees be placed in the general fund and the department operated on a definite appropriation, so its expenditures can be limited. At present it has an appropriation in addition to the fees.

Two members of the budget commission, Representatives Oliver Laffuge and John W. Kitch, visited the colony for feeble-minded at Butler.

EX-POLICEMAN FINED ON BLIND TIGER COUNT

Judge Yockey Also Gives Patrick Foran Days.

Special Judge Harry Yockey yesterday found Patrick Foran, ex-police-man, 209 S. Missouri St., guilty of operating a blind tiger. Foran was fined \$200 and costs and sentenced to serve sixty days on the Indiana State Farm. The case was appealed.

Foran's arrest grew out of testimony given in city court Wednesday by two city firemen who were tried on charges of drunkenness. These firemen, William B. Sweeney, 3413 Southeastern Ave., and Walter J. Miles, 839 Union St., arrested Dec. 10, testified they bought "mule."

BREWER IS FOUND DEAD IN OFFICE

By United Press
ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 29.—William J. Lemp, 55, president of the brewery company bearing his name, was found shot to death in his office today.

Lemp, the third member of the famous brewer family to meet a violent death, had been shot twice near the heart. A revolver was found at his feet. There was no note of explanation.

Emancipation

The man whose wife goes out of town and insists he must water the fern frequently while he is away, has at last been emancipated.

Frank N. Wallace, State entomologist, has invented an automatic fern waterer.

He takes a bucket of water and places it in position above the fern. Hanging over the side of the bucket, with one end in the water and the other end hanging down toward the fern, he places a piece of yarn. The yarn absorbs the water, which constantly drips from the end down on the fern.

Walace is now working on an automatic gold fish feeder.

Heads Division of First Army Corps



Policy for City Includes Curtailment of Bond Issues, Cut in Operating Expenses, More Street Building and Removal of Public Jobs From Politics.

Curtailment of bond issues to the absolute minimum is the policy that Mayor Shank hopes to follow in the coming year, he announced today.

Other important plans and policies the mayor wants carried out are reduction of the operating expenses of the city government; a higher street building program and removal of public jobs from politics, as far as possible.

In outlining plans for the street building program for the

coming year the mayor said: "If the board of works will carry out my wishes, we shall improve as many more streets and alleys as the contractors can finish.

Health Considered

"By Jan. 1, 1924, I hope Indianapolis will have 100 miles more of improved streets added to the system. It is economy to have streets paved, when records from the health department show that most contagious diseases start in districts where the streets are muddy. And, too, when a few streets have to carry the burden of traffic, they begin to break down years before they should."

In discussing the boulevard system, the mayor said that, owing to the cost of upkeep on dirt boulevards, which was between \$40,000 and \$50,000 a year, it was his intention to replace such roads with hard-surfaced streets.

A change in the system of obtaining inspectors on road-building jobs will be requested of the board of works, the mayor said. The mayor said he wants these inspectors hired for the entire year instead of for a few months at a time, in order to get more efficient men.

Material and Labor High

"Although I will ask a large road building program, it is foolish to think of a large bond issue at the present time for municipal buildings," asserted Mayor Shank. "On the question of building the new market house, I think at the present time that labor and material are too high and the city is in no financial condition to be heavily bonded for such a purpose. Building municipal buildings at the present time means competing with business enterprises for labor and my intention is to build city buildings when I can help men by giving them jobs—and not take them away from other employment."

War on motorists without proper lights will be the first thing the mayor will take up after the start of the year.

"All these fellows that drive without proper lights are going to be arrested. We are going to arrest a lot and see what the judge will do with them. After the first of the year bicycle riders who do not have lights also will be arrested.

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BLAZE DESTROYS \$4,000 RESIDENCE

Unoccupied Home Razed by Fire of Unknown Origin.

A six-room frame residence at Twenty-Seventh and Rose Sts. was destroyed by fire at 4 a. m. today. Firemen prevented the flames from reaching the garage. The loss was estimated at \$4,000. No one had lived in the house for two weeks.

Mrs. Mary Lathrop, 1721 Bellfontaine St., owned the Rose St. residence and had lived there during the summer. Later she rented the house furnished and it was occupied until two weeks ago. The furniture in the house, valued at \$600, was destroyed.

The owner did not know the house was burned until a Times reporter noted her.

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