

FARE BOOST IS UP TO STATE

Civic Clubs' Attitude The City's Stand Traction Company Wants 7-Cent Rate—Declares Present Scale Is Inadequate

WITH the city administration committed to some "financial" relief for the Indianapolis Street Railway, the question as to who would fight for the present 5-cent fare scheduled before the public service commission is being discussed by straphangers.

Taylor Groninger, corporation counsel, announced his position would be based on the report of Benjamin Perk, city budget expert, which says increased fare is needed.

Edward O. Snethen, president of Federated Civic Clubs, says no action has been taken by that organization toward maintaining present 5-cent fare.

Attitude of the federation, however, will be formulated March 23 when the twenty-three affiliated clubs will adopt a policy. Questionnaires have been mailed to the clubs to learn sentiment. The first ones returned show wide difference in opinion.

Some have already opposed any car fare increase. Others would not oppose a fare boost if increased revenue would improve service. These clubs would favor a trial fare increase.

Snethen said today the policy of the federation would be determined by a vote of the majority of the clubs, although the federation will have no objections to any one club or group joining to oppose an increase by employing legal counsel to appear before the public service commission.

THE city will meet the petition of the Indianapolis Street Railway Company for increased fare with a demand on the public service commission that no more relief than is absolutely necessary be granted.

This attitude of the city administration was expressed by Taylor Groninger, corporation counsel, today, when told that a petition asking for a 7-cent fare with 1-cent transfer and four tickets for a quarter had been filed by the car company.

"My attitude will be based entirely on the report of Benjamin Perk, city budget expert, which shows that the company needs a depreciation reserve fund," said Groninger. "Any relief granted should be temporarily, and I won't be satisfied with a 7-cent fare long. It must revert to lower figure when relief is realized."

"The city is not satisfied with the ticket proposition of four for 25 cents or sixteen for \$1. We shall insist on seventeen tickets for \$1, which makes the fare slightly less than 6 cents, and slightly less than 7 for the passenger who transfers. This is lower than the present transfer fare."

Following filing of the car company's petition for an increase in fare, opinion was voiced by some citizens that it would be advisable to get comparative figures on the street car business in other cities.

Asserting that the 5-cent fare is inadequate, the Indianapolis Street Railway Company filed a petition with the public service commission today asking for "at least" a 7-cent cash fare, four tickets for 25 cents, and 1 cent for transfer. The petition was filed by Robert I. Todd, president. The company gets 2 cents for transfer now.

Chairman John W. McCordle said the commission would consider the petition Friday. It will be assigned to a commissioner who will fix a date for hearing. Ten days' notice of the hearing must be given.

The company sets out that it will place any net income in excess of present net income resulting from increased fares in a depreciation account for rehabilitating its property, improving tracks, constructing substations and improving service.

The report of Benjamin Perk, city budget expert, accompanied the petition. Officers of the company indicated that the company's case would hinge largely on Perk's report showing that approximately \$500,000 is needed annually in a depreciation fund.

"Previous Relief Inadequate" The petition shows that while a special committee on transportation made recommendations May 10, 1922, calculated to give \$249,095 annual revenue to the company, the sum really amounted to only \$45,000, including the owl car fare advance to 10 cents.

This committee comprised representatives of the civic and labor organizations, business men and city officials appointed by Mayor Shank.

With the present five-cent fare with two-cent transfer for all passengers more than five years of age "the company has been seriously retarded from furnishing service and equipment which the growing requirements of Indianapolis demand, as the company is unable to obtain new capital for additional cars and improvements on its present financial showing," the petition sets out.

An emergency exists for immediate relief, the petition states, and the company agrees to furnish quarterly statements of its financial condition and other information to the public service commission, and the city council.

"The company further avers that in order to acquaint city officials, and the city council, and the public generally with the situation," the petition states, "formal conferences were held with members of the board of works and the council in which the urgent necessity for increasing revenue was pointed out."

At the council hearing sentiment was evenly divided for and against any financial relief for the car company. A majority of city councilmen have expressed the opinion that some relief is necessary, although the council refused to act officially on such a resolution. Instead, it referred the matter to Mayor Shank and the city legal department.

The mayor has refused to take any sides in the car fare boost problem, although Taylor Groninger, corporation counsel, expressed sympathy for the company in the case.

STOCK DEALS OF OFFICIALS MADE PUBLIC

Transactions of Slomp, Curtis, Daugherty, Elkins and Former Congressmen in Sinclair and Doheny Oils Bared Before Committee.

By PAUL R. MALLON
United Press Staff Correspondent
WASHINGTON, March 18.—C. Bascom Slomp, secretary to President Coolidge; Senator Charles Curtis, Republican whip in the Senate; Attorney General Daugherty, Senator Davis Elkins and several present and former Congressmen, speculated in either Doheny or Sinclair oil stocks, Lewis D. Bond, accountant for the Federal trade commission, testified today before the Senate Oil Committee.

Among the Congressmen named as all speculators by Bond were: Former Representatives Goodykoontz, J. H. Hines and Ryan, and Representative A. B. Rouse of Kentucky.

Daugherty dealt in Mexican Petroleum and Sinclair Consolidated, Bond testified. Daugherty's account for a time was registered under the name of W. W. Spaeth, Bond said.

Slomp speculated in Sinclair Consolidated and Mexican Petroleum. Curtis in Sinclair Consolidated; Elkins in Sinclair Consolidated and Mexican Petroleum.

The Congressmen bought and sold Mexican Petroleum and Pan-American Petroleum.

Controlled by Doheny The Pan-American and Mexican Petroleum stocks are controlled by E. L. Doheny, lessee of two California's naval reserves; Sinclair Consolidated is controlled by Harry F. Sinclair, lessee of Teapot Dome.

On Pan-American Petroleum Daugherty made a profit of six and a half points, amounting to about \$43,500, Bond said. Other transactions were not closed during the period covered by Bond's examination of brokers' books on which Bond's story was based. This showed Daugherty still owned some of the stocks.

Curtis' deals were not margin transactions, but outright purchase, Bond said.

Bond told the committee he had examined the books of fifteen brokers besides the Association for Protection of American Rights in Mexico. Bond read from a written report he had prepared.

What About Daugherty? "What do you make of Daugherty's transactions?" Senator Walsh asked. "I imagine he didn't want his name used in the stock deals. That is frequently the case. He never told me why he didn't want to be identified with the matter," Bond said.

"The Indianapolis Commission found in the records of Hibbs & Co., Washington, are that Jesse Smith (Continued on Page 11)

POLICE ARE COMPARED

Indianapolis Force Shows Up Favorably With Cincinnati.

Police forces of Indianapolis and Cincinnati compare favorably in rank and number according to a report received by Walter W. Wise, president of the city council, today.

Wise is investigating conditions in twenty-five cities following request of Police Chief Herman Rikhoff for 100 additional men. Six cities have already reported.

Cincinnati with a population of 415,000, has 767 policemen compared to 541 for Indianapolis. Cincinnati has 38 sergeants compared to 21 for Indianapolis, and a traffic squad of 79 compared to 33 here. Indianapolis has 53 detectives. Cincinnati has 37.

BENEFICIAL RITES TODAY

Taps Sounded for Civil War Veteran Who Died Sunday.

Funeral of F. M. Benefiel, 86, Civil War veteran, who died Sunday, was held today at 10 a. m. at the home of his son, B. F. Benefiel, 427 S. Gray St.

Service were conducted by the Rev. Charles Reed of the Woodside M. E. Church. Burial in Memorial Park Cemetery.

Officer Ordered to Flying School

Lieut. Joseph M. Bell, Kokomo, member of the 113th observation squadron, Indiana National Guard, was ordered today by the War Department to go to San Antonio, Texas, to attend the Brooks Field flying school. Adj. Gen. Harry B. Smith announced.

M'Cray Lawyers Pass Jury to State



SKETCHED IN CRIMINAL COURT AT M'CRAY TRIAL BY MANUEL ROSENBERG, TIMES SPECIAL ARTIST.

In Jury Box

These twelve men were in the jury box when the Criminal Court trial of Governor Warren T. McCray was adjourned for the noon recess today:

Harry L. Rapp, branch manager of the United States Radiator Corporation, 324 E. Forty-Second St.

Arthur J. Randall, secretary-treasurer of the Henkel-Randall Printing Company, 566 E. St. Clair St.

William J. Ryan, building material dealer, 4108 Carrollton Ave.

Cecil Ramsey, employee of Kiefer-Stewart Drug Company, 825 N. Gray St.

John C. Hufford, Cumberland, salesman.

William E. Ratcliff, commission merchant at stockyards, 3850 Graceland Ave.

Walter P. Henderson, steamfitter, 416 S. Noble St.

Leander Williams, farmer, Camby.

Richard D. Rutherford, vice president and general manager of the John Deere Plow Company, 3324 Central Ave.

Charles Eck, farmer, Perry township.

Henry Reinitz, restaurant proprietor, 240 E. Twelfth St.

Richard H. Habbe, insurance agent, 4348 Central Ave.

Alvey Jay, proprietor of general store, Wayne township.

FIRE WHICH TOOK SIX LIVES PROBED

Overheated Stove Theory Believed Disproved.

Further investigation of a fire at the home of Percy Stoval, colored, 832 W. Eleventh St., where Stoval's wife and five children were burned to death early Monday, was carried on today by Battalion Chief Fisk and Fire Chief O'Brien.

Fisk said it had been rumored that Stoval said a stove in the kitchen which Fisk at first believed became overheated, was not burning.

Fisk said he would question Stoval. The victims died when fire swept through the room as Mrs. Stoval prepared to hand the children out of a window to her husband, on the porch roof.

BUREAU FUND \$17,600

Chamber of Commerce Convention Campaign Nears End.

A total of \$17,600 has been subscribed to the Chamber of Commerce convention bureau, Frank Wampler, chairman of the fund committee announced. Final meeting of the campaign drive to raise \$25,000 will be held next Monday.

William A. Atkins, chairman of the hotel group committee, reported \$8,650 at a meeting of the convention committee at the Chamber Monday. John B. Dubuc, chairman of the motor traffic group, reported \$600. Merchants Association has pledged \$5,000.

Merger Contract Approved

Thomas S. McMurray, State insurance commissioner, has approved a contract for sale of the Century Life Insurance Company to the People's Life Insurance Company with combined assets of more than \$3,500,000 and total insurance amounting to \$36,000,000.

How to Figure Up Your Bonus

Ascertain number of days in service between April 5, 1917, and July 1, 1919.

After subtracting the first sixty days, compute adjusted service credit by figuring \$1 for each day of home service and \$1.25 for foreign.

The amount reached is limited, however, to a maximum of \$500 for those having no foreign service and to \$625 for other.

If the credit is less than \$50, an immediate cash payment may be applied for.

Otherwise, add to the credit 25 per cent of it and multiply the result by 2.25. The answer will be, roughly, the amount of the endowment insurance which will be paid at the end of twenty years or to beneficiaries in event of death.

HOUSE-PASSES BONUS BILL WITH INSURANCE CLAUSE

Twenty-Year Endowment Policy Provided for Compensation Over \$50.

By United Press
WASHINGTON, March 18.—The House today passed the soldiers' bonus bill. The measure is radically different from the bill President Harding vetoed. Its principal provision is a twenty-year endowment insurance, which will be issued to all ex-service men except those whose compensation is \$50 or less. These will be entitled to cash.

The vote was 355 to 54, an overwhelming victory for the bonus advocates.

Milligan, Missouri, called the bill a "gold brick" and a "direct insult to ex-service men." Stengle, New York, told the House "they've only asked you for a square deal and you are giving them insurance."

STATE LEADS RECRUITING

Columbus (Ohio) District Second in 5th Army Corps Area.

Sergt. Harlie C. Sylvester, in charge of the Army recruiting station, today received word from Adj. Gen. Robert C. Davis of Washington, D. C., commending Sergt. Frank Raines of Evansville, Ind., for the number of enlistments made during the past year.

Sergeant Raines, who has charge of recruiting stations at Evansville and Terre Haute, Ind., has made a record of 116 enlistments. Indiana district is leading in enlistments in the 5th Corps area, Sylvester said. Columbus (Ohio) district ranks second.

BEVERIDGE IS HONORED

Ex-Senator Unable to Accept Place on Elliott Birthday Committee.

Albert J. Beveridge has been advised of his appointment to the honorary committee for the celebration of the nineteenth birthday of Dr. Charles W. Elliott, president emeritus of Harvard University, at Cambridge, Mass., Thursday.

He will be unable to accept, he said, because of his appearance before the Florida State Bar Association at Tampa, Fla., Saturday.

Federal Offices Closed

Respect Is Shown For Late Judge Francis E. Baker.

Federal offices were closed at noon today in respect for Judge Francis E. Baker, who was buried this afternoon at Goshen, Ind.

Judge Baker was on the bench of the Circuit Court of Appeals in the district in which Indiana is located.

DEFENSE LOST FIRST SKIRMISH

In Trial of Indiana's Chief Executive.

The defense in the case of the State of Indiana against Governor Warren T. McCray, on trial in Criminal Court before Special Harry O. Chamberlin, passed the jury over to the prosecution at 11:20 a. m. today.

Eph Inman, special assistant prosecutor, immediately began to question the jurors, starting with Harry L. Rypp, who occupied seat No. 1 in the box.

The defense lost its first legal skirmish of the trial after a hard fight and was forced to use the first of its ten peremptory challenges to get rid of Walter P. Henderson, steam fitter, 416 S. Noble St., who had occupied seat No. 1 since the trial opened Monday morning.

Henderson had said, in answer to questions by Michael A. Ryan, one of McCray's attorneys, that he was a stockholder in the People's State Bank, that he had known Felix T. McWhirter, president of the bank for twenty-five years and that he would give his testimony credit over that of some one he did not know.

Ryan challenged Henderson for cause on the ground that McWhirter would be a witness and that Henderson was disqualified because of this fact.

After considerable argument by attorneys on both sides, Judge Chamberlin ruled that this was not grounds for challenge for cause. Shortly after recess, Ryan used his first peremptory challenge on Henderson.

Worley Has Subpenas

During the discussion, an argument developed as to who held the subpoenas issued by the State Clarence Clegg, bailiff, when asked for them by McCray's attorneys, said that Clarence Nichols special prosecutor, held them. Nichols denied this and finally it developed that they were in the possession of Claude H. Worley, Criminal Court investigator.

Judge Chamberlin finally brought the discussion to an end by saying that the question properly before the court was whether Henderson was qualified to sit on the jury, and not whether McWhirter had been subpoenaed as a witness.

Three jurors were removed for cause, on challenges by the defense. E. W. Eliekhoff, Franklin Township, farmer, said that he had formed an opinion. His place in the jury box was taken by Cecil Ramsey, 325 N. (Continued on Page 11)

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WAS IT A DREAM?



MISS ALIAS

By DOUGLAS GRANT
A new serial which begins Thursday on the Story Page
In The Times.