

M. R. FIXIT will help you with your problems at the City Hall. His column appears on the editorial page daily.

FAIR tonight and Tuesday; rising temperature predicted for Tuesday.

## Time for Action

Indianapolis Must Shake Off the Political System That Has Made Possible the Duvall Fiasco.

IF there ever was a time when the people of Indianapolis should do some straight thinking about their city government it is now.

Less than two weeks ago John L. Duvall was elected mayor of Indianapolis by a plurality of about 8,000. He must have had the confidence of a majority of the people who took the trouble to vote or he would not have been elected.

Today that same John L. Duvall has completely lost the confidence of the people of Indianapolis. If an election were scheduled for tomorrow he would be almost the last man in Indianapolis who could succeed in being chosen mayor.

Everyone, with the exception of a few politicians, will agree with that statement.

The reason for the failure of John L. Duvall to retain the confidence of the people, the reason why his administration already is so obviously going to be unsuccessful can be summed up in one word:

## POLITICS.

BEFORE all the returns had been counted on election night, John L. Duvall fled from Indianapolis, taking every possible precaution to keep his destination secret.

Why should a man secretly depart in the night from a city that had just accorded him the highest honor it could give?

## POLITICS.

From his hiding place in another State, John L. Duvall made public the names of the men who will comprise his official family.

The appointments startled the voters of Indianapolis—and it takes a great deal to startle the voters of this city, because they have quietly taken so much punishment from politicians that they are hardened.

JOHN L. DUVALL made his appointments. In a few cases he appointed men well qualified for their jobs. In many cases he appointed men with no qualifications. In some cases he made appointments to fill vacancies that do not exist. In others he made appointments that can not legally be made by the mayor.

## Then he began shifting.

He appointed Orin Davis, head of a horse thief detective association, as a member of the board of safety. Then he removed Davis and appointed another man.

He appointed Charles J. Orbison, the eminent Democratic Klansman who, as prohibition administrator for Indiana, distributed liquor to his friends with a lavish hand, as corporation counsel. Then he removed Orbison and appointed Alvah J. Rucker, whose principal qualifications include a deep base voice and a friendship for George V. Coffin.

OBVIOUSLY, John L. Duvall is in a desperate situation. He is not certain who will comprise his official family. He can not make appointments on a basis of qualifications and efficiency. He must make appointments and then change them. Why?

## POLITICS.

John L. Duvall wanted to be mayor of Indianapolis. In order to become mayor, it was necessary for him to put himself under obligations to many people.

He is now trying to fulfill those obligations. It is a humanly impossible task.

John L. Duvall put himself under obligations to the Ku-Klux Klan. He put himself under obligations to George V. Coffin. He put himself under obligations to William H. Armitage, who swung the negro precincts.

These people are demanding that those obligations be met. They have whetted their knives and are cutting out the pound of flesh.

Members of the Klan are denouncing Duvall because he did not give the Klan all of his appointments.

Friends of Coffin and Armitage are denouncing him because he did not give them more appointments.

And the people of Indianapolis have lost confidence in him because he so obviously is not his own master.

JOHN L. DUVALL is more to be pitied than censured. He is a victim of a system. He is the victim of a system that is vicious—a political system that is robbing the people of Indianapolis of the right to govern themselves, to be served by the men they employ as public servants.

The present state of affairs is not entirely new. The situation simply is a little more pronounced.

Some such condition undoubtedly would have existed if another man had been elected mayor.

There is only one way to do away with such a tragically ridiculous state of affairs as prevails in Indianapolis today.

The way out is to follow the lead of hundreds of American cities, big and little, which have done away with political government.

The way out lies in the adoption of the business-like city manager form of government.

The time is ripe for the people of Indianapolis to rise up and overthrow the system that is doing incalculable damage to their city.

It will do no good to sit by and complain about our miserable state of affairs. WE MUST ACT.

## MURDERER IS HANGED

Iowa Robber-Slayer Pays for Crime on Gallows.

By United Press  
FT. MADISON, Iowa, Nov. 16.—Garlan "Gabe" Simons, 34, was hanged here today for the murder of Orton Ferguson of Atlanta, Mich., at West Liberty, Iowa tourist park July 12, 1924. Ferguson was beaten to death with an iron pipe and robbed of a few dollars.

## FIREMAN IS SUSPENDED

Deputy Sheriffs Say George Kamm Was Found Drunk in Auto.

George Kamm, 1445 Union St., a city fireman, was ordered suspended from duty today by Fire Chief John J. O'Brien after Kamm was arrested Sunday night by deputy sheriffs on charge of drunkenness. They said Kamm was drunk in an automobile parked on a side road near Beech Grove.

## JUDGE MILLER TO SPEAK

Judge Sidney S. Miller of Superior Court Three will address the Junior Chamber of Commerce at weekly luncheon Wednesday on "Humorous Incidents in the Court Room."

## HOURLY TEMPERATURE

6 a. m.	32	10 a. m.	32
7 a. m.	32	11 a. m.	32
8 a. m.	31	12 noon	32
9 a. m.	32	1 p. m.	32

## STEPHENSON IS SENTENCED

## COFFIN IS SLATED TO PICK MEN

New City Court Appointments Will Be Dictated, Politicians Say.

## JACKSON DELAYS CHOICE

Announcement in Few Days, States Governor.

George V. Coffin, Republican city chairman, will name all four judges of municipal court, who take office Jan. 1, in the opinion of the politicians today.

Governor Jackson, who makes the appointments, announced last week he would name his selections today. This morning, however, he said, the appointments would not be made for several days.

Politicians said Jackson delayed the appointments pending return of Coffin, who had been out of the city. Coffin returned today.

Insiders say Judge Dan V. White is certain to retain his judgeship and the other Republican will be James E. McDonald, a Coffin adherent.

The two Democratic members are to be Edward W. Felt, and Fred McCallister, according to dopesters. Felt would be a personal appointee of Jackson. It is said while McDonald is a friend of Coffin, Walter Pritchard, former city judge, and Judge Delbert O. Wilmett, who have been mentioned do not seek office, it is said.

Other possibilities mentioned by the politicians were Paul C. Wetter and Don Roberts, Republicans, and John Garvin, Democrat.

## ELKS CLUB PADLOCKED

Grill Room and Bar Closed Up By U. S. In New York.

By United Press  
NEW YORK, Nov. 16.—The New York Elks Club consented today to accept a "prohibition padlock" on its grill room and bar, following charges that beer of more than legal potency was delivered there. The club at first fought attempts to padlock the place but after United States District Attorney Buckner demanded the club's books, it was agreed to accept the padlock in steady.

## OLD TOLL EXCEEDED

Cook County Auto Fatalities Higher Than Last Year.

By United Press  
CHICAGO, Nov. 16.—Automobile fatalities for Chicago and the rest of Cook County today stood at 686, compared with a total of 684 for the entire year of 1924. Four deaths occurred in the last twenty-four hours. Officials estimate the death toll for 1925 will be around 750.

## MARSHAL HEARD IN WOLFE TRIAL

State Plays Trump in Hance Murder Case.

By United Press  
INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 16.—The State expected to produce its "trump card" in the trial of Charles "One Arm" Wolfe here today when Marshal David Boehr of Middletown, was called to the stand.

It was Boehr who first reached Ben Hance, as the latter lay dying in a cornfield south of here from gunshot wounds, alleged to have been inflicted by Wolfe and his pal, George (Dutch) Anderson.

Boehr will tell the jurors that Hance, in his last words, named Wolfe and Anderson.

## COFFIN BACK AFTER HUNT

Quail and Rabbits, Not Duvall, His Quarry.

George V. Coffin, Republican city chairman, has been hunting, but not for John L. Duvall, mayor-elect, he said on his arrival at headquarters in the K. of P. Bldg. today.

"I'm satisfied," he commented on the trend of Duvall's appointments to municipal positions, which have favored his faction during the past few days.

Coffin said he has been at his cottage at Lake Webster for the past week, where he hunted quail, coons and rabbits. He brought back a live coon.

## MOTHER OF FOUR ENDS LIFE

By Times Special  
PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Nov. 16.—Despondent because of ill health, Mrs. William Baumgardner, 45, mother of four children of school age and a son of mature years, committed suicide at her home by drinking poison.

## MRS. LANSDOWNE TESTIFIES



Mrs. Zachary Lansdowne, widow of the Shenandoah commander, appeared as a witness for Colonel Mitchell at his court-martial and testified she had been approached by naval officers seeking to influence her testimony before the Shenandoah inquiry board.

## Phone Hearing Under Way

## LILLY COMPANY MAKES \$18,000 GIFT TO FUND

Total of Campaign Reaches \$582,064—Drive Ends Friday.

With only four more days to continue, total contributions to the Community Fund campaign reached \$582,064.78, with reports at a luncheon of workers at noon today at the Claypool. Donations over the week-end were given as \$75,590.32.

The drive will end at noon Friday. A contribution of \$18,000, the largest of the campaign, from Ell Lilly & Co., was reported. The goal is \$650,000.

The Lilly contribution was included in a report made by Dick Miller, special gifts division chairman, who added \$22,500 to the fund total of more than \$500,000. Other gifts reported by Miller of \$100 and more were:

Shields & Hackleman, \$800; Frederick E. Nonkovic, \$200; Taggart Baking Company, \$250; W. L. Taggart, \$300; Kirschbaum Realty Company, \$600; Bernard W. Kirschbaum, \$100; Arthur Jordan, \$100; Fred C. Dickson, \$1200; Severin Hotel, \$300.

## PLAZA BOARD TO GET BIDS

War Memorial Trustees Will Meet Tuesday.

The Indiana World War Memorial Plaza Board was to meet Tuesday to receive bids on the foundation for the central building of the Plaza.

The bids will be received provided plans are approved by Dr. W. K. Hatt of the Purdue School of Civil Engineering, appointed to supervise the Plaza construction. Original foundation plans, drawn by Walker & Weeks of Cleveland, Plaza architects, were instrumental in the revocation of the Indiana engineering license of Harry E. Weeks, partner in the firm.

If the plans are approved, bids are received, and contracts let, the foundation is expected to be laid by spring. The foundation cost has been estimated at \$300,000.

## HARDING'S KIN SAFE

Girl Cousin of Late President in Norfolk After Disappearance.

By United Press  
NORFOLK, Va., Nov. 16.—Isabel Bennett, 15, second cousin of the late President Harding and her chum, Sara Cohen, 19, who disappeared from their New York homes Friday, were in the care of the Travelers' Aid Society here today.

According to the story told society officials, they left New York Friday night, went to Washington, and started to hike to Richmond. They were picked up by motorists along the way and landed here last night.

## SEVERAL FEARED DEAD

Floating Elevator Capizes, Sinking Tug.

By United Press  
PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Nov. 16.—A floating grain elevator, being towed in the Delaware River today, capized, sinking one of the tugs, according to word received here. First reports said it was feared several lives had been lost.

## Future Bell Rates at Stake in Quiz at State-house.

Once more the public and the Indianapolis Bell Telephone Company are at grips in the Statehouse over further telephone rates increases demanded by the corporation, subsidiary of the American Telegraph and Telephone Company, a New York concern.

Taking of testimony to set a valuation on the phone company's property on which future Indiana phone rates will be based opens before the public service commission today, following a year's investigation of the company's property by commission experts.

Increases of from 20 to 30 per cent are demanded on Indianapolis business phones and like increases on all phones in six-three cities in Indiana. Indianapolis business phones were \$4.50 a month in 1918. The company now is getting \$12, and if the increase is given, the price will be \$15.

Attorney General Arthur L. Gilliom, in an opening statement, said he is appearing as representative of the general public.

## Fair Valuation Sought

"Once and for all, let's get at the facts here, and fix a fair valuation as a rate fixing basis which will give this company a fair return, and stop this continual litigation, which has cost the public \$100,000," he said. Gilliom said he thought the Indiana Bell should not expect high rates "because its parent, the New York corporation gets 4 1/2 per cent of gross earnings, and in addition owns nearly all the stock of the Indiana subsidiary, getting the profits there."

Speeches by attorneys representing Evansville, Anderson and other cities, and Taylor Groninger, commission attorney, indicated the fight against higher rates would be made on the basis the public feels it is paying a double charge, and is being fleeced under protection of a Federal Court injunction.

## Anderson Attorney Speaks

"The fourteenth amendment, which forbids confiscation of property, should also work against confiscation of property of a helpless community, powerless to resist these rate increases given time after time to this company and its New York parent," said Oswald Ryan, Anderson, city attorney. "Further unjustified increases will result in unhappy anti-utility feeling, in Anderson at least, where the public is tired of such increases."

Will H. Thompson, company attorney, said the fair basis of finding what the company is worth, as a basis of fixing rates, is the replacement value. This will be a bone of contention, Groninger replied. The "going value" and other intangible assets also will be causes of dispute.

Benjamin Perk, special accountant for the commission, the first to take the stand, said the book costs of the concern from the time of its creation in 1920 to April 30, 1925, was \$34,582,941.97.

The physical property and plants of the concern were placed by Perk at \$34,347,618.61 and the cost of work in progress at \$235,323.46. Gross additions after April 1, 1920, when six concerns were merged into the Bell, were given as costing \$17,344,399.45. The value of the merged properties was placed at \$25,914,971.61.

## BLAZE ROUTS LODGERS

Shoe Store at Gary Burns With \$16,000 Loss.

By United Press  
GARY, Ind., Nov. 16.—Efforts were being made today to determine the origin of the fire which Sunday destroyed the Busy Bee Shoe Store here.

Several hundred lodgers in the Victoria Hotel were driven from their rooms by the blaze. The loss was estimated at \$16,000.

## PAPA TRIED TO DISSUADE KIP, LETTERS SHOW

Rhineland Found Son Living With Negro Before the Marriage.

By United Press  
WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., Nov. 16.—Philip Rhineland, proud descendant of a Huguenot "first family," strove diligently to shatter the romance between his son, Leonard Kip and Alice Jones, dusky daughter of a negro cab man.

This was shown today in letters written by Alice to Leonard in the letters' suit to annul their marriage on the ground that she deceived him as to her color.

Discovered living with Alice at the Marie Antoinette Hotel in New York before they were married, Rhineland was sent by his father to a ranch school near Phoenix, Ariz., it was said, as direct examination of the young aristocrat continued.

In a letter written Nov. 4, 1922, Alice wrote in part:

"For heaven's sake, Len, don't stay out there so long and live such a life for your father. Come home, for I can't wait any longer for you. A young girl can't stay in every night and worry and worry. If you don't return I shall have to go off with some one else. Are you coming back? I want your answer."

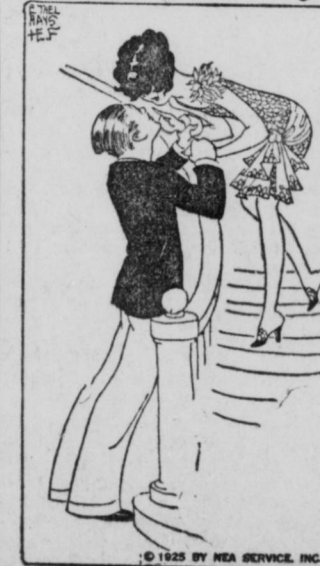
The courtroom buzzed when the next missive was read. It was written in March, 1923, and said in part: "Len, dear, I often feel sorry I did not know you before I knew Al Rose and you would have gotten a pure girl. I know you love me and I couldn't take your promise that you would not bother me at the hotel Marie Antoinette because I knew your love was so strong."

## FOUR DIE IN WRECK

Score Are Hurt When Passenger Crashes Into Freight Train.

By United Press  
RENNVILLE, Minn., Nov. 16.—The Columbian, crack flier of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad, crashed head-on into a freight train here Sunday morning. A check showed four dead and a score of passengers injured, none fatally. Two passengers and five trainmen were taken to a hospital at Montevideo.

## FLAPPER FANNY SAYS



The fellow who pleads for kisses is generally a lucky beggar.

Judge Sparks Imposes Life Term on Ex-Klan Dragon Found Guilty by Jury.

## TWO AIDS SURRENDER SELVES

Klinck and Gentry, Wanted on Arson Charges, Return to Sheriff.

By Times Special  
NOBLESVILLE, Ind., Nov. 16.—D. C. Stephenson, former dragon of the Ku-Klux Klan in Indiana, found guilty by a jury here Saturday of the murder of Miss Madge Oberholtzer, Indianapolis, today was sentenced to life imprisonment in the Indiana State Prison, Michigan City, by Judge Will M. Sparks of Rushville.

Earl Klinck and Earl Gentry, Stephenson's aids found not guilty on the murder charge, surrendered themselves to Sheriff Charles Gooding shortly before noon and were arrested on charges of conspiracy to burn Stephenson's Irvington home last April.

If precedent is followed Stephenson, found guilty of second degree murder, will be taken at once to Michigan City to begin his term.

Judge Sparks arrived here shortly after noon, driving from Rushville, with the Rush County sheriff. Eph. Tuman, chief defense attorney, together with other defense attorneys, arrived here about noon and conferred with Stephenson in the jail for more than half an hour.

Sheriff Gooding refused to say when Stephenson would be taken to prison. The sheriff's mother, Mrs. Amanda Gooding of Fountain County is seriously ill and Sheriff Gooding does not wish to go at this time.

At 1:30 p. m. the defense attorneys appeared in court and Sheriff Gooding went to the jail to bring Stephenson to the court. Judge Sparks told defense attorneys that he would be willing to accept any motions which they wished, that he wanted to be fair.

## Stephenson Cheerful

Stephenson came into court at 1:30. He was smiling and cheerful. Judge Sparks asked him if he had anything to say before he was sentenced. In a voice that quivered with emotion Stephenson said:

"I'm not guilty of murder or any lesser degree of murder, or manslaughter. It has always been my impression that no man should ever be deprived of his liberty without due process of law. I believe it is universal opinion, that this procedure was not in due process of law. Three hundred people out of the three and a half million people in Indiana, with outbursts of applause and hissing, rendered it impossible for the jury to return a fair verdict.

"Time will unfold the cold, white light of truth that D. C. Stephenson is not guilty of murder in any degree, or of any degree of homicide."

With that Stephenson walked back to his cell.

Judge Sparks said that his remarks were a very gentlemanly statement. He said he had not heard any hissing. Floyd Christian, defense attorney, said that during his speech he had been hissed.

No motions were filed by defense attorneys.

Stephenson was escorted back to jail by Sheriff Gooding.

## Flight Expected

A desperate fight to have Judge Sparks release their client on bond during the year or so required by the Supreme Court to pass on the case had been expected.

Ira M. Holmes, Indianapolis, and Floyd J. Christian, Noblesville, members of defense staff, were busy in Noblesville this morning arranging details of the appeal and conferring with the fallen leader.

Klinck and Gentry had been sought by Hamilton and Marion County authorities since they were allowed to leave Noblesville by Sheriff Gooding Saturday night, despite the fact he had warrants for their arrest on the conspiracy charge from Criminal Court at Indianapolis.

Sheriff Omer Hawkins of Indianapolis had hunted the pair over the week-end without success. He was expected here this afternoon to take the prisoners to Indianapolis.

Sheriff Gooding of Noblesville said he let the two get away by a "big mistake." He said he thought they had posted bond with him, but discovered they had not.

Sheriff Hawkins immediately began an investigation, making two trips to Noblesville.

At 5:20 Saturday afternoon the jury filed into the Circuit Court at Noblesville with a verdict, after having got the case at noon. The three defendants had been hastily brought from the jail next door. Stephenson and Gentry were smoking cigars. About 100 spectators were present.

"Gentlemen, have you reached a verdict?" asked Judge Sparks.

"We have, Your Honor," replied Foreman W. A. Johnson, farmer, rising from his seat in chair No. 7.

"Please pass it to the bailiff."

The foreman handed the paper to Bailiff Ingraham Mallory and a deep hush. Stephenson watched intently his teeth set. Not a juror looked toward the defendants. Klinck and Gentry also leaned forward. The only defense attorney present was Christian. Prosecutor William H. Remy of Marion County represented the State. Mallory gave the verdict to the court.

Stephenson Tense  
Unfolding the paper, Judge Sparks adjusted his spectacles and read:

"We, the jury, find the defendant, D. C. Stephenson, guilty of second degree murder, as charged in the first count of the indictment, and assess his punishment as life imprisonment."

"We, the jury, find the defendants, Earl Klinck and Earl Gentry, not guilty."

Stephenson paled, then flushed, but in two seconds resumed the remarkable control he has of his expression, and congratulated his mates. The jury tore out for home, as they have been away from their business from three to five weeks.

Many women spectators crowded up to shake the hand of the prosecutor. Sheriff Charles Gooding escorted Stephenson back to jail, Klinck and Gentry straggling along with him.

At first Stephenson refused to comment, then from the jail he issued the statement:

"In the words of the famous general: 'Surrender, hell, I've just begun to fight.'"

"I don't understand how they let me go and convicted Steve," said Gentry, former Evansville policeman and later a Klan official. "If he was guilty, so was I."

"It's ridiculous," said Klinck, also from Evansville and like Gentry, once a Klan investigator, travelling over the United States.

## Freeing of Aids Puzzles Girl's Parents

Oberholtzer's Can't Realize How Klinck, Gentry Were Let Go.

"We are astounded and have no understanding of how the jury could have freed Klinck and Gentry."

The speaker was Mrs. George Oberholtzer, mother of Madge Oberholtzer, for the murder of whom, D. C. Stephenson, Earl Klinck, and Earl Gentry, were on trial in Noblesville. The verdict in which Stephenson got life imprisonment and Klinck and Gentry were freed of the charge, was returned by a jury, Saturday afternoon.

"The life sentence of Stephenson—well that's all right if it means what it means, but so often such a sentence is but a comparative sentence. Our motive in wanting free in time a menace to society as he is, oh it should not be, that's all."

Wanted 'Chai'

"My wife is right," commented George Oberholtzer, Madge's father. "If the sentence for Stephenson really means for life—He paused a moment and then added emphatically, 'Stephenson should be hanged by the electric chair.'"

"Klinck and Gentry free—that was a great surprise to us but I suppose the sentence was a compromise one, somehow."

Oberholtzer has said a number of times since his only daughter died, the victim of self-administered poison, after alleged mistreatment by Stephenson, "Our motive in wanting these men punished is not simply one of revenge. We feel that their punishment would help to protect other poor girls."

No Criticism

"Judge Sparks was entirely fair and the State lawyers worked mighty hard. We have no criticism, only we can't understand about Klinck and Gentry." Mrs. Oberholtzer said once more. "Of course, no one can understand what all this has meant to us—the terrible hell of suffering we've been through. The worst was when they tried to intimate against our dear girl's character—that was so hard to bear."

"Yes, and every time the defense settled on a date trying to prove their lies, their assertions were shredded. That's why we can't make out about freeing Stephenson's henchmen," and the sad-eyed parents of the dead girl fell into pained meditation.