

Home Edition

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VOLUME 37—NUMBER 202

CITY SCHOOL BODY RULES IN WRANGLE

Attorney for Contractor, Seeking Injunction to Delay Construction, Asserts Architects' Selection Was Illegal.

AMOUNT OF TAXES OF PETITIONER IS ISSUE

Question of Budget Also Brought Out—Charged That Board Is Running Ahead of Schedule— Arguments at 2 p. m.

Rules enacted in 1898 govern the procedure of the Indianapolis school board, it was charged today at a hearing in Superior Court Four on the petition for a temporary injunction against the board to prevent execution of contracts with architects looking toward the erection of six new grade school buildings. Judge Clinton H. Givan presided.

Both sides presented evidence, the school board resting at noon. Arguments were scheduled for 2 p. m.

This allegation of governing rules, made by Thomas Garvin, attorney for Kay K. Wark, building contractor, who filed a petition for the injunction Monday, was contested on the witness stand by Michael Madden, assistant secretary of schools. Madden stated that rules made in 1911 are in force.

Procedure Illegal

It is Wark's contention that procedure of the board in selecting architects for the six schools was illegal under its rules. The action threatens to delay this part of the school program until the three new board members, elected on United Protestant ticket in November, take office Jan. 1.

School board members intimated that one point of their attack upon the petition will be that Wark's tax payment for schools is less than one cent annually.

Wark, who took the stand as the last witness for the plaintiff, said he owned property valued at \$25,000 to \$30,000. Revenue stamps on a transfer deed, made when Wark purchased the property, showed a \$2,000 valuation. On this figure the board wants its 1-cent levy charge.

Another bone of contention was the school budget, Garvin insisting that the proposed schools would be

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SIX BANDITS GET \$60,000

One Guard Shot, Another Clubbed in Robbery.

By United Press
PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 24.—Six bandits today robbed Le Roy Hutton, paymaster of the Pittsburgh Tremont Coal Company of the \$60,000 Christmas pay roll he was carrying after dangerously wounding one guard and clubbing another.

The bandits leaped from their car at Castle Shannon, shot I. L. Gump, 50, in the abdomen, clubbed Francis Mahoney, 23, with a gun butt, snatched two safes containing the money and quickly out-distanced the city and county detectives.

Two years ago at the same place bandits killed a man, and escaped with a huge pay roll.

MAN SHOT TO DEATH

400 Recovered After Killing and Exciting Chase.

By United Press
MILWAUKEE, Dec. 24.—One man was shot to death in an exciting chase after a \$4,000 payroll robbery here at noon today. Two bandits who staged the robbery were captured within a short time and most of the money recovered.

SUICIDE AT POOR HOUSE
By United Press
ANDERSON, Ind., Dec. 24.—Facing a cheerless Christmas, Thomas Knotts, 76, poor house inmate, committed suicide by taking poison.

The Indianapolis Times

COMPLETE WIRE SERVICE OF THE UNITED PRESS

WORLD'S GREATEST EVENING PRESS ASSOCIATION

INDIANAPOLIS, THURSDAY, DEC. 24, 1925

Entered as Second-class Matter at Postoffice, Indianapolis. Published Daily Except Sunday. TWO CENTS

Forecast

Mostly cloudy tonight and Friday with possibly some snow; lowest temperature near freezing; colder by Friday night.

Two Cents

Two Children Are Burned to Death

Doors in Two Homes Are Barred Against Visit of Santa Claus.



Billy Scalf

Like a thief in the night, death today stole into two homes and grimly barred the doors against Santa Claus.

Two children, both 4, were fatally burned at play Wednesday.

At the home of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Scalf, Madison Ave., and Martin St., the burned body of little Billy lay on a couch today.

"Where's Lee?" hissed little Lee, 3, his brother.

Both of the children called themselves Lee. He will not be told his brother is dead.

At the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Duncan, near Traders Point, Lois was dead and her little brothers, Leon, 5, and Edward, 2, too, called for her in vain.

Mother Away

Wednesday, Mrs. Scalf went over to a neighbor's home for a "minute."

She left the two babies near the stove. As she came home she heard the children's screams. She found Billy's clothes in flames.

Little Billy died several hours later. Mrs. Scalf herself was burned about the hands in a futile effort to save the baby's life. Lee was unharmed.

The other day, Billy had found his Christmas toys in a closet and was playing with them.

"No, no," said Mrs. Scalf. "You mustn't. Santa Claus may not come if you play with these."

And little Billy said: "All right, send them back to Santa Claus."

To Grandparents

For Lee's sake, there will be a Christmas, but not in the little home. Instead Lee will get his presents at the home of the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Scalf, 668 Coffey St.

The funeral for Billy will be held Saturday afternoon.

Lois, the other child fatally burned was playing with her brothers and sisters, while the mother was in the barn outside, helping the father milk the cows.

Leon a few minutes later came running to her.

"Mamma. Mamma!" he screamed. Mrs. Duncan ran back to the home and found Lois' clothes afire.

The child died at the Methodist hospital several hours later.

"Lois stuck a paper in the fire," explained Edward. "She's gone away and won't come back any more."

As the children were just recovering from whooping cough, the annual Christmas celebration held by their grandmother, Mrs. Stella Bilbey, of near Danville, Ind., had not been planned. The Duncan's intended to spend the day quietly at home.

Distribution will be made to needy families from automobiles of members.

City firemen were busy distributing hundreds of Christmas baskets to worthy poor, while preparations are under way to give 5,000 children boxes of candy and toys at the municipal party tonight at Cadle Tabernacle.

The program tonight will be a comedy monologue by Buddy Cassidy, Christmas story by the Rev. S. Edward Long, evangelist, and a special number of the American Legion.

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CITY AWAITS ARRIVAL OF ST. NICHOLAS

Thousands of Children Happy as Ideal Weather and Snow Are Assured for Santa's Trip—Poor Not to Be Forgotten.

HUNDREDS OF FAMILIES TO BE GIVEN BASKETS

Special Services Planned by Churches—Clubs and Hotels to Have Special Programs—Party Tonight at Cadle Tabernacle.

Christmas eve tonight—the happiest night of the year, was looked forward to by thousands of Indianapolis children.

Charitable and civic organizations and hundreds of kind-hearted individuals have seen to it that Santa Claus will climb down the chimney and fill stockings of many poor children. Several thousands of baskets of food and clothing and coal will be distributed to needy families by various organizations tonight and Friday morning.

Good Day Predicted

With a light blanket of snow already on the ground, J. H. Armstrong, meteorologist, predicted a good day for the visit of St. Nicholas and his reindeers. Temperature should be about freezing, with skies cloudy and a possibility of some snow. Friday night is expected to be colder, with the temperature dropping to 20 or 25 degrees. A little of the snow may melt today, it was said.

Temperature at 7 a. m. was 30, about 2 degrees above normal.

The holiday will be generally observed in the city and over Indiana. Only a few public servants "with the intent of discriminating" present State administration.

4. Menacing the public health of Indiana and refusing to resign when request was made.

Out Again, Girl Goes in Again

VISIONS of spending Christmas day home faded today for Miss Rathmer, 23, of 453½ E. Washington St., when she was released from the Indiana Woman's Prison after serving a sentence of fourteen days on previous charges. Detectives Ruggenstein and Landers, were waiting outside the gates with a warrant for her arrest on petit larceny charges.

Dec. 10 she was fined \$5 and costs on grand larceny charges and \$5 and costs on a statutory charge. She was unable to pay the fines and was sent to the prison.

The warrant for her release alleges that she stole an umbrella, dress and coat from Fred McCool, 528 E. Washington St.

JACKSON ASKED TO OUST KEENE IN KING FIGHT

Attorney for Health Board Secretary Presents Taxpayer's Petition.

Removal of Dr. T. Victor Keene of Indianapolis, a member of the State board of health, was asked today by Clarence B. Joseph, a local taxpayer, in a petition filed with Governor Jackson, chairman of the committee charged with appointment of health board members.

Joseph's complaint was presented by Ira Chase Koehne, attorney for Dr. William F. King, health board secretary. King has been the subject of an attack by members of the board. He and his friends charged Dr. Keene with championing the move to unseat King as secretary.

The Charges

In the complaint, Keene is charged with:

1. Leading a faction of the health board whose intent it is to further animosities and impede the board in its efforts to further the public health cause.

2. Causing the board to postpone action on the Washington, Ind., water situation, to the detriment of citizens of that city.

3. Causing "false and groundless" charges to be filed against King "with the intent of discriminating" present State administration.

4. Menacing the public health of Indiana and refusing to resign when request was made.

Ego Exaggerated

He is so full of personal animosities and of the exaggerated ego as to render himself totally unfit to continue in office," the complaint alleged.

Neither Dr. King nor Dr. Keene would comment on the charge today. Early this week Judge Zimri E. Douglass, of the Hendricks Circuit Court, ruled at the health board members might try Dr. King on charges of insubordination.

HOURLY TEMPERATURE

6 a. m. 30 10 a. m. 30
7 a. m. 30 11 a. m. 31
8 a. m. 29 12 (noon) 32
9 a. m. 29 1 p. m. 33

Religious services are planned by many churches. Gayety will prevail at clubs and hotels which arranged Christmas programs, while many will spend a quiet evening and Christmas day at home with relatives.

Little Billy died several hours later. Mrs. Scalf herself was burned about the hands in a futile effort to save the baby's life. Lee was unharmed.

The other day, Billy had found his Christmas toys in a closet and was playing with them.

"No, no," said Mrs. Scalf. "You mustn't. Santa Claus may not come if you play with these."

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