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# The Indianapolis Times

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WORLD'S GREATEST EVENING PRESS ASSOCIATION

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TWO CENTS

## Forecast

AIR and slightly warmer tonight and Friday; lowest temperature tonight about 25.

# FORMER STATE GUARD HEAD INDICTED

## CAUTION URGED BY BANKER FOR 1926 BUSINESS

Landon, Financier, Sees Prosperity in Coming Year.

## HITS INSTALLMENT PLAN

Warning Against Enthusiasm Is Given.

By Hugh McK. Landon ice president and chairman of the executive committee of the Fletcher Savings and Trust Company.

A year ago the statement was made in this review that we were "entering 1925 with business distinctly on the upgrade." The business curve on the chart of the Harvard Economic Service shows that business has continued throughout the year on a uniformly high level.

This line is, of course, a composite of conditions generally. Its height has undoubtedly been due to the abnormal prosperity prevailing in two of the great industries of the country, building and automobiles. Their prosperity, however, has been inevitably spread to many other lines of industry. So while prosperity has been somewhat unevenly distributed it has nevertheless been no obvious as to need no emphasis. One need only glance over the record of corporate dividend declarations, with its long list of extra disbursements at the close of the year, to have the whole story in a nutshell.

### The Future

The interesting inquiry is as to the future. The general expression of business leaders is one of pronounced optimism. And it may be admitted that in the long view the future of the United States will probably surpass the visions of the most visionary. But nevertheless there is a period of in progress, in business as in all other things, and as long as manufacturers are required to estimate markets alternating periods of prosperity and depression are certain to continue. When everything looks prosperous and everyone seems cheerful, one naturally wonders, "Is the tide near the flood?" If so, the ebb is due before long.

It is an unquestioned tendency of the American people to become victims of their own enthusiasms and to over discount the development of their inexhaustible resources by borrowing too heavily from the future. A current instance of this is seen in the real estate speculation which has been humming so merrily in many sections, and on top of that, in the speculative building which is becoming so widespread. One has only to travel in any direction to become convinced that much of the building construction which has been such a factor in the prosperity of the past year is highly speculative in character.

The significance of this becomes additionally impressive when one considers the enormous sums involved. A project calling for an expenditure of eighteen or twenty millions is no longer staggering. Indeed there is under consideration one project in the city of New York where the expenditure of \$100,000,000 is seriously discussed.

There never has been a time in history when the conversion of liquid capital into fixed form on a large scale has not been followed by serious business depression. The great loaning agencies in New York, insurance and trust companies, have joined in a warning that funds for the grand scale apartment house, and office buildings will be shut off; they state that in these respects the metropolitan district is already overbuilt, that vacant space is plentiful, and that the near future holds a long, tedious downward trend of rents.

### Article Quoted

On this subject the annualist of Dec. 18, said: "The most critical question before business is what is going to happen to building in the next few months. If construction can be curtailed to the degree of expansion that the public and investors can safely carry, the transition to the inevitable lower pitch of activity may be of that gradual sort which can be called 'normal' in the sense of 'healthful.' If on the contrary the extreme readiness of the public to invest in securities of every sort is abused, certain parts, at least, of the inflated building activity will collapse suddenly, cutting off employment, purchasing power, and mercantile profits on a considerable scale, and reducing production in a wide area of supplying industries. (Turn to Page 15)

## Remy Names Times Reporter Aid



John L. Niblack

Reorganization of the personnel of his office, effective Jan. 1, was announced today by Prosecutor William H. Remy, following the resignation of Claude M. Worley, special investigator, to become inspector of police.

John L. Niblack, 26, of 22 W. Sixteenth St., was appointed deputy prosecutor in the capacity of general assistant. City Detectives Jesse McMurtie and Harry McClellan take Worley's place as investigators. The two detectives have assisted Remy much in the past year, especially on the Stephenson and Shaw cases.

Niblack is a graduate of Indiana University and the Benjamin Harrison Law School. He is a reporter on The Indianapolis Times. He is a member of the Irvington Masonic Lodge, the Central Ave. Methodist Church and the John H. Holiday Post of the American Legion.

## HEALTH BOARD WILL TALK IT OVER MONDAY

### Dr. King Case Expected to Be Discussed at Special Meeting.

Insurgent members of the State board of health have called a special board meeting for next Monday for the purpose of ousting Dr. William F. King, secretary, whom they have been charging with various misdemeanors.

Notice of the meeting was received today by Dr. King. The name of Dr. John H. Green, North Vernon board president, did not appear on the notice. Signers were Dr. T. Victor Keene, Indianapolis, leader of the anti-King faction; Dr. Homer C. Haas, Peru, and Dr. James A. Turner, Nashville.

Purpose of the meeting, as stated in the letter is "to transact such business as may be brought before (Turn to Page 11)

## SAID COFFIN WILL RESIGN

### Probably Will Be Succeeded by George Snider.

George V. Coffin, Republican city chairman, will resign early in 1926 and be succeeded by George Snider, who will forego his ambition to be county treasurer, it was reported in political circles today.

The move, it is explained, is to be effected to enable a drive for Coffin as State chairman to get under way unimpeded by disappointed members of his organization.

The issue between Klan and Coffin is keen today, for Klansmen will demand retention of Edward Rochat as street commissioner. He was appointed by Shank Wednesday. The Coffin men will go to bat for George Woodward, whom Mayor Elect John L. Duvall appointed.

Appointment of Walter Monroe, veteran sewers expert, as assistant street commissioner was expected.

Councilmen-elect are said to have caucused until an early hour today and it is said will meet Duvall this afternoon's conference.

## LAD KILLS COUSIN IN SCARE ATTEMPT

### Picks Up Gun He Thought Unloaded and Points It at Girl—Child's Head Blown Off.

Three were hurt early today when two autos collided at Oliver Ave. and White River bridge. Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Abel, 906 Harlan St., and James Wells, 847 River Ave., in one car were sent to the city hospital. The driver of the other fled.

## THREE HURT IN CRASH

Driver of One Car Flees After Collision on Bridge.

Three were hurt early today when two autos collided at Oliver Ave. and White River bridge. Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Abel, 906 Harlan St., and James Wells, 847 River Ave., in one car were sent to the city hospital. The driver of the other fled.

## BOOK QUILTS AS SCHOOL BOARD BUSINESS HEAD

### Resigns Saying New Body Known to Be Opposed to Building Program.

## TELLS OF CONFERENCE

### Meeting Held in Office of Heating Manufacturer.

William H. Book, business director of the Indianapolis school board, resigned today at a special meeting of the board.

Following the meeting Book made a statement in which he said it was apparent that the new school board members who take office Friday, are not in favor of the school board's building program and that they were known to be instrumental in blocking it.

The board accepted Book's resignation and granted him a leave of absence until Feb. 1. George Keiser, assistant business director, was appointed acting business director.

### Tells of Meeting

Book said he gained an understanding of the policies of the new board at a meeting to which he was invited by two members of the board. He said he was called to the meeting "so that they might learn from me my attitude toward school affairs."

"That meeting arranged by these two board members was held in the office of Clarence C. Shipp, manufacturer of heating and ventilating devices, at times, in the past, so persistently used in Indianapolis schools," Book said.

"Two of the members of the new board and Shipp were present. I then stated to the new board members that I felt I would be available for continued service to the school city, as loyalty as I have worked for it in the past. I did not say why it was necessary to explain my attitude to Shipp.

"The persons present were apparently not satisfied with that. Mr. Shipp, himself, brought up for discussion, the question of architects for the new grade school buildings, which the present board had just selected. Through Shipp and the (Turn to Page 11)

## HOLIDAY BOOZE TAKEN

### Liquor Valued at \$1,500 Confiscated in Raid on Empty House.

Lieutenant Cliff Richter today believes he had contributed to the dry New Year's Eve.

Liquor, valued at \$1,500 was found in a vacant house at 876 Darnell St., owned by Harlan Gray, 23, Negro. Gray was slated on a blind tiger charge.

## SERVICES ARE ARRANGED

### Baker Takes Life With Gun—Had Been in Ill Health.

Funeral services for Henry Kraus, 57, of 309 Parkway Ave., who shot and killed himself Wednesday were being arranged today.

Kraus, who had been in ill health for several months, was preparing to go to work as a baker at the National Biscuit Company, when his daughter, Mrs. Emma Lambert heard a shot from his bedroom. Mrs. Lambert found her father crouched in a corner with the muzzle of a shot gun in his mouth.

The widow and nine children survive.

## BOWMAN ASKS CHANGE

### Says Commissioners Can't Give Bus. Petitions Fair Chance.

Expressing himself as of the belief that Clyde H. Jones, public service commission member, cannot give him fair consideration when three petitions of the People's Motor Coach Company are to be heard Jan. 11. A. Smith Bowman, company president, today asked the commission to assign the case to another commissioner.

Bowman, accompanied by James W. Noel and Robert D. Armstrong, attorneys, took the matter up this morning with John W. McCordle, chairman of the commission. Jones offered no objection. The matter was to be considered at this afternoon's conference.

## Here's First 1926 News Story

By United Press

CHRIST CHURCH, New Zealand, Jan. 1, 1926.—The first place in the world to celebrate New Year's day was Chatham Island, about 450 miles east of New Zealand.

There, a small colony of Britishers watched the old year out and the new year in at midnight, which corresponds to 7 a.m. New York time, (Dec. 31).

## GAY, BUT DRY, NEW YEAR'S EVE, IS WORD

### Federal and City Officers Plan to Keep Close Watch for Booze.

Indianapolis will celebrate a gay, but dry New Year's Eve tonight, according to Ansel R. Harris, deputy Federal prohibition administrator for Indiana, and Capt. William Paulsel, in charge of police booze squad.

Men will be assigned to clubs, dance halls, and hotels.

Reservations at hotels and clubs have been made for several weeks. Many planned attending shows early in the evening and later going to hotels, clubs and resorts for dancing late into the morning, while others arranged private parties at home. Programs at several parties will include breakfast.

### Dry Agents Confer

Practically all dry agents in Indiana held a conference Wednesday at the Federal Bldg. to plan "keeping the State dry on New Year's Eve."

Harris said agents brought here for the city's biggest liquor raid on Tuesday will remain in town until after Jan. 1. More than twenty agents are in the city.

Special attention will be given Indianapolis, and persons seen drinking will be arrested and prosecuted immediately. Padlock proceedings will be instituted against any places where general drinking is evident, Harris said. Agents will mingle with the guests.

"We are going to have a dry New Year's and a dry year as well," Harris said.

The persons present were apparently not satisfied with that. Mr. Shipp, himself, brought up for discussion, the question of architects for the new grade school buildings, which the present board had just selected. Through Shipp and the (Turn to Page 11)

### Twelve-Hour Shift

Captain Paulsel said that his men will work on a twelve-hour shift in an attempt to keep the city dry as the old year goes out and the new year is ushered in.

"We are going to have men keep a close watch in clubrooms, barbeque stands, and dance pavilions. All persons found with any amount of liquor in their possession will be ridden to headquarters and slated on a blind tiger charge," Paulsel said.

Sheriff Omer Hawkins said he would have his full force of deputies at work and will join forces with Federal and city authorities in trying to make Indianapolis a "second Sahara" during the New Year's celebration.

### Assault Lures Boy With Movie Talk, Ties Him Up in Basement—Woman Escapes, Calls Help.

Binding and gagging her young son in the basement through a ruse, a Negro today attempted to attack Mrs. Thomas Speak, 35, of 3439 Euclid Ave.

Last spring, Mrs. Speak had a concrete floor laid in her basement. Today the Negro, a member of the



Harry B. Smith

## SON BOUND, MOTHER IS SEIZED BY MAN

### Assailant Lures Boy With Movie Talk, Ties Him Up in Basement—Woman Escapes, Calls Help.

Binding and gagging her young son in the basement through a ruse, a Negro today attempted to attack Mrs. Thomas Speak, 35, of 3439 Euclid Ave.

Last spring, Mrs. Speak had a concrete floor laid in her basement. Today the Negro, a member of the

gang that did the work, came to inspect it." Mrs. Speak let him go to the basement. Louis, 14, her son, went with him.

"The contractor will be here later," said the Negro. Waiting, he and the boy began to talk about movies.

The Negro told the boy he'd show him how the hero tied the villain up. The lad consented. He got loose and tied the Negro up. Then the Negro tied him up again. This time, the lad could not get loose. The Negro ran upstairs and asked Mrs. Speak for a drink of water. As she handed it to him, he grabbed her.

She escaped and ran screaming outdoors.

Willard and Charles Bray, 3468 Euclid Blvd., and C. L. Smith, 729 Chester Ave., contractors working on nearby houses, chased the Negro for more than a mile.

His arrest is expected.

Mrs. Lueretta Craig, 3732 N. Illinois St., reported to police that she was attacked by a Negro at Twenty-Fifth St. and Boulevard Pl. early today. She said he ran when she screamed.

### MURDERS ARE CHARGED

### Grand Jury Indicts Two Alleged Slayers; 35 Others Accused.

Marietta County grand jury, in its term-end report today, indicted two men on first-degree murder charges.

They are Edgar Morris, alleged to have fatally shot William Paty, and Michael Hayes, 1226 English Ave., alleged to have killed George Draynes, 619 E. Pratt St., with a club.

Leonard Martin was charged with failure to stop after an accident. Thirty-four others were indicted. They will be arraigned before Criminal Judge James A. Collins Monday morning, with sixth others. Persons arrested in Federal liquor raids Tuesday will be arraigned Tuesday.

### TWO ARE REARRESTED

### Alleged Speeders Taken After They Failed to Appear in Court.

Two alleged speeders, arrested several days ago and who failed to appear in city court for trial were rearrested early today and sent to city prison. They were forced to produce bond. They gave their names as George Weed, 26, of 1226 Edgemont Ave., and Leo Murphy, 24, of 2201 N. Alabama St.

Others charged with speeding were: Charles Chesebrough, 32, of 230 N. Pershing Ave.; H. W. Giff, 27, of 1901 S. Armstrong St., and E. Z. Ellis, 29, of 1134 Blaine Ave.

### NO ACTION ON CHURCHES

### Commissioners Fail to Act on Plaza Purchase.

Arrested on complaint of the Better Business Bureau, Henry Gulling, 23, B. H. Cherry, 52, Alex McMullen, 23, and William Cherry, 30, house-to-house soap peddlers, today were charged with obtaining money under false pretenses. Soap they said was oil soap turned out to have lye in it, the bureau contended.

### POOLROOM IS RAIDED

### Proprietor and Six Men Held on Gambling Charges.