

GIRL ABDUCTED, ATTACKED BY MEN IN TAXI

LEGISLATURE MAY SET RECORD FOR REPEALING LAWS

Reforms of the Past Under Fire—Move to Undo Some Measures.

If present predictions are fulfilled, the 1927 session of the Indiana Legislature, which convenes Jan. 4, may go down in Hoosier political annals as a record in proposing, and perhaps passing, laws to repeal laws.

The "too much law and too much government" war cry has been rising in pitch and volume and it is likely to be reflected when the legislative body convenes.

Touted reforms of the past are being condemned and efforts will be forthcoming to undo the measures. The list is a long one and each repeal will have the backing of popular opinion to a greater or less degree.

Commission Target

Outstanding among them may be the attempt to abolish the public service commission by repeal of the Shively-Spencer act. This move has considerable backing among citizens in the State and large and increasing popularity in Indianapolis because of the United States Supreme Court's decision upholding the water rates and the fight against the electric utilities merger.

Abolition or curtailment of the functions of the State tax board is another measure that is gaining local popularity due to the tax board's reduction of Indianapolis school tax rate.

Oil inspectors' jobs, under the State health board, may also be doomed, although they have passed safely through several sessions where there was considerable opposition.

The direct primary is another "reform" that has its enemies and may be the target of a legislative shaft. Senator Rollin H. Hill is studying the advisability of making it a matter of "local option."

Absent voter legislation will be attacked in the annual address of the Governor. It is reported. The Governor is not expected to touch on the direct primary fight.

Dry Law Issue

Attempt may be made to combine the offices of clerk and reporter of the Supreme Court and also to have the reporter publish advance sheets, containing the opinions as handed down from time to time. This publication is at present lodged with the West Publishing Company, St. Paul, Minn.

While on the subject of publication it is expected that Senator John S. Aldridge may be heard with his bill for the State publication of school books.

Senator C. Oliver Holmes, Gary, is still interested in eugenic measures. Then there is the matter of modification of the Wright bone-dry law to permit doctors to issue whiskey when they deem it necessary. The Indiana Anti-Saloon League does not favor this measure.

Rumblings have been heard against the State pardon board, and it, too, may develop its quota of abolitionists.

Charles Ringling of Circus Family Dies

SARASOTA, Fla., Dec. 4.—Only one of the original seven Ringling brothers was alive today to perpetuate one of the most famous names in circus history.

Charles, the sixth, died here last night, his death caused by a cerebral hemorrhage induced by a cold contracted while with the circus in Birmingham, Ala.

John Ringling, also of this city, is the sole survivor of the sextet. In addition to his connection with the circus, Charles was president of the Ringling Bank and Trust Company and the Sarasota Chamber of Commerce. He played a prominent part in the development of the Florida east coast.

WILL OPEN P. O. BIDS

Substation Building Leases to Be Received Within Coming Month.

Robert H. Bryson, postmaster, will receive bids on eight or ten-year leases for a building to house a post-office substation in the vicinity of Thirtieth and Clifton Sts., within the next thirty days, it has been announced. The substation will be inaugurated with eight carriers and will include all the regular department.

Gone, but Not Forgotten

Automobiles reported stolen to police belong to:

John Aldridge, 264 Farmers Trust Bldg.; Chevrolet, 401-755, from Washington St. and Capitol Ave.

George M. Carr, 1432 Woodlawn Ave.; Chevrolet, 504-480, from Wash and Delaware Sts.

Gilbert Ryan, 3739 N. Sherman Dr.; Chevrolet, from Market and Delaware Sts.

Paul H. Talbott, 1226 N. Illinois St.; Apt. 7; Ford, from Virginia Ave. and Washington St.

BACK HOME AGAIN

Automobiles reported found by police belong to:

Lincoln, license 650; found at Walnut St. and White River stripped of parts.

Mayme Wilson, 1223 N. Alabama St.; Ford, found at 200 S. Meridian St.

DRUG STORE PURCHASED

Samuel W. Waddy, Noblesville, recently purchased the entire stock of the drug store at 3001 N. Illinois St., owned by James R. Phillips, who has operated the store for twenty-three years. Phillips has retired. The stock is being removed to Noblesville.

Love Death Principals



Clara Olson, (left) whose body was found in a makeshift grave near her farm home in Wisconsin, and Erdman Olson, her missing lover, for whom a murder warrant has been issued.

INJURIES FATAL TO MAN, 65, BOY

Blood on Seats of Auto, Abandoned, Wrecked.

Hugh O'Neil, 65, of 4334 N. Pennsylvania St., died Friday night at the Clark-Blakeslee Hospital, where he was taken Thursday, after being struck by a machine while playing in the street near his home.

R. T. Schoffner, 3455 Kenwood Ave., driver of the car, told police the boy ran in the car's path.

William T. Hart, 65, a farmer living two miles northeast of Brownsburg, died Friday evening at the Long Hospital, where he was taken after his machine was struck by a T. H. I. & E. traction car Friday at Brownsburg.

Police sought occupants of an auto found wrecked and stripped of accessories Friday night at South-east Avenue and Belt Railroad. Blood was found on the seats.

LEAGUE BACKS WOMEN POLICE

Protest Against Elimination Sent to Officials.

Protest against elimination of policewomen was expressed in a letter today to Mayor Duvall, Board of Safety President O. D. Haskett and Police Chief Claude F. Johnson by the Indianapolis League of Women Voters.

Women officers are effective in crime prevention work, the league contends.

"In these departments of work the women seem to be essential, even indispensable, for the public dances and the two districts, including the Interurban and Union Stations, and for the juvenile court," the letter said. "The work of the court would undoubtedly be much hampered by their withdrawal."

"There are eight women covering the two districts with the stations and all of the public dances. Far from approving their dismissal, we believe that the number should be increased."

C. OF C. FOR TAX REFORM

Approve Ten of Eleven Recommendations of National Body.

Directors of the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce favored ten of eleven recommendations of the United States Chamber of Commerce tax reform committee, in a vote taken Friday.

The board voted against a recommendation that taxes upon the transfer of property at the owner's death should be an estate tax, and favored the substitution of an inheritance tax.

DROP SHELTHORN SUIT

Petition Withdrawn in Case of Real Estate Company.

Petition filed in Probate Court two days ago, asking that the R. H. Shelthorn Company, north side real estate and building firm, be placed in hands of a receiver, has been withdrawn, following the Allied Coal and Material Company's announcement that it would join the creditor's committee.

This committee is composed of 30 per cent of the creditors and a creditors' agreement has been drawn up.

H. G. CRAWFORD NAMED

1910 Class Member Heads Ohio State Alumni.

Harry G. Crawford, 2863 N. Pennsylvania St., of the 1910 class of Ohio State University, was chosen president of the local Ohio Alumni Association Friday night at the Lincoln.

Other officers elected: Thomas K. Lewis, 341 Massachusetts Ave., vice president and E. N. Hart, 4213 Carrollton Ave., secretary-treasurer.

The meeting followed a dinner-dance.

FORM TRANSIT COMPANY

Incorporation papers of the Mayflower Transit Company were filed Friday with the Secretary of State. The company has \$50,000 common stock and \$50,000 preferred.

Incorporators are C. M. Gentry, Daniel Kenworthy, Robert Huffard, Pae W. Patrick and L. A. Beasore. The company will start the first of the year to provide interstate and intrastate hauling service.

APATHY PREVAILS TOWARD START OF CONGRESS MONDAY

Opinion That Little Can Be Accomplished at Short Session Is Factor.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—With tax reduction, prohibition and farm relief in the foreground, the Sixty-Ninth Congress will meet here Monday for its final short session.

Although many problems of pressing national importance are to be fought out, there is less activity attending the opening of this session than usual.

There are no hasty conferences of congressional leaders; no feverish dickerings over programs; no meetings of important committees framing legislation; no "viewing with alarm" and little "pointing with pride."

Few Members Arrive

Until this morning only a few Senators and Representatives had returned from their homes. Many will not arrive until the middle of next week.

There seems to be a general feeling that little can be done in the short session which will have only about six weeks of actual debate before March 4, automatically terminates the Congress. Instead of precipitating skirmishes for preferential positions for legislation, this fact has discouraged activity.

This is a "lame duck" session and it has been typical of such sessions in the past that they start off quietly and wind up in a free-for-all fight with little business transacted. They are called "lame duck" sessions because the Senators and representatives were elected two years ago and are merely holding office until the new Congress elected last November comes into authority after March 4.

Some Money Bills Ready

The House Appropriations Committee has been quietly at work upon appropriation bills the last few days and several are ready to be taken up in the House before Christmas. The first bill on the House calendar is the measure to increase the salaries of judges.

The \$100,000,000 rivers and harbors bill, including a proposal for diversion of Lake Michigan water to provide a nine-foot channel from the lakes to the gulf is first on the Senate list. It is to be taken up next week and adopted before the Christmas holidays.

STEPHENSON GETS \$27,586 JUDGMENT

Money Awarded on Suit Against Sculptor.

David C. Stephenson, former head of the Indiana Klan, who is now serving a life sentence in the Michigan City prison for the murder of Mudge Oberholzer, local woman, has been awarded \$27,586 judgment in a suit against Gutson Borglum, sculptor of Stamford, Conn. The decision was handed down by the Supreme Court of the State at Bridgeport.

Stephenson brought action to obtain \$30,000 against Borglum on three promissory notes totaling \$24,500 and interest.

ASSOCIATION ELECTS

Implement Dealers Choose D. M. Bortoff President.

The Indiana Implement Dealers' Association elected D. M. Bortoff, Columbus, president at the closing session of their three-day meeting at the Claypool Hotel, Friday, M. H. Sarp, Milford, was elected vice president and the retiring president, Floyd Grannon, Lafayette, was named as a director for three years.

Dr. W. E. Taylor, Moline, Ill., director of the soil culture department of Deere & Co., delivered the closing address. About one hundred delegates attended the convention.

ICE DEALERS TO MEET

Thirty-Third Annual Two-Day Convention Opens Wednesday.

About two hundred representatives from over the State will attend the thirty-third annual two-day convention of the Indiana Ice Dealers Association, which opens Wednesday at the Severin. It was announced Friday by C. Scott Johnson, executive secretary.

Ice manufacture, its uses, and refrigeration problems will be the subjects of lectures and discussions.

Boy Who Saved Sister's Life May Be Given Medal



James Armstrong and his sister, Dora Jane.

A movement is now on foot to obtain a Carnegie hero medal for little James Armstrong, 7, who saved the life of his sister, Dora Jane, Thursday, by his presence of mind after her clothing had caught fire from a heating stove. James and Dora Jane are the children of Mr. and Mrs. George Armstrong of R. R. C. Box 204, Ben Davis.

Late Thursday the little girl, with her clothes in flame, screamed that she was afire. The mother was visiting across the street, but James, realizing that his mother could not reach the child in time to save her, dashed to the kitchen for water and when his mother, frantic and breathless, arrived, the flames already had been quenched.

Mrs. Cyrus Green, a neighbor of the Armstrongs, who lives at Morris and Dryden Sts., is one of the persons interested in obtaining the medal for the boy.

"James' act was a remarkable instance of presence of mind," she remarked. "The average child of 7, confronted with the spectacle of the burning little girl, and knowing that the mother was so close, would run for help. James realized that there was not time, and this quick action undoubtedly saved his sister's life. They are a remarkable child, having unusual grades in his school work."

The boy's father is foreman at the Best Grand Laundry garage on Seneca Ave. "We are so grateful," remarked Mrs. Armstrong, the mother, "We would not have had our little Dora Jane if James hadn't thought so quickly."

POLICE VICTIM OF BOOTLEGGER JOKE

Liquor Handlers Chuckle Over Driving of Rum-Laden Auto From Garage With 17 Officers Near.

Bootleggers of the city are chuckling today over a recent disclosure of how one of their number "put it over" on Indianapolis police about three weeks ago in great shape, hauling a cargo of liquor from a garage while seventeen policemen conversed with a woman in front of her home, only a few yards away.

It seems the bootlegger, wearing his way into the city in the afternoon and left the liquor, about 200 gallons, in a machine in the garage, expecting to call for it after nightfall.

But his! Enter the hi-jackers. Late in the afternoon two men, thought to be members of a gang of hi-jackers who recently terrorized south side residents while holding up a "leger," appeared at the house and informed the woman living there that they were Federal officers.

"Cheese it. The law," was the classic utterance of one of the men, and both hastily departed, running down the alley. The patrolman fired several shots at the running pair.

"Almost out of breath, the woman explained to the officer that the two men had attempted to kidnap her. In a short time he had called headquarters and four night-riding squads, of three men each, and four men in an emergency car had arrived on the scene.

The whole neighborhood was searched thoroughly, but the two were nowhere to be found. At last the police returned and began to question the woman, standing in front of the house, regarding the details of the attempted "kidnaping." As they talked, the bootlegger, who had been watching developments from a nearby house, slipped into the garage, and drove away in his machine. Soon the law took its leave.

So today, the bootleggers laugh. Probably the hi-jackers too. They probably have pulled a successful "job" since then.

AGAINST OIL STATIONS

City Attorney Seeks to Collect Money, Buy Bridge Approaches.

City Attorney John K. Ruckelshaus today moved to defeat city council's attempt to rezone the south approaches of the Delaware St. bridge over Fall Creek for filling stations by filing suits to collect assessments to buy the ground for the city.

Majority faction councilmen, in their drive to turn the corner over to filling stations, pleaded that only through the action would adequate bridge approaches be insured.

Ruckelshaus will sue sixty property owners for \$2,000 needed to complete payments on the property of Mrs. Mary Spann on the south side of the bridge. A portion of the property was purchased by the city for bridge approaches, but the improvement has been delayed for years because assessments were delinquent.

Police Look for Two—One Struck Her, According to Story.

WAS ON HER WAY HOME

Purse Looted; Taken Southwest of City.

Abducted and attacked by two men in a taxi shortly before midnight, Miss Margaret Hook, 22, of 2154 Winter Ave., today was at her home recovering from wounds on the back of her head, received when one of the men struck her.

The abductors, one a small, sandy-haired man, between 25 and 30 years old, and the other a taxi driver, are sought by police. The case is one of the boldest attacks of recent months, according to officers.

Miss Hook said that she had been at the home of her sister, 217 W. North St., Apt. 8, and started home about 10:30 p. m.

Walking on North St.

Walking on North St., between Illinois St. and Capitol Ave., she noticed a taxi, parked along the sidewalk and headed west. The driver, she said, seemed to be drunk.

The man in the rear seat asked her the way to the Claypool and suddenly grabbed and pulled her inside the auto. She fought with him and he struck her over the head, rendering her unconscious. When she regained consciousness the taxi was speeding out Kentucky Ave.

Threatened Life

Arriving at the Sellers farm, southwest of the city on Harding St., she said the man in the back seat attacked her and took \$9.75 from her purse. Threatening to kill her with a piece of glass, he jumped back in the car when another machine approached. The taxi sped away.

Miss Hook said she then ran through the fields about a mile to the stockyards, hailed a passing motorist and was brought to the city.

STATE QUILTS IN HALL-MILLS CASE

(Continued From Page 1)

Harry Moore to be relieved of further responsibility in the case he had fought unsuccessfully.

"I am sure that popular sentiment favored yesterday's verdict, and that today's action will meet favor throughout New Jersey and the rest of the country," the attorney general said.

State Out \$100,000

An investigation and trial costing the State at least \$100,000 has failed to solve the crime.

Seldom has a favorable verdict been accepted so calmly as by the three defendants yesterday, when after five hours of deliberation the jurors solemnly reported "not guilty."

Early December darkness had fallen and the first snow of the season was visiting Somerville, Mrs. Hall and her brothers awaiting the verdict in the room of the county jail. Not once through the desolate hours did they discuss the trial.

Word spread that the jurors had reached agreement. The defendants returned to the court room. Twelve men of the soil and such urban life as Somerset County affords formed a crescent about the judge's bench.

A separate verdict was returned for each of the accused.

"Gentlemen of the jury, have you reached a verdict?" asked the court clerk nervously.

"Yes, we have," "um-m." Came in a jumble from the jurors.

"Do you find the defendant, Henry Stevens, guilty or not guilty?" "Not guilty," replied Foreman Frank Dunster, who for nine of the ten ballots had held out for conviction.

Henry Stevens, the Lavalette fisherman, swallowed with difficulty. A dull glow suffused his ruddy face. There was no other outward sign of emotion.

"Do you find the defendant, William Stevens, guilty or not guilty?" "Not guilty."

The man they called "Willie" and ridiculed as an eccentric until he appeared on the witness stand in the trial and displayed a mentality above average, blinked and achieved a slight grin.

"Do you find the defendant, Frances Hall, guilty or not guilty?" "Not guilty."

The widow's smile scarcely deserved the name. She was the same severe, unemotional woman in black, whose stolid demeanor during the trial was abnormal.

Commander Arthur Carpenter, her cousin, stepped up and threw his arm about her. Arthur Nelson, another cousin and one of defense counsel kissed her. Others surged forward with congratulations.

The verdict had been anticipated. Nelson already was ready with the following statement on behalf of the widow:

"My brothers and I are very glad after four years of gossip and false accusations to have had this opportunity to face the situation in open court, to have personally gone on the witness stand and submitted ourselves to thorough cross-examination and to have obtained complete vindication through the verdict of a Somerset County jury. The testimony of the witnesses has been broadly distributed daily through the public prints, and we believe the verdict will have full approval throughout not only New Jersey, but the United States. We shall not be able personally to acknowledge the many kind letters we have received, and we shall appreciate it if the press will give this word of thanks to their writers."

FIRST STEPS TO GET FIGURES ON MERGER TAKEN

Perk, Accountant for C. of C., Confers With Commission Officials.

First steps to accumulate ammunition in the form of facts with which to batter down the \$55,000,000 capitalization sought in the proposed local electric utilities merger, were taken Friday afternoon when Benjamin Perk, expert utility accountant conferred with Frank Wampler, public service commissioner in charge of the merger hearing, and Earl L. Carter, chief engineer of the commission, to "see what they had," as Perk explained.

Announcement of the employment of Perk was made Friday by the Chamber of Commerce. He will aid Attorney Frederick E. Matson in arguing the merger case before the commission "on its merits," in an effort to protect the public from over-capitalization and excessive rates.

Arguments may be unnecessary, however, if the commission rules favorably on two motions filed Friday asking for dismissal of the merger petition because of lack of jurisdiction. One was filed for the city by City Corporation Counsel Alvah H. Rucker, Charles Mendenhall and John W. Becker.

For Federation

The other, for the Federation of Community Civic Clubs, was filed by Attorneys E. O. Sneath and Samuel Dowden. The original petition was ruled out because of non-jurisdiction, upon advice of Attorney General Arthur H. Gilliom. An amended petition was filed by the Indianapolis Light and Heat Company and the Merchants Heat and Light Company and the new merger company, the Indianapolis Power and Light Company. The motions, filed Friday, ask that this be dealt with, as was the original, and on the same grounds—that the new company cannot be considered a utility under the Indiana law.

Date of hearing has not been set by Wampler, and it is not expected that it will be announced until after hearing on jurisdiction in the Rucker injunction suit in Marion County Circuit Court on Monday. This suit asks for a restraining order to prevent the commission from hearing the merger petition. Jurisdiction of the court has been attacked by utilities attorneys and the question is to be threshed out Monday.

More Facts Later

Effectiveness of the work to be done by Perk will be registered at the event that the commission proceeds with the merger hearing. His conference Friday was to unearth what facts the commission has on hand. After digesting these, he will proceed to garner needed information from the companies themselves, and other sources, he declared.

Perk has had nine years' experience in similar work in this city and has figured in every big utilities project heard before the commission. The Garfield Civic League adopted a resolution opposing the proposed merger at a meeting Friday night.

Frank New R. B. Ruth, and J. E. Brittenbach have been named to confer with attorneys aiding the fight, against the petition.

Far and Near

ATLANTIC CITY—Women may be slower than men, but an all-woman jury returned a verdict in an automobile collision case in twenty minutes and set a record for courts in this city.

ALBANY, N. Y.—Asked why they went wrong and if they intend to reform, one of the boys in the Elmira Reformatory replied: "I do not intend to go straight because I am a crook at heart."

NEW YORK—He never paid my bills, anyhow," commented Mrs. Helen Haveny, daughter of a sugar magnate when she saw an ad in a New York paper in which her husband said he would not be responsible for her bills.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—A punctured ear drum resulted in the death of a father of five children here. Michael Ruggiero, 51, of Bristol, died during the night from an injury received while using a pump to remove a foreign substance from his ear. The pump was driven through the ear drum when one of his children brushed against his arm.

NEW YORK—Mrs. Charlotte Moore Schoonmiller, New York swimmer who recently set a new record for a long-distance swim from Albany to New York City, greeted the first snow of the season by jumping into the water off the Battery for a swim. "I wanted to beat the Polar bears of Coney Island," she explained, as she climbed out. She wore a bathing suit and a heavy coat of grease.

FAVOR MANUAL FIELD

South Side Residents Meet to Discuss Stadium Project.

Favorable opinion of the proposed new stadium and athletic field for Manual Training High School, south of Raymond St. and west of Madison Ave., was shown generally Friday night at a meeting attended by several hundred property owners and residents of that vicinity.

They met with the Garfield Civic League at the Madison Avenue State Bank, 1377 Madison Ave.

E. H. K. McComb, Manual principal, said that the eight-acre tract purchased for the field through gifts from the late Delano Smith to the Indianapolis foundation, would have an eight-foot concrete wall around it.



THE CYNIC