

# Spring Motoring Defeats Hope for Gasoline Price Cut

## FAIRBANKS-MORSE AND COUNTY SPUR SWITCH WAR ENDS

Commissioners and Company Officials Sign Agreement After Three Years.

After three years of controversy, Marion County commissioners and Fairbanks-Morse Company officials today agreed on use of the spur switch on the company's property, Twenty-First St. and Northwestern Ave., formerly the county workhouse grounds. It was practically the same reached with R. H. Morse Jr., and the county council on March 25.

Provisions are: That the deed given to the company for the switch area in October, 1923, be ratified; that the county has use of the switch and loading grounds until April 1, 1930; that the company will move a small building on the county property at the first expense; that within the three-year limit the county will have a right to take off a switch from the spur and that repairs amounting to \$1,270 needed on the switch will be made immediately by the company and the firm will maintain it.

The company bought the workhouse grounds from the county for \$150,000. The bill of sale called for the entire tract with the exception of a small area on which the county garage and the spur is located, commissioners asserted.

Leo K. Fessler, the county auditor, was indicted for tampering with public records when it was found a later record of the sale included the switch. Fessler's case is pending in Criminal Court. Fred C. Gause, attorney, is special judge.

It was set out that Marion County and the public would benefit by improvements made by Fairbanks-Morse. Work of enlarging the plant was held up, however, pending the agreement. The firm plans to build large manufacturing structures.

Several weeks ago the company moved three of its statistical departments to Beloit, Wis.

## ESTERLINE SLAPS MAYOR SYSTEM

(Continued From Page 1)

order to stay the hand of professional politics, operating on the principle that "To the victor belongs the spoils."

"It is nothing short of cowardice for us to pass on to the coming generation the problems which should be solved here and now."

"One thing should now engage the minds of men. That is the problem of municipal administration. It is that part of government which comes nearest to the lives of a majority of people. It involves health, safety and material prosperity."

Good Administrators

"You can elect legislators, but good administrators must be selected. Legislation is the summing up of the work of many minds, while administration requires the concentration of one mind on definite authority and responsibility. You must not take chances by electing administrators."

"Men elected to public offices cannot be removed if incompetent; men selected and employed can be discharged."

"Just as long as we confront the voter with a long list of candidates to be voted for, incompetent men will be swept into power."

"To prevent one party from capturing the city permanently, a change of personnel is required every four years, no matter how good an administration is rendering the service. No institution can undergo frequent disruptions and be successful."

"Due to wide use of political patronage, regarding those who have helped to win an election, all municipal employees realize the temporary character of their positions, with consequent lack of interest and loyalty. This frequent change of personnel eliminates all possibility of continuing plan of policy."

Looking Ahead

"City manager cities are looking from twenty to fifty years ahead in their plans, and under competent leadership, with business-like methods, they have created high grade, honest, capable organizations which deserve to be continued because they are responsive to the public will and are rendering the service, something which is impossible under the partisan system."

"In the partisan system of double-headed government the mayor is vested with appointive and administrative duties, and the council with legislative and appropriating power. Neither can go very far in opposition to the other. Where the mayor and council are crooked, the people are robbed. When one is straight, the other not, they get nowhere."

"Some very good men refuse public office. Politics will not work in business and business does not go in politics."

"The failure of the mayor-council system is due to the system itself." Esterline outlined reasons why able men and women refuse to serve under the aldermanic system. They do, however, respond to places on the boards of civic and welfare organizations, because there they can obtain results. Politics is eliminated, Esterline said.

He charged that the citizens of Indianapolis are paying a tremendous price for the maintenance of a political organization which is serving no good purpose.

"It is time in municipal affairs to get talking about the good of the party and think about the good of Indianapolis," he declared.

## New Works Board President



Virgil Vandagriff, president of the Cotton Belt Land Development Company, named board of works president by Mayor Duvall. Duvall and Vandagriff are said to be close personal friends. He accompanied the mayor and Police Chief Claude F. Johnson on their jaunt to Chicago last week.

## ITALO-JUGO-SLAV TILT ONCE MORE WORRIES EUROPE

Move to Bring Action by League of Nations May Cause Serious Crisis.

PARIS, April 19.—The Jugo-Slavian-Italian dispute over Albania, from which attention has been diverted by the Chinese situation, emerged from obscurity today when it became evident that diplomatic observers were alarmed by a possible appeal to the League of Nations.

The plan for direct diplomatic negotiation of the dispute under surveillance of Great Britain, France and Germany has been side-tracked, allegedly because of dilatory tactics by Italy. The Jugo-Slavs were reported to be considering asking the League to insist that Italy comply with its promise to negotiate. If the League acceded to the request and Italy refused, serious difficulties might result.

## JUGO-SLAVIA ACCUSED

Italian Correspondent Charges Potential Soldiers Summoned.

ROME, April 19.—The newspaper Impero's special correspondent at Zara has sent a dispatch to his paper charging that Jugo-Slavia has secretly ordered all able-bodied men to evacuate the Dalmatian Islands and come to the Jugo-Slavia mainland.

The newspaper remarked that the order purported to prevent the Jugo-Slavia army from losing a large force of prospective soldiers in the event Italy seized the islands, but that its real purpose was to automatically place the coastal region of Jugo-Slavia on a war footing without preparatory mobilization.

## ALBANIA ACTS, REPORT

Greek Newspaper Says Troops Moved to Frontier

ATHENS, April 19.—Warlike preparations in Albania were reported in a dispatch from Salonica to the newspaper Eleftheri Vima today. Six battalions of Albanian troops left Belbasan for the Jugo-Slavian frontier, the dispatch said.

## COURTS TO GET MANAGER FIGHT

May Mandate City Clerk to Certify Petition.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., April 19.—City manager proponents today were planning to file a writ of mandamus to force City Clerk Louis P. Sarlis to certify to the city council a petition calling for a special election on whether the city should change its form of government.

Monday, Sarlis refused to certify the petition, claiming he had been unable to examine the 13,388 signatures on it within the five days allowed him by law.

Sarlis in a statement declared he had been able to examine only 2,074 signatures and that he had found 1,312 of these were disqualified. The council accepted his report without any action.

## Runaway Pair Leaves on Fifth 1927 'Tour'

For the fifth time this year, Richard Cradey, 14, of 839 Bradshaw St., and Raymond Caplinger, 13, of 1312 Cottage Ave., are missing from home.

Parents of the Cradey youth said they sent him to the grocery early today and he did not return. Investigation disclosed that Cradey and Caplinger met in the grocery, talked a few minutes and then walked out, leaving the groceries.

The runaway pair once was found in Tennessee, and they have been many miles from home on every occasion of their capture.

## SMITH REPLY AND BIGGER TAMMANY BELIEVED LINKED

Nation-Wide Scope Plan of 'Hall'—Many Praise Governor.

By United Press  
NEW YORK, April 19.—While prominent men and women of widely different political beliefs congratulated Governor Alfred E. Smith today on his statement of faith, Tammany Hall started work on plans to expand into a national institution.

Some political observers interpreted the Tammany move as an attempt to establish through the county political clubs which would support Smith for President in 1928. The Governor is a member of the board of satchmen of Tammany Hall.

## Timely Move

Announcement of the Tammany expansion plan was made last night at the annual election of officers of the organization. It came at an opportune time from the political standpoint, for Republicans and Democrats alike conceded that the Governor's reply to Charles C. Marshall on the status of a Catholic in American public life had aided his prospective candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination.

## No Further Reply

Governor Smith stood pat today on his long statement reconciling the beliefs of the Catholic church with the duties of an American citizen. He announced he would not reply to Marshall's second letter, made public yesterday, which undertook to refute some of the Smith statement, made in a reply to an earlier letter from Marshall raising the question of whether Catholicism's requirements were at variance with Americanism.

Among Democratic leaders who praised Smith's statement were John W. Davis, presidential nominee in 1924; Senator Walsh of Montana, who is a Catholic; former Governor Cox, Ohio, presidential nominee in 1920; Governor Donahoe, Ohio; Governor Moore, New Jersey; Senator Edwards, New Jersey, and Senator Bayard of Delaware.

## Praised by Republicans

Republicans who praised the statement included Senators Edge, New Jersey; Borah, Idaho, and Curtis, Kansas. Prominent churchmen expressed great interest in the Smith reply. Several large bets on Smith's nomination and election to the presidency were placed in Wall Street after publication of his letter. W. L. Darnell & Co. announced some bets at 5 to 9 that the Governor would be nominated and one of \$1,000 to \$7,000 that he would be elected.

Five to 1 was being placed against William G. McAdoo's nomination; 3 to 1 against Governor Ritchie of Maryland; 4 to 1 against Senator Reed of Missouri; 6 to 1 against Senator Carter Glass of Virginia; 5 to 1 against Governor Donahoe of Ohio; 10 to 1 against E. T. Meredith of Iowa, former Secretary of Agriculture, and 12 to 1 against Joseph Daniels of North Carolina, former Secretary of the Navy. No Republican quotations were listed.

## FORD'S COUNSEL TO ASK MISTRIAL

Based on Alleged Remarks of Woman Juror.

By United Press  
DETROIT, Mich., April 19.—The Ford-Sapiro libel suit was postponed today until next Thursday morning, because of illness of Senator James A. Reed, chief counsel for the defense.

"At that time," said Stewart Hanley, in making motion to judge Fred M. Raymond for the postponement, "the defense will move for a mistrial because of published reports concerning investigations of a certain juror."

## FOUR BEFORE REALTORS

"A Few Things that Realtors Should Know" will be the subject before the weekly luncheon of the Indianapolis Real Estate Board Thursday noon, at the Chamber of Commerce.

Boulter, C. W. Henry, W. H. Cooper, and B. M. Ralston will present facts on this subject.

## There Were Two Favorites—Reiner and Braslau

By Walter D. Hickman

Musical history of this city will record that on the night of April 18, 1927, at the Murat the audience had two favorites.

They were Fritz Reiner, conducting the Cincinnati Symphony, and Sophie Braslau, contralto soloist. And there were many reasons for this fact. The orchestra opened with Beethoven's overture, "Egmont," the orchestra, and was followed by Sophie Braslau singing a Beethoven aria, "Ah, Perfido."

This was Ona B. Talbot's contribution to the hundredth anniversary of Beethoven's death. It was beautifully done on the part of the orchestra and the soloist. I certainly did not agree with the "death" notice aspect of the printed program, which contained the announcement of Beethoven set like a funeral notice.

The fact remained that the printed program gave one a wrong introduction or mental approach to this exquisite experience with grand music. Beethoven's music is not dead, far from it, and it is not necessary to give one the impression of death in announcing any composition of this master. His music lives and will always live.

Reiner now gets exactly what he wants from his orchestra. There is no lost motion. The orchestra is responding every second to the will of its conductor. Here is a conductor who is making national history for himself and the Cincinnati orchestra.

Sophie Braslau really came into her own while singing three of Moussorgsky's songs: "Pain," "The Classicist," and "On the Dnieper." Here you recognized that something, that "it," which distinguishes this singer. There seems to be something in her blood and her genius which responds to the aristocracy of Moussorgsky.

In doing these three numbers, she made for herself an ovation as well as an appreciation for Moussorgsky which will live in the memory of those who rejoice in a big musical experience.

## THEY'LL DIRECT MANAGER VOTE



These men, named by Council President Claude Negley, will have charge of the city manager election June 21. (Left to right) W. H. Insley, city manager supporter (Photo by Drexheimer); Fred W. Connell, secretary of Indiana Crushed Stone Association, representing opponents; and City Clerk William A. Boyce Jr.

## Council Sets June 21 for Manager Election

### POWERS MAY USE STRONGER TERMS IN CHINESE NOTE

French Foreign Office Intimates Nature of Renewed Demands.

By United Press  
PARIS, April 19.—The foreign office indicated today that the powers had decided to address another note to Eugene Chen, Chinese nationalist foreign minister at Hankow, demanding satisfaction for last month's Nanking disorders in stronger terms than were employed in the first note. It was suggested that the note might be in the nature of an ultimatum.

Active exchanges of opinion were in progress among the powers, the foreign office spokesman said. To define a common policy in the event Chen again "refused satisfaction."

Great Britain, France, Italy, Japan and the United States sent identical notes to Chen protesting against the Nanking disorders during which foreigners were killed and their property looted. Chen replied with five notes, each different from the others. Chen refused to accept without investigation the powers' contention that nationalists had been proven guilty of the Nanking disorders.

## NEW REGIME IMPENDS

Followers of Chiang Kai-Shek Propose to Form Government.

By United Press  
LONDON, April 19.—Formation of a new Southern Chinese government in opposition to the Hankow Nationalist regime was imminent today, a dispatch to the daily express said.

Shanghai Moderate Nationalists, followers of Gen. Chiang Kai-shek, were reported to have been instructed from Nanking to prepare to celebrate establishment of the new government.

Rumors that Chiang would organize his own government followed the open break between moderate and radical wings of the Kuomintang last week. Chiang, in a speech at Nanking yesterday, announced definitely his determination to ignore the Hankow government of which Foreign Minister Eugene Chen is the outstanding figure, the Express said.

## Joins Bank's Realty Dept.

H. T. Hottel, manager of the real estate department of the Washington Bank and Trust Company, announced that E. H. McLain has been added to its staff of salesmen.

McLain has had several years experience in selling west side property and will specialize in this in his new connection.

### Decide Not to Block Vote on Advice of Lawyers.

Indianapolis citizens will vote June 21, whether they desire their municipal affairs managed under the city manager form of government instead of by politically chosen councilmen and a mayor.

That was decided by council Monday night, after City Clerk William A. Boyce Jr. certified that the petition asking the election contained 22,612 signatures. Only 19,185 were needed.

The board of election commissioners named by Council President Claude E. Negley will meet Thursday to make preliminary arrangements for the balloting.

William H. Insley, a city manager advocate, and Fred W. Connell, opposed to the new form, were named by Negley to serve on the election board with City Clerk Boyce.

### No Dissenting Vote

The council adopted a resolution setting the date for the election without a dissenting vote. A large delegation of manager boosters was present. Numerous city officials and politicians also were on hand to hear the debate.

Councilman O. Ray Albertson persistently questioned the resolution in which the 2,612 signatures on the city manager petition were checked.

Corporation Counsel Schuyler Haas told the councilmen it was mandatory that they set the date after the petition had been certified by Boyce.

"I'm against the city manager plan, but am voting for it because I have to. Nevertheless, let the people have what they want," said Councilman Otis Bartholomew.

A resolution fixing June 7 as the election date was introduced by Dr. Austin Todd, but amended to read June 21.

### Pledge Fair Election

Insley and Connell thanked Negley for the confidence shown in them and assured the council president that the people will have a fair and honest opportunity to express their sentiments.

Insley lives at 445 N. Audubon Rd. and is president of the Insley Manufacturing Company and the Family Welfare Society.

Connell, 3509 S. Salem St., is president of the F. W. Connell Company, road materials, 802 Hume-Mansur Bldg. He was secretary of the Indiana Crushed Stone Association for many years and is said to be close to Lawrence Cartright, Portland, chairman of the Republican State executive committee.

### No Funds for Workers

Has pointed out the possibility of persons serving on the precinct election boards not being paid before next year as there is no city election fund. The approximate \$80,000 expense is appropriated each election year.

"There is no money in the general fund and when the new budget goes into effect it will be impossible to transfer from other funds to the general fund," Haas said. "It looks as if they would have to go unpaid until next year."

### WATER COMPANY VALUATION SET AT \$16,568,000

State Tax Board Boosts Figure \$2,000,000 Despite Utility Plea.

Despite the oratory of William McInerney, South Bend attorney and expert utility pleader, the Indianapolis Water Company was given a tax valuation boost of more than \$2,000,000 today by the Indiana state board. The 1927 figure was set at \$16,568,000, while in 1926 it was but \$14,568,000.

McInerney admitted improvements and extensions had been made, but told the tax commissioners the company thought an increased valuation of about \$800,000 would cover it.

The figure still is considerably below that set by the United States Supreme Court, which ruled the Indianapolis Water Company was to be valued for rate-making purposes at not less than \$19,000,000.

Varying figures regarding valuation of the property are on file with the commission. The company report of 1926 places the total assets at \$18,953,631, of which the actual property value is \$15,769,045.

The last estimate made by the engineering department of the commission in 1922, and which the courts refused to accept, was \$14,123,286. The company paid \$465,481.60 taxes last year.

Based on the figure set by the tax board, there is a local real estate valuation of \$12,467,740, the same as in 1926. This makes total valuation \$17,714,740.

### NEW BOARD MAY FAVOR ASPHALT

(Continued From Page 1)

C. (Chick) Buser, city controller and brother-in-law of Duvall, came in and told Shanberger the Mayor wanted to see him.

Shanberger went upstairs to Duvall's private office. There Duvall asked him if he would have any objections to resigning from the board.

### No Objections Whatever

Shanberger immediately replied that he had no objections whatever. Shanberger went back to the board office and told Hack and Trotter what had happened. Hack and Trotter decided that since all three had stood together in the asphalt concrete war that they might as well all resign together so Hack prepared a five line letter of resignation which all three signed.

The letter wished Mayor Duvall good fortune in the remainder of his administration. Duvall issued a statement declaring he wanted it understood there was no friction between the board and himself.

### Three Engineers

This marks the first change in the board of works since Duvall became mayor. He has changed city engineers three times. Engineer George Schmidt, the original appointee was ousted when the board of works objected to profuse use of Amstar, a cold patch mixture, in the repaving of asphalt streets.

Chester C. Oberless, Sheridan, Ind., replaced Schmidt. He lasted until a month ago, when the concrete-asphalt dispute became acute. He publicly declared that he was asked by the mayor to resign. He said that he was ousted because he would not side with the asphalt interest.

Then Lingenfelter was named. Lingenfelter immediately tried to talk the board into changing street specifications to make them more favorable to asphalt.

Under the law Vandergift as board president becomes a member of the city plan commission. Mayor Duvall announced that Shanberger would remain on the board of zoning appeals.

## Lower Crude Oil and Tank Car Rates Fail to Benefit Car Owners—Admit Reduction Should Come

Mr. Enthusiastic Motorist, gripping the steering wheel as he sniffs the balmy spring air on the highways and byways of Indianapolis and its environs, is unwittingly riding himself out a gasoline price cut.

That is the way gas, oil and refining company executives explain the probable effect of reduced crude oil prices and a scattering of gas price reductions.

"Of course, competition does strange things to prices," they say, "but demand has a strong voice, and with more than 100,000 automobiles chugging around in Marion County there will be quite a drain on filling stations."

### Three Opinions

Most of the city's gasoline men say they are not expecting reductions soon.

A number admit they are watching the "big fellows" and will meet any reductions.

A minority is of the opinion that prices, both on high test and commercial grades, "will have to go lower this summer" in keeping with lower crude oil and tank car prices in Oklahoma.

With warm weather slackening demand for high test gas, the "extra mileage" fuel probably will be the first to go down. Silver Flash, a high test gas, was reduced from 25 cents to 23.2 cents a gallon Monday by the Western Oil Refining Company, but commercial gas remained at 21.2 cents.

R. E. Trimble, vice president, affirmed that crude oil prices have dropped, but made no prediction as to their effect on the retail market.

### Innovation Launched

The gas fraternity is watching with interest the innovation launched Saturday by the Producers Oil Company, Inc., which has opened a new station at 1004 Massachusetts Ave., selling commercial gas at 19.2 cents, 2 cents below the general figure here and high test gas at 23 cents.

"We are able to do this," Manager G. P. De Bra explained, "by cutting down handling costs. We back tank cars up and pump gas directly into our underground tanks."

"With other companies, we cut prices 1 cent on Jan. 12 and another cent March 1, but we're not expecting another reduction soon."

J. E. Fehsenfeld, manager of the Great Western Oil Company, said: "Our Diamond gas will stay at 21.2 cents and Crystal Pop at 25 cents. 'The motoring public should remember,' he added, 'that 3 cents tax per gallon is figured in all these prices.'"

### Standard Oil Firm

Standard Oil prices remain 21.2 cents for Red Crown and 24.2 for high test. "There has been no new reduction at the refineries, so we have had none here," said Standard officials.

"We're not expecting any early changes," said Sinclair Oil Company executives. "Sinclair gas, the commercial grade, is 21.2 cents, high test is 24.2 and our high compression gas 24.2."

White Rose gas, product of the National Refining Company, is sticking to its 24-cent figure, officials said.

The Indian Refining Company's highest gas stands at 25 cents, with the commercial grade 21.2 cents. H. L. Rauch, manager, said.

## BRIDE HELD FOR DEATH OF BABY

Child's Body Found Hidden in Lafayette Home.

By Times Special  
LAFAYETTE, Ind., April 19.—Mrs. Lillian Watkins, 26, a bride of two months, was held in a local hospital today under guard in connection with the death of her newborn baby. The child was born Saturday at the Watkins home without medical attention. Mrs. Louis Walker, a sister-in-law, found the body hidden in a wash stand. Physicians said the child had been strangled. A towel was tied around its throat.

Authorities were notified and Mrs. Watkins was taken to a hospital where she will be held, pending action of the grand jury, scheduled to meet Saturday.

Judges for zone contests will be chosen from the districts in which the zone bees are held. They will have the final word as to whether the contestant has correctly spelled the word, if there be misunderstanding, and as to whether the pronouncer gave clear pronunciation and definition of the word.

Every effort will be made by the Spelling Bee Committee to make the building and zone bees function smoothly. They will be placed in charge of most competent principals. The word lists will contain the most difficult words in the McCall Speller.

## ONE MAN SEATED AS SNYDER JUROR

(Continued From Page 1)

counsel used a peremptory challenge and, with the exception of Young, only one man was left in the box.

Twelve talesmen were called to the jury box shortly after court opened. Among the dozen were old men, young men, fat men, thin men, men of varied stations and trades. But none of the first dozen was chosen. It appeared unlikely that any of the group would be chosen.

The defendants, sitting twelve feet apart and almost self-consciously indifferent to each other, watched the law in its devious workings.

### Woman Enters First

Mrs. Snyder, wearing the same somber attire as yesterday, was the first to enter the courtroom after Justice Townsend Scudder had come to the bench late. Court did not convene until 10:30 a. m.

As though she were eager to reach her seat at the counsel table, Mrs. Snyder strode hastily past the jury box, almost stepping on the heels of the jail matron. Her lips were tightly compressed and the rouge to her cheeks was in sharp contrast to her normal pallor.

Gray, clad in a dark business suit, sat facing the talesmen.

## WORLEY SUCCESS DREAM FADES AS MAYOR REVERSES

Police Chief but Only a Day as Duvall Plays Game of Politics.

Detective Inspector Claude Worley today held the distinction of having been police chief for probably a shorter term than any one in Indianapolis history.