

ITY'S COUNSEL BEGINS STUDY OF GAS SITUATION

Holtzman and Gause Start Preliminary Work on Utility Case.

John W. Holtzman and Fred C. Gause, employed as special counsel for the city, today began an extensive study of the Citizens Gas Company case, preliminary to the city's taking over the utility.

Holtzman and Gause were voted \$15,000 for their services in 1929 on recommendation of Mayor L. Ert Slack. Slack announced the city will proceed with its plans to "save the gas company for Indianapolis," as originally intended.

Holtzman, twice mayor, is familiar with the gas case, having been executive when the gas franchise was granted in 1905. He resigned the corporation counsel post and was succeeded by Oren S. Hack, former works board president, today.

Dammeyer Is Named

Theodore H. Dammeyer, assessment bureau clerk, and Emsley W. Johnson succeeded Hack and Charles Riddle, Republican, whom Slack ousted.

Glenn B. Ralston succeeds Dammeyer.

"Outside litigation in connection with the gas case will be a hindrance rather than an aid," declared Mayor Slack, in discussing the suit of John P. Sears, real estate dealer, in superior court to obtain a declaratory judgment filed Monday.

"The city is getting ready to take all proper moves to enforce the gas contract and independent action may cause confusion," Slack said.

Sears Files Suit

The suit of Sears was filed before Superior Judge Byron K. Elliott by Attorney George Sheehan of Harvey & Sheehan law firm to obtain an interpretation of the 1905 contract, sustaining the city's ownership claim.

Holtzman and Gause will outline the procedure of the city in taking over operation of the plant and draft necessary legislation authorizing the city to operate a utility.

Slack is preparing a letter to the new attorneys setting out his program.

Holtzman Is Praised

Slack wrote this letter to Holtzman, accepting his resignation as legal department head:

"I sincerely thank you for your kind expressions and interest in the present city administration and allow me to assure you that whatever has been accomplished which titles this administration credit, I have made a most liberal contribution myself to the result and therefore are entitled to a large share of credit.

I most sincerely thank you and press my appreciation to you for your department for the kindness, consideration and co-operation rendered to me during this entire administration."

The City in Brief

Mrs. Nettie Wilson, 58, of the Ballard apartments, 140 East Ohio street, still was in a critical condition today at the Indiana Christian hospital from burns received Monday morning when her clothing caught fire from the stove on which she was preparing breakfast.

Work of the Teachers' college of Indianapolis will be explained by Mrs. Alice Corbin Sies, president, before the Chamber of Commerce education committee Wednesday noon.

The Indianapolis Humane Society will hold its annual meeting and election of officers at 8 p.m. Monday, according to the president, H. W. Roedel.

Milk companies supplying the Van Camp Packing Company have been organized into the Van Camp Milk Company, it was announced today. The plants forming the company are located at Angola, Ind., Adrian and Homer, Mich., Maseon and Bryan, O., and Casco, Sawyer and Waterford, Wis.

The Indianapolis Humane Society will hold its annual meeting and election Jan. 7 in the Chamber of Commerce. H. W. Roedel is president of the organization.

Arthur Chevrolet Aviation Motors Corporation has filed the trademark "Chevrolet" with the secretary of state. It will be used on aviation motors made by them, and the letter "o" will be centered on the propeller shaft.

HOLD SON AS STABBER

Father Near Death; Suicide Attempt Is Frustrated.

John Nelson Shepart, 56, 2961 North Sherman drive, is near death in city hospital, with two stab wounds in his abdomen, inflicted by his son, Adrin Andrew Shepart, 23, while the latter was drunk Monday night, police charge.

Young Shepart choked his mother, stabbed his father and then locked himself in the bathroom and turned on the gas in a suicide attempt. His mother forced the door open and frustrated the attempt.

Police charged Shepart with vagrancy and assault and battery with intent to kill. He is held under \$5,000.

TAG TIME SHORT

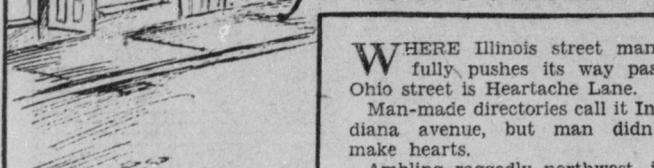
Days Left for Motorists Get Licenses.

Days remain for Hoosiers to renew their 1929 automobile licenses. Feb. 1 was the deadline for such renewals. Secretary of State Otto K. Kuehne said that date arrests will be made.

DOWN Heartache Lane

City's Street of Secrets that never are Told

By ARCH STEINEL



WHERE Illinois street manfully pushes its way past Ohio street is Heartache Lane. Man-made directories call it Indiana avenue, but man didn't make hearts.

Ambling raggedly northwest, it stops at the railroad tracks. Directories say it goes on—and Indiana avenue does—but not Heartache Lane.

From its entrance to its exit Heartache Lane is a queer street of tawdry shops for pawning marriage hopes, false teeth, and rings from broken engagements.

A bald world calls its stores—pawn shops, loan offices.

No sympathetic heed for that thin-band ring that caresses a twin in the plush case.

"Their marriage went floozy," explains the hard-eyed practical pawn broker, "first the husband pawned his wedding ring—then the wife. Neither one knows the other has been here. They come in separately—look at the rings, pay the pawn fee, and leave the warning, 'Don't sell it—I'll be back.'

What if they should meet? The two rings meet—in the plush case. "J. G. to M. G." and "M. G. to J. G." are the thin engraved lines inside the bands. "J. G. to M. G." and "M. G. to J. G." and back and forth they go to the pawnshop. Back and forth—a pendulum—touching nothing—never meeting. "J. G. to M. G." and "M. G. to J. G."

After you've heard a world's

A song-and-dance over a pawnshop counter trying to peddle wooden legs, glass eyes, false teeth—then you've a sense of values—monetary, if nothing else.

And there's no giggle to the loaning of money on glass eyes and false teeth.

"Why, I'd rather let a fellow have \$10 on a glass eye than a goldpiece any day," mutters a fleshy-faced Joe.

"It's just this way—they come back for glass eyes and false teeth. They need them. Gold pieces can't be turned for more than \$20, glass eyes are worth \$30. I took a young fellow's once for \$5. Got in a jam over it, too. He caught cold in his eye while he had it out. Threatened to sue me. Now whoever heard of a bird catching cold in an eye he didn't have, I ask you?"

But Joe's a pessimist com-

paned to Ike. For Ike knows the art of retribution.

Ike took in a gold bridge.

"Gave eight good dollars for it. Thought he would come back. He did. But all seems he was having a new set of teeth put in—well he took the bridge out of soak. A few days later he came back because the dentist told him his old bridge wouldn't fit with his new set of uppers. He cursed my store, said his bridge shrunk in it—then threw it at me."

Meekly but with a business wink, I got even. I sold it to his dentist. He's wearing it now, so the dentist says."

Age, sex, pay envelopes, creed, or nativity is leveled in a pawnshop.

If you are 21 years of age you can collect a ticket and the right to pay the 3 1/2 per cent demanded.

"I've had 'em high up and low down. Full of gin, full of 'sow-

wearing furs and wearing kilimons—and after the usual sobbing tale it's always—how much can I get on this?"

Can—can—I have \$5 on this,"

came the short scared voice of a woman muffled in a high fur collar.

Ike ached to her loan re-

quest. His heavy jowls dropped in that trick way of his when surprised. You could almost imagine those jowls clicking like the latch on a gate after once seeing Ike.

"Sure, and it was a diamond ring worth an easy \$1,000. The next week she came and got it out. The next week she soaked it again—for \$5. She was in a high-priced car—chauffeur, too. It went on like that, one week it would be in, and the next out, always wanted just \$5—no more less. It went on six months. Her name—it wasn't the right one—I looked it up. She came in to take the ring out. I wished her 'good day' when she turned on me. 'I'll not be back again. Someone's seen me.' That's all she said. She never came back."

Ike thinks a stingy husband forced her to pawn to eke out a bit of rouge, an extra steak to feed his friends.

But Heartache Lane knows.

It winks a "maybe" at Ike's explanation and goes on keeping the secrets it cannot tell.

Will you let me have \$5 on this \$1,000 diamond ring?"

Culture of Old Indians Discussed by Historian

Early Inhabitants Raised Half of Food Now Used In Modern America.

More than half the foods of modern Americans come from vegetables that were cultivated by the Indians of Central America, before the coming of Columbus.

The early Indians of California, seventeen tribes of them, made their early food of acorns which they ground into meal and filtered in little sand pits to get rid of the bitterness. They had no pottery, but made water-proof baskets like the cup of an acorn.

The Indians of the plains made almost everything they needed from the horns, hide and bones of the buffalo, while they ate his tough steaks.

Professor Pay-Cook of the University of Chicago called these facts more than mere chance, in his discussion of "Culture Areas in Pre-Columbus America" before the American Historical Association at the Claypool Monday.

He sought to show how customs among the original Americans grew out of their surroundings and became lasting cultures which were very difficult to change.

The various culture areas such as the acorn-basket district of California, rarely change except at the edges, where there is outside contact. Professor Cooper said, "and that is poor contact because all of the border peoples are weak. But the border peoples are weak."

SEEK TO MAKE CITY SCHOOLS U. S. EXAMPLE

Progress of 1928 Will Be Continued in 1929, Miller Says.

"We must strive to set our schools in the foreground, an example to all America," said Charles F. Miller, city superintendent of schools, in his year-end message today to Indianapolis school officials.

"Local schools have kept pace this year with the rapid progress in education made throughout the nation, and we must not slacken the stride," he said.

A detailed report of all departments was made in the review.

"Our board of school commissioners has manifested great interest in providing adequate facilities for the various types of children in our community. Regular schools for the majority, special schools for many kinds for a few; but a school for everyone where individual children may find an outlet for their abilities—that is the fundamental Indianapolis."

Over-Crowding a Menace

The report points out that 2,005 teachers and other officials have charge of a daily average of 50,332 pupils.

"The management of this large group is thoroughly excellent, involving a high degree of co-operation between the board of school commissioners and those who carry on the work in the boards' name."

On the building program, the report states: "Over-crowded schools are a menace to desirable objectives in an educational program, and we have started on a building program to relieve congestion."

Several new grade schools have been opened in the four sections of the city and additions have been made to several others. The new Shortridge high school opened this month was cited as a precedent in the school building field. Several portable schools have been replaced with permanent structures.

"The erection of new high schools in Broad Ripple and Irvington is being studied, and three new grade schools are being planned.

Change Grading

"These additions have been forced by an increased enrollment from 52,985 in June, 1927, to 55,017 in December, 1928. The enrollment increase of more than 2,000 represents a population increase of about 10 per cent. The problems presented by this increase have not been wholly financial."

Work of the social service department was pointed out. "In the past the school work was established, and the child either passed or failed. The situation gradually has been changed. Attempts now are being made to adjust the course of study to the needs of the children: the fault of the old regime was a certain inflexibility of the curriculum."

"Research work is being forwarded each day. C. C. Underwood, director of elementary education, is surveying systems in other cities in an effort to determine the exact status of the Indianapolis schools."

"A point in this forward step is the operation of the social service and research departments for exceptional children. Special instruction is being given crippled and un-

New County Officials Take Office



John E. Shearer



George L. Winkler



Judson L. Stark

18 AFFECTED BY POLICE AND FIRE SHAKEUP

Board of Public Safety Acts After Conference With Mayor Slack.

Eighteen police and fire department members today were affected by shifts ordered Tuesday by the board of public safety.

Nine promotions and six reductions were ordered in the police department by the board, on recommendation of Police Chief Claude M. Worley. Three reductions in the fire department were recommended by Fire Chief Harry E. Voshell. The shakeup was ordered following a two-hour secret conference with Mayor L. Ert Slack.

Several detective department changes were ordered with the view of "pepping up" the detective division, administration leaders explained.

Major Changes Made

Major police department changes: Detective Captain Fred Phillips was reduced to detective sergeant and Lieutenant Edward Samuels promoted to fill the vac. Sergeant Frank Reynolds was promoted to lieutenant. Samuels is the highest ranking officer in the detective division under Detective Jerry Kinney, veteran department member. All are Democrats.

Traffic Sergeant Eugene Shine was promoted to a field lieutenancy. Patrolmen John Dalton and Jesse McCarty, assigned as detectives, were promoted to detective sergeants.

Sergeant William Paulsell was reduced to patrolman. Detectives Irwin Landers and Earl Higgs were reduced to patrolmen. Lieutenant Eugene Eldridge was reduced to sergeant and assigned outside on his request.

Patrolmen Promoted

Patrolmen Forest W. Allison, Thomas Harris and Thomas Pollard, were promoted from second to first grade patrolmen. Patrolman George R. Liese was promoted to sergeant.

Fire department shifts: Lieutenant Roy Phillips, assistant chief during the Duvall administration, was reduced to private fireman.

Chaufer Charles Caverden and Louis T. Tripe were reduced to privates.

Captain John Miller, Engin. House No. 17, was retired on recommendation of Surgeon F. P. Reid.

Firemen John Fox and George Toon resigned.

GIVEN CITY PLAN

Henry Stegg Becomes Secretary Municipal Commission.

Henry Stegg, 272 Parkview avenue, city plan commission assistant engineer, today became secretary to the commission.

Steeg, a registered engineer and Purdue university civil engineering school graduate, has been with the commission since its creation in 1921. He is an associate member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

The post pays \$2,700 a year.

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