

FINISHING TOUCHES PUT ON BILL TO BUY STREET CARS

ENABLING ACT WILL BE ASKED OF LEGISLATURE

Measure Also Would Let
Municipality Control
Phone System.

PREPARED BY DEERY

Action Ordered by Mayor,
Officials as Insull's Plan
Is Denied.

Finishing touches today were being put to the amendments to the 1929 act establishing a utilities district in Indianapolis, so as to permit the city to assume control and management of the street car and telephone systems.

Although assumption of control of the telephone company is not contemplated, it is felt by Representative John F. White (Dem., Marion), who will introduce the amending bill, that provisions to cover all utilities should be contained in the present statute.

Passed in 1929 to enable the city to manage the Citizens Gas Company, the act provides not only for control of the gas company, but of water works, electric light, power and heating plants.

All Utilities Included

With the insertion of provisions covering transportation systems and telephones, the city would have a legal avenue at any time for control and operation of all or several of its utilities.

Several conferences were held the last few weeks by Mayor Reginald Sullivan, E. Kirk McKinney, president of the city works board, who headed the city's committee to hear presentation of the rejected Insull street car plan; Edward H. Knight, corporation counsel; James E. Deery, city attorney, and White.

Scope of the amendments was discussed and it was left to Deery to frame the mandatory measures, which, it is thought, will be ready for introduction Wednesday.

These amendments, it is expected will provide the following:

Civil Service Provided

1. Removal of the utilities board and any plants and systems it may purchase or acquire from under the control of the public service commission and the state tax board.

2. Increasing the bonding limit from the 1 per cent set out in the 1929 act to the constitutional maximum of 2 per cent.

3. Granting of power to issue interest bearing certificates against not more than two-thirds the valuation of the physical property, plus improvements and extensions; the bonds to be used for the purchase of the system, betterment and extensions.

4. Self-perpetuation in office for the board of utility trustees, except one member who shall be the mayor's appointee and upon whose expiration of term the mayor may re-appoint or name a new member.

5. Institution of a civil service or merit system for all municipally owned utility employees except common laborers.

Bonding Limit Raised

These last two provisions are expected to halt any attempt at political control or domination of city-operated utilities and set up an efficient and expert organization.

If amendments are passed—and it is expected there will as the provisions apply only to Indianapolis—means would be afforded for overtures to the stockholders of the street car company to purchase their system.

The increase of the bonding limit from 1 to 2 per cent would enable the city to raise the millions necessary to complete the deal.

Although issued by the city, the bonds would be a lien against the property to be repaid from the earnings, it was explained.

Profit Anticipated

By removing the utilities board from the control of public service commission and tax board, the city might, if it so chooses, proceed rapidly with its plans for purchase without the delay necessary in laying all of the plans and details before those bodies and waiting for their approval.

It is pointed out by White that: "Unlike all other city responsibilities, this sort of enterprise will produce to the city its own costs and yield a profit to the city, while the credit of Indianapolis will make its securities gilt edge. It will not cost the citizens a dollar in additional taxes and in time can be made to produce sufficient revenue to be used in reducing general taxes."

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COUGH SYRUP COMPOUND
The Reliable Family
OVER 100 MILLION BOTTLES USED

CLINTON CLINGS TO ITS PRIDE; HOPES TO AVERT RUIN WITHOUT CHARITY



Mrs. B. — of Soupbone Hollow, Clinton, Ind., is the wife of a formerly prosperous miner. Once they had a comfortable home. The children had warm clothes, plenty to eat. Today, in

a dingy shack she washes clothes in a tub which leaks so badly that each two minutes she must empty the pail on the floor back into the tub again.

Mrs. B. — is Scotch; she has

the typical Scotch pride. The family doesn't want charity. It badly needs employment of some kind. Even if the father can get a few days of road work, it will help.

Down in Soupbone hollow this morning, this correspondent entered one of the homes of the unemployed. Two children, shabbily dressed, were playing around the dingy floor. The mother was slav-

ing over a washtub, a metal wash-tub; she was using an old-fashioned, worn-out scrubbing board.

And in the bottom of that wash-tub was a hole from which trickled a steady stream of water into a pail on the floor. Every two minutes that pail filled and she was forced to reach down and empty it again in the tub. There was 8 cents—a nickel and three pennies—in the tub.

She had attempted to get a few days of road work, it will help.

In the windows were strips of cardboard replacing glass. The bare laths stared forth from the broken plaster on the walls...

"What can we do?" this mother asked. "There is no work!"

DEMOCRATS TO HOLD CAUCUS

House Majority to Discuss Platform Pledges.

Probability that a caucus of the

Democratic house majority will be held late today, following the adjournment, loomed as Speaker Walter Myers and State Chairman R. Earl Peters attempted to get in touch with Representative Delph McFesson (Dem., Marshall), majority floor leader.

And that form of necessity entails the sale of Clinton coal to the point where the mines can reopen.

The question is, where it will come from.

Heretofore, charity has been a local proposition. The American Red Cross, the state unemployment commission, and all other agencies are merely, as far as Clinton is concerned, newspaper items, which tell of a happy utopia somewhere, with jobs for everyone, plenty of money, food, warm clothing and decent living conditions.

Thousands Spent

The great part of the local relief has been provided by the township trustees, who spent approximately \$25,000 from an already depleted treasury in the last year. Now there isn't any more money, because the citizens haven't been working and consequently couldn't pay any rent to the landlords, who consequently couldn't pay taxes into the township that the money might be spent for relief.

Last October a local chapter of the Red Cross was organized with about a dozen members. They have done what they can, but have reported no receipts from the national organization. The local chapter of the American Legion has spent every dollar in its treasury. Churches have given up their resources; there isn't a minister in town who has not come to the aid of his salary in full for some time.

Immediate Action Needed

And now there isn't any more. So what next?

What is essential here now is immediate action whereby state funds will be released so our people may be employed at road work or anything else which will retain their self-respect, afford them employment and allow them to get back on their feet through their

Thirty-seven Fight Charges

By Times Special

MUNCIE, Ind., Jan. 19.—Counsel for Vernon Walburn, proprietor of the Club cigar store, arrested with thirty-six other men in a gambling raid on the place, has filed a motion in the court of City Judge J. Frank Mann seeking dismissal of charges on the ground that a search was "without warrant or justification." Walburn and employe Bert Duffy, are charged with operating a gambling establishment and the other thirty-five accused of visiting it.

In Auto in Killed

By United Press

SOUTH BEND, Ind., Jan. 19.—An automobile accident claimed its second life here Sunday when Joseph Kis, 18, died. His companion, Miss Martha Aulenbach, 18, was killed instantly when his car skidded off an icy road into a ditch Saturday night.

Free Dancing Lessons

I wish to take advantage of the opportunity given by The Times and the Stockman Studios for free dancing lessons two nights this week. I understand that this coupon entitles me to one free lesson if presented at the door of the studio Tuesday or Thursday night.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

LEGISLATORS TO RUSH HELP FOR JOBLESS

Resolution Asks Gas Tax Distribution at Once, to Make Work.

To make possible immediate distribution to cities, counties and towns of Indiana approximately \$3,000,000 in gasoline tax collections, a bill was being drafted by the legislative bureau today for immediate introduction in the general assembly.

Efforts to win prompt passage of the measure under suspension of the rules were promised by Senator Alonzo H. Lindley (Rep., Fountain, Vermillion and Warren), leader in the movement for unemployment relief.

Both houses of the legislature re-

convened at 2 this afternoon.

The local units share one-fourth of the 4-cent tax, but distribution normally is not made until March 1.

Reason for making money available now is to provide jobs for the unemployed by road work in different communities.

The state highway department, which gets the other 3 cents of the gas tax and still owes the cities, counties and towns fund \$600,000, is scheduled to increase its maintenance work as a relief measure and the budget committee is to act on a request to transfer more funds to maintenance, now listed for construction.

Tax Bill to Be Introduced

Lindley plans introduction of three bills on taxation which will tie-in with the program.

One would prevent real estate tax sales by the sheriffs, scheduled for Feb. 9, and declare a moratorium for one year. Another bill would provide for amortization of tax payments over a four-year period and a third would call for real estate reappraisal this year instead of the regular time in 1932.

The bills were drafted in conference of Lindley, Sumner Clancy, former Indianapolis state senator; Louis Seeger, local real estate dealer, and Lewis Taylor of the Indiana Farm Bureau.

It is estimated by this group that between \$8,000,000 and \$10,000,000 in tax sales would be halted by the moratorium.

Opposed by Treasurers

Clyde E. Robinson, Marion county treasurer, declared it will cost Marion county alone \$300,000 in delinquent taxes. As president of the Indiana County Treasurers' Association, he stated, he and his organization will oppose the measure.

One reason is that many of these treasurers will retire before the collection fees become available under this plan.

Since taxation has become the

joint bi-partisan committee of house and senate is scheduled to hold its first meeting Tuesday morning at 9 to discuss plans for raising revenues and reducing governmental expense.

The committee is composed of

four Republicans and five Democrats, with Lieutenant-Governor Edgar D. Bush (Rep., Salem) and Speaker Walter Myers (Dem., Marion) as ex-officio members.

Sales Tax Plan Advanced

The senate committee consists of

three Republicans and two Democ-

rats, while the makeup of the house committee is the reverse.

Representative H. Curtiss Ben-

nett (Dem., Dearborn and Ohio) re-

ported today that he is prepared to

introduce a new tax plan designed

to levy on gross retail sales in a

progressive manner to increase pay-

ments from chain stores.

A so-called chain store tax bill,

introduced by Bennett, was passed

by the 1929 legislature and is awaiting

decision of the United States su-

preme court, having been declared

unconstitutional in the Federal dis-

trict court here.

The new Bennett bill would

charge \$1 license fee for all stores

and provide a graduated levy on

gross sales starting at one-twentieth

of one per cent on gross sales under

\$400,000 and expanding to 1 per cent

on \$10,000,000 more.

Levy to Be Fought

The author says it is based on the

Kentucky law and would produce about \$3,000,000 in revenues.

Proposed tax on tobacco sales will

be fought by the tobacco interests,

who are preparing to appear before

the house committee with figures to

show that the tobacco tax has been

abandoned in other states where

it tried.

Relative of Mayor Hit by Car; Injured Critically.

John E. Hollett, 56, of 4001 North

Meridian street, brother-in-law of

Mayor Reginald H. Sullivan, was in-

jured critically this morning when

struck by an auto as he crossed

Meridian street in front of his

home.

The car was driven by Miss Mary

Hardesty, 22, of 542 Central court,

who was arrested on charges of as-

sault and battery and reckless driv-

ing. Miss Lotys Beaming, 3460 North