# FEW NEW LAWS WILL BE FRUIT OF '31 SESSION

## Governor Has Signed Only 34, With Legislature Six Days From Close.

Whatever its failures in tax reduction, Indiana's seventy-seventh general assembly is destined to achieve one economy in governmental expenditures—the printer's bill for the "Acts of 1931."

With adjournment sine die six working days and nights away, there is every indication taxpayers' cries for relief from the burdensome property levy will go unanswered.

But the meager product of the ebbing legislature promises satisfaction for a considerable part of Indiana's population, not so audible, but who feel, rightly or wrongly, that "the fewer new laws, the better!"

Upon Governor Harry G. Leslie and his adviser, Attorney-General James M. Ogden, will fall the last minute burden of scores of bills certain to be passed in the one remaining week. Two years ago, 243 laws found their way into the statute books. This morning, only thirty-four bills had been accorded the Governor's signature.

**Income Tax to Fore**

Proposals for a 1½ per cent tax on corporate incomes and a 1 to 4 per cent levy on personal incomes held the center of the stage as the curtain went down on this week's episode. Their passage has become increasingly doubtful although their proponents still inisst they will be enacted.

The bill urged by the state tax survey comimsison as the pair's inseparable companion, to list intangibles at 25 per cent of their value for taxation, has been chased from the picture by Lieutenant Governor Edgar D. Bush.

Congressional reapportionment hangs in midair. Without it, twelve Indiana representatives will be elected at large in 1932. The senate has been unable to dispose of its own bill throwing nominations for all state, district, county and municipal offices into convention. Killed was the state bar's proposal for election of judges on non-partisan ballots.

Although an old age pension bill probably will go to the Governor, its provisions are optional with county commissioners instead of mandatory. The recurrent blind pension bill has been killed in both houses.

General sales tax proposals never have emerged from the house ways and means committee; the tax was pushed onto the floor only to be exterminated, and the malt tax bill awaits third reading in the house, where it originated.

**Various Levies Fail**

Bills to tax admissions to athletic events, movies and theatrical events have gotten nowhere. Proposals to tax billboards, utility poles, electric current and conditional sales contracts have fared no better. Steps to extend the poll tax to women have been fruitless although there remains the possibility poll tax receipts may have to be displayed before automobile drivers and other licenses, other than fishing and hunting, will be issued.

Prospect of a 50 per cent increase in auto license fees hinges upon corporate and personal income tax considerations. In the new license scale, passed by the senate and sent to the house, pleasure vehicles rates would be 35 cents on each 100 pounds, regardless of weight, while trucks, buses and tractors would suffer steep increases. The $9,000,000 so raised annually would be diverted from highway building to the general fund for property tax reduction under the favorable senate plan, yet to win house approval.

Long debated, but still unsettled in the upper house, is the Hartzell bill to bring fraternal properties under taxation. The house has killed the Weiss bills providing for the consolidation of townships and counties to effect government economies, but similar measures await action in the senate.

Free textbook possibilities have gone glimmering although the house has sent to the senate bills proposing text adoption revisions intended to save parents thousands of dollars.

House-approved plans for financing school aid indebtedness in southern Indiana's bankrupt school units have not yet engaged the senate's attention, much less passed.

The house bill reducing the legal rate of interest on petty loans from 3½ per cent a month to 2½ per cent has failed twice by the margin of a hair to muster the required votes for passage in the house.

Pledged to end abuses of the fee system for county officials, the Democratic house is wrestling with the problem, preparatory to sending it across the hall to a Republican senate.

**Dry Law Stands**

The Wright bone-dry law hasn't been changed one iota. Modification to permit medicinal whisky met defeat in the house, as did the proposal to reduce prosecutor's fees in liquor convictions from $25 to $10 and require prosecutor's approval of affidavits before issuance of search warrants. But a second bill to reduce the fees to $5 is accorded a chance of house favor and a risky trip to the senate.

Bone dry law repeal measures repose in the house morals committee with no possible chance of enactment. The house Friday defeated an attempt to require a report from the committee. Effort of senate wets to provide for prohibition referendums have come to naught, although the 1931 session has brought startling evidence of rebellion against Anti-Saloon League dominance, and new recruits for the wet cause.

Proposed state censorship of movies and theaters never got beyond the bill form. The house went "liberal" to pass and send to the senate a bill legalizing pari-mutuel betting and creating a state athletic commission to supervise boxing and permit ten-round decision fights, but senate approval is dubious.

The senate's vain attempt to bring utility holding companies under public service commission supervision is history and little change in the commission's authority or procedure is expected, except, possibly, to broaden its control over busses and bus transportation companies.

The senate today was to vote its sentiment on the bill supplanting the present highway director and commission with a board of four, after receiving the report of its investigating committee. The fish and game division of the conservation department will remain under the same control despite legislative efforts to the contrary, and the state crime commission proposal to take the criminal bureau and state police from the secretary of state into a state department of public safety has come to naught.

Licensing bills have run their usual ill-fated course, those to provide for licensing and regulating cosmotologists, real estate dealers, abstractors, barbers and others either having been killed or headed for oblivion.

# *Senate Gets Road Labor Pay Measure*

Upon shoulders of Indiana senators now rests the responsibility of determining whether common laborers employed by contractors constructing state highways can be forced into what, it is charged, virtually amounts to peonage.

Following the plans of two Marion county representatives, E. C. and J. F. White, the house of representatives late Friday passed a bill sponsored by the former which fixes a minimum wage for common labor employed on public works of 40 cents an hour.

White's bill, which was passed, 57-26, was based on The Times expose of the terrible conditions existing among the highway laborers, who are paid from 15 to 20 cents an hour by contractors who, in making their bids, based estimates on pay of 40 and 50 cents an hour.

**Democrat Only Opponent**

But one voice was raised against the humanitarian measure, that of George C. Ale (Dem., Decatur and Jennings), who declared it to be "a bad bill which tried to put the state into the position of guardian over private contracts."

This was blasted by the author who pointed out there is nothing inequitable in the provisions of the bill and all contractors doing public work would be forced to this minimum wage of 40 cents an hour.

The measure also provides that where other labor is used the minimum wage can not be below that paid for similar labor in the community where the work is being done.

"We should not permit the destitution of our people to be exploited," declared John F. White.

"This bill is entirely justifiable and equitable and would abolish a condition that can not be tolerated in a civilized state."

**Two Fail to Vote**

The author of the bill pointed out that no contractors opposed its passage, and it would be in fact a relief measure. Representatives Gerritt M. Bates and Russell Dean (Dem., Marion) were among those who did not vote.

Another labor bill, similar to the "yellow dog" contract measure vetoed by Governor Harry G. Leslie last week, also passed the house by a vote of 60 to 27.

This measure would prevent the state or any political subdivision to award a contract for any public work to any person who prevents his employes from belonging to any lawful organization or asks them not to belong to such an organization.

Labor, however, was defeated on two measures which would provide for stringent boiler inspection, and set penalties for violations thereof, and also require payment of licenses for boilers having more than fifteen pounds of pressure or more than 30-horse power.

## LIMIT ON BANK LOANS APPROVED BY HOUSE

**State Association Sponsor Measure as Protection to Depositors.**

Greater protection for depositors is the aim of the senate bill passed Thursday by the Indiana house of representatives placing a loan limit of 20 per cent of capital stock and surplus on state and private banks.

Representative Earl Crawford, Milton banker, was successful in defeating an attempt to kill the measure. Crawford, explaining the bill is sponsored by the Indiana Bankers' Association, declared it is a forward step in safe banking. Representative Sam Benz (Dem., Crawford and Harrison), charged passage will drive loans "out of the country banks into the city banks."

A house amendment fixed the state bank limit the same as for private banks instead of the 10 per cent provided in the original senate bill.

## TAX FOR GRAND STAND

**Measure Vote Would Pay for $250,000 State Fair Structure.**

Bearing approval of the Indiana senate and house, the bill designed to finance a new grand stand at the state fairground today was sent to Governor Harry G. Leslie's desk.

The measure, which originated in the house and passed the senate Friday, increases the state board of agriculture levy in the state tax rate from 2½ to 3½ mills. If approved, the measure would afford funds for a $250,000 structure, capable of seating 12,000 persons. The present grand stand has been condemned frequently as a "fire trap."

**Burglar Alarm False**

*By Times Special*

BURNSVILLE, Ind., Feb. 28.—When some residents of Burnsville saw lights in a store operated by Glenn Brougher at an early morning hour they believed burglars were in the store and spread an alarm. Many other residents were roused from sleep and Brougher's brother, Lloyd Brougher, a grocer of Grammer, was called and hurried to Burnsville. When he arrived it was learned that Glenn Brougher was in the store, having stopped at the store on his way home.

**Duchess Cancels Engagement**

*By United Press*

GREENCASTLE, Ind., Feb. 28.—Grand Duchess Marie of Russia, scheduled to speak here under auspices of DePauw university Sunday night, will be unable to fill her engagement, because of an injury sustained in Chicago, university officials have been informed today. New date of March 15 or late in April was offered for the appearance here.

# OFFICIALS CLASH ON APPROACHES TO NEW BRIDGE

## Indiana Highway Engineer and Commission Chairman's Views Apart.

*By Times Special*

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Feb. 28.—Vanderburgh county commissioners, after learning that W. J. Titus, chief engineer of the Indiana highway commission, has expressed a view on approaches to the Indiana-Kentucky Ohio river bridge at variance with those announced by Albert J. Wedeking, commission chairman, will take the matter up with highway bodies of both states.

Wedeking, testifying before a house committee of the Indiana legislature, said the state had nothing to do with acquiring land for the approaches. Titus, however, says the road commissions of the two states will act together in acquiring the land. It is said Kentucky officials have expressed a willingness to buy land for the Indiana side approach.

Titus contends that a boulevard approach, with a landscape center, is not safe and would cost more than an ordinary street, a view opposed by A. V. Burch, one of the bridge advocates.

"It's unfortunate that a state highway engineer should make such a statement," Burch declared. It's the first time I ever heard boulevards, providing two one-way roads, were unsafe."

# TERMINAL OPEN AT EVANSVILLE

## City Pictured as 'Gateway of the South."

*By United Press*

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Feb. 28. — Evansville was pictured as the "Gateway of the South" by transportation leaders attending the dedication ceremonies Friday of the $500,000 Mead Johnson river-rail terminal.

Millions of dollars of freight will move through here from northern Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, which is now routed through Louisville, Cairo and Cincinnati, speakers pointed out.

Leaders in river and rail transportation and waterways development extended congratulations to the terminal builder, E. Mead Johnson.

# *Bill to Dampen Dry Law Faces Lingering Death*

The Galloway bill providing for a state Volstead act to supplant the Wright bone dry law as Indiana's liquor control legislation is going to remain in the hands of the house of representatives public morals committee just as long as its chairman, Representative Russell J. Dean (Dem., Marion) sees fit.

Persistent efforts of the house wets to get the bill on the floor of the house or without committee recommendation were defeated definitely Friday afternoon when the house voted 64-24 against forcing the committee's hand. As soon as the vote was announced, Representative Earl Crawford (Dem., Union and Wayne) moved to consider and then to table his own motion, thus preventing further action on the bill unless Dean reports it voluntarily. It has been in committee since Feb. 19.

**Repeal Measure Waits**

The Galloway-Egan bill calling for outright repeal of the Wright act has been in committee since Jan. 15 with no report, although a public hearing was held and the authors persistently have sought action.

Failure of the Galloway-Black malt tax bill to pass earlier in the afternoon was the signal for a barrage of irony by Representative W. E. Stanton (Dem., Lake), at the expense of the Wright bone dry act.

**'Nobody Making Home Brew'**

"Why should we put a tax on malt?" demanded Stanton, "when everybody knows what a wonderful liquor law Indiana has. Why, there isn't any malt sold in Indiana, is there? I'm sure nobody is making home brew and I see no reason for going to the trouble of putting a tax on malt."

Repeated bursts of laughter greeted his sarcastic references to "Indiana as a bone dry state."

The bill failed 45-39 to gain a constitutional majority and will be called down again for passage. It would place a tax of 2 cents a pound on malt and a tax of 6 cents a gallon on wort.

**Last of Family Dies.**

*By Times Special*

COLUMBUS, Ind., Feb. 28.—Albert E. Jackson, 52, poultry raiser and pigeon fancier, died at his home two miles west of here. He had lived in this vicinity twenty-seven years, having spent his younger years in southern Indiana near Boonville. He recently shipped three pigeons to Australia, for which he received $400. He was widely known as a pigeon faiser and he also specialized in poultry. He was a member of the Christian Science church, and of the Masonic and Knights Templar lodges and the Scottish Rite and Shrine. He was the last of a family of thirteen to die. He leaves his widow.

**Testified Against Capone**

*By Times Special*

KOKOMO, Ind., Feb. 28.—J. W. Cooper, former Kokomo man, was among government witnesses against Al Capone, notorious gang leader, when he appeared in federal court at Chicago this week on a contempt charge. Cooper, now an agent at Miami, Fla., for a steamship line, testified to selling a ticket to Capone for trip to the West Indies.

**New Bank at Mooresville**

*By Times Special*

MOORESVILLE, Ind., Feb. 28.—With a capital of $25,000, and a surplus of $12,500, the new Citizens Bank of Mooresville will open Thursday. It occupies a building used by a bank which closed.

# PLEAS ENTERED BY FEDERAL ACCUSED

## *Votes for Dad*

A proxy vote was "cast" Thursday in the Indiana house of representatives during voting on the Karrer petty loan bill.

Richard Weiss, 7, a page, heard the ballot clerk call the name of his father, Representative Jacob Weiss (Dem., Marion) and then say to the recording clerk, "Weiss isn't here."

"He votes aye," Weiss junior calmly announced from his page's stool.

# INJURED BOY ASKS $20,000

## Auto Victim Plaintiff in Greensburg Suit.

*By Times Special*

GREENSBURG, Ind., Feb. 28.—Crippled for life in an automobile accident, Roy Taylor, 11, through his father, Clyde S. Taylor, has brought suit in Decatur circuit court here seeking $20,000 damages from Charles Simpson and Manford Slifer. The father at the same time filed suit against the same defendants for $3,000 for expenses incurred in treating the boys injuries.

The suit alleges that on Oct. 25, 1929, the boy stepped from the rear door of a school bus and was struck by an automobile driven by Simpson. Slifer the bus driver is made co-defendant because, it is said, he did not warn the boy of the approaching car. The boy's left leg is two inches shorter than the right, it is said, as a result of injuries.

# *Intangibles Tax to Be Studied in House Today*

With income tax bills at a standstill until Monday, the Indiana house of representatives today was to consider, on second reading, a companion measure intended to draw moneyed credits and other intangibles out of hiding and on to the tax duplicate.

The measure would require intangibles to be listed for their face value and authorize the assessment to a 75 per cent deduction, leaving 25 per cent of their value to be taxed.

**Opposed by Bush**

Lieutenant Governor Edgar D. Bush has minced no words in denouncing such a step and is expected to attempt to "steam-roller" the bill to its death should it reach the senate.

"If a man is crooked enough to steal a dollar, he'll steal a quarter," Bush said recently to legislators who believed the 75 per cent deduction would induce the listing of sequestered intangibles.

**Alternative Prepared**

Should the bill fail, tax revision leaders expect to bring out a new bill providing for a flat rate of taxation on bank assessments of $1.30. The present average tax is about $3. A suit, brought by the Indiana Bankers' Association, is pending in a Marion county superior court to overthrow the present system of bank taxation.

The personal income tax measure awaits appointment of conference committees to compromise senate amendments to the house bill. The corporate income tax bill awaits second reading in the senate.

Other measures which tax revision leaders are attempting to push to enactment in the remaining week of the legislature include the Beckett-Huff budget limitation bill which prohibits any unit of government from spending more than in 1930 and is a special order of business in the house for Monday afternoon; the Hoffman bill to abolish township assessors and place their duties in the office of county assessor; the Hoffman bill to repeal all minimum mandatory levies; bills increasing motor vehicle license fees and diverting all this revenue from the state highway commission to the state's general fund; bills to reduce the limit of bonded indebtedness for local roads; the house bill requiring applicants for automobile and driver's licenses to have poll tax receipt, and a bill to compel counties and cities to use their portion of the gasoline tax money in road and street maintenance.

## YOUNG ATHLETE KILLED

**Train Strikes Automobile Carrying Huntinburg Net Team.**

*By United Press*

OAKLAND CITY, Ind., Feb. 28.—A Huntingburg high school basketball player was killed and the coach and a second member of the team injured when an auto which was struck by a Big Four train on a crossing here Friday night.

Fred Stimson Jr., 16, was killed when he leaped from the auto and was ground beneath the engine's wheels. The train was backing slowly at the time. Injuries to the others were not serious. Glen Trawl, coach, suffered a broken leg, and Glen Arensman, played, slight bruises.

The team was returning from a game at Princeton.

**Mother of Nine Dies**

CARMEL, Ind., Feb. 28.—Mrs. Martha Stum, 78, mother of nine children, was buried here. She died at the home of her son, Samuel Stum, in Anderson. She was the mother of Mrs. Rosa Hattery, wife of Sheriff Frank Hattery. Other children are John and William Stum, Zionsville; Curtis Stum, Carmel; Alva Stum, Danville, Ill.; Harry Stum, Clayton; Mrs. Ellen Bryant, Lebanon, and Mrs. Mary Merideth, Hall. There are forty-two grandchildren and twenty great-grandchildren.

**Aged Woman Dies**

*By Times Special*

NOBLESVILLE, Ind., Feb. 28.—Mrs. Oscar Day, 59, is dead at her home in southwestern Hamilton county. She leaves her husband, a son Elmer, Miami Beach, Fla.; two daughters, Miss Helen Day, at home and Miss Halcie Day, a teacher at Oxford; two sisters, Mrs. Flora Vickery, Sheridan, and Mrs. Minnie Hussey, Indianapolis, and two brothers, Clinton Power of Attica and Lawrence Power, Milwaukee.

## Dispositions of Cases in Three Districts to Be Made During April.

Pleadings and disposition of cases before Judge Robert C. Baltzell in federal court at Indianapolis were as follows:

**Terre Haute Division**

Trials of those pleading not guilty will be held at Terre Haute beginning April 6. At that time, sentence also will be imposed upon those pleading guilty today, unless otherwise provided.

Pleas were as follows:

Leslie Taylor, white slavery, not guilty; David H. Humphrey, liquor, guilty; Viola Hoopes and Verne Sutherland, liquor, guilty; Cecilia Miller, liquor, guilty; Herschel Clark, liquor, not guilty; Robert Wyllie, liquor, guilty; Edward Wyatt, Michael Shannon, Clarence Tucker and Edward Drussell, liquor and possession, guilty; Edward H. Wilson, liquor sale and possession, guilty; George L. Steinbrenner, liquor, guilty; Robert Gosnell, liquor; Garfield Dugger, liquor manufacture and maintenance of still, guilty; Petri Guerri, Frank Muzzarilla, Katy Bonucchi and Ermiti Bonucchi, liquor manufacture, still and nuisance, not guilty; Fred Bongiovanni, liquor manufacture, not guilty; George W. Allan, liquor, guilty; Arthur C. Allen, liquor, not guilty; Stephenen Myers, liquor, guilty; Albert Nolte, Robert F. Navarie and George Casolet, liquor, not guilty; George A. Mulvaney, liquor, guilty; Claire Callin, narcotics, guilty; Dow Finlayson and Cecil Johnson, narcotics, guilty; Willson Mosier, motor theft, guilty; Earl Pellens, motor theft, guilty; Oscar A. Thayer, counterfeiting, not guilty; Harold Taylor, parcel post theft, guilty; Helen Goldman, liquor, guilty; Sylvia Lang, liquor, not guilty; Marie Gregory, liquor, guilty; Howard Locke, liquor, guilty; William S. Crockett, liquor, guilty; Jack Lamb, liquor, not guilty; Charles Mosk and Mary Mosk, liquor manufacture, not guilty.

**Evansville Division**

Trials and sentencing to begin April 13.

William Kerby, motor theft, guilty; Charles Hall, liquor, guilty; James Freeman, liquor, guilty; Eunice Kellens, liquor, guilty; William Rowe, liquor, guilty; Sylvester Olberding, liquor, guilty; Louis G. Otto, violation National bank act, not guilty; Charles Ransom and Minnie E. Turpen, forgery, guilty; Carroll J. Harcrow, forgery, guilty; Theodore Davis, motor theft, guilty; Fred Carrico, counterfeiting, guilty; Archie Leslie, liquor, guilty; Tony Strotman and John Mathias, liquor, not guilty; George Cramer, liquor possession and nuisance, not guilty; Marie Kelley, narcotics, not guilty.

**New Albany Division**

Trials and sentencing will be held beginning April 20.

Edward C. Tibbett, liquor, not guilty; Carl Pearcy, liquor, not guilty; Joseph Russell, liquor possession, guilty; Louis Wisenberger, liquor possesion, not guilty; Wilbur G. Smith, liquor, guilty; Stanley Smith, liquor, not guilty; Porter Kinnaird, liquor, guilty; Arthur Eisenshank and Albert Bradley, liquor, not guilty; Marion Freeman, liquor, not guilty; Edward B. Meisenhelder, liquor, guilty; Brown Mitchell, liquor, guilty; Linn Parker, liquor, guilty; Boyd Miller, liquor transportation, guilty; Clarence Davis, possession of still, guilty; James O. Blythe, manufacture of liquor, transportation and possession of still, guilty; Lydia Ashton, liquor, not guilty; Thomas Vest, liquor, not guilty; Raymond Jacobi, liquor, guilty; Fred P. Saunders, liquor transportation, nuisance and conspiracy, not guilty; Elbert H. Sarles, operating a nuisance and liquor conspiracy, not guilty; Joseph Nail, liquor manufacture and possession, guilty.

# *Bush Refuses to Hand Down Bills on School Books*

In Lieutenant-Governor Edgar D. Bush's pocket repose three bills, passed by the house several days ago, and enactment of which would save thousands of dollars for Hoosier parents, it is claimed.

They are the three multiple textbook bills which would permit adoption of four texts for each subject, only one of which may be selected by any school unit; forbid the adoption of more than one text for any subject every five years, and provide for a textbook rental system.

In the face of a persistent lobby and bitter opposition led by Representative Gerritt M. Bates and Russell Dean (Dem., Marion), the bills were passed by the house.

With but one week of the session remaining, the bills rest in the lieutenant governor's pocket.

Bush says that half of the membership of the senate asked that he keep the bills and not hand them down. Majority of the representatives are demanding the senate take some action.

These measures are said to be of the utmost importance to parents as they would cut the cost of textbooks and book companies have been conducting a "pernicious lobby" against the bills, it is declared.

## GERMAN CLUB ELECTS

**Bloomington Student President of I. U. Organization.**

*By Times Special*

BLOOMINGTON, Ind., Feb. 28.—Edgar C. Cummings, Bloomington, a senior at Indiana university, has been elected president of Der Deutsche Verein, an organization of students who rank high in the study of German. Other officers are: Louise Hummel, vice-president, Muncie; William Waldschmidt, secretary, Cannelton, and Professor Frederick J. Menger of the German department, faculty treasurer.

The club has elected the follwing new members: Katheryn Young, Martha Wright and Carolyn Curry, Bloomington; Edward Goldstein, Charles Gold and David Doktor, Paterson, N. J.; Albert Hall, Columbus; John Holmes, Peru; Henry Brocksmith, Freelandville Rose Elpers, Ft. Branch; Harry Cochran, Frankfort; Dorothy Meyer, Holland; Marion Gaber, East Chicago; Myer Gootkin, Chelsea, and Lewis Pollak, Indianapolis.

**Death Driver Punished**

*By Times Special*

BLOOMINGTON, Ind., Feb. 28.—Fines totaling $35 and a jail term of thirty days were imposed on Clyde Skirvin, driver of an automobile which collided with a motorcycle, causing the death of Logan Stewart. Skirvin was fined $10 for being drunk and $25 with the jail term for driving while drunk. A grand jury failed to return a manslaughter charge, although Skirvin was recommended held on that count by the coroner.

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# RADICAL BAITING MET WITH TWO SHARP RETORTS

## Socialists and Richmond Pastor Rap American Legion, Jr. O. U. A. M.

*By Times Special*

RICHMOND, Ind., Feb. 28.—Recent action of the local American Legion post and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics in denouncing socialism and communism has brought vigorous replies from two quarters.

In a statement issued today the Richmond Socialist organization declares.

"We want the people of Richmond to know that we are not Reds, communists, bolshevists or 'riot makers.' We are socialists. The local socialists have not caused nor made any trouble in Richmond. They have stayed within the law. They are square with everyone and expect the same in return."

On the heels of several denunciations from the pulpit, the Rev. C. Franklin Koch of St. Paul's Lutheran church, one of the leading ministers of the city, make a statement in which de decried the wave of the hysteria which followed the recent meeting here which was addressed by Norman Thomas, noted socialist.

The Rev. Mr. Koch said:

"It is rather unfortunate that another wave of hysteria has hit certain groups in our city, and that such hysteria has been expressed from pulpit and through resolutions. I refer to the phobia of communism.

"It appears that the public appearance here of Norman Thomas, candidate of the Socialist party for President in 1928, is being interpreted as a subtle attack of Communism on our constitutional government. Well, well! Silence the man and save the government!

**Points to Differences**

For the sake of clarity, let me state that Socialism and Communism are not synonomous. A man may be a believer in the principles of Socialism and not be a Communist. The Socialist party in the United States is not Communistic as may be determined from a review of its platform promulgated in 1928.

"I hold no brief for Norman Thomas. I am not a member of the Socialist party, neither am I one of those who could be easily deported (as many advocate for all who disagree with them) since on three lineages I can trace my ancestry back to pre-Revolutionary war days, and on the fourth line for more than eighty years, all in Pennsylvania, but Thomas is not a Communist, although a Socialist, as any one who heard him here could easily determine. I heard him twice, first at Earlham college, and later at the Morton high school building.

"Nothing was said in either speech to which any fair-minded citizen could object.

"Nothing he said in criticism of our government, and all such criticism was confined to its handling of the unemployment situation, was half as bitter as that published in the February number of the Atlantic Monthly under the caption, 'A National Political Armistice,' by Edward P. Costigan, former Governor of Colorado, and United States senator-elect from that state.

**Declares Both Parties Fail**

"One thing is sure and certain. The two old parties have bungled things until wehave reached a critical economic situation, for the solution of which neither Republicans nor Democrats have any adequate program. They are afflicted with sterility of ideas and bankruptcy of action. Many thinking people are looking for a modern Moses to lead us out of the chaos in which we are wallowing, and unfair denunciations and accusations against those with whom we perchance fail to agree does more harm than good.

"The anomaly of the present hysteria is that the organizations objecting to granting freedom of speech to Norman Thomas, or any other Socialist, profess as one of their purposes, support of the federal Constitption. Has it escaped their notice or memory that the Constitution of the United States guarantees freedom of speech and press to alll citizens?"

## AIRPORT FUNDS VOTED

**Senate Approves Hangar Building and Stout Field Maintenance.**

The Indiana senate Thursday passed with a minor amendment the house bill appropriating $45,000 for hangar construction and $12,500 a year for two years for maintenance of Stout field, Mars Hill, the Indiana National Guard airport.

The measure now will go back to the house for concurrence in the amendment which eliminated a clause prohibiting the National Guard from making any future contracts for commercial flying companies to use the field.

**C. of C. Elects**

*By Times Special*

FRANKLIN, Ind., Feb. 28.—Edward C. Bailey has been chosen president of the Franklin Chamber of Commerce for a term of one year. Other officers are Oris A. Vandivier, vice-president; Livy A. Young, treasurer, and Mrs. O. I. Demaree, secretary.

**Hatchery Fire Damages Home**

*By Times Special*

ANDERSON, Ind., Feb. 28.—Fire starting in basement, where chickens were being hatched, caused serious damage at the home of Dr. Fred A. Kimble. The blaze burned two holes through the floor and damaged some of the furnishings before it was checked by firemen. Two hundred chicks were burned to death.

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# *Man Perfers Chair Death to Life Term*

*By Times Special*

WINCHESTER, Ind., Feb. 28.—Charles W. Smith, 35, Richmond Negro, held in the Randolph county jail here, has been a prisoner fifteen months without being brought to trial on a charge of first degree murder resulting from the shooting of Willard Hoover, a white man at Richmond, said to have been the result of a quarrel over Hoover's estranged wife.

Another continuance was added to the long list in the case when a delay of trial was granted this week because of the illness of one of the defendant's attorneys. All the other continuances were granted on request of the state. April 20 is the new trial date.

The case was brought here on a change of venue from Wayne circuit court at Richmond.

Hoover was slain Nov. 29, 1929. He was found dying from bullet wounds on a Richmond street corner. The shooting, to which which so far as known there were no witnesses, is supposed to have taken place in a tailor shop operated by the Negro. Hoover had been unofficial gunsmith for the Richmond police department.

"If I am not acquitted, I want to be sent to the electric chair," Smith declares. "I don't want to spend the rest of my life in prison for a crime I did not commit."

# FATHER OF FIVE GIVEN LIBERTY

## Sent to Prison for Stealing Food for Family.

*By United Press*

MICHIGAN CITY, Ind., Feb. 28.—A ninety-day parole was granted by the state prison parole board Friday night for Everett Reynolds, Howard county, sentenced in June, 1930, for grand larceny. His plea that he stole from a grocery for use of his wife and five children, while unemployed, and that they now need his support was recognized.

A pardon was recommended for Wilford Lambert, Jay county, serving ten to twenty years for grand larceny. His wife and nine children pleaded for him. He was sentenced Mrch 1, 1926.

A ninety-day temporary parole was granted Edward Fawcett, Clarke county, serving ten to twenty-one years for stealing a $1 watch. He was sentenced in October 1924.

Parole was denied Arthur Knox, sentenced in Blackford circuit court to ten to twenty-one years for stealing sheep. He has served but one year.

Upon the pleas of the police chief, prosecutor and sixty-five neighbors of Philip Qualls, Morgan county, serving one to five years for possession of a still, a parole was granted. He had served eight months.

Harold Singhaus, Clay county, ten to twenty-five years for auto banditry, was paroled. He entered prison in 1923 at the age of 16, after serving six previous serial terms.

## CHILD LABOR LAW OF INDIANA RATED HIGHLY

**Woman Director of State Bureau Discusses Act at Bloomington.**

*By Times Special*

BLOOMINGTON, Ind., Feb. 28.—"It is difficult to make an angry parent understand why the state should interfere if the parent is willing to permit his 14-year-old son to work until 10 p. m., or get up at 3 a. m. and work until school time, but it is the business of the state to do so.

"The great state of Indiana refuses to consider its children as instruments of production, but rather as embryo citizens who must, in the future, bear the responsibilities of government."

Such was the outline of the Hoosier governmental policy regarding child labor given by Mrs. Jessie Gremelspacher, director of the women and children division of the state industrial board, before the Monroe county conference on child health and protection convened here Friday.

"The Indiana child labor law is considered one of the best in the country and has served as a model for other states," Mrs. Gremelspacher declared.

**Wife Branded Drug User**

*By Times Special*

CRAWFORDSVILLE, Ind., Feb. 28.—Joseph Robinson alleges in a divorce suit filed here that Mrs. Iola Robinson is a drug addict.

# 'YELLOW KID' OF SWINDLE FAME SHOWS DECLINE

## Age Making Inroads on Joseph Weil, Visitors at Jail Assert.

*By Times Special*

HAMMOND, Ind., Feb. 28.—Joseph (Yellow Kid) Weil, confidence man extraordinary and who readily admits he is the most able criminal of that type, is slipping. Except for gloves of yellow kid, his sartorial ensemble is far from that he affected in other days. Weil, now 53, is slowing down, according to persons who have visited him in jail here.

Weil was arrested here a few days ago with three alleged confederates, while attempting to obtain a loan on an insurance policy of one of the latter. That is how low the confidence man stands financially. Nor is that all. There is a little matter of gold mine stock selling at Decatur, which has already put Fred Buckminster, pal of "the kid," behind bars. Walter Danzeisen, packer at Decatur, Ill., charges Weil and Buckminster swindled him out of $2,500 last summer on a sale of the stock.

**Farm Girl Talks**

Miss Jean Scheeringa, daughter of Henry Scheeringa, farmer living near Griffith, has given authorities here what she says are the details of a Weil plot to swindle her father to the extent of $4,500.

A man named Oscar introduced the farmer to Weil, who represented he was in the market for a farm—Scheeringa's farm in particular. Negotiations were opened, and at Weil's suggestion, a survey was made with a view of having electricity wired to the farm.

**Wife's Suspicions Aroused**

Then Weil, the girl alleges, took her father to South Bend to confer with business associates. There it was arranged to have another meeting in Peoria, Ill., to which Scheeringa was to bring $4,500. At this point, the farmer's wife became suspicious. She accompanied him to Peoria as did the $4,500.

In a Peoria hotel, Scheeringa was induced to place his money on a table with what his hosts said was $30,000 of their money. It is charged Weil picked up all the money and placed it in the hotel safe, explaining to Scheeringa such a move was necessary to carry out the farm sale deal.

The Scheeringas soon demanded return of their money, which was granted, but claim they were short changed of $1,000.

## MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP MEASURE FINDS FAVOR

**Bill Affecting Indianapolis Expected to Be Accepted by Senate.**

Senate amendments to the White bill making it possible for the city of Indianapolis to take over any or all utilities are expected to be concurred in today.

The bill passed the senate, with amendments, Friday afternoon, 39 to 1.

The bill, which was originated in the house by Representative John F. White (Dem., Marion) increases the utility district bonded debt tax limit in Indianapolis from 1 cent to 2 cents.

Primary purpose of the measure was to take over the Citizens Gas Company, as provided in a lease contract between the city and the company.

But the scope of the measure is sufficiently broad to permit the city to enter the street railway, water, electrical or telephone field, proponents declare.

White has long been an advocate of municipal ownership as a solution to modern utility problems.

## BUS BILL TO GOVERNOR

**School Transportation Plan Called Greatest Tax Saving Measure.**

What Willis Nusbaum, attorney for the Indiana Taxpawers' Association, termed "the greatest tax saving mseasure of the session" awaits the Governor's signature.

The bill, which was passed by the senate Friday afternoon by a vote of 34 to 5, requires that school bus contracts must be let to the lowest biddder after proper newspaper advertisements for bids.

"The least estimate of saving to school districts throughout the state by this bill is $1,000,000," Nusbaum said. "Even in the outlying districts of Marion county, where children are hauled to school in busses, the cost will be about cut in two."

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Money Back if One Bottle of Dare's Mentha Pepsin Doesn't Do You More Good Than Anything You Ever Used.

You can be so distressed with gas and fullness and bloating that you think your heart is going to stop beating.

Your stomach may be so distended that your breathing is short and gaspy.

You think perhaps you are suffocating.

You are dizzy and pray for quick relief—what's to be done?

Just one tablespoonful of Dare's Mentha Pepsin and in ten minutes the gas disappears, the pressing on the heart ceases and you can breathe deep and naturally.

Oh! What blessed relief; but why not get rid of such attacks altogether? Why have indigestion at all?

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