

# HOLMES DELAYS SCHOOL BOOK BILLS REPORTS

Measures Thought Killed  
by Postponing Action  
in Senate.

Senator C. Oliver Holmes (Rep., La.) today drew the ire of senate Democrats who for ten days have been fighting unsuccessfully to compel the senate's education committee to bring to the floor the trio of house bills governing the preparation, adoption, purchase and rental of text books.

Senator Holmes twice has succeeded in deferring the committee's report although, when asked what interest he had in the measure, he professed to have none. The bills are the subject of hottest contention among book publishers and lobbyists who have succeeded in forming strong alignments, pro and con, among incumbent legislators and some powerful members of past sessions who are rushing around the lobbies and down the aisles in both houses.

Today Tormohlen drew Lieutenant-Governor Bush into whispered conferences, and the reports had not been made at noon.

**Bills Probably Killed**

The committee report delay, in which Holmes has played an important part, probably has killed the bills. Except by suspension of senate rules, they can not possibly be acted upon by that body in time for their presentation to the Governor before the session ends Monday night.

All three of the text books bills, of which the American Book Company is the chief antagonist, passed the house Feb. 24. A few days later they were submitted to the senate's education committee of which Senator Herbert V. Tormohlen (Rep., Jay and Randolph) is chairman.

Lobby influence aside, retention of the bills in committee was regarded as advantageous to Senate Republicans to force the house judiciary B committee to report out, after delay, the senate bill to divert auto license revenues from the highway department to the general fund. This was done Thursday and the Democratic house slaughtered the diversion bill.

**Each Hour Worth Thousands**

Representative Chester K. Watson (Dem., Allen and Whitley), chairman of house judiciary B committee, is author of the school book bills.

Late Wednesday Democratic senators were promised that if they would withhold their motion demanding the text book bills be reported out, the reports would be forthcoming Thursday morning. The morning passed without fulfillment of the promise.

Early Thursday afternoon Senators Chester A. Perkins (Dem., St. Joseph) and Anderson Ketchum (Dem., Bartholomew, Decatur, Franklin and Union) renewed their demands.

Senator Holmes pointed to Senator Tormohlen's empty seat, said he was sure the reports were ready, and would be returned when the absent senator returned to the chamber.

The afternoon passed with every hour's delay worth thousands of dollars to that group of school book publishers said to be favored by the present system of adoptions.

**Holmes Moves Adjournment**

Senator Tormohlen put in his belated appearance shortly before adjournment as committee reports were being received. He sent down one report of his committee on another bill. He was walking down the aisle nervously with other reports in his hand when Senator Holmes abruptly moved adjournment. Such a motion always is in order.

It carried. Tormohlen beamed with apparent relief. The delay virtually decreed death for the bills.

Questioned as to his manifest interest in the measures, Holmes, not

## Child 'Experts'

By Times Special  
MUNCIE, Ind., March 6.—Speaking at a child welfare conference here, Dr. Homer T. Rainey, president of Franklin college, said he did not feel qualified to tell about child training because he had two children of his own.

"The most heated discussion of the topic that I have ever heard was between an old maid, a bachelor and a married couple 40 years old who had no children," he said.

a member of the education committee, said: "I have no interest in the bills. It is now 3 o'clock and you know what three divided reports would mean at this hour."

"Besides, they haven't the votes here now to pass them. These Republican senators are angry over the house defeat of their license fee diversion bill. They would kill those textbook bills in a minute!"

**Wayne Democrats Hear Slack**

L. Ert Stark, former mayor, addressed the Wayne Township Democratic Club at a meeting in Veterans' hall, King avenue and Walnut street, Wednesday night.

## 'BOMB' EVIDENCE RIDDLES STORY OF SCHROEDER

Surprise Witness Tells of  
Watching Actions of  
Mobile Man.

(Continued from Page One)

questioned in the prosecutor's office, and of statements Schroeder made concerning the tragedy.

In a startling chain of evidence laid before jurors Thursday, prosecutors called witnesses to show that no ditch exists within five miles in either direction of the spot where Schroeder says his auto plunged into a trench at the roadside, killing his unknown passenger.

John Keller, maintenance engineer for the Illinois state highway department, testified the ditch was within a radius of ten miles of the spot thirty-five miles west of Terre Haute, where Schroeder says the accident occurred, are an average depth of five inches.

Schroeder claims that on May 31, when he picked up the hitch-hiker passenger near Indianapolis to carry him to St. Louis, his car plunged into a four-foot ditch.

Schroeder says his passenger died there of a broken neck, and that he (Schroeder) drove back to Indianapolis and fired the car and its cargo, fearing he would be charged with murder if authorities learned of the alleged accident.

Cross-examining Keller, shift, Ira Holmes, Schroeder's attorney, shifted the alleged scene to three locations where the accident "might have occurred," he said. Schroeder has been unable to tell authorities exactly where the place is.

Alleged grilling of Schroeder became the center of attack of the defense today, as Stark resumed the stand for cross-examination.

Holmes charges that Stark and Winkler violated court orders when they grilling of Schroeder in the prosecutor's office and at police headquarters. Holmes was successful Thursday in striking parts of the testimony on that grilling from the record.

Holmes recalled the fight which started in the prosecutor's office shortly after Schroeder's capture in a Mobile weed patch, in which

Holmes, Roland Salder, former deputy sheriff, and Holmes' son Horace, were participants. At that time Holmes shouted orders to Schroeder to answer no questions.

Holmes also grilling Stark on the scene in the office of Edward L. Dietz, former justice of the peace, when Winkler and Stark were "threatened" with contempt of court proceedings unless Schroeder was produced at once for a hearing on a preliminary arson charge.

Stark testified that he asked Schroeder why he (Schroeder) did not toss the body from the car at some point near the accident.

"It seems very unreasonable that you drove clear back to Indianapolis to get rid of the body," Stark said he told Schroeder.

"Schroeder said he didn't know," Stark testified.

"Schroeder told us he had about \$42,500 insurance on himself," Stark continued.

"We told Schroeder there was no evidence of an accident on the car, and that there ought to be some bent fenders or a bent axle, but Schroeder answered: 'Well, I've told my story and I'm going to stick to it,'" Stark said.

Stark quoted Schroeder as saying he was driving about fifty miles an hour at the time of the alleged crash.

"Schroeder said the right front wheel of the car was in the ditch

with the other three wheels on the berm of the road.

"We asked him how he pulled out of such a deep ditch. Schroeder said: 'Oh, I just shifted into reverse and backed out,'" Stark said.

"Schroeder could only partially describe his passenger.

"We asked him the color of the man's hair, what kind of clothes he wore, his race, but Schroeder said, 'I didn't take much notice of him.'"

"I told Schroeder," Stark said, "that it was unreasonable that he rode with the man almost 100 miles without remembering anything about him."

"Schroeder answered: 'Well, I don't know much about that,'" Stark testified.

A statement made by Schroeder after his capture in Mobile was read to jurors by Winkler. It told of Schroeder's leaving Mobile, May 20, and of reaching Indianapolis, registering at Meeker hotel and of attending the 500-mile Speedway race. The statement told of the alleged crash into the ditch.

"I told Schroeder his statement was awfully flimsy," Winkler testified. "Schroeder said, 'Well, that's my story and I'm going to stick to it,' he added.

Most vulnerable part of the state's case, that of proving the venue, was believed to be cleared with Wink-

ler's testimony that the unknown man groaned just before Schroeder set him and the car afire.

To obtain a conviction, prosecutors say, it was necessary to show the victim actually died in Marion county. The defense theory is that the state can not prove in what county or state the death occurred.

Recalling the tense scene when Schroeder viewed the charred, dismembered remains of the victim, witnesses were to tell today of Schroeder's first glimpse of the torso at Royster & Askin undertaking parlors.

There, according to detectives and witnesses, Schroeder said: "I could clear this up with a few words in a few moments."

The most usual age for marriage in England is 24 for men and 23 for women.

## PAUL 'JUST A FLOP'

Whiteman Admits He Has  
Failed as Husband.

By United Press  
CHICAGO, March 6.—Paul Whiteman, who a few days ago was divorced for the third time, today admitted he has been successful in the realm of jazz, but just a "flop" in private life.

The round band leader philosophically described his condition as being "married to an orchestra."

"But that's the way it is in the show business," Whiteman said. "Show folks get more happiness out of marriage in two years than most people do in their whole lives. I guess that's why it's so hard to make them permanent."

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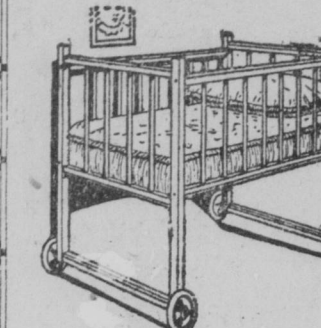
The most usual age for marriage in England is 24 for men and 23 for women.

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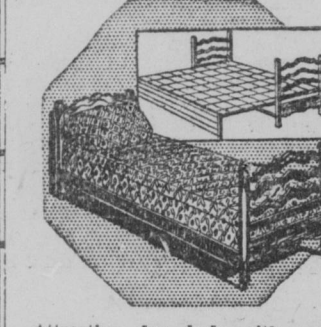
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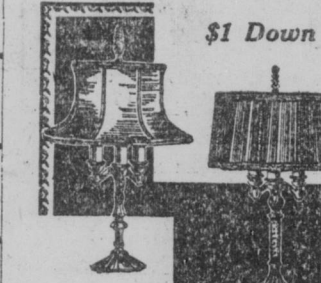
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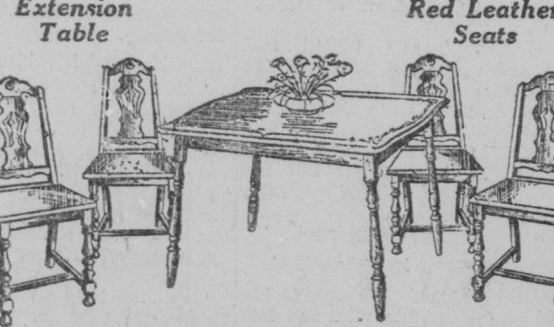


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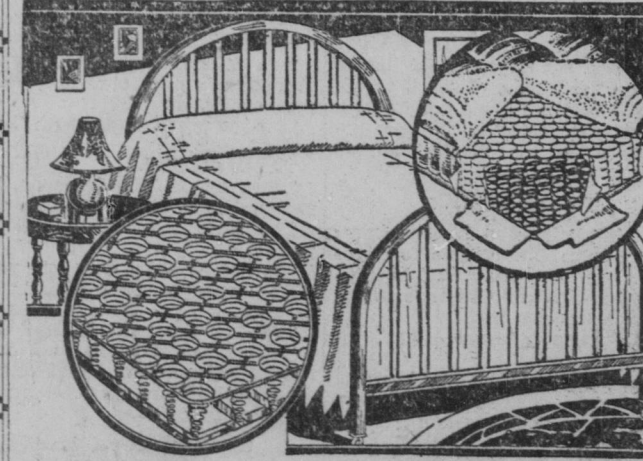
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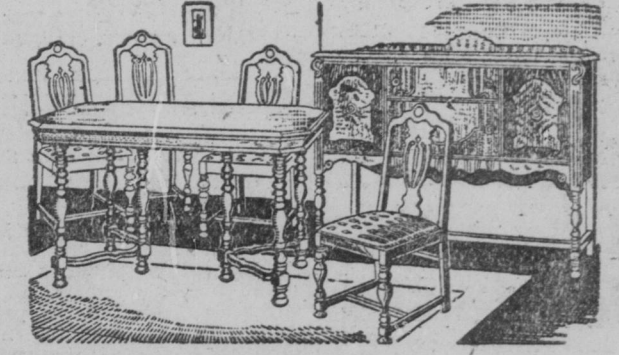
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