

TWO MEASURES THREATENED AS SESSION WANES

Reapportionment and Primary Repeal Involved in Trading Offer.

Pressure from many sources including personnel of the Republican state committee is bearing down on Democratic leaders with the threat they must pass the primary repeal bill or no congressional reapportionment will be enacted, it was learned authoritatively today.

"You've got to trade" is the edict. "We want the primary repeal bill—if you don't pass that measure in the house, no reapportionment will be agreed to," has been the ultimatum.

R. Earl Peters, Democratic state chairman, today declared that the repeal of the primary is repugnant to all groups—labor, business, the farmers and the various women's organizations.

The Democratic party should not and ought not repeal the primary.

Watson's Influence Hinted

Back of the repeal measure is said to be Senator James E. Watson, whose term expires in 1932.

By eliminating the primary for the election of delegates to the state convention, Watson feels that he would experience no difficulty in being renominated.

In event no reapportionment plan is worked out in this session and a special enabling act is passed in its closing days setting up the machinery for the nominating of the United States representatives in the state convention, they would be elected at large.

It is recognized there is serious questions as to the legality of this form of electing the representatives. But it would react favorably to Watson, who would have twelve men stamping the state in his behalf.

Arthur Greenwood, Second district representative and Democrat, who was a visitor in the legislature Friday when the senate passed the Core reapportionment act after striking out all of its provisions and inserting the Adams Republican plan, expressed himself as being unalterably opposed to any trading. He declared the repeal bill should not be passed.

The repeal bill, introduced by Senator Jon Rand Beckett (Rep., Marion) and thirteen others, has had a stormy career. It was ripped to pieces at Republican state headquarters and after its introduction failed once of passage. Pressure was exerted, and upon its second trip it was passed.

Bill Goes to Speaker

For a while it remained in house judiciary B committee, but was reported out Friday morning without recommendation and is now on the desk of Speaker Walter Myers.

If party leaders have their way it will die there. The measure would have counties of 50,000 or more nominate all officials and delegates in convention, and make the provision optional in smaller counties.

Official mandate from the United States congress to reapportion the state was received by Governor Harry G. Leslie Friday and transmitted to the general assembly.

If any action on this subject is to be taken it must be done by conference committees from both houses at large that the federal statutes will not permit those elected to be seated and Indiana will be without congressional representation until a reapportionment act is passed.

Possibility that Democratic representatives might attempt to force a special session through refusing to concur in senate amendments to the appropriation bill unless a reapportionment act is passed was nipped in the bud at the Democratic house caucus late Friday.

Filibuster Plan Dropped

Although Representative John D. T. Bold (Dem., Vandalia) asserted the house could force a special session through refusing to concur on various measures, other house leaders declared that such action would be a two-edged sword.

It was finally decided to have Earl Crawford, caucus chairman, appoint three members to aid the house conference committee in working out a realignment of districts.

According to Washington dispatches today William Tyler Page, veteran clerk of the house of representatives and authority on constitutional and legislative matters, has announced that Indiana, if it chooses, may elect all of its national representatives at large.

"There is nothing about geographical subdivisions or state congressional districts in the Constitution," Page said. "Subdivisions or districts are usually made by state law and the congressmen represent the state."

Husband Gets Divorce

ANDERSON, Ind., March 7.—A sensational three-day divorce trial ended with a compromise in Madison superior court. Judge Bartlett H. Campbell confirmed the settlement, granting Elmer E. Merlau, Hancock county farmer, a divorce from Mrs. Edna Merlau, and custody of their three children. Merlau was ordered to pay \$775 alimony and \$400 for the defendant's attorney. The defendant's former name of Edna Roeder was restored.

Evidence was heard in a court room crowded with neighbors of the couple. The case was brought here on a change of venue from Greenfield.

Motorist and Car in Creek

ANDERSON, Ind., March 7.—Frank Plummer, 58, farmer, lay two hours in his automobile after it plunged down a thirty-foot embankment into Killbuck creek. He was found by a neighbor and carried to an ambulance by a son, Charles Plummer. Snow obstructed Plummer's vision. The car turned over several times in its plunge down the embankment. Plummer was taken to St. John's hospital suffering injuries to his chest and stomach and a possible fracture of the spine.

MASS MEETING CALLED IN FREE SPEECH CLASH

Foster, Leader of Reds, Holds Meeting at Gary

Minister Will Be Heard at Richmond in Attack on Commission.

By Times Special

RICHMOND, Ind., March 7.—The latest effort in Indiana to give meaning to free speech, is engaging the attention of this Quaker city, a controversy having started a few weeks ago when Norman Thomas, Socialist leader, addressed Earlham college students. A mass meeting will be held Sunday in the high school auditorium at which the speaker will be the Rev. Homer Sala, who is conducting a series of revival meetings here. His subject will be "Communism, a Menace to America."

Display of a red flag in a parade held before the meeting addressed by Thomas aroused the ire of the American Legion and Junior Order of United American Mechanics and both organizations adopted resolutions condemning Socialism and Communism.

The charge that the Socialists are affiliated with the Communistic movement has been vigorously denied in statements by local Socialists and by several other Richmond citizens, among them Walter Woodward, editor of the American Friend; C. M. Woodman, pastor of a Friends church and the Rev. C. Franklin Koch, pastor of a Lutheran church.

The latest contribution to the growing list of public statements comes from the resolutions committee local Socialist organization signed by William Marshall, Ed Henry and Joe W. Thomas. Most of it is in reply to statements, but includes the following:

"Capitalism is dead! Let us not linger too long over a corpse, whose effluvia is so noxious that it smells to heaven. Let us rather call its successor, a greater, grander movement, one that presages the brotherhood of man through co-operation and the development of unity and harmony and embraces the cause of humanity, and it is our pleasure to offer as such, Socialism."

First effort of Foster was a meeting said to have been attended by about 100 persons. In an address, he flayed capitalism and the American Federation of Labor and declared the five-year plan being worked out in Russia is bringing great benefits to the people.

Admission fee of 10 cents was charged to the meeting, and money was collected twice during the session. The first was for \$1 bills and later a hat was passed.

Police were scattered in the crowd. They carried tear gas bombs. Chief Stanley Buckland led the officers. He said there was no evidence of disorder.

W. C. T. U. HEAD RAPS RASKOB

Indiana Woman Denies All Democrats Wet.

By Times Special

LIBERTY, Ind., March 7.—Following confession of one of the boldest and most unusual burglaries in the history of Knox county, Russell Hardesty, 35, and Earl Ellis, 33, paroled from the Indiana state prison, are awaiting return to that

Entering the four-room home of Frank Osha at Bicknell, the men removed every piece of furniture, some of which was burned. The remainder was taken to the homes of Mrs. Laura Cofer and her sister, Mrs. Doris Sanders. The women were not arrested, but released after convincing authorities they had no knowledge that the furniture had been stolen.

Osha closed his home when he moved to Pontiac, Mich., several weeks ago.

MOTHER DIES AT BIRTH OF FIFTEENTH CHILD

Terre Haute Woman Leaves Eleven as Mourners.

By Times Special

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., March 7.—A grave in a little country cemetery this week received the body of Mrs. Violet Lee Carter, 42, mother of fifteen children, who in giving life to the last, forfeited her own.

Eleven of the children are living, including Anna Lee, the baby, who is ten days old today. The father and a 19-year-old son are unemployed—have been for many weeks.

The mother contracted influenza. A mastoid followed, then a blood infection. Desperately ill when the baby came, she retained enough consciousness to express her choice of a name for it.

Upon the shoulders of an 11-year-old daughter falls the task of mothering the family. The children range in age up to 19 years.

CITY SUED FOR \$12,500

Anderson Man and Wife Hurt in Auto Crash Take Action.

By Times Special

ANDERSON, Ind., March 7.—A suit filed in Delaware circuit court at Muncie by Chasney G. Moore, Anderson contracting carpenter, and his wife, Morella, against the city of Muncie, demand \$12,500 damages for personal injuries.

Automobile driven by Moore and Herbert Eller, secretary of the Muncie aviation commission, collided on state road 67 between McCordsville and Fortville. Eller was returning from Indianapolis where he had inspected an aviation field.

The accident occurred, the complaints allege, when the automobile driven by Eller and owned by the city of Muncie, skidded on the wet pavement as it passed another automobile.

\$51,000 to Be Sought

By Times Special

ANDERSON, Ind., March 7.—Two hundred persons took part in a three-day campaign of the Community Fund, beginning April 23. The goal is \$51,150 for nine organizations. Neel M. McCullough, president of the Citizens bank, is director of the campaign for the fourth consecutive year. Other officers are Arthur W. Brady, president; Fred C. Kroeger, vice-president; George E. Nichol, treasurer; George T. Hitz, secretary; Miss Deets Barton, and Miss Bertha L. Deets, assistant treasurer.

Park to Be Topic

By Times Special

ANDERSON, Ind., March 7.—Policies of the Indiana conservation commission in the operation of Mounds state park, near Anderson, will be outlined by Richard Lieber, head of the department, at a joint meeting of Lions and Optimist clubs here Thursday. Raymond Marcola, 20-year-old Chicagoan who accompanied Commander Richard Byrd on his south pole flight, will be the speaker at the Rotary Club luncheon next Tuesday.

Steeds, March 6

S. B. 3 (Neel-Chamberlain)—Establishing a system of old age pensions, optional with counties, for persons over 65 years of age. The maximum pension being \$25 a month.

State Tax

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