

## BOOK RENTING IS STUDIED BY SCHOOL GROUP

System Possible; Would Cut Parents' Burden, Stetson Believes.

Creation of a rental system for textbooks used in Indianapolis public schools is being studied by a special committee appointed by Paul C. Stetson, city school superintendent.

This committee of six has been instructed to make a thorough investigation of the rental systems in use in Gary, Richmond and cities in other states and to report its findings and recommendations May 1, Stetson declared.

If some feasible plan is developed the superintendent will present it to the city school commission with the recommendation that the rental plan be inaugurated for the first eight grades.

### Burden Growing

Cost of this first step is expected to approximate \$100,000 and will enable parents of pupils to rent the books each year at approximately 25 per cent of cost.

"The burden of providing textbooks for children is growing heavier each year upon the parents, and some forward-looking step should be taken to alleviate the situation," Stetson declared.

"Of course, it would be a fine thing if texts could be furnished free; but the next best thing, in my opinion, is the rental system."

Stetson pointed out that at present an annual appropriation of \$100,000 is made to the school department to purchase texts and sell them at cost to pupils.

### City Would Not Lose

Either diversion of this fund or appropriation of an additional \$100,000 would solve the problem, he said.

The city would not lose, as the rentals over a four-year period would pay for the books, he says.

A small renovating, repairing and disinfecting plant would be required through which the texts would pass at the end of the school year and be made ready for the next year, Stetson said.

Under the new act passed by the 1931 legislature no municipal appropriations may exceed those made in 1930, but the law provides for an appeal to the state tax board for permission to increase the budget, and this paves a way for the establishment of a rental plan.

### Tax Increase Slight

There are approximately 45,000 pupils in the first eight grades of the city schools and the rental system appropriation would figure at about \$2.22 a year per pupil. All of this money would be repaid without adding any great tax burden and at the same time would relieve parents of buying the texts.

Stetson was much interested in a text book rental bill which was passed by the house of representatives and killed in the senate of the last general assembly. This measure would have set up an enabling act for the renting of the books and opened the door for the installation of the system.

Members of the study committee are Nell V. Green, chairman; H. M. Riley, Wanda Johnson, Gertrude Thatcher, Mary E. Morgan and Adelaide McCarty. All are city teachers.

## VINCENT M'MULLEN IS METAL TRADES HEAD

Succeeds George P. ... Other Officers Also Elected

Vincent E. McMullen, Fairbanks-Morse Company Indianapolis plant manager, has succeeded George P. Torence as president of the Indianapolis branch, National Metal Trades Association, following election Thursday night at the Columbian Club. Other officers named:

Ferdinand Barnickel, Indianapolis Dry Goods Company vice-president and Mrs. Caswell, Diamond Chain Manufacturing Company, treasurer. Terrence, William D. Hamerstadt and George J. Hoffman were named on the executive committee.

Plans for attending the national convention in Cincinnati April 15 and 16 were discussed.

## GUILTY VERDICT FOR CINCINNATI BANKER

Joseph Castellini to Face Term on  
Only One Count.

By United Press

CINCINNATI, March 28.—Joseph J. Castellini, former president of the Brotherhood of Railways Clerks National bank, was found guilty on one count by violating the national banking laws, by a jury in federal court here today.

The banker was tried on twenty-seven counts. He was found not guilty on the remaining twenty-six.

The charges grew out of the closing of the bank last year after the collapse of the Cosmopolitan Bank and Trust Company and the arrest and imprisonment of Amor W. Shaffer, office manager for Henry K. Doherty & Co., investment brokers.

## LAD SLAIN BY FATHER

Worthy New York Broker Attacks  
Two Small Sons With Ax.

By United Press

HONOLULU, March 28.—Dudley Wallace Jr., 13, died today of injuries inflicted by his father, wealthy New York stock broker who committed suicide after attacking his two sons with an ax.

Donald Wallace, the other son, is reported in a critical condition.

## CLAIMS ESTATE SHARE

City Woman Plans Attempt to Col-  
lect Part of Wendell Fortune.

Mrs. Cora Clark, 3601 Clifton street, does intend to take legal steps toward sharing in the \$100,000 Wendell estate in New York city, she said today, denying accounts of relatives that she would not do so. She bases her claim on her grandfather's being a brother of Miss Wendell's father, and not her great-grandfather as was erroneously reported.

### Aged Man Dies

KENDALLVILLE, Ind., March 28.—William E. Drews, 80, is dead at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Grace Frurup, north of here. Funeral services will be held Sunday.

## Letters Swamp Judges



## 'SMILING ED' TO TAKE STAND IN OWN DEFENSE

### Local Radio Star Charged With Damaging Home He Rented.

Trial of a damage suit for \$963 against "Smiling Ed" McConnell, radio star, was resumed in superior court two today.

At Friday afternoon's hearing, Mrs. Alice B. Derry and her husband, Alfred B. Derry, testified they rented their home, 5621 Central avenue, to McConnell on Oct. 20, 1930, and that after a month's time the residence's furnishings were damaged.

The couple alleged that a back-yard fence was burned, a piano and rug spotted, and kitchen furniture scarred.

Mrs. Derry's attempt to testify that gin bottles were found in the home's basement was frustrated by McConnell's attorney.

Mrs. Derry startled the court when she declared her only reason for filing a suit against the radio entertainer was because a picture of her son, Richard, when he was one year old, was missing when she took possession of the house. The son now is 20.

"The picture is worth more to me than all the furniture," she said.

McConnell is expected to take the stand today.

### LUNAR ECLIPSE NEAR

### First of Year to Occur on April 2.

By Science Service

WASHINGTON, March 28.—The year's first eclipse of the moon will occur on Thursday, April 2, but like all the five eclipses that are scheduled for 1931, it will not be visible from the United States. At

12:27 p. m. eastern standard time, on the second, the moon will commence to enter the outer part of the earth's shadow.

At 2:22 p. m. it will be completely immersed in the inner part of the shadow, where it receives no direct sunlight. Not until 3:53 p. m. will it start to emerge from the shadow, and at 5:28 p. m. the eclipse will be completely over. About half an hour after the moon in the full phase, as always at the time of a lunar eclipse, will rise in the eastern United States.

The next eclipse will follow two weeks later, when the moon will eclipse the sun partially, but this will only be visible from Siberia and the north pole. Not until 1932, on Aug. 31, will Americans see a really good solar eclipse without traveling abroad. On that day one will occur which will be visible as total in northern New England.

### FIND MYSTERY TUNNEL

Washington Officials Are Perplexed

for Discovery of Bore.

By United Press

WASHINGTON, March 28.—A 250-foot tunnel under B street, northwest, near the Capitol, has been discovered by a mystery tunnel.

Governor Leslie is expected at the executive office Monday, following his return from his Florida vacation.

During his absence startling disclosures were made by Henley in his trial at Greenfield, where he was being sued by Mrs. Ethel William Henley, whom he claims never married.

Previous to this time the Governor has held that the marital difficulties of his adjutant-general was never married.

The tunnel was found by workers excavating for development of Capitol Plaza, north of the Capitol building. It has been ascertained that the underground passage never had any connection with federal buildings.

The theory has been advanced that northern troops, for some reason now forgotten, did this bit of burrowing during the storm and stress during the Civil war.

House Wrecker Killed

TIPEECAHNE, Ind., March 28.—Frank Robinson, 63, was injured fatally here when the framework of a house he was wrecking, fell on him. His neck was broken.

By United Press

Five children were recovering from injuries sustained when a Clay township school bus was struck by an automobile driven by John Wood, 50, four miles north of here. Robert Musselman, 7, was the most seriously injured, being cut by broken glass. Wood was not held.

School Children Hurt

LOGANSPORT, Ind., March 28.—Five children were recovering from injuries sustained when a Clay township school bus was struck by an automobile driven by John Wood, 50, four miles north of here. Robert Musselman, 7, was the most seriously injured, being cut by broken glass. Wood was not held.

By United Press

NEW YORK CITY

A Wonderful 4-Day Trip

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

## CITY LINKS TO OPEN DESPITE SNOW FORECAST

### All Mashie Addicts to Be Cared For, Director Announces.

Russia, its peasantry, and conditions will be described to Indianapolis people Sunday when Maurice G. Hindus, Russian writer, speaks in the evening at the Kirshbaum Community Center open forum.

Hindus, through personal contact with peasants and conditions in the Soviet nation, has become famous for his writings and lectures on Russia.

He is the author of "Humanity Uprooted," "Broken Earth," "The Russian Peasant and the Revolution."

He is a graduate of Harvard and Colgate universities and came to America as a child. Later he returned to Russia to work with peasants and to learn their attitude toward life.

His lectures will conclude the current season of the open forum program at the community center.

Despite weather forecast of a blizzard this week-end, no pre-season swarm of golfers will "swamp" South Grove and Pleasant Run courses Sunday. Arthur G. Lockwood, municipal golf director, and the park board, have decided.

Lockwood today distributed temporary equipment and man power to take care of all mashie addicts who will appear at South Grove, Pleasant Run and Riverside links, opening the latter for the first time this season.

Last week-end 315 persons were on Pleasant Run in Irvington, while the crowd at South Grove was much larger, and taxed facilities to handle it. Both courses have been open and in use all winter.

The golf season will open officially on Indianapolis public links about the middle of April. Lockwood changed schedule of rates for caddy and instruction fees, and his list was approved this week by the park board.

Caddies at Pleasant Run and Riverside will receive \$1 a round, paying 10 per cent to the caddy master; at Sarah Shank the charge will be 75 cents, and at Douglas Park, 25 cents, for nine holes. At South Grove, where caddies will spend their apprenticeship, they will be paid according to their ability.

Maximum instruction fee is to be \$1.50 a half hour, or \$2 an hour. Fee for caddies to chase practice balls will be 25 cents a half hour, or 35 cents an hour.

BIRTHDAY FOR BRIAND

### French Foreign Minister Enters 70th Year.

By United Press

PARIS, March 28.—Aristide Briand, who has guided French foreign policy continuously through thirteen stormy cabinets since April, 1925, except for four days, entered his seventieth year today, convinced that Europe has entered an era of international harmony.

Despite the developments of the last week in regard to the proposed Austro-German tariff union, Briand retained his optimism.

"When I look back over the past and I draw a balance sheet of the foreign policy which I laid down and have followed faithfully, I have no regrets," Briand declared to his intimates on the dual occasion of his birthday, and the success of the negotiations which ended six years of drawn-daggers relations with Italy.

The "peacemaker of Europe" spent his birthday at Ayres today, and while her release Friday was pending that hearing only, it was a temporary victory, at least.

The blonde former secretary was

in excellent health and spirits when she left the jail. Chief Matron Vada Sullivan said she had been a model prisoner.

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