

## MARION COUNTY DIVORCE MILL RIVAL TO RENO

Predict Avalanche of Suits Will Set Record in 1931.

BY SHELDON KEY

Reno may have its six-week divorce law and easy way to marital tranquility, but, from the rapid increase in suits filed, it appears that Marion county's courthouse, itself, is not such an unpopular place for husbands and wives to settle disputes.

In fact, attaches at the clerk's office here are predicting that 1931 will be a record year as far as divorce actions are concerned.

One clerk, Rich Eschmeyer, has ventured that April and May, together, will see the heaviest avalanche of divorce applicants in history of the county.

Superior Court 3 Leads

Three of the five Marion superior courts are grinding out divorces by the dozen, figures compiled by the courts reveal.

During the first three months of the year, superior court one granted forty divorces to wives and gave twelve husbands their marital freedom. For the first three days of May, the same court disposed of twenty-two cases, granting papers in nine of these.

Superior court three led the field for April by granting twenty-eight wives their freedom. Fifty wives and thirteen husbands gained divorces in this court during the three months, January, February and March.

Marital winds also blew strong in court two during March, where approximately thirty-nine persons won decrees of separation, while during January, February and March, the same court granted forty-one divorces to women and nineteen to husbands.

Attributed to Money

One superior judge attributes the present infidelity in marriage to the depression period and its accompanying financial difficulties.

This judge said, "Court testimony and observation reveals that money and other difficulties have caused husbands and wives to become irritable and later apply for divorce."

Figures from the clerk's office reveal that 20.5 per cent more divorces were filed during April, 1931, than for April, 1930. They also reveal that Marion county courts granted 303 of the 502 divorces filed during the first three months of this year.

**D. J. G. BENSON IS GIVEN HOSPITAL POST**

Columbus (O.) Man to Be Associated Head of Institution.

Dr. John G. Benson of Columbus, O., will become associate general superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal hospital here, May 15.

Dr. Benson, superintendent of the White Cross hospital of the Ohio, was named by Bishop Edgar Blake of the Indianapolis area of the Methodist Episcopal church. He will add Dr. George M. Smith, superintendent of the local institution, in supervising the hospital.

Rapid growth of the hospital in the past few years necessitated Dr. Smith's employment, it was explained.

**PUBLISHER TO SPEAK**

Advertising Club to Hear Business Talk by Earl Whitehorne.

Earl Whitehorne, McGraw-Hill Publishing Company vice-president, will speak at a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce marketing commission and the Advertising Club at 12:45 Thursday at the chamber.

Whitehorne, an authority on planning for the definite improvement of business will have for his subject "American Business Management Speaks Out."

Luncheon will be served in the chamber cafe at 11:30, but not in connection with the meeting.

**DISCUSS DISPLAY BILL**

Ordinance Barring Sidewalk Exhibits May Be Enforced.

Enforcement of an ordinance banning merchandise displays on sidewalk in front of stores was discussed by city planning commission members at a meeting with chain store operators Tuesday afternoon.

Officials of the three principal chain store groups declared they were in favor of following the ordinance providing it were enforced against all stores. The matter was taken under advisement by the commission.

**CONCERT TO BE HELD**

Haydn's "The Creation" to Be Given at Caleb Mills Hall.

The Arthur Jordan Conservatory of Music will present Haydn's oratorio, "The Creation," at 8:15 tonight in Caleb Mills hall. Shortridge high school, in connection with a musical week.

Soloists will be Mrs. James H. Lowry, Miss Maude Delbridge, Mrs. Glenn Fierwood, George Kadel, Richard H. Trojan, and Raymond D. Jackson, with Miss Mary Zimmerman as accompanist. Arthur W. Mason will direct the program.

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## BLASTING IS FUTILE IN OIL WELL FIRE



The blazing gusher in action.

By United Press

GLADEWATER, Tex., May 6.—Two hundred pounds of nitroglycerin was exploded today at the blazing Sinclair No. 1 Cole oil well in an effort to extinguish the flames that killed nine men, but the explosion only made the fire leap higher.

## FATHER IS ACCUSED IN FAMILY KILLING

Dying Statements of Wife, Child, Evidence in Torch Tragedy.

By United Press

GREELEY, Colo., May 6.—A mother and three children, victims of an incendiary fire, were buried today as the father wept and denied the dying accusation of his wife that he threw gasoline on the family and set it afire.

The father, James V. Foster, a chemical salesman, was arrested after the fire that killed his wife, Mrs. Myrtle Foster, and two of his children, Mildred, 11, and Geraldine, 4. The fourth victim was Darline, 19 months old.

Three other Foster children have died in the last two years and authorities serving the chemical salesman broke under the strain of the repeated tragedies.

First degree murder charges will be filed against him after the inquest today, authorities said as they marshalled the following evidence against him:

The dying statement of his wife that he had hurled a bucket of gasoline upon her bed and tossed a lit match after it.

The accusations that "daddy did it" from his daughters, Mildred and Geraldine, before they died of the burn.

Evidence that he had purchased two gallons of gasoline the night before the fire.

Foster wept frequently and now then shrieked, "I don't know," in answer to questions about who committed the crime.

**NEW POST INSTALLS**

Sappington Is Commander of Legion Unit.

Joseph H. Sappington, commander of the newly organized Garfield post No. 88, American Legion, was installed at a meeting in Garfield park shelter house Tuesday night.

Other officers are Henan McClain, first vice-commander; Forrest Bixler, second vice-commander; Walter C. Rothenber, adjutant; Erwin E. Rothermel, finance officer; the Rev. William T. Jones, chaplain, and Patrick Shea, sergeant-at-arms.

Prominent officials of the legion present were Floyd L. Young of Vincennes, state commander; Ollie E. Davis, state adjutant, and Dr. Frank E. Long.

Captain Jesse Ray and Homer Elliott largely were responsible for creation of the new post, according to J. E. Mendenhall, membership chairman of District 7.

**ADOPT FIVE-DAY WEEK**

City Coal Dealers to Act Toward Stabilizing Employment.

Coal dealers in Indianapolis will adopt the five-day week during May, June, July and August, according to Charles A. Howe, manager of the Retail Coal Club.

Deliveries of coal and coke on Saturday will be made only in cases of extreme emergencies, Howe said.

"The coal dealers believe that adoption of the five-day week by other employers will do much toward stabilization of employment," Howe said.

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## 30-MINUTE WILD WEST THRILLER STAGED IN CITY

Youths Pull Holdup, Are Caught, Confess, and Booked in Half Hour.

In less than thirty minutes Tuesday night three youths went through experiences that sound like a dime detective story.

According to their confessions, robbed a youth and a girl, fled to the river bottoms north of Indianapolis, were arrested, had confessed the crime and were charged with auto banditry and robbery in that time.

Deputies sought the trio after report that Luther McCoy, 17, Fifty-ninth street and Michigan road, and his companion, Miss Pauline Teegarden, 16, R. R. 17, Box 133, were robbed of about \$4 and jewelry while walking near McCoy's house.

Caught by Deputies

Two squads of deputies sought the bandits and Deputies Charles McCallister and Gilbert Thomas, found them on Riverside road. The officers had a description of the bandit car.

Works Board Head to Take Place of Mayor.

The youths arrested Clarence Brown, 21, of R. R. 18, Box 304-B; Irvin Wissen, 19, of 960 Eugene street, and George Butler, 19, of 1425 Herschell street.

Search of the youths revealed the money, but deputies could find no revolvers in their possession.

Weapons Are Found

Reaching under the dashboard, McCallister found the weapons, a 25-caliber automatic pistol and a 32-caliber revolver, concealed in a wire cage.

Police today will question the youths in connection with a series of minor robberies north of Broad Ripple last week. Five bullet holes, filled with putty, were found in the rear of the auto.

It is said the youths admitted they had been fired on by police recently, after they had been driving without lights on north side streets. The police car was wrecked in the chase.

Bus Permit is Fought in Suit

Injunction Order Sought by Noblesville Operator.

Petition for court orders to declare unlawful the Indiana public service commission order prohibiting Robert E. Tishner, Noblesville, from operating a bus line between that city and Indianapolis was filed Tuesday in superior court two.

Asking the court to vacate the commission's orders and enjoin their enforcement, the suit alleges the commission is acting contrary to law. It is the first action of its kind brought against the commission.

Tishner, according to the suit, filed a petition for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to operate a bus line. This petition was denied March 5 in a commission order signed by Jere West, a commission member. It is alleged that Tishner's plea for a rehearing before the commission was rejected.

Wearing their caps and gowns for the first time, seniors will be in a procession of faculty members and students to the gymnasium at 9 a.m.

Dr. Bryan will deliver the chief address, and Dr. Aley will announce winners of scholarships and awards.

Invitations were received by

Attention of Butler university

alumni today reverted to the Fairview campus, where plans were being completed for celebration of Honor and Founder's days Thursday.

Dr. William Lowe Bryan, president of Indiana university, and Dr.

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It is the first time both

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