

## HOLDING FIRM'S REVENUE HIKE BY FIGUREHEADS

Plymouth Man Asserts He Turned Over All His President's Pay.

CUTHBERTSON 'PRIES'

Public Service Commission Delves Into Records of Goodrich Deals.

BY DANIEL M. KIDNEY  
How salaries from local telephone companies were pyramided by payments to more or less figurehead officials to make revenues for the holding company was exposed dramatically today before the public service commission.

The event was the investigation of the former Goodrich telephone properties, recently sold to the United Corporation, Alhambra, Kan., for \$5,000,000.

Questioning of witnesses covered the period from June 1, 1930, to June 1, 1931, when the properties were owned by former Governor James P. Goodrich and the holding company headed by his son, Pierre T. Goodrich.

Opposed Authority.  
Investigation was launched by a commission order written by Commissioner Harry K. Cuthbertson. As state senator, Cuthbertson opposed increasing power of the public service commission ever held companies on the ground that they can get all data now if willing to do so.

Conducting his case today, Cuthbertson proceeded to stress his point by prying into affairs of the thirteen operating companies, Intercommunications, Inc., which handled tolls, and the Interstate Telephone and Telegraph Company, the holding company which collected the salary checks among other revenues.

First witness was Sam Tomlinson, Plymouth, who couldn't remember his position with some of the companies nor the salary received. Records disclosed that he was president of most of the companies involved in the inquiry at a salary of \$100 a month, paid to the holding company instead of to himself.

Conducted Similarly  
The secretary and treasurer position was conducted, a \$75 monthly check usually being turned over to the holding company, it was shown.

One of the most flagrant examples of the holding company system of building business bookkeeping was shown when a report to the public service commission was introduced, bearing Tomlinson's name as president of the Newton and Benton County Telephone Company, and the auditor testified the \$100 monthly salary check had been made payable to P. F. Goodrich.

As with other companies, however, all the checks were turned over to the Interstate Holding company. Among them was a \$500 monthly check for Tomlinson as president of the Intercommunications company. After all his presidential salary checks had been grabbed up by the holding company, he then was given a \$500 monthly check from the Interstate, he testified.

Uncertain About Time  
Tomlinson was uncertain about the time given in service to the various companies from which his presidential salary checks came, but outlined his service for the Intercommunications company for which the \$500 check was made out monthly for him to sign and turn over to the Interstate.

Added to those companies he could remember having been president of, to the records introduced upon Cuthbertson's order by J. L. Carian, Warsaw, who was auditor for the organization during the period, Tomlinson was president at \$100 a month of the following:

Winona Telephone Company, Starke County Telephone Company, Pulaski County Telephone Company and St. Joseph County Telephone Company.  
In addition to the controversial presidency of the Newton and Benton county company, P. F. Goodrich was president of these: Lagrange County Telephone Company at \$175 a month, Whitley County Telephone Company at \$175, and Jay County Telephone Company at \$250.

Listed as Secretary  
I. W. Frost was listed as secretary of all operating companies at salaries from the usual \$75 to \$100 for Jay and Central Lake telephone companies, and \$200 for Johnson County Telephone Company.

Francis Dunn, Indianapolis, was down for \$100 a month as secretary, treasurer of the Intercommunications company. E. C. Frazier was a \$100 monthly president of Central Lake and \$175 for Kosciusko County Telephone Company.

But all checks went to the holding company, with no exceptions to the rule, it was shown.

The case will continue this afternoon and probably Tuesday.

## THUG STEALS WATCH

Negro Beats Victim Unconscious on Bank of Fall Creek.

A Negro thug beat Nick Schmidt, 514 North Temple avenue, unconscious and robbed him of a watch along the bank of Fall creek Sunday.

Schmidt was fishing there when the Negro asked for a match, and then demanded the watch. In the fight that followed the thug was victor. Schmidt lay on the bank some time before he revived to call police.

## Boys Sent to State School

EVANSVILLE, Ind., June 29.—Charles and Woodrow Britt, brothers, aged 12 and 14 years, respectively, have been committed to the Indiana boys' school as a result of the death of Christ Eissler, 72. The boys and five others were present when a truck beneath which the aged man was working was started, crushing him to death.

## Sister, Wife Pose With Death Suspect



Tired and unshaven, Louis E. Hamilton (above), of Iola, Kan., was held in jail here today for arraignment Wednesday on a charge of murdering Lafayette A. Jackson, head of the Standard grocery chain.

Shortly before their marriage, Louis E. Hamilton, his wife and beautiful sister Grace, 18, gathered on the steps of his father's home for the picture. His sister, at the left, also is in Indianapolis.

Mrs. Hamilton is dressed in pajamas, house slippers and a dressing gown.

The photo at the right, below, taken a few hours before their marriage, shows Louis E. Hamilton with his wife and sister.

The picture was taken in front of the home of his father, J. H. Hamilton, Iola (Kan.) business man.

Hamilton cracked under questioning of detectives early Sunday and signed a statement in which he admitted that he fired several shots at men, including Mr. Jackson.

According to Hamilton's purported confession, Witt plotted with him to rob the store during the morning, after they had learned that the money truck was due.

Witt, in a statement to detectives, assigned no motive for the shooting and, placing the blame for the murder on Hamilton in his alleged admissions, denied he knew the purpose of their armed visit to the store.

Says Memory Failed  
Already Witt is denying he made a confession and Hamilton, in his statement, says his memory failed him after he was struck in the head by a bullet fired by Mr. Jackson.

Hamilton relates that Witt, a friend of his in the Kansas state penitentiary at Lansing, Kan., came to his home in Iola, Kan., in a stolen car and they came to Indianapolis.

Hamilton also declares that a few days before the Jackson shooting, they stole at Shelbyville the car they used in the holdup.

According to Hamilton, he had a clip of eight cartridges in his automatic pistol when he entered the store, followed by Witt, who police say, carried a sawed-off shotgun.

Struck by Bullet  
Hamilton said he aimed his gun at Jackson and store employees behind the cage and ordered them to "stick 'em up." He said after he was struck in the head by a bullet he did not recall what happened, except that he reloaded his gun as he fled from the store.

Hamilton relates he did not regain consciousness until he was in a car with Witt and his bride of a few days on the way to Witt's home near Roachdale. He said they left there and went to Iola a few days later and that he pulled the pistol in a river en route to his home.

Hamilton is on parole from the Kansas penitentiary. Witt is an escaped convict from the same penitentiary.

Witt's parents in Roachdale, Ind., also are expected to arrive here to aid their son in his fight against conviction in connection with the murder.

Naomi Witt, who married the murder suspect a few days before the shooting, still is held in the county jail as a material witness.

Mrs. Witt says she will stick with her husband to the last.

Hamilton was returned to Iola Saturday afternoon by Detectives Harry McGinn and Edward Glenn.

He was taken to headquarters, where police immediately reopened grilling of the alleged slayer.

Quizzed for Hours  
His statement to police did not come until dawn Sunday, after several shifts of detectives had quizzed him. Until he signed the statement, Hamilton maintained his alibi that he was in Iola the day of the shooting, celebrating the birthday of his brother, Max.

Prosecuting authorities today announced they will take steps for an immediate trial of Hamilton and Witt. If they are not arraigned today or Tuesday by special arrangement, they are expected to be herded into criminal court with other prisoners the first week of July to enter their pleas.

Under Indiana law, persons charged with murder must stand trial, though they admit their guilt.

Prosecutor Herbert E. Wilson said he will demand the death penalty in both cases. Attorneys who heretofore have made no appearance in the slaying case, today are expected to take defense steps.

Think Third Man Involved  
Although Hamilton specifically stated there was a third man in the shooting, and Witt said only he and Hamilton were implicated, detectives still believe another man may have been connected with the shooting. Doctor or doctors who treated the men for their bullet wounds also are sought.

Other authorities connected with the investigation of the shooting assert they believe there still is some one who paid bills for medical treatment and for transportation.

They point out that both men, recently married, had not worked and, failing to obtain money in the shooting, probably were broke when they began their flight west.

FIFI'S SWIM IS FREE  
Movie Actress' Publicity Stunt Draws Dismissal in Court.

Fifi O'Day, motion picture actress appearing this week at the Lyric, was discharged in municipal court today, where she appeared as the result of a publicity stunt.

Miss O'Day was swimming in the fountain pool at Monument Circle. Police arrested her on a trespass charge, and she was haled into court this morning.

Bandits Shoot Aged Man  
ELWOOD, Ind., June 29.—J. B. Colvin, 70, Curtissville postmaster and merchant, is recovering in a hospital here from a bullet wound suffered when two men attempted to rob him. He carried \$100, but it was not taken, the bandits having been frightened away by noise of the shot.

Anderson Wins Title  
The Anderson American Legion post drum corps today began its second consecutive year as Indiana state champion. The corps retained the title, which it won in 1930, in the competition held at Broad Ripple during the annual seventh district roundup Sunday.

Approximately 12,000 persons gathered from all sections of the state, saw the Anderson corps eke out a victory over Tipton, which finished in second place.

Bond Signers Banned  
SOUTH BEND, Ind., June 29.—Signing of bonds in city court by Harold T. Miller, young attorney, and his wife, Mrs. Viola Miller, has been forbidden by Judge Al Hosinski on evidence that Miller failed to turn into the court \$75 of a \$100 fine paid by Jack Dalton, a client.

The fine had been stayed for ninety days with a bond signed by Mrs. Miller.

CLIP COUPON HERE  
Dept. 134, Washington Bureau, The Indianapolis Times, 1322 New York avenue, Washington, D. C.

I want a copy of the bulletin HISTORY OF INDUSTRIAL DEPRESSIONS, and enclose herewith five cents in coin, or loose, cancelled, United States postage stamps, to cover return postage and handling costs:

Name .....

Street and Number .....

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I am a reader of The Indianapolis Times.

## JACKSON DEATH TRIAL IS SET FOR JULY 13

Murder Confession Signed by Louis Hamilton, Police Claim.

(Continued from Page 1)

with him as he and Witt were returned to jail under guard of several detectives.

Mrs. Hamilton threw her arms around her husband and kissed him.

"Don't worry, honey, everything will be all right," she murmured. "We're here now and will do all we can. I love you, Louis."

On Verge of Tears  
His sister also kissed him, both women on the verge of tears as he was led away.

During this scene, Witt, hat pulled down over his eyes, stood to one side, apparently disinterested in the proceedings.

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## GOODRICH FORMS CIVIL LEGION UNIT

Noncombatants Who Aided in Winning World War Are Eligible.

Noncombatants of the World war met in the house of representatives today to organize an Indiana division of the Civil Legion.

Former war Governor James P. Goodrich called the meeting, which was attended by about 300. War days and the part played by the organized civilians were recalled by Michael E. Foley, who urged similar civil service and loyalty now.

Purpose Is Explained  
Earl J. Smith, Detroit, national vice-president of the Civil Legion, explained the purpose of the organization, principal objective of which is to put down radicals and "protect the Constitution."

Some attending commented unofficially, that since many eligible served under Hoover, they might be used again effectively when the campaign comes next year.

Goodrich is the original Hoover man in Indiana.

Labor Conciliator Active  
Harry Dynes, labor conciliator under Hoover's secretary of labor, was also a prime mover in arousing interest in the organization.

L. O. Chassey, secretary to Governor Harry G. Leslie, welcomed the group to the statehouse in the absence of the chief executive.

Goodrich appointed Congressman Fred S. Purnell (Rep., Attica) chairman of the committee to nominate state officers; William Fortune, chairman of the committee on organization and personnel and E. V. Knight, New Albany, chairman of the committee on resolutions and programs.

Betsy Ross Claimed As Kin by Hoosier  
Whitley County Farmer Grand-Nephew of Flag Maker.

COLLAMER, Ind., June 29.—Alfred Ross, 84, Whitley county farmer, claims to be a grand-nephew of Betsy Ross, revolutionary heroine who made the first American flag. Ross said he is a direct grandson of Isaac Ross, a brother of William Ross, husband of Betsy.

Ross was born in Allen county in 1847. His parents came from Pennsylvania to settle in a log cabin near Cherubusco. When 19 he left home to teach school and later operated a general store.

He retired when 61 years old, explaining, "I never have had a desire to accumulate wealth. Shirts, you know, do not have pockets."

Water Use Curbed  
Zone Sprinkling Plan for Portland Consumer.

PORTLAND, Ind., June 29.—Danger of a water shortage has resulted in a zoning system being put into effect in regard to sprinkling. Consumers in one zone will be allowed to sprinkle on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and in a second, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Water in wells at the city plant stands at 20 feet, 9 inches, which is only 1 foot, 3 inches from the danger line. It is pointed out that use of a fire hydrant would quickly bring the water to a level too low for pumping.

Pig Raising Advances  
NOBLESVILLE, Ind., June 29.—Hamilton county pig club boys this year are receiving pigs raised by other club members in the county, thus completing one generation in the club. One boy who started with the original club in 1928 had a champion litter at the International Livestock exhibition last winter. He also has five sows with thirty-eight pigs, which he is raising this summer. One of these, a litter of thirteen, is being groomed for the Ton Litter Club.

Child Escapes Death  
HUNTINGTON, Ind., June 29.—Mary Behtel, 4, was rescued after falling fifteen feet from a bridge into Little river. The water was so shallow that she was able to stand with only her head above until aid arrived.

Huge Cake Is Served  
450 Guests at Wedding Eat From Giant Bakery Product.

A cake 5 1/2 feet high and 28 inches in diameter, the largest ever baked by the William H. Block bake shop, was served to 450 guests at the wedding reception Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Denzio.

The reception, which was held in the Athenaeum, followed the wedding in the Holy Rosary Catholic church. Mrs. Denzio was Miss Agnes Mastropolo, 1254 Edgemont avenue. Denzio lives at 129 South Davidson street.

Child Drowns in Tank  
KENDALLVILLE, Ind., June 29.—Donald, 2, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Bushong, living near here, drowned when he fell into a tank of water at the home. The child fell as he reached for a pan of butter placed in the tank to cool. Mrs. Bushong recovered the body but efforts to revive the boy failed.

The A. B. Gas Range Junior \$39.50  
A small size stove for apartments, small kitchens, etc. Has all of the features of the larger models.

VONNEGUT'S  
120 EAST WASHINGTON STREET (New 3 Stories)

Used Refrigerators \$5 and Up  
EASY TERMS  
Lewis Furniture Co.  
"A United Furniture Store"  
844 S. Meridian St.

Insurance  
Safe Deposit Boxes  
High Grade Investments  
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The Meyer-Kiser Bank  
125 E. Washington

Safety for Savings  
FLETCHER AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK  
Southeast Corner of Market and Pennsylvania

Men's and Women's CLOTHING  
ON EASY CREDIT  
ASKIN & MARINE CO.  
127 W. Washington St.

Change in Express Rates  
EFFECTIVE JUNE 15th, several changes have been made in Express Rates covering shipments of Bread, Ice Cream and general merchandise carried on passenger cars.

THE MINIMUM CHARGE ON ALL SHIPMENTS WEIGHING LESS THAN 25 POUNDS WILL BE 25c.

Consult Local T. H. I. & E. Agent for further information regarding these reductions.

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANAPOLIS AND EASTERN TRACTION CO.

## 100TH BIRTHDAY JUST LIKE ANY OTHER FOR HIM

Centenarian Doesn't See Why Any One Should 'Make a Fuss.'

BY HENRY MINOTT  
United Press Staff Correspondent

WORCHESTER, Mass., June 29.—This was Charles W. Eldridge's 100th birthday anniversary—but he went to work as usual.

"Birthdays don't mean anything to me. I've had a hundred of 'em," he explained as he stripped off his coat, rolled up his sleeves, and buckled down to his routine job at Eldridge's plumbing establishment, where he has been bookkeeper, stockkeeper and general utility man since 1901.

A radio broadcast this morning was dedicated to this extraordinary veteran, but he didn't listen in, declaring he couldn't see "what all the fuss is about."

Follows His Routine  
He arose at 6 a.m., as usual, breakfasted and then walked the quarter-mile between his home and his place of employment, his daily custom for thirty years.

To look at Eldridge, one would never guess that he had lived those thirty years beyond his allotted three score and ten. A Civil war veteran, time has not robbed this Scotsman of a soldier's carriage. His ruddy complexion testifies to the almost perfect health he has enjoyed for a century. He has pale blue, smiling eyes, thick gray hair and a full gray mustache. His voice is clear and firm.

Eldridge believes that age is a mental rather than a physical development.

Doesn't Feel 100  
"Most centenarians feel old," he explained, simply because popular belief is that one should feel old at 100. "I don't feel any older than I did twenty-five or thirty years ago. That's because I don't act as though I was an old man."

The centenarian bookkeeper has no formula for those who would like to grow young instead of old.

"I may retire next October," he said, "and go to Florida to live. I feel young, but I've got to like the temperature up in the nineties."

HURLEY TO PHILIPPINES  
War Secretary's Plans for Visit Lack Formal Announcement.

WASHINGTON, June 29.—The United Press learned today on good authority that Secretary of War Hurley plans to depart late in July for the Philippine islands. Formal announcement is being withheld because important business engaging the cabinet might interfere with Hurley's plan.

KILLED IN PLANE CRASH  
Richmond (Va.) Lions Club President Dies, Companion Is Hurt.

RICHMOND, Va., June 29.—P. Meriwether Fry Jr., 33, local Lions Club president and a prominent business man, was killed, and Raymond Williams, 33, was injured critically when the plane in which they were riding crashed into a tree during a takeoff Sunday.

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