

CITY PROBES PAY SCALE ON STREET WIDENING PROJECT

M'KINNEY SEES VIOLATIONS OF PACT ON WAGES

Some Workers Receive Less Than 35 Cents an Hour, Inquiry Shows.

25 CENTS TO FLOATERS

Subcontractors' Men Get Amount Nearly Double for Same Work.

Probe into the alleged violation by a paving company of agreement with the city to pay construction workmen on a 35-cent hourly basis was launched today by E. Kirk McKinney, works board president.

McKinney's action followed an investigation by The Times of reports that laborers working for the Indiana Asphalt Paving Company on the East New York street widening project are receiving more than 5 cents an hour below the figure specified under the contract.

The probe disclosed that common labor on the project is receiving in some instances 25 to 30 cents, and, according to McKinney, violates the agreement made by the city with construction companies less than a year ago.

Claude I. Brillhart, superintendent of Indiana Asphalt, when questioned by The Times, admitted unskilled labor is being paid 25 cents.

Lower Pay for 'Floaters'

He qualified workmen under that scale of "floaters."

Brillhart did not know how many are receiving the 25-cent wage.

"There are only a few," he said.

Reports that applicants for work at the project are referred to the "city hall garage" for recommendation were denied by Brillhart. He admitted, however, that "several applicants had been given jobs because they were told to come out and see us."

Brillhart stated further that "So far as I'm concerned, the wage agreement with the city still holds good."

"The reason we are paying some 25 cents is because only our regular men get over 35 cents."

Others Paid More

"If the floaters prove to be good men, we raise them up to the scale," Brillhart added.

The inquiry disclosed further that unskilled labor working on the same project for subcontracting companies is being paid almost double the wage earned by workmen for the Indiana Asphalt Company.

Pick and shovel men for a plumbing firm working in the East New York street job are being paid 65 cents an hour, several of them stated when questioned today.

Their duties are almost identical with those of laborers working for 30 cents for the asphalt paving company.

Laborers on the street widening are in the majority, Negroes. Truck drivers, when questioned, verified reports received by The Times asserting they are receiving the 30-cent wage.

Get 35-Cent Scale

At the same time, a probe of salaries paid by the Million Population Wrecking Company revealed that unskilled laborers working at the Randolph street clearing are receiving 35 cents an hour. Only two men, it was admitted by Henry Foxworth, superintendent, are receiving 30 cents, and they are qualified "pickup labor," Foxworth said.

"We are paying them just to give them work," he declared.

Workers for the wrecking company under the 35-cent rate all are Negroes.

With launching of the inquiry by city officials, McKinney declared that in his opinion the wage agreement with contractors still is in effect.

W. C. Richter, an official of the Indiana Asphalt company, was called in conference today with the works board, this morning shortly before Brillhart appeared at the city hall, and told officials that laborers are receiving from 35 to 40 cents, except a water boy, who gets 25 cents.

CANDIDATE ENDS REST

Aspirant to Kentucky Governorship Leaves Martinsville.

By United Press

MARTINSVILLE, Ind., July 29.—Judge Ruby Laffoon, Democrat gubernatorial candidate in Kentucky, planned to leave here today after a ten-day rest to begin the fall campaign. Judge Laffoon, who was nominated almost unanimously at a recent caucus of his party, said he would go directly to his home in Madisonville, Ky.

More than a week ago he came here to recover from injuries suffered in an automobile accident. He expressed confidence in a Democratic victory this fall. He said he was pleased by the harmony that prevailed in the party's ranks and believed it indicated a recovery from the defeat of 1928.

Quake Rocks Santiago

SANTIAGO, Chile, July 29.—A severe earthquake rocked Santiago early today.

Dr. Home Brew

MEMPHIS, July 29.—The use of home brew as a cure for pellagra is being discussed in medical circles this week, after a survey revealed forty-four cases in Shelby county.

Three bottles of home brew a day will bring about a steady improvement and ultimate cure, said a physician who objected to the use of his name.

"I had occasion to run tests on 3,000 cases in cotton mills, and, although no other feature of their diet was changed, they were allowed to drink home brew under medical supervision. Without exception they showed improvement," the doctor said.

Dog's Life Isn't So Bad, at That



When they say "Dog-gone!" around the city pound it means merely that one of the bone-crushers has taken French leave from the rest of the pack and can be found in—

The swimming pool shown in the top photo. But of course he may not be in the pool, he may be on the diving board, just as Spot is in the top photo. And one glorious portion of this leading "dog's life" is that you don't have to bother with swimming suits.

One of the greatest events at the pound, outside of swimming, for the knight-errants of the street is greeting a newcomer. The bottom photo shows wanderers of dogdom welcoming a new inmate to the "hoosegow."

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Train Kills Boy

RIDGEVILLE, Ind., July 29.—Joseph Addison, 9, was killed instantly when the truck in which he was riding, driven by his brother George, was demolished by a Pennsylvania passenger train here, George, suffering severe injuries, was taken to a Portland hospital.

Host Slays Guest

FT. WAYNE, Ind., July 29.—Michael McKerning, 27, is dead of a bullet wound inflicted by Arlington Watson, in whose home he was a guest. It was McKerning who interfered in a quarrel between Watson and his wife. Watson attempted suicide by shooting when police arrived to arrest him, but a revolver was taken from him.

Fatal Date

LONDON, July 29.—Seventeen years ago today—July 29, 1914—the first shot in the greatest war the world yet has known was fired.

LAND-O-DANCE TOO NOISY, SO NEIGHBORS SUE

Ask Abatement of Hall on National Road East of City Limits.

Land-O-Dance may be a celestial world of terpsichore to some, but to neighbors it's just a "lot of noise" that keeps them from getting their nightly "shut-eye."

At least the Land-O-Dance hall on the National road, two miles east of the city, is that to its neighbors, and that's the only dance land they've dimmed into their ears since the hall's opening on June 15.

Complaints against Land-O-Dance are voiced with vigor in a suit filed today in superior court five requesting abatement of the dance hall as a public nuisance.

Fear that Land-O-Dance might awaken "Miss Indiana" atop the Soldiers and Sailors monument or other city statues is expressed in the suit with the assertion: "You can hear the noise for miles around."

"The orchestra plays until the early hours of the morning. The hall is brilliantly lighted, so that sleep is almost impossible," the abatement suit charges.

Neighbors petitioning for a clamp on the hilarity at Land-O-Dance are Jesse O. Cross, Harry K. Karns and Cecil Brewer.

Defendants named as owners of the dance hall are Robert Riser, Herbert Riser and Kathleen M. Hall.

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TOO DARING; HURT

Joan Bennett Tossed Off Horse



Joan Bennett

By United Press

HOLLYWOOD, July 29.—Efforts of Joan Bennett, film actress, to ride an unmanageable horse, resulted in her being confined today in a hospital with a broken hip. It was said she probably would have to remain there five weeks.

Miss Bennett, while on location Tuesday, heard James Kirkwood actor, decline to ride a certain animal.

"I know that horse," said Kirkwood. "I've ridden him and he's bad. I won't get aboard him again."

Another man seconded Kirkwood's statement.

"You don't know how to ride," Miss Bennett was reported to have said, jokingly. "I'll ride him."

She climbed into the saddle and a moment later was thrown against a tree by the plunging steed.

Defends Hoover Prober

"I am sure that Lane is thoroughly a competent investigator. The criticism has been made that he was at the prison but half a day. About ten minutes of listening to a trustee lecture a prisoner before a crowd would be long enough for any authority on penology to decide that the system should be changed."

Smith says that abolition of the central pardon and parole board was "a step backward," and that the matters are being handled now "about as stupidly as possible."

The crime commission report had a chapter on parole, in which it dealt vaguely with the subject. It neither advocated a central nor institutional system, but did say there should be complete history records on each prisoner.

FEAR HICCOUGH DEATH

Doctors Hold Little Hope for Patient Victim 29 Days.

By United Press

CHICAGO, July 29.—A twenty-nine-day attack of hiccoughs placed Christ Karzas, 53-year-old patient in the University hospital, near death today. For the first time since the convulsive movements began Tuesday night, but the hiccoughs began again today and continued for twenty minutes without pause.

Dr. Adolph Kraft, attending physician, said Karzas' condition appeared due to hardening of the arteries, complicated by heart trouble.

She Couldn't EAT or SLEEP

"I feel like a new Woman"

"ABOUT six months ago I was a run-down and a friend of mine told me about your medicine."

"I got a bottle and started taking it. I was so weak and nervous, my appetite wasn't good at all. I couldn't eat and of course I lost my strength. In fact I have never been healthy."

"After I started taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound my nerves were lots better. I can sleep well and I have a real good appetite. I feel like a new woman."

—Effie Oliver, Andler, Okla.

Week-End EXCURSIONS to CHICAGO

\$5.00 ROUND TRIP

Each Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Leave Indianapolis 11:30 a.m. Friday, 2:30 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. Saturday, or 2:30 a.m. Sunday.

Returning to reach Indianapolis not later than 4:05 a.m. Tuesday following date of sale.

\$3.60 ROUND TRIP to LOUISVILLE

In coaches on all trains leaving July 24, 25 and 26, returning July 27; also, July 31, August 1 and 2, returning August 3.

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For tickets and full particulars apply to CITY TICKET OFFICE, 115 Monument Place, Phone Riker 3331

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WHITEWASH IS LAID TO LESLIE CRIME PROBES

Refused to Hit Tactics of Parole Board, Says Ex-Member.

Governor Harry G. Leslie's crime commission, which turned in a report January, 1931, was fully aware of the conduct of the Indiana state prison trustees in parole matters, but declined to make such criticism as has been made in the Wickesham report.

This allegation was made today by Captain Howard Smith of the state police, who was a member of the commission. Smith at the time was on the staff of the Indianapolis Star and had written a series of stories on crime and the courts.

He was appointed to the commission by the Governor and incurred the animosity of some of the old-time Indiana prison experts by wanting to report such matters as the Wickesham report contains.

Prisoners Are Railed

Recently Smith became a captain of the state police, where he hopes to make effective some of his sociological studies. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, scholastic honor society, and majored in social science at Columbia university.

"Every member of the so-called crime commission knew how prisoners are railed at when they appear before the prison trustees, sitting as a board of parole," Smith said. "For we held a commission meeting and sat in with the trustees on one such hearing."

"It was conducted exactly as represented in the Wickesham report. This report was made by Winthrop D. Lane, who is himself a Hoosier. He is the son of Chester T. Lane, principal of Ft. Wayne high school for half a century."

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