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Partly cloudy and colder tonight with lowest temperature about 30; Saturday generally fair.

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REVOLT FLAMES IN LEGISLATURE ON SALES TAX

Assemblymen Declare They Are Not Bound by Any Platform Plank to Follow McNutt's Lead.

GOVERNOR IS FIRM IN HIS STAND Executive Unmoved by Retail Merchants' Onslaught on Measure; Constitutional Issue Is Raised.

Spirit of revolt spread among legislators today, as they were deluged with protests against passage of the administration sales tax measure.

Impetus was added by Governor Paul V. McNutt's adamant stand for the bill when called on Thursday afternoon by a committee of Indiana retail merchants.

Legislators opposing passage pointed out that they are under no obligation to follow the Governor, as no sales tax pledge was written into the Democratic platforms, state or national.

They cite the fact that President-Elect Roosevelt has declared against it as a matter of public policy and McNutt has condemned it in principle.

Objections Are Raised

Chief proponent of such measures of taxation has been President Hoover, who was thwarted with the charge that a sales tax means "soak the poor," they asserted.

They also declare that a sales tax, such as the one proposed by the administration, raises the same constitutional questions as an income tax would, and will be subject to the same delay by litigation.

McNutt admits possibility of the sales tax being challenged on constitutional grounds, but still demands its passage as the only way to balance the budget.

That McNutt may be able to "crack the whip" to put the sales tax over is an admitted possibility. His hand has been strengthened by the proposal that the state take over all minimum teacher costs of the public schools.

Jobs Have Big Influence

But more than this is the strength derived from several thousand jobs that will become his patronage, if plans to increase his powers meet with legislative approval.

A job for a henchman often counts more with a legislator than the question of whether bills like the sales tax are wrong in principle, it was pointed out.

As introduced, the sales tax bill is modeled after the Mississippi law. Opponents point out that Mississippi never has been noted as leader among states in progressive legislation, but a case might be made for the contention that it has been what might be termed reactionary.

The conference with McNutt followed a protest meeting at the Lincoln, attended by more than 300 retail merchants.

Ruins Is Visioned

Speakers at the meeting charged the sales tax would result in increased unemployment, reducing purchasing power of the public, fail to reduce governmental expenses, paralyze business in cities near the state border, take business from local merchants and give it to mail order houses, whose interstate business in untaxed, and otherwise react unfavorably.

They pointed out that retail stores employ more persons than any other single class, merchants already pay their proportionate share of taxes, and are spending heavily to maintain business, in an effort to keep their employees from becoming jobless.

The sales tax, they said, would have to be borne by the stores, it could not be added to moderate-priced articles, and the additional burden would force even more merchants into bankruptcy.

Steps were taken at the meeting to form a state-wide retail merchants' organization.

LOAD OF MEAT STOLEN

60 Pounds of Ham and Bacon Taken From Armour Truck.

The meat diet of some one in Indianapolis was enriched in calories and pounds today when sixty pounds of ham and bacon were stolen from a truck of Armour & Co., packers driven by Joseph Riley at the Riley hospital for children. The theft was committed while Riley was delivering an order at the hospital. The meat was valued at \$7.50.

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OPPORTUNITY
DAY

BARGAINS

In conjunction with The Indianapolis Opportunity Day, Saturday, Jan. 28, Indianapolis Merchants are offering unusual values. Turn now to the Want Ad pages and for yourself the splendid values identified by the "Opportunity Day Tri-agle."

Want Ad Page

TOO WILLING; DELAY DIVORCE

Both Parties in Suit Are Anxious to Separate; Judge Keeps Case.

Objections Are Raised

A circuit court lesson in how to obtain a divorce was given today to an Indianapolis couple, who learned it doesn't pay to be willing especially in Marion county.

Judge Earl R. Cox ruled Thomas and Helen Smith must wait two months for a decision.

While his wife whispered to attorneys she "just must have a divorce," Smith made a similar appeal from the witness stand.

Smith admitted he was considering marriage again and told the court he had beaten his wife.

Joseph G. Wood, deputy prosecutor representing Smith, who did not contest his wife's suit, explained:

"Both parties want a divorce, but they seem to have forgotten about the 6-year-old child."

Mrs. Smith then sought to bolster her petition by explaining her husband had struck, beaten and choked her and that he had stayed away from home for days.

Cox ruled the case would be taken under advisement to "see what makes these folks so willing."

NATURAL GAS HEAD AND MAYOR CONFER

Citizens Co. Representative Also Attends Parley.

Representatives of the Columbia Gas company of New York city, headed by Paul Clapp, vice-president, today conferred with Mayor Reginald H. Sullivan and Henry L. Dithmer, representing the Citizens Gas Company, concerning the Columbia concerns proposal to sell natural gas to the local gas company.

"Clapp urged the company to buy natural gas, saying it would be a boon to local manufacturers," said Sullivan following the conference. "However, nothing definite can be done because of the indefinite state of affairs surrounding the Citizens company."

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TWO PAVING JOBS ARE ACCEPTED BY BOARD

Dissatisfaction Expressed City Engineer Defends Work.

Final acceptance of two paving jobs was voted today by the board of works. Guarantee of the contractor on the paving, which was laid three years ago, expired recently.

The two jobs are on Carve lane, from Forty-ninth to Fifteenth streets and Kenwood avenue, between Fifty-second and Fifty-fourth streets.

The board expressed dissatisfaction with the work, which has cracked in several places. However, according to A. H. Moore, city engineer, the contracting firm, American Construction Company, met all requirements. The cracks, Moore said, were caused by lack of traffic. Friction of auto tires kneads the asphalt, he declared, and prevents cracking.

Hourly Temperatures

6 a. m. 41 10 a. m. 38
7 a. m. 42 11 a. m. 35
8 a. m. 41 12 (noon) 34
9 a. m. 41 1 p. m. 34

Ford Blames Banker Plot to Gain Control of Firm for Strike Closing Plants

Shutdown Order Affects Branches All Over Nation When Employes of Briggs Company, Furnishing Auto Bodies Walk Off Jobs.

By United Press

LONDON, Jan. 27.—The Evening Standard, in a purported trans-Atlantic telephone interview with Henry Ford, quoted the manufacturer today as saying the stoppage in his Detroit plant was due to the efforts of certain bankers to gain control of the Ford concern.

The newspaper quoted Ford as follows:

"Certain of my competitors are operating against me, supported by these bankers, with the object of preventing another Ford car from leaving the factory."

"They have succeeded for a few days, but I will fight them and prove that production can not be stopped. I am going straight out to clean up the whole affair."

Ford Confirms Charge

By United Press

DETROIT, Mich., Jan. 27.—Henry Ford's trans-Atlantic telephone interview with the London evening standard was confirmed by his offices here today.

Ford refused to amplify his statements.

Ford Plants Closed

United Press Staff Correspondent

DETROIT, Mich., Jan. 27.—Ford Motor Company plants throughout the United States today were closed for an indefinite period while Ford officials and employees alike chafed at the delay and losses amounting to well over \$1,000,000 daily.

The shutdown order was put through late Thursday, Ford officials explained, when the company no longer was able to secure bodies from two companies that supply the bulk of the Ford auto bodies.

A strike at the Briggs Manufacturing Company and subsequent laying off of 2,000 employees of the Ford division of the Murray Body Corporation of America, stopped the necessary flow of bodies for new Ford models.

The shutdown came just as Ford was getting into full production on his new 1933 models. Inability to get bodies from Briggs for processing was given by Murray officials as the reason for the layoff of their men.

Ford Has No Difficulties

ST. PAUL, Jan. 27.—Three men were crushed to death today when three tons of earth caved in upon them at South St. Paul while they were cleaning a ravine.

Thirty-five fellow workers stood by helplessly when the frozen gravel buried the victims. All the men were unemployed who had been given jobs by the city.

The dead were John Yost, 20, single, and John S. Kirchner, 39, married, and an unidentified man.

The three were trapped while hauling gravel. The work was being undertaken to make the ravine a thoroughfare.

A fixed pay rate hour was granted by the Briggs company today in an effort to break the strike. Briggs officials said they believed the strike would be ended by Monday and production placed back on full time.

The new wage policy, it was explained, fixes a minimum payment whether the worker performs enough work on a piece rate basis to be entitled to the amount or not.

"With the establishment of a higher base wage, we feel that the present controversy will soon be settled, and will be forgotten," said Henry E. Hund, vice-president.

The new productive rates are from 10 to 20 per cent higher than the previous scale, he said.

4,000 Men on Strike

Once, during the war, Ford was forced to curtail operations to conform to wartime fuel regulations, and often during the period necessary fuel was difficult to obtain.

Approximately 4,000 men are striking at the Briggs plant, where their demands for higher wages were met with refusal by officials, who maintained that it was impossible for them to pay higher wages and compete in the present low price market. Company officials insisted work on a piece rate basis to be entitled to the amount or not.

"Chief Shoemaker has it in for me because he is influenced by these civic groups. That's why he named me Public Enemy No. 1."

"I knew Al Capone to speak to, yes. But I never belonged to his syndicate or any other gang. That's all vicious nonsense."

Capone Is Blamed

Before beginning, he tucked a purple-bordered silk handkerchief into the breast pocket of his expensive purple suit. He had needed the handkerchief to shield his face while running the gauntlet of news photographers.

A rich purple necktie matched the white shirt, gray spats. He wore a white and black handkerchief. He wore a white and black handkerchief.

Come out to my office—Drapery Rugs and Carpet Cleaners on Cottage Grove avenue—and I'll prove to you that all this persecution is based on the jealousy of business rivals," he said.

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Capone Is Blamed

As he was warmed to his theme, Humphries' brown eyes gleamed. He passed a quick hand over his coal black, curly hair, shrugged powerful shoulders that tell of 180-odd pounds of vigorous manhood. His upper lip, which protrudes a little in the Chevalier manner, wrinkles as he speaks.

"But what is the use of me telling you the truth? The papers never print it about me. When I tell the facts, people laugh. That's a queer kind of justice."

"But my only crime is being a capable business man. My plan is always open to every one. When the police want to talk to me, they don't have to arrest me. They know my number. I'll be glad to show down any time."

Income Tax "All Paid"

"I'm accused of everything to stealing bottles of milk from babies. I never shot any one. I've never mixed in union rackets. I have no police record."

"What about your income tax?" he was asked.

"All paid," he said. "I have no trouble with Uncle Sam, nor with any one else who plays fair. I'm a business man, that's all."

Humphries' court appearance follows his arrest some weeks ago in a corridor of a La Salle street office building. Standing nearby was Charles Piscetti, cousin of Al Capone. Inside a room were other known gangsters. Police said the office was headquarters for labor racketeers.

CITY SEEKS FIRST SNOW
OF '33; MERCURY DROPS

By United Press

Downtown Store Elevates One of Sales Girls to Position.

Psychology of Children and Animals Course to Be Conducted.

Dr. W. N. Kellogg of the Indiana University psychology faculty will teach a class in psychology of children and animals in the U. S. extension division during the second semester, which begins Feb. 6, it was announced today.

Dr. Kellogg attracted nation-wide attention last year with his experiments in bringing up a monkey with his own baby for several months while working in the Yale experimental laboratory in Florida.

Four other courses in psychology and sociology also were announced today.

Dr. W. N. Kellogg
TO TEACH CLASS HERE

Three Orphaned as Woman Dies Under Train.

By United Press

GARY, Ind., Jan. 27.—Mrs. Rose Michalski, 43, mother of three children, was hurrying to her work as a house maid today when she was killed by a train in Hammond.

She stepped from the path of one train into that of another on the B. & O. tracks.

She had been supporting the family since her husband lost his job.

RICH MUNCIE DOCTOR
DIES BY OWN HAND

Body Found in Office by Son; "My Work Is Done," Says Note.

By United Press

ALBION, Ind., Jan. 27.—Dr. Alvin C. Surber, 62, wealthy Muncie physician, was found dead on a couch in his office today by his son, Frederick.

On a table beside the bed was a bottle of lethal liquid and a note, which said:

"I am unbearably worried. My work is done. I have made a good fight. May God guide and direct my loved ones."

In addition to Frederick, a senior at the Indiana University law school, survivors include two other sons, Dr. C. C. Surber