

# GRAFT, PLAYING POLITICS, ABUSE OF POWER CHARGES HURLED BY CWA WORKERS

Employment of Single Men Instead of Family Heads, Many Other Allegations Made in Letters to The Times.

Charges of graft, playing politics, abuse of power, employment of single men instead of men with families, and a variety of other allegations are hurled in hundreds of letters received by The Indianapolis Times for its "Message Center" in complaints against CWA work throughout the city, county and state.

Recently Congressman William H. Larrabee urged that army officers be placed in charge of Indiana civil works.

Hourly, The Times receives letters, many of which have been printed in full or part in the "Message Center," alleging the congressman's charges of "political favoritism in the employment of CWA," are true.

The letters run the gamut of political affiliations.

Names of "street bosses" on CWA jobs and incidents are cited in efforts bear out the charges made in the missives to The Times.

## Charges Term "Ridiculous"

Congressman Larrabee demands specifically the discharge of Delmar Dizenberger, CWA certifying officer for Marion county, and his assistant, E. B. Palfrey. William H. Burd, state administrator of CWA, has termed the charges "ridiculous."

Names, addresses, location of projects are deleted by The Times in giving these excerpts from letters received for the "Message Center."

Special privileges in selling lunches on one CWA project is charged by one worker in a letter to the "Message Center" of The Times.

He says: "Since this project started, widows, some with children, and men still unemployed have been selling pies and sandwiches. These people were making a few nickels to keep the wolf from the door. They were told they could not sell without a license, and then other men and women were allowed to come on the grounds and sell. Why should two or three peddlers be allowed all the profit?"

## Race Discrimination Claimed

Discrimination between races is charged in another letter that says: "My brother is employed on CWA. A 'big shot' is assistant foreman. Twenty-one white men and one Negro were let off and were told the force was too heavy. The only ones left on the job were Negroes."

Charges that men without dependents were permitted to work while those with families were laid off is contained in other letters to The Times.

One misses charges, "Foreman angered . . . got order to lay off men . . . he laid off whole force from foreman down regardless of what his orders may have been. Throwing out forty families who were depending on those jobs for a living."

"One man with two or more trucks on job . . . father and two sons on job with two daughters employed . . . men on jobs who also have other jobs . . . men from out of city on city jobs," is alleged in another missive from a CWA worker.

## Says Wealthy Man Hired

From a distant county comes the charge that a man worth \$40,000 is employed on CWA work.

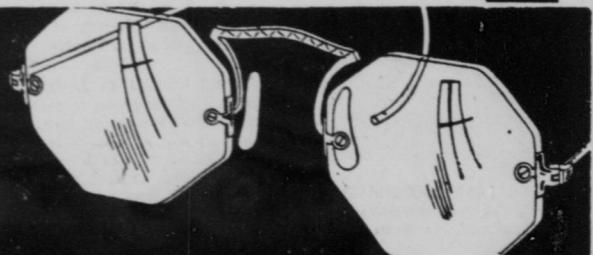
The letter to The Times says: "The men having charge are miscarrying their authority. They run the poll books in selecting hungry families. It is hard to convince them that a Republican is as hard up as a Democrat. They put a fellow to work who is worth twenty to forty thousand dollars. Yes, he's a Democrat. It took some hard kicking to dislodge this man."

Continuing, the letter charges that the sister of a foreman serves as "water boy" on the project, but that an actual worker on the project does the work and is "taxied" around by a CWA truck.

It further alleges the pseudo "water boy" runs a luncheon for the CWA workers at a profit. The workers, the letter declares, must divvy up 15 cents weekly for getting the water carried to them while on the job.

## Claims Political Graft

Charging that only "deserving Democrats" are being worked, another CWA employee writes, "At . . . they have put . . . employees on the pay roll, giving them \$1.20 an hour as foremen. One foreman owns several pieces of property and has several thousand dollars in the bank. Some of the 'deserving' are

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## TWO POEMS ACCEPTED



## BACK BILL FOR LARGEST NAVY

Necessary to World Peace, Sons of Revolution Board Says.

Urging that the United States have a navy second to none, as a means of enforcing world peace, members of the board of managers, Indiana Society, Sons of the American Revolution, yesterday adopted a resolution indorsing the Vinson bill and its amendments.

The bill would provide for construction of necessary ships and armament to replace fighting ships and aircraft carriers that will become obsolete before expiration of the London naval treaty.

Amendments would provide for construction of 1,184 airplanes to equip fighting ships.

**Macy Content as Leader**  
NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—W. Kingsland Macy, Republican state chairman, will not be a candidate for the governorship in the next election, but will seek to maintain his leadership of the state organization, he announced today.

The hand, as referred to in mea-

## Brr...!

Blizzard Sues Snow for Damages.

By United Press  
WORCESTER, Mass., Feb. 7.—"Blizzard vs. Snow" is the title of a law suit filed here. Mrs. Florence Blizzard seeks \$5,000 damages from Elmer Snow for injuries suffered in an automobile accident.

**BOETTCHER KIDNAPERS  
MAY PLEAD GUILTY**

Violation of Lindbergh Law Can Be Admitted, Lawyer Says.

By United Press  
SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Feb. 7.—Verne Sankey and Gordon Alcorn, confessed kidnappers of Charles Boettcher II of Denver, may plead guilty to violation of the Lindbergh kidnapping law, Benjamin B. Laska, Denver, attorney for Mrs. Sankey, said today.

The so-called Lindbergh law provides for life imprisonment sentences. Federal agents also seek a conviction against Mrs. Sankey for an alleged part in the Boettcher kidnapping.

## HOLDS TEACHER MUST BE TRIED

Wilson Denies Report of Suspended Sentence Based on Plea.

Miss Cora Steele, Terre Haute high school principal charged with grand larceny in connection with the disappearance of state teachers' retirement fund bonds valued at \$25,000, will not be permitted to plead guilty to the charge and accept a suspended sentence, as was reported yesterday. Prosecutor Herbert E. Wilson announced.

Miss Steele is to face trial in criminal court Tuesday before Judge Frank P. Baker and a jury.

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## RECEIVERSHIP IS ASKED

Brewing Company Near Insolvency, Stockholder Declares.

Appointment of a receiver for the Richard Lieber Brewing Company, 1254 South West street, was asked

yesterday in superior court by Hedi Walters, a stockholder, who charged that the company has made no progress toward brewing beer and is in imminent danger of insolvency. The company was formed Jan. 12, 1933.

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