

PROPERTY TAX RECEIPTS BELOW LEVY FOR 1938

First Time Since '34, With Civil and School City Funds Hard Hit.

Marion County property tax collections during 1938 were below the actual levy for the first time since 1934, according to the governmental research bureau of the Chamber of Commerce.

As a result the civil and school city funds fell short in receipts from property tax collections for the last half of 1938 by nearly \$128,000, the bureau stated.

Center Rate Greater

Although property tax collections during 1938 totaled more than 17 million dollars, this was due to the large increase in the rate for Center Township.

Collection of taxes last year was approximately in the same ratio to taxes levied as in 1937, but the proportion of delinquent taxes collected to the total collection was substantially less than in 1937, it was said.

Delinquent taxes collected in 1938 totaled \$698,648 against \$969,847 in 1937 and \$1,387,476 in 1936.

6.6 Per Cent Delinquent

According to the bureau report, payments on 1938 taxes were 6.6 per cent delinquent. This compared with a 6.4 per cent delinquency in 1937 and an 8.3 per cent delinquency in 1936.

Total collections, however, including the collection of past due taxes, showed a net delinquency of 2.8 per cent of the total taxes levied. In 1937, the net delinquency was only six-tenths of one per cent, and in each of the two preceding years the collections exceeded the amount levied by a fraction of one per cent.

SENIOR AT WABASH DEMANDS 'REFORM'

CRAWFORDSVILLE, March 22.—William Hawkins, Wabash College Senior Study Camp leader, today presented a reform program for the student administrative groups at the college.

He called upon the student body to "arouse from inertia and apathy exhibited towards campus graft and corruption."

The resolutions demanded the following reforms:

1. Democratic student elections.
2. No appointment of successors by those still in office.
3. Appointment of a faculty adviser for each student governing body.
4. No appropriation of salaries by those still in office.
5. Wholesale student government system reorganization.

DEPAUW, TAYLOR GET \$12,000 IN BEQUESTS

PHOENIX, Ariz., March 22 (U. P.).—Two Indiana universities, De Pauw at Greencastle, and Taylor at Upland, were given bequests of \$10,000 and \$20,000 respectively in the will of Jonathan B. Morris, 78-year-old retired florist, who died here Saturday.

The will made the bequest to De Pauw University in memory of Mr. Morris' son, Alden, who died shortly before he would have been graduated from the school.

The bequest was made to Taylor University in honor of Mr. Morris' wife, Mary S. Morris, who survives him.

LOCAL 'BADMAN,' 22, GETS 1 TO 10 YEARS

HUNTINGTON, March 22 (U. P.).—The 10-year-old crime trail of a 22-year-old youth today had led him to a one to 10-year prison sentence.

The youth, Hubert De Wayne Cavender, Indianapolis, pleaded guilty here yesterday in Circuit Court to a charge of vehicle taking.

He told officers of his extensive operations, which he said took place in five states. His crimes, he said, included property thefts, robberies, holdups, check forgeries, automobile thefts, parole violations and an escape from the Indiana Boys' School.

Nominated for Customs Post



Charles E. Kemper, 3550 Carrollton Ave., has been nominated for the post of collector of customs for the Indiana district by President Roosevelt. He has been on a leave of absence from the Social Security Division of the Internal Revenue Department. Mr. Kemper's nomination must be confirmed by the U. S. Senate.

COURT RULES ON BACK PAY ISSUE

Holds Counties Are Helpless When Funds for Salaries Not Appropriated.

The Indiana Supreme Court today had ruled that county auditors and treasurers can not be mandated to pay back salaries to public officials "when no funds are appropriated for that purpose."

The decision was made in the case of Judge Charles E. Greenwald who won a mandate in Jasper County Circuit Court against Lake County officials for \$5166 back salary as judge of a Lake County Superior Court.

The Supreme Court granted the Lake County Auditor's appeal for a new trial on the ground that no money had been appropriated to pay on back salaries. The decision did not involve the validity of Judge Greenwald's claim for back salary. Judge Greenwald's action stated that Lake County Commissioners in 1932 reduced the appropriation for his salary from \$5800 to \$3800 annually and he sought payment at the rate of \$2000 a year.

In another decision, the Supreme Court upheld a Marion County Probate Court judgment of \$9000 to Francis De Lange in a claim against the estate of Frank Lux.

DISBARRED DOCTOR SEEKS PROBE BY U. S.

NEW YORK, March 22 (U. P.).—Dr. Joseph A. Jerger, author of the book, "Doctor, Here's Your Hat," said today that he would protest to the Department of Justice that the Chicago Medical Society violated the antitrust laws in barring him from Chicago hospitals.

Dr. Jerger's autobiographical book criticized "super-specialization" in medicine. He said he was called before the Chicago Medical Society, an affiliate of the American Medical Association, on charges that he had violated the medical code of ethics by writing the book.

Subsequently, he said, he was barred from approved hospitals. Spokesmen for the Chicago Medical Society and the American Medical Association denied that Dr. Jerger had been barred.

5 CRIPPLED CONVICTS ESCAPE FROM PRISON

HUNTSVILLE, Tex., March 22 (U. P.).—Five crippled convicts were fugitives today from the Wynne Prison Farm.

Three have an artificial leg each, another has crippled legs and the fifth only one arm. They disarmed a guard.

"WOLF-WOLF-WOLF"

For two consecutive mornings the police emergency squad has sped to the F. H. Langenscamp Co., copper-smiths, 227-39 E. South St., to answer a burglar alarm. Both mornings police have found a slightly opened door but no trace of a burglar. The door has set off the A. D. T. alarm, they said.

1 ARRAIGNED AS SLOT MACHINES ARE TAKEN HERE

Officers Seize 18 Devices And 117 Pin Ball Games In Warehouse.

Abraham Fieig, of 53 W. 32d St., Apt. 5, today was arraigned before Judge John L. McNellis in Municipal Court on a charge of possessing slot machines confiscated at a warehouse in E. Georgia St., 800 block. His case was continued until March 31.

Fieig's arrest followed seizure by Sheriff Reaney and police of 18 slot and 117 pin ball machines last night. Raiding officers said the slot machines were stored in a large walk-in refrigerator and that the other devices were found in other parts of the building.

Four trucks were required to remove the machines to County Jail. The raid followed an investigation made at the warehouse last week by Deputy Sheriff Richard Stewart. He visited the building on the pretense of renting it and saw the machines, he said.

20 MILLIONS PAID TO STATE JOBLESS

More than \$20,000,000 has been paid unemployed Hoosiers in less than a year, Lester Kassing, Indiana Unemployment Compensation Division district manager, announced today.

This week marks the 48th week that benefits have been paid in Indiana. In that time 1,825,000 weeks of total or partial unemployment have been compensated. Last week's payment was \$240,000 compared to this year's high of \$382,000 the fourth week in January.

"In this district, which covers Marion and surrounding counties, a total of 220,000 checks for \$2,250,000 have been paid since last April," Mr. Kassing reported. "The peak was reached the week ending Nov. 19 when 7540 checks were mailed totaling \$75,450. The highest mark this year for the district was 6426 checks for \$64,080 the fourth week in January, while last week they had fallen to 3800 for \$38,500," he said.

\$25,000 AWARDED IN LAST BALM SUIT

NEW YORK, March 22 (U. P.).—The last breath of promise suit permitted by law in New York had resulted today in a judgment of \$25,000 for Herbert R. Stevens, English banker, against Dr. F. Homer Curtis, Washington, D. C., founder of the Order of Christian Mystics.

The suit, filed by Mr. Stevens for the loss of the affections of his former wife, Mrs. Eleanor Chapman Stevens Curtis, was the last one on the calendar, prior to the passage of the law in May, 1935, outlawing alienation of affections suits.

Indiana University Bureau Predicts State Business Rise After February Dip

Employment and Payrolls Register Gains; Farm Products and Commodity Prices Strengthen; Real Estate Active.

BLOOMINGTON, March 22.—Indiana business activity fell four points during February, but the combined January-February level was substantially above last year, according to the Indiana University Bureau of Business Review.

It was indicated that the outlook for the remainder of the year is more favorable, the February dip being viewed as a temporary interruption of last fall's forward movement, rather than a reversal.

The Review stated that there is some question if the second quarter year will be much better than the current quarter, since the February drop was more than seasonal and since "uplifting seasonal influences have shown difficulty in taking hold."

"In spite of the general downturn in February," the Review asserted, "there were indices which showed improvement. Employment and payrolls in Indiana registered gains greater than the usual seasonal amounts."

Farm Products Strengthen

"Both Indiana farm products and wholesale commodity prices strengthened during the month. Real estate activity in major urban counties of the state and mortgage business of Indiana member institutions of the Indianapolis Federal Home Loan Bank turned upward sharply during February. Steel ingot production moved forward each week of the month."

"The downturn of a number of indexes, however, was sufficiently large to force the curve lower. Bank deposits fell 20 per cent, an amount much greater than the usual seasonal decline. Pig iron production fell more than the usual seasonal amount. Stone output was at a very low level. Production of coal declined 7 per cent, or more than the seasonal drop."

Sales Slightly Lower

"Electricity output decreased 10 per cent in conformity with seasonal experience. Retail sales fell 3 per cent. Newspaper advertising fell 7 per cent, which was about equal to the seasonal downturn. Building activity and the volume of mortgages insured by the Indiana FHA office fell during February. Finally, farm income and live stock receipts touched lower levels in February than in January."

The situation in Indianapolis roughly paralleled that of the entire state. New car sales in Marion County were about twice as great this year as last, while used car sales during February were 60 per cent above a year ago.

Department store sales last month were moderately greater than comparable figures for last year. Total outboard carloadings fell 6 per cent but were 3 per cent above a year ago, while inbound carloadings were 3 per cent under January but 14 per cent above a year ago.

Gains Over 1938 Shown

Building permits were under January, but substantially above a year ago. Bank deposits to individual accounts fell 25 per cent, but still were 7 per cent greater than a year ago.

The decline in checking transactions was more than seasonal. Live stock receipts were off 13 per cent. Postal receipts fell 1 per cent, but remained 7 per cent above a year ago.

The Review cited conditions in other cities as follows:

ANDERSON—Newspaper advertising 21 per cent under January; 14 per cent under year ago. January, February cumulative advertising 46 per cent under year ago. Postal receipts gained 8 per cent but still were 4 per cent under year ago. Retail trade off 16 per cent, but 9 per cent above 1938.

BLOOMINGTON—Newspaper advertising down 6 per cent to 2 per cent under year ago. Bank deposits to individual accounts fell 9 per cent, but were 18 per cent above last year. Postal receipts down 13 per cent; 8 per cent under year ago. Retail trade off 16 per cent; fractionally below year ago.

CONNEYSVILLE—Bank deposits up 1 per cent for month, 2 per cent for year. Industrial production up for month and year. Postal receipts up 17 per cent, 7 per cent over 1938. Retail sales up 12 per cent above January and year ago.

CRAWFORDSVILLE—Advertising down 2 per cent; 7 per cent under year ago. Debts down 15 per cent, 1 per cent under 1938. No building permits issued. Postal receipts up 1 per cent, 61 per cent over last year.

FT. WAYNE—Industrial production up. Retail sales down 7 per cent, 7 per cent above year ago. Advertising lineage drop less than seasonal, bank deposits drop (17 per cent) more than seasonal. Building permits value double January, far above 1938. Postal receipts down 3 per cent, up 3 per cent for year.

KOKOMO—Advertising fell 7 per cent, seasonal; 1 per cent over last year. Building permits value far above January year ago. Postal receipts down 10 per cent; 5 per cent above year ago. Merchants' collections good; sales roughly 10 per cent above 1938.

LAFAYETTE—Industrial production up for month and year. Advertising down 3 per cent for month, 1 per cent for year—less than seasonal. Retail sales down slightly, 6 per cent above year ago. Advertising down 2 per cent, 10 per cent above year ago. Permits up 50 per cent, 60 per cent under 1938. Livestock receipts down 23 per cent for month, 18 per cent for year. Postal receipts down 15 per cent for month, 1 per cent for year.

PERU—Retail sales up for month, below year ago. Debts down 13 per cent, 3 per cent above 1938. Permits double January, half of year ago. Postal receipts down 14 and 16 per cent.

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