



The Indianapolis Times

FORECAST: Mostly cloudy tonight and tomorrow; somewhat warmer tonight with lowest temperature 40 to 45 degrees.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1939

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FINAL
HOME

PRICE THREE CENTS

FRANCE, BRITAIN PLEDGE POLES AID

MANAGER STUDY MAY BE BLOCKED BY TECHNICALITY

House Clerk Says Resolution Was Neither Signed Nor Handed to Him for Enrollment After Legislative Passage.

BACKERS RALLYING TO 'SAVE' PLAN
Weiss Declares Measure Is Operative and Court Mandate Can Compel Setting Up of Proper Commission.

By WILLIAM R. CRAVE

The resolution setting up a city manager study commission, generally believed to have been passed by the Legislature, may have been blocked by a technicality in the closing days of the session, it was learned today.

State and legislative officials appeared uncertain as to its present status but reportedly the resolution was neither properly signed or enrolled.

The City Manager Committee of the Indianapolis Junior Chamber of Commerce, one of the organizations sponsoring the resolution, was to hold a special meeting this afternoon to discuss the situation.

Rep. Howard Batman (D., Terre Haute), who led the fight for the resolution on the floor of the House, said he would confer with Governor Townsend and Attorney General Omer Stokes Jackson next week to determine what action can be taken to save the measure.

Senator Jacob Weiss (D., Indianapolis) said the resolution, despite the fact it did not go through all the prescribed technical steps of enrolling and certifying, is still operative.

If any of the persons designated to approve members of the commission object, a court mandate can be obtained to set up the commission, he said.

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House Passed Resolution
William Insley, chairman of the League's executive committee, presided at the meeting.

The City Manager resolution was introduced into the House of Representatives early in the session and was passed a month later by that chamber.

It provided for a seven-member commission to decide on the best method for Indiana cities to obtain the city manager form of government. One member was to be appointed by the Governor, one by the Speaker of the House, two by the president of Indiana University and two by the president of Purdue University.

Amended by Senate
The resolution passed the House and was amended by the Senate to change the reporting date of the commission from Oct. 1 to Dec. 1. The House then concurred in the Senate's amendment.

At this point the resolution was to have been enrolled, but the clerk of the House said the measure was never taken by the Speaker to take this final step. As a result, it was not signed by the Speaker or the Lieutenant Governor.

Speaker James Knapp said it was not necessary for him to hand down the resolution; that it should go directly to the clerk.

The minutes of House Clerk (Continued on Page Three)

**WARM WEEK-END,
IS BUREAU FORECAST**

LOCAL TEMPERATURES

6 a. m. 37 10 a. m. 42
7 a. m. 36 11 a. m. 43
8 a. m. 37 12 (noon) 45
9 a. m. 40 1 p. m. 51

It looks like a warm week-end "as far as we can tell now," the Weather Bureau said today.

The Bureau, however, said skies would be mostly cloudy tomorrow, and promised that the mercury will not sink any lower than 40 degrees tonight.

A light snow flurry this morning lasted only a few minutes.

**TIMES FEATURES
ON INSIDE PAGES**

9500 MAY LOSE STATE WPA AID

Number to Be Regulated by Final Amount Congress Votes in Relief.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS
STATE WPA may cut 9500 from rolls.

HOUSE may get plea for extra 400-million appropriation. PUBLIC debt nears 40-billion all-time high.

ROOSEVELT makes heavy imprint on judiciary.

NEW DISPUTES on economy may follow reorganization.

By DANIEL M. KIDNEY
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, March 31.—There will be 9500 persons dropped from WPA relief rolls in Indiana during April and May under the 100 million dollar additional appropriation bill up for passage in the House today.

Should none of the additional 150 million dollars asked for by President Roosevelt be appropriated, the Indiana rolls would have to be cut 28,500 during the next two months according to figures presented in the Appropriations Committee hearings by Col. E. C. Harrington, WPA administrator.

As a member of the Appropriations Committee, which also is charged with investigating WPA, Rep. Louis Ludlow defended the 100 million dollar bill and urged its passage. He is the dean of the Hoosier Democrats, all of whom are expected to support the measure.

Halleck to Take Floor

Rep. Charles A. Halleck, dean of the Republicans from Indiana, intends to take the floor to charge the Administration with making no effort to live within the \$25 million dollars which WPA was voted earlier in the session.

The request had been for \$375,000,000 and the President has contended the entire 150 million should be restored.

Reps. William T. Schultz and William H. Larrabee, Democrats, and Rep. Gerald W. Landis, Republican, voted for the entire amount before and intend to support restoration of the 150 million now, they said.

Failing that, they will vote for the 100 million.

The estimate of Indiana cuts are based on figures contained in the hearings before public today.

They show that WPA rolls in Indiana (Continued on Page Three)

GUARDSMEN BATTLE \$2,000,000 BLAZE

**Ohio Battalion Aids Firemen
As Sandusky Stores Burn.**

SANDUSKY, O., March 31 (U. P.)—A battalion of Ohio National Guardsmen today helped firemen of this city of 25,000 and departments from three neighboring cities battle a downtown fire which already had caused an estimated 2 million-dollar damage.

The blaze was discovered at 4 a. m. in the city's largest department store. It soon had spread to a dry goods store adjoining and to an old structure at the rear.

Shortly after daylight, one building had been consumed and three others damaged beyond hope of salvage. Flames raged at another store, but Fire Chief Wilson Mc- (Continued on Page Three)

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It's No Fun, So Gee—Be Careful!

"Gee, I wish I could have all the fun the other boys and girls will have." The little fellow speaking, uttering both hope and warning from his City Hospital bed, is Maurice Hiten, of 901 Charles St.

Maurice is only 6, but he has a message for the 65,000 or more Indianapolis children who will scamper from school buildings this afternoon for a spring vacation.

Maurice can take it, but it's pretty tough not to be able to get out and play—play to a boy's heart's content. And it isn't so comfortable lying in bed this way. His right leg is fractured so near the hip that it's necessary to truss up the other one, too.

Maurice was playing marbles March 5—but needed more. On the way to the store Maurice darted across the street and was struck by a car.

By WILLIAM R. CRAVE

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The minutes of House Clerk (Continued on Page Three)

NEW MINE PACT DEADLINE NEARS

Accord by Midnight Sought
So 338,000 May Continue
On Job Next Week.

NEW YORK, March 31 (U. P.)—With the deadline for automatic suspension of mining in the nation's most productive soft coal region almost at hand, negotiators for operators and union miners of the Appalachian bituminous area attempted today to draft mutually satisfactory terms for extension or renewal of the coal workers' contract which expires at midnight.

The present agreement, signed two years ago, provides for a 35-hour week and a basic daily wage of \$6 in the North and \$5.60 in the South. Both sides in the contract conference which started March 14 have waived conflicting demands for an increase or reduction in wages.

A subcommittee of the joint conference—led by Charles O'Neill of New York for the operators, and John C. Lewis president of the United Mine Workers of America, for the miners—met today to discuss today's meeting of the fact that if they fail to reach an agreement thousands of mines will be shut down and 338,000 miners thrown out of work next week.

Arrangements already have been made for the maintenance of skeleton crews of pumpers and watchmen in the mines in the event of a shutdown.

Editor's Note—This is the fifth of a series of uncensored cable dispatches from Paris to the Indianapolis Times by Roy W. Howard of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. Mr. Howard spent five weeks visiting the major European capitals, and talking to statesmen, diplomats, military leaders and other authorities, as well as to the man in the street."

By ROY W. HOWARD
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TERRE HAUTE, March 31 (U. P.)—Approximately 2000 United Mine Workers members employed in Indiana strip mines were ordered to strike tomorrow unless a new contract is signed today with the Indiana Coal Producers' Association.

Truck and shaft miners will not be affected by the order.

Officials of District 11 of the union ordered the strike, seeking renewal of the contract which expires at midnight tonight.

**NATIONAL AND STATE
BANK CALLS ISSUED**

WASHINGTON, March 31 (U. P.)—The Controller of the Currency today issued a call for the condition of all national banks as of March 29. The Federal Reserve Board issued a similar call.

The Indiana Department of Financial Institutions today issued a call for the condition of all state banks as of March 29.

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