

MONDAY, JULY 10, 1939

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SCHOOL COSTS DROP \$600,000 OVER 10 YEARS

Lessen Despite Enrollment Gains and New Buildings, Good Reports.

The cost of operating the Indianapolis public schools has decreased more than \$600,000 during the last 10 years while enrollment has increased 7 per cent. A. B. Good, school business director, said today in a review of budgets.

The budget for 1929-30 was \$7,481,293, he said. The proposed budget for 1939-40 is \$6,781,518, or \$603,975 less. The enrollment at the end of the 1929-30 school year was 59,050. Last June 30 it was 62,215.

The property tax levy for schools has decreased from \$1.02 to 96 cents during the 10 years. Mr. Good said. Property taxes collected for schools during the period decreased \$1,888,343 to \$4,953,030.

INCOME TAXES AID SCHOOLS

If total assessed valuations were as high now as 10 years ago, the revenue to be obtained for schools from property tax could be raised from a levy of 71½ cents instead of the 66-cent levy fixed by the School Board, Mr. Good contended.

While property tax revenues have decreased, schools have obtained increased revenues from other sources, particularly the gross income tax. The amount received from these other sources for the last school year was \$1,882,694 or \$1,249,488 more than for 1929-30.

Between Jan. 1, 1930, and Dec. 31, 1938, the net bonded indebtedness of the School City has been reduced from \$11,521,000 to \$8,104,781, or about 30 per cent.

Despite the reduction in revenues, the School Board has carried on an extensive building program. Mr. Good said. Thirteen elementary school buildings or additions have been erected. One junior high school and a high school building have been erected and additions made to three high schools.

SCHOOL YEAR LONGER

Children remain in school longer than they did 10 years ago, Mr. Good said, citing that all but nine pupils who finished the eighth grade last month plan to enter high school in September.

Rapidly changing economic conditions during the last 10 years have made it necessary for the public schools to assume responsibilities in addition to those which were considered regular school functions 15 or 20 years ago," Mr. Good said.

Special fields, such as achievement and mental testing, vocational placement, speech correction, lip reading, dietetics and remedial work in the fundamental processes have been deemed essential to the best work in developing children. Special teachers are employed in these fields."

THREE ARE DROWNED IN LAKE MICHIGAN

GARY, Ind., July 10 (U.P.) — Three persons were drowned yesterday in Lake Michigan, in separate mishaps at beaches in this vicinity.

Andrew Verge, Hammond, disappeared in rough water when he went swimming near Chesterton while on a picnic with friends.

Richard Mustafa, 6, drowned in shallow water a few feet from shore at the Gary Municipal Beach. His mother and stepfather were on the beach nearby.

The body of Peter Urban, about 57, also was taken from the lake near Chesterton. He evidently had been dead for several hours.

BOY LAYS TROUBLES TO HIS TOOTHACHE

A 16-year-old boy told Municipal Court Judge John McNeils today that he escaped from the Boys' School at Plainfield Saturday night because his teeth hurt.

After he got to Indianapolis, he said, he got hungry and decided to break into a house and eat. This he did. After he had eaten his fill from the ice box, he said, he decided he needed clothes and money and he ransacked the house.

While he was doing this, the judge was told, the owner of the house returned, heard a noise in a closet, pressed discovered and arrested the boy.

The house was at 850 W. 35th St. and the owner was Police Sergeant William P. Trent.

Judge McNeils bound over the boy to the grand jury under a \$2500 bond.

BECK KIN SENTENCED

NEW YORK, July 10 (U.P.) — Mrs. Lillian Schrein, niece of Martin Beck, was sentenced to two to four years in State Prison today for theft of \$60,000 from the 71-year-old producer.

The State Tax Board today notified officials of all Indiana counties that contracts awarded when no money is available in their budgets for purchases are invalid.

Philip Zoercher, Board chairman, said that the order was based on a recent Indiana Supreme Court decision in which the City of Huntington was forced to cancel a contract for the purchase of a fire truck because no funds were previously earmarked for the purchase.

The Board warned all public officials that they first must make funds available before advertising for any type of bids.

Hey, Mr. Mars, We're Watching You



Times Photo.
Emsley W. Johnson (left), 3447 Washington Blvd., has no trouble in locating Mars. Her planetary guides are Miss Katherine Durham, 3345 Washington Blvd., Indiana Astronomical Society president, and Walter Wilkins, 6124 N. Dewey Ave.

Astronomers Here Scan Planet 'Visiting' Earth

By JAMES THRASHER

Mars, which is looking like the amber light in a traffic signal these evenings, is practically within commuting distance this month.

On July 27 it will be within 36 million miles of the earth, which is just a wild pitch as astronomical distances go.

Since the planet hasn't brushed so close in some 15 years, the Indiana Astronomical Society is holding public watch parties on Sunday and Wednesday nights at its open air observatory, 72d St. and Crooked Creek.

Rain Washes Out Party

Rain washed out the first scheduled open-house on Wednesday. Last night, however, approximately 200 persons had gathered at 8:30 o'clock to await the planet's arrival.

Mars, which has a cruising speed of 15 miles a second, didn't show up on the eastern horizon until around 9 o'clock.

The society has more than 100 members and 50 telescopes, all home-made. Emsley W. Johnson, 3447 Washington Blvd., is president and a supervisor of the man-made Martian cause theory.

Walter Wilkins, 6124 N. Dewey Ave., is editor of the society's monthly bulletin and one of those who won't commit themselves on the canals or Martian life. Outlining the planet's points of interest, Mr. Wilkins explained that the controversy hinges upon the personal equations rather than celestial mathematics.

Heat Wave There

One thing is certain: Mars would be an ideal place to spend the next heat wave. Even at the equator, the temperature seldom gets above 50 degrees. And at night, the whole planet freezes solid.

Last night's visitors did not get to see the planet through the largest of three telescopes at the observatory, for one of the members forgot to show up with a counter-weight necessary for successful operation. Viewed in the smaller instruments, Mars looked like nothing more pretentious than a small orange with one over-ripe spot in the center.

The "back-to-work" movement was regarded by the union as a challenge for a showdown.

The Cleveland Fisher plant, which manufactures body dies for Chevrolet, was ordered struck in consequence of the union's plan to close one of most plants each day until the company agreed to negotiate a supplemental agreement for skilled workers. The Cleveland plant was the 11th ordered closed. It employs approximately 700 men, bringing to nearly 7000 the total number placed on strike.

ACCUSED 'DESIGNER' OF TORTURES EXECUTED

BARCELONA, July 10 (U.P.) — Alfonso Lauren Cik, Yugoslav architect accused of designing torture chambers for the Loyalist Government of Spain during the Civil War, was executed by a firing squad at 11:30 a.m. yesterday.

Lauren Cik was tried and found guilty last month. The Government produced testimony that he had been imprisoned by the Loyalists and tried to win favorable treatment from his captors by designing the torture chambers, which were painted with fantastic geometric designs intended to have a demoralizing mental effect on anyone forced to gaze on them for days at a time.

A hearing on the suit of Stokely Brothers and Van Camp, Inc., seeking to enjoin the Teamsters and Chauffeurs Union, A. F. of L., from picketing its plant, was postponed today until fall in Superior Court 5, Judge Herbert Wilson said the delay was at request of the unions.

A temporary injunction which permits "peaceful picketing," but does not allow the pickets to carry signs, will be in effect until the hearing.

STOKELY-UNION CASE DELAYED UNTIL FALL

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HOOSIER IS ELECTED BY WOMEN LAWYERS

Times Special

OAKLAND, Calif., June 10 — Mrs. Florence K. Thacker, 171 W. 44th St., Indianapolis, has been elected treasurer of the National Association of Women Lawyers in session here. Helen Cerise, Chicago, was elected president.

TECH KEEPS OFFICE OPEN UNTIL JULY 25

Technical High School offices will remain open until July 25 for the purpose of enrolling students for the fall semester, school officials announced today.

This procedure will give pupils from out of town schools a chance to enroll now, thus avoiding delay when school opens in September, officials said. It also will enable former pupils to enroll who were not enrolled at the close of school in June. The procedure of permitting late summer enrollment for the fall term was adopted last year and proved successful, officials said.

PIONEER DESIGNER DEAD

BERLIN, July 10 (U.P.) — Dr. Adolf Rohrbach, a pioneer airplane and flying boat designer, died at Kampen, a seaport, Saturday of heart disease. He was 51.

The house was at 850 W. 35th St. and the owner was Police Sergeant William P. Trent.

Judge McNeils bound over the boy to the grand jury under a \$2500 bond.

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THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

SMITH'S STORY OF L. S. U. CASE MAY BE ISSUED

Federal and State Officials Continue Probe Into Market 'Flyer.'

BATON ROUGE, La., July 10 (U.P.) — Attorney William Hamlin of New Orleans indicated today that a formal public statement might be issued soon by Dr. James Monroe Smith, former president of Louisiana State University now under indictment on charges of embezzlement.

Mr. Hamlin was expected to confer with him today. He was retained as counsel by Dr. Smith.

State and Federal investigators were active here probing irregularities revealed by Dr. Smith's \$2,000,000 attempt to corner the wheat market and by his flight to Canada.

Use of Mails Probed

Three postal inspectors were ordered to investigate rumors that the mails had been used in Dr. Smith's deals.

East Baton Rouge Parish district attorney, Dewey J. Sanchez meanwhile prepared new charges against the former president of L. S. U. who rose to head the giant educational institution under the guidance of the late Senator Huey Long. Senator Long found him in a country college 10 years ago.

In New Orleans, a Federal grand jury probed into alleged relief abuses. Dr. Smith's income and the possibility that Federal funds were involved in the 5 per cent kick-back from State employees to finance the political machine.

Two Freed Under Bond

Two of the three men arrested by WPA investigators for diverting WPA labor and materials to private construction were free under bond.

Big George Caldwell, nabbed by Federal agents at the Postoffice building in New Orleans, was back at his palatial home in Baton Rouge, free under \$10,000 bond.

Eugene Barksdale, 39, acting superintendent of construction at L. S. U. after Caldwell was arrested, was freed last night after posting \$7500 bond. James Marshall was held in jail here on default of bond on like charges.

ARMY TO BE READY, WOODRING REPORTS

Times Special

WASHINGTON, July 10 (U.P.) — The Army will be "ready for any emergency" when the present air defense program is completed, War Secretary Woodring reported today.

In a statement on the "financial status of the national defense program at the beginning of the new fiscal year," he detailed what the War Department is doing or plans to do with the approximately \$1,000,000,000 appropriated by Congress or authorized expenditures for the War Department for the 1940 fiscal year.

"Among items of major interest, these funds insure an air armada of 5500 airplanes in the Army alone, exclusive of the airplane strength of our Navy," Mr. Woodring said.

"The enlisted strength of our air corps will be more than doubled and some \$60,000,000 will be expended in air corps construction, utilization of civilian flying and mechanics schools in the training of our army pilots and mechanics is a new and worthwhile step in our growing air defense program."

"The law must take its course, although my heart is broken," Mrs. Eliza Middlecamp Emery, 67, said. Her son, Hubbard Middlecamp, 35, of Los Angeles, and six others were held on a charge of kidnapping.

Mrs. Emery was taken from the home of a friend Saturday. She was found in her room in a San Francisco hotel two hours later. Charged with Middlecamp were Mrs. Sylvia Farley, Mrs. Gertrude Parley, former wife of a caretaker at the Emery Home; Fred Abdallah, 31, night club operator and former prize fighter; William Bergman, 25, and Leo and Jess Quinlin, brothers. Mrs. Orla Chadd, with whom Mrs. Emery makes her home, filed the charge.

All seven denied kidnapping. Conviction would carry prison terms of from one year to life. Bergman and the Quinlin brothers told authorities his mother was under Mrs. Chadd's "influence" and was being misused.

Those unusual names apply to certain workmen in packing companies who secure jobs through Mr. Jordan, who is local office manager of the State Employment Service. Another packing company employee is called a "scalper."

WHAT'S IN A NAME? ASKS JOB EXECUTIVE

Times Special

HAMMOND, Ind., July 10 — "Teeth knockers out" and "back splitters" may sound slightly mayhemish to the average citizen but they are important to Bryan Jordan Jr.

Those unusual names apply to certain workmen in packing companies who secure jobs through Mr. Jordan, who is local office manager of the State Employment Service. Another packing company employee is called a "scalper."

ON THE INDIANAPOLIS SPEEDWAY, RACING CARS NOW TAKE THE TURNS AT BETTER THAN 1