

SCHOOL BOARD CLOSES DOORS TO DO BUSINESS

75-Minute 'Private' Session Precedes 19-Minute Open Meeting.

The School Board transacted its business last night in a 19-minute-long public session that followed a 75-minute closed session to which the public was not admitted.

The Board already was in informal conference at 6:45 p. m. although the regular meeting was scheduled for 8 p. m. The doors of the meeting room were locked and reporters were refused admittance.

"Is this meeting closed?" one member who unlocked the door in response to a knock was asked. "Yes," he replied, "you can get all the material you want at the meeting upstairs."

Later the same member explained that "there is a more free discussion when reporters aren't present." The Board member emphasized that no formal action, only discussion, could take place in the closed meeting.

William A. Evans, schools publication adviser, said the closed meetings have been a School Board practice "at least since 1931."

Act on School 20

The Board decided to start condemnation proceedings against one owner of land needed for the construction of School 20, Dawson and Pleasant Run Blvd., and to ask the PWA for \$5850 more money to help finance the cost of the school.

A. B. Good, schools business director, said all the real estate needed for the new School 20 has been purchased with the exception of two lots.

"Difficulty has been experienced in procuring a price from the owner of one lot," he said. "However, recently the owner has indicated that he would be willing to accept the sum of \$5000. In the course of acquiring the real estate for this school building, I have obtained appraisals of the lots needed and the highest appraisal which I have on the lot is \$4350."

In his resolution asking the Board's permission to apply for the PWA grant, Mr. Good stated the PWA originally granted \$108,000 for the project on the basis of an estimated total cost of \$240,000. The project will cost \$253,000, however, because the cost of acquiring the land was not \$10,000, as was expected, but \$23,600, Mr. Good said.

Warrants Sold

The \$300,000 time warrants, in anticipation of tax collections, were sold to the only bidders, a group of six Indianapolis banks. They were the Union Trust Co., Indiana National Bank, Indiana Trust Co., Merchants National Bank, American National Bank and Fidelity Trust Co.

The bid was \$300,081.52. The interest rate was 1 per cent, as compared with the previous interest rate for time warrants of $\frac{3}{4}$ of 1 per cent. Harvey B. Hartsock, Board member, said it was a "fair bid in view of the present market."

Contractors working on the Milo H. Stuart Memorial classroom building on Technical High School campus were voted contract extensions permitting them to do the work on the second floor wing. This was not included in the original contracts "because of lack of money," Mr. Good said.

Struck by Bullet



Alice Marie Sparks... a bullet went wild.

GIRL'S SHOOTING STARTS INQUIRY

Wounded as Officer Chases Fugitive at Ohio and Illinois Sts.

While physicians today sought to determine whether a police bullet had injured the bone of Miss Alice Marie Sparks' right leg, Police Chief Michael F. Morrissey launched an investigation into the shooting.

Miss Sparks, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Warren T. Sparks, 4143 Graceland Ave., was in a fair condition at Methodist Hospital. She was walking at the intersection of Ohio and Illinois Sts. at noon yesterday when the accident occurred.

Detective Willis Thompson was pursuing a fugitive wanted on a grand larceny charge and fired a shot at him. The bullet bounced from the pavement and struck Miss Sparks.

Later the fugitive was captured. Miss Sparks was given first aid by the police emergency squad and then taken to the hospital. Chief Morrissey said he had ordered an investigation into the shooting and would not comment "until he had all the facts."

YOUTH, GIRL HELD IN CHICKEN THEFTS

MONTICELLO, Ind., Sept. 27 (U. P.). — Police today held Maurice Criswell, 21, former Monticello High School basketball star, and Miss Catherine Blackburn, 21, former cheer leader of Monon High School, in connection with the theft of 300 chickens and the burglary of five lake cottages. Police said both had confessed to participating in the thefts.

ROAD WORK FLOORS 17-YEAR-OLD BOXER

Willis McCoy, 17-year-old Indianapolis boxer, was recovering today from a badly bruised right foot. Young McCoy told police he was doing road work yesterday in the vicinity of Keystone and Churchman Aves., when his trouser cuff caught in the rear wheel of a car he was following. He said his foot was drawn under the wheel. He was treated at City Hospital.

UNITES ARRANGED FOR BATESVILLE LAWYER

Times Special
BATESVILLE, Ind., Sept. 27.—Albert Barnes Wycoff, a member of the Ripley County bar, who died Sunday at his home, is to be buried at Versailles, Ind., tomorrow. He was 65.

Services will be held at the First Methodist Church, of which he was a member. Members of the church's Bible class will be pallbearers. Mr. Wycoff had conducted the class for the past five years.

His wife and a son, Paul Wycoff of Batesville survive him.

U. S. Reports Nation's Cupboard Far From Bare

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27 (U. P.). —The Agriculture Department took inventory of the nation's larger today and found plenty.

Officials said that not only are present supplies ample, but that there is no cause for concern in future years even if the war continues. Improved farm methods now produce ample supplies on 75 per cent of the ground available for low-cost production. Under the AAA control system, acreage can be increased in time to meet any demand.

They hoped that this would reassure anxious American house-

wives whose rush to buy food stuffs when the European War began caused rapid price increases and led to fears that profiteering might have started.

Moderate increases in some food costs may be expected as national prosperity increases, officials said, but they pointed out that farm prices are low compared to manufactured goods and industrial wages. Some increase in European demand also is expected to strengthen prices of farm products.

An insurance against any shortage or sudden price increase, huge supplies of wheat, corn, cotton, wool, dairy products and dried fruits

have been accumulated in reserve under Government loans. These supplies can be released to break any effort at food profiteering.

In appraising the nation's food assets, the economists balanced supplies against the amount the country normally eats or exports. The supply of wheat in this country was estimated at 990,000,000 bushels, indicating a surplus of 225,000,000 bushels when the 1940 crop is harvested. The European war will not reduce world production next year by any great extent, the economists predicted.

Virtually the same situation exists

in the other principal grain, corn. The large corn supply, the department said, will assure consumers large future supplies of meat, lard and dairy products. Livestock on farms being fattened for market this winter is the largest in five years. Hog slaughter is expected to be about 20 per cent larger than last year.

Fruit and vegetable supplies, perishable goods which are subject to changes more than other foods, are larger than last year and ample to meet demand, the department said.

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY FAIR OPENS TUESDAY

Times Special
WARSAW, Ind., Sept. 27.—The 25th annual Kosciusko County Fair is to open Tuesday and will feature lightweight horse-pulling contests, an industrial parade, horse show, a horse parade and a pony race.

The fair will close Saturday afternoon following the pony race. Following custom, the fair is to be held in the streets of Warsaw. Milo Malow is president of the Fair Association.



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