

CENTER'S TAX RATE RISES 10 CENTS TO \$3.31

Increases Also Made in Perry and Wayne; Washington, Warren Reduced.

(Continued from Page One)

levy would reduce the Indianapolis (Center Township) levy next year by \$3.25, or 3 cents above the current rate.

Despite the drastic cut in the Center poor relief budget, the township trustee will have available for relief purposes next year \$1,099,643. This is exclusive of the sum raised by the bond levy.

However, it was brought out that there is virtually no way to prevent the trustee from issuing more bonds to make up the funds slashed from the budget by the Adjustment Board.

The Board made its first heavy slash yesterday when it cut \$308,207 from the County Welfare budget, reducing the proposed 51-cent County levy to 46 cents, which is 2 cents under the current levy.

Welfare Levy Cut

The Board's action effected a reduction of 5 cents in the 18-cent welfare fund rate. The proposed 18-cent rate was the result of a proposed 1-cent cut by the County Council.

Although the Board made no cuts in requested 1940 expenditures in the Indianapolis Civil City budget, it reduced the City tax levy by 2 cents, to \$1.28, and, like the County levy, brought the 1940 levy under this year's rate. The 1939 Civil City rate is \$1.30.

The rate cut was made on the basis of an adjustment of additional anticipated revenue to the City next year from the new light rate contract, which is expected to bring \$2,000 to City coffers, and the anticipated receipt of \$73,000 from the sale of state lottery equipment.

The School city budget calling for a 96-cent rate, the same as the current levy, was passed Monday by the Board without change.

Attorney Questioned

Near the close of yesterday's session, Leo X. Smith, attorney for Center Township Trustee Thomas Quinn, was questioned by Board Member Harvey Hartscock on reports "disturbing to the Board."

Among the reports Mr. Smith was asked to explain were the allegations that during August, 56½ per cent of the bread purchased for Center relief workers came from one outlet, a 38½ per cent of the milk came from one dealer, and that two-fifths of the grocers on an approved list of 54 grocers received 80 per cent of the staple food business.

Mr. Smith said he did not know if the reports were correct, but that if they were, it was the result of geographical location and refusal of some stores to handle relief orders.

Figures purporting to show that two stores received about \$8000 each in poor relief orders last month also were presented by Mr. Hartscock. Mr. Smith said he had no knowledge of the truth or falsity of another report that a relative of Mr. Quinn was connected with one of the stores. He branded as false a report that the present trustee and his predecessor, Miss Hanna Noone, received a bonus of 50 cents a ton on all relief coal.

General Fund Slashed

Mr. Smith said the trustee's office was doing all it could to rid the relief rolls of the undeserving, but added that the increased relief load was the result of "professional welfare workers who have been building it up."

Yesterday, in addition to making the drastic cuts in the welfare fund, the Board agreed to slash \$1000 from the County general fund. A total of \$7300 for extra clerical help was taken from the Treasurer's budget during a discussion on the fee system and \$400 from the Sheriff's budget, scheduled as salary for an additional deputy. However, the general fund rate of 18 cents was not changed.

The General fund and the welfare fund are only two of the six separate funds requiring separate levies which combine to make the total county tax rate.

Neal Request Slept

The Board spent little in making the welfare department cuts.

The largest slash was made when the Board voted to entirely strike from the budget a \$175,237 fund request to pay past-due bills to the Riley Hospital contracted in the operation of a children's program.

A total of \$100,000 was whacked from the request of \$1,796,850 for old-age assistance program next year. Welfare Director Thomas Neal had originally requested \$1,970,910 but the County Council cut it before it was submitted to the Adjustment Board.

The \$100,000 cut in this fund represents only a \$20,000 saving in Marion County taxes. The remainder of the money is received from the State and Federal Governments as reimbursement.

The Board cut \$40,000 from the fund for assistance to crippled children in custody of relatives. Only \$6000 of that amount was to be raised from county taxes.

Otherwise were \$20,000 from funds for assistance to dependent children in custody of individuals; \$24,260 from the Colored Orphans Home fund and \$47,910 from the requested \$106,220 for administrative employees' salaries.

Staff May Be Cut

It was believed the Board's action would necessitate a reduction of 37 in staff of 139 employees in the Department.

The Board, in all but one case, acted unanimously on the welfare reductions. Harvey Hartscock, Board representative from the School Board, led the attack on welfare requests.

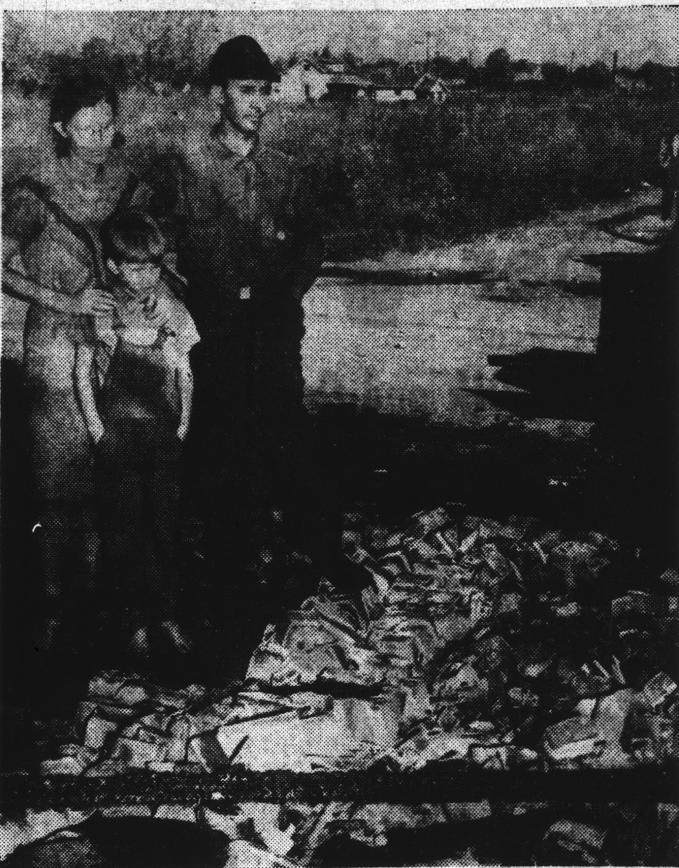
As the Board opened the study of the welfare budget, Mr. Hartscock said:

"I would like to get this budget back to 1938 expenses. Conditions ought not be worse now than they were in 1938 considering some industrial expansion . . . let's get back on a sane basis in welfare services."

The Welfare Department spent a total of \$2,363,949 in 1938. It requested expenditure of \$3,624,547 for 1940.

All the tax rates set by the board today, may be appealed for readjustment to the State Tax Board, final budget review body.

Fire Leaves Family Homeless



The William Harper family . . . at the ashes of their home. —Times Photo.

Tent Offers Roof Until Cold Sets In—Then What?

The William Harper family pitched an army tent on the ashes of its home at 802 S. Addison St. today, and prepared to stay until cold weather. Then they don't know what they'll do.

Probing in the ruins today, Mrs. Harper discovered some of 45 cans of food she had put up for winter were undamaged. Most of the family spent the night at the farm home of relatives.

Mrs. Harper received a slight scratch on her arm when she broke the windows to rescue the birds and Mr. Slaughter was slightly burned when he rescued the chicken.

Also discovered intact in the ashes was a bottle of strawberry soda. Young William washed it off, opened it, and went happily about the place drinking it this morning.

Table of Tax Rates

CHART 1

The following table shows the current and requested tax rates compared to those rates formally fixed by the Adjustment Board today for 1940, to be paid on each \$100 taxable property by property owners in all cities, towns and townships in Marion County. All are subject to possible further review by the State Tax Board.

Townships Inside Indianapolis	1939 Rate	1940 Requested	1940 Approved
Center	\$3.21	\$3.51	\$3.31
Perry	3.31	3.492	3.329
Warren	3.06	3.045	2.975
Washington	2.93	2.935	2.862
Wayne	3.30	3.555	3.495

Townships Outside Indianapolis

Center	\$2.01	\$2.725	\$2.51
Perry	2.01	2.406	2.18
Warren	1.67	1.54	1.44
Washington	1.17	1.15	1.03
Wayne	1.94	2.345	2.21

Other Corporations

Castleton	\$1.76	\$2.25	\$2.09
Clermont	3.01	3.415	3.285
Crown Nest	1.17	1.15	1.037
Highwoods	1.17	1.15	1.037
Town of Lawrence	2.26	2.30	2.14
Lynhurst	2.43	2.745	2.615
North Crows Nest	1.17	1.15	1.037
Ravenswood	2.63	2.65	2.537
Rocky Ripple	2.67	2.65	2.537
Shooters Hill	1.17	1.15	1.037
Southport	2.76	3.00	2.737
Speedway City	2.36	2.655	2.605
Spring Hill	1.17	1.15	1.037
Warren Park	1.82	1.69	1.59
Williams Creek	1.57	1.55	1.437
Woodruff Place	3.05	3.06	2.88
Woodstock	1.17	1.15	1.037
Beech Grove	3.36	3.68	3.503
(Center)			
Beech Grove	3.195	3.23	3.175
(Franklin)			
Beech Grove	3.46	3.662	3.519
(Perry)			

CHART 2

The following is a comparative table of rates in tax districts which combine to make the total property tax rate paid by property owners living in Center Township, inside Indianapolis.

1939 Rate	1940 Requested	1940 Approved
State	\$15	\$15
County	.48	.51
Poor Relief	.32	.59
School City	.96	.96
Civil City	1.30	1.30
TOTAL	\$3.21	\$3.51

Requested 1940 rates are those submitted to the Adjustment Board after action by the City Council, County Council and Town and Township advisory boards. In some cases the councils and boards made cuts in amounts requested by governmental department heads.

Each 1 cent in the rate raises the following amounts.

Center . . . \$42,538 Perry . . . \$1281 Wayne . . . \$3593

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