

ECONOMY NOTE IS STRESSED IN BUDGET PLANS

Deery Tabulates Estimates;
Sullivan Seeks to Keep
\$1.28 Tax Rate.

The 1941 budget-making season opened officially today with the City budget-makers in an economy mood.

City officials met with Mayor Reginald H. Sullivan yesterday in a pre-budget conference. The Mayor reiterated his request that estimates for next year not exceed this year's appropriations.

It was the first time that the Mayor has called together the City executives this year. The estimates of all new departments where increases are requested were reviewed briefly but no action was taken to word revision.

Works for \$1.28 Rate

"We are doing everything in our power to keep the 1941 civil city tax rate at \$1.28," the Mayor said. "I can't say now what the new rate will be. That depends on too many factors."

While the Mayor did not elaborate on the factors, it was understood that the City budget-makers had two hurdles to face which were not present last year.

The more immediate of these is the sudden decline in the assessed property valuation of Indianapolis from \$512,000,000 in 1939 to \$507,000,000 in 1940.

The \$5,000,000 drop will be reflected in a higher rate if the same amount of money as last year is needed and current municipal services are maintained.

U. S. Tax Factor Weighed

A second factor is defense preparation, with the imminent possibility of higher Federal taxation. While this matter has only recently come into the budget picture, it is being seriously considered as a barometer to any drastic budget increases.

City Controller James E. Deery said his department workers would make a tabulation of departmental estimates within the next week or 10 days so that a tentative total budget figure can be determined.

About the first of July, another conference of officials will be called to make adjustments which will involve the slashing of some estimates. The revised budget will then be submitted to the City Council Aug. 15 for approval.

Democrats Draft State Platform



Times Photo.

These Democratic leaders are drafting planks for the Democratic platform which will be submitted to the party's State convention in the Coliseum June 27. They are (seated, left to right) Judge Louis A. Weiland, Indianapolis; William J. Harrington, Hammond; State Chairman Fred F. Bays; Clarence Donovan, Bedford, and Jay Stanley, Richmond. Standing (left to right) are John W. Baumunk, Brazil; John M. McFaddin, Rockville, and Walter L. Clements, South Bend.

Pussy In the Corner (Mailbox) Isn't Fun for the Postman

AD CLUB TO INSTALL WILLIAM HUTCHINSON

When somebody puts a cat in an Indianapolis mailbox that box usually gets collected early.

Postmaster Adolph Seidensticker says that a cat is put into one of the corner mailboxes about every three months and that the last occasion was at McLean Pl. and Illinois Sts. He says that the cats are usually put into the boxes by mischievous boys to worry some humane lady, who immediately calls the Post Office and demands that some one come immediately to release the cat from its imprisonment. The request is complied with as soon as possible.

The carrier at St. Clair and College once found a tiny silver and diamond wristwatch in the box at that corner. He brought it into the office and almost at the same time the girl who had lost it came to claim it. She said she had lost it and the person who had found it had dropped it into the box for safekeeping and then told her it was at the Postoffice.

A week later the same carrier came in with the crystal off the same watch, found in the same mailbox.

Lots of money, particularly checks that haven't been taken from their envelopes, get dropped into mailboxes accidentally, Mr. Seidensticker says. When a woman accidentally drops her purse into a box, she usually stands right beside the box waiting for the next collection, he says. Then when the mailman comes, she has to go down to the Inquiry Section of the main Postoffice and identify herself and the purse.

The carrier will be installed at St. Clair and College.

SLAYING TRIAL DELAYED

CRAWFORDSVILLE, Ind., June 18 (U.P.)—The trial of E. W. Bratton on a manslaughter charge in connection with the slaying of a neighbor last October today was ordered postponed until Nov. 18. His attorneys said he was unable to appear in court due to his health.

COUNCIL TAKES AIRPLANE RIDE AFTER MEETING

'Though Queen Liked Red, They Wouldn't Let Her Bee'

Stubborn Swarm Defies Law
And Order—for a
While.

A swarm of bees was captured at the intersection of New York and Delaware Sts. yesterday afternoon by a beverage salesman and a meat cutter. There were no casualties.

Origin and destination unknown,

the bees zoomed down upon a traffic signal and covered it. Traffic stopped. Pedestrians stopped. Even police were baffled.

For a few minutes, the bees defied all efforts of law and order. Then William Johnson of 2114 Station St., the beverage salesman, and James P. Hutto of 304 E. New York St., the meat cutter, appeared on the scene.

It was no trick at all for the two men to scrape the bees off the blinking traffic signal into a box with a stick. Mr. Hutto explained his decision by saying he was "just a father boy from Tipton." Mr. Johnson had 10 bee hives of his own.

Mr. Johnson estimated there were 16,000 bees in the swarm, probably led by a capricious queen who grew fond of the pretty red and green traffic signal.

The bees were turned over to an apriary on N. Alabama St.



Times Photo.
James P. Hutto...the Queen was not amused.

GIRL HELPING DOG IS BITTEN SEVERELY

Nine-year-old Betty Jean Walker, 233 E. St. Joseph St., loves dogs. Last night, when a dog was struck by an automobile near her home, her first thought was to go to the animal's aid.

As she reached out to pick the dog up, she was severely bitten on the left hand. Police sent her to the City Hospital. The dog was taken to the dog pound for observation. Police charged the dog's owner for harboring a vicious dog and failure to have a dog license.

The speaker will be H. W. Riddle of the Warner & Swasey Co., tool manufacturers. The meeting will be held in connection with an all-day outing at the Speedway Golf Club.

The speaker will discuss means to partially offset the shortage of skilled mechanics which exists at the present time. The Society has announced that it recognizes a need for skilled help and increased industrial efficiency. Its members have offered the use of Mr. Riddle's talk in other factories.

I. T. White of Greenwood, Ind., society industrial relations chairman, is in charge of the program.

3 WILL ADDRESS U. S. JR. C. OF C.

Nine Others From Here to
Attend 21st Annual
National Meeting.

Three members of the Indianapolis Junior Chamber of Commerce are to speak at the organization's 21st annual convention in Washington tomorrow, Thursday and Friday.

They are Ralph L. Swingley, Indianapolis Water Co. accountant, who will speak on "Public Utility Accounting"; J. Russell Townsend Jr., field assistant here of the Equitable Life Insurance Co. of Iowa, who will discuss "Profitable Recruiting" at the Life Insurance Forum; and Edward J. Green, Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co. special agent, speak at the Local Organization Affairs seminar on "What Educational Projects Can be Sponsored by Junior Chambers."

Indianapolis officers of the organization are Harry T. Ice, national president; Doyle Zaring, a national director; George J. Smith, chairman of the national committee on unemployment.

Other delegates from Indianapolis to the convention will be Harlan B. Livergood, state treasurer; H. Burch Nulley, local executive vice president; Fletcher S. Hubbard, Berkley W. Duck Jr., local president, and Daniel J. Young and John H. Elam.

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Muskrats

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See Page
15
for More
Sale News



Sizes
14 to 18



Sizes
38 to 44