

## SUIT ATTACKS ELECTION CODE

### Tilson Charges Registration Board Is Illegal.

Legality of a G. O. P. legislative act supposedly intended to correct metropolitan vote registration evils has been questioned by Marion County Clerk A. Jack Tilson, himself a Republican.

In a suit filed in superior court 2, Mr. Tilson charges the law is unconstitutional and requested a court definition of the rights of election officials under its provisions.

The action was started soon after Republican George K. Johnson and Democrat Dave Klapper had been sworn in as members of a new bipartisan vote registration board, established by the act, passed by the 1945 general assembly.

*"Playing Politics"*

Edwin K. Steers, treasurer of the G. O. P. county committee, and a member of the state election board, accused Mr. Tilson of "playing factional politics" in filing the suit.

At various times, the county clerk has locked horns with both the regular county G. O. P. organization and the Mayor Tyndall-Addison Perry faction. Already he has announced his candidacy for re-election next year.

"We Republicans enacted the law to give us a look-in in Lake, Vigo and Vanderburgh counties where we never had a chance before," said Mr. Steers, who drafted the 1945 election code bill. "But Mr. Tilson seems to be sore about something."

*"Tilson 'Not Sure'*

Mr. Tilson said he wasn't sure at all. He said he simply doubted whether the act was all right on grounds that it excluded anybody but Republicans or Democrats from serving on the newly-created registration boards.

"What about independents, or prohibitionists?" Mr. Tilson wanted to know. "This is class legislation."

He also challenged the validity of requiring the circuit court judges to appoint bi-partisan county registration boards upon the recommendation of the county chairmen, as provided in the law. Mr. Tilson said this would constitute granting executive powers to a judicial officer.

*In Seven Counties*

Such bi-partisan registration boards, recommended by county chairmen, are set up by the 1945 election code in Marion, Lake, Vanderburgh, St. Joseph, Allen, Vigo and Delaware counties. These embrace the most populous cities.

Defendants in the Tilson suit are named as Mr. Johnson, Mr. Klapper, Republican County Chairman Henry Ostrom, Democratic County Chairman James Beatty, and the three members of the state election board, among them Governor Gates.

Under the previous law, county clerks supervised vote registration activities. But Mr. Tilson said he would be violating his oath of office if he turned his election records over to the new bi-partisan board installed to take over his responsibilities.

While Tilson's suit marks the first official challenge of the 1945 act, it has been officially criticized from many quarters.

More than 400 pages in length, the law was known in detail by relatively few members of the Republican-dominated legislature which passed it over Democratic protests.

Attorneys and legislative researchers pointed to a number of structural flaws which they said fit the act in doubt.

*Confusion of Law Changed*

State Republicans, especially those in Marion county, decided to re-vamp the election code following a senatorial investigation and hearing here, stemming from charges of fraud leveled in connection with 1944 registration and balloting.

Democrats alleged they were deliberately disfranchised by Republican registration clerks. Republicans said the confusion resulted from inadequacy of the election law.

A legislative election commission recommended a comprehensive series of changes designed to correct vote system faults. But the G. O. P. legislature scrapped this program in favor of one of its own which made few important changes.

### Ration Calendar

**MEAT**—Red stamps Q5 through S5 good through March 31; TS through X5 good through April 28; Y5 and Z5 and A2 through D2 good through June 2. E2 through J2 are valid through June 30. Meat dealers will pay two red points and 4 cents each pound of waste fat.

**CANNED GOODS**—Blue stamps X5 through Z5 and A2 and B2 good through March 31; C2 through G2 good through April 28; H2 through M2 are good through June 2. N2 through S2 are valid through June 30.

**SUGAR**—Stamp 35 valid for five pounds through June 2. Another stamp will become valid May 1.

**GASOLINE**—A-15 coupons good for four gallons each through June 21. B5, B6 and B7 and C5, C6 and C7 are good for five gallons; E1 and E2 good for one gallon; R1 and R2 are good for five gallons. B5, C5, E1, R1, and all D coupons not serially numbered will be good after March 31. The first quarter 1944 T coupons will expire March 31.

**SHOES**—No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 "airplane" stamps in Book 3, good indefinitely.

**FUEL OIL**—Periods 4 and 5 of 1943-44 heating season and Periods 1 through 5 of 1944-45 heating season good. Approximately 84 percent of fuel oil supply should be used as of March 19.

**TIRES**—Commercial vehicle tire inspection every six months or every 5000 miles.

### Phyllis Wheatley 'Y' Opens Drive for \$26,000



Big three of the joint Phyllis Wheatley Y. W. C. A. and Senate ave. Y. M. C. A. \$26,000 solicitation drive, shown here mapping the campaign, are F. B. Ransom, Mrs. Lula J. Hall and Dr. Joseph Ward.

### New Improvements, End of Debt, Goal of Campaign

Goal of a joint fund drive launched today by the Phyllis Wheatley Y. W. C. A. and Senate ave. Y. M. C. A. is \$26,000.

The united campaign effort of these two agencies, serving a large segment of Indianapolis citizens, has been approved by the Community Fund finance committee.

Shared equally, the solicitations are intended to liquidate the indebtedness of the Phyllis Wheatley Y. W. C. A. and Y. M. C. A., and also will enable the latter to make improvements on its present building.

#### Ransom Heads Drive

General chairman of the campaign organization is F. B. Ransom, Mrs. Lula J. Hall and Dr. Joseph Ward are associates. These campaign leaders have sparked the move by a combined donation of \$5000.

R. B. DeFranz, former member of the Y. M. C. A. national council, mapped the drive schedule.

Responsibility for raising \$19,500 of the total goal will be assumed by an executive committee composed of:

#### RITE OF TENEbrae TO BE OBSERVED

The ancient office of tenebrae which dramatizes the darkness falling over the earth when Christ was crucified, will be said at 7:30 p. m. Thursday in All Saints Episcopal cathedral.

While the Psalms and canticles are chanted, the candles in the church will be extinguished one at a time, only one left burning. To heighten the effect of mourning and sorrow, the Lamentations of Jeremiah will be read.

The one candle left burning will be concealed momentarily while discordant sounds are made to represent the confusion and thunder which prevailed when Christ died on the cross. Then, the Bible records, the earth shook and the graves gave up their dead.

When the cathedral becomes quiet once more, the single glowing candle again will be placed in view. It will serve as a symbol of the resurrection of Jesus, the light of the world. All will be silent at this point to mark the end of the tenebrae services. The congregation is expected to rise and leave the church without speaking while the candle burns on.

Renadeau said he and another prisoner chose a rainy night to escape to "keep the dogs from following us."

He said they financed their escape with money he had saved by selling soft drinks and fish to other prisoners.

They had no trouble making their way to Memphis, Tenn., and then to Little Rock, Ark. Henshaw said From Little Rock they moved west and at one time roamed as far as British Columbia.

Henshaw said he never had any fear of being picked up because he always "kept good company" and spent his time at hard jobs. He mined silver, zinc and gold, hauled logs and worked on farms. Little Henshaw's brother-in-law, was wounded fatally when a shotgun they were wrestling over exploded. Henshaw said he never knew who caused the gun to fire.

The board of pardons and paroles will determine whether Henshaw will have to spend the rest of his life in prison, or whether his plea that "I've been punished enough by life" will win him a pardon.

Formerly a department of justice investigator in Illinois, Ohio and Indiana, Mr. Tukey, for the past 45 years has operated a wholesale candy, tobacco and accessories business in Marion.

Mr. Tukey is past commander of the American Legion post in Marion. He served on the Mexican border in 1915; and overseas during world war I, when he supervised transportation for the 2d army.

Maundy Thursday will begin in the cathedral with holy communion at 10 a. m. celebrated by the Rev. Richard Ainslie Kirchhofer, bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Indianapolis. The Rev. J. Willard Yoder, vicar, will serve as liturgist for the tenebrae services.

#### NAMED SECRETARY OF STATE BOARD

Frank C. Tukey of Marion will become secretary of the state clemency commission on April 15.

His appointment was announced yesterday by Governor Gates. Mr. Tukey succeeds Frank Hildenbrand of Knox.

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He is a member of the Masonic Lodge and the Eagles.

**SIENNA COURT WILL  
INITIATE CLASS OF 35**

Initiation services will be held for 35 candidates to the juvenile order of St. Catherine of Sienna Court 645 at 2 p. m. April 8 in Holy Rosary Catholic church. A program of tap dancing and music will be followed by a reception.

**R. N. OF A. TO HONOR  
CHARTER MEMBERS**

Center camp, Royal Neighbors of America, will have a carry-in dinner at 6:45 p. m. tomorrow in honor of three surviving charter members of the camp.

Honored guests are Mrs. Catherine Basso, Mrs. May Moore and Mrs. Louis A. Wald.

The camp also is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Royal Neighbors of America and the 46th anniversary of its own organization.

Guests will include Mrs. Beasie Hayden, supreme receiver, Lowell; Mrs. Gertrude R. Hoople, state supervisor, East Chicago; Mrs. Hazel Shaw, district deputy, Elwood, and Mrs. Mary Benedict, one of the first candidates.

**GROUPS DONATE \$41  
TO RED CROSS FUND**

Two youth organizations and the Northwestern Community Center Knitting club have contributed \$41 to the Red Cross.

Donations include \$10 from the Youth council of the Keystone Community center, \$16 from the Douglas Youth council and \$15 from the knitting club.

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