

# Council Promises Investigation Of Local Utilities

## Alleged Valuation Write-Up By Light Firm, Disposition Of Gas Revenue 1st Targets

By RICHARD LEWIS  
City council's promised utilities investigation was under way today with a probe of the Citizens Gas & Coke utility and Indianapolis Power & Light Co. first on the agenda.

Meeting in special session last night, the council adopted a preliminary report which set the compass for the entire investigation. This will cover all Indianapolis utilities, but the first targets are the gas and light utilities.

The council decided to make a formal inquiry into the disposition of revenues of the municipally-owned gas company and to find out what it is doing to get natural gas.

Councilmen then adopted the report's recommendation to query the light company in order to examine closely an alleged 125 per cent write-up of the utility's valuation.

Written by Bowers  
The council's preliminary report, a seven-page mimeographed document, was written by Herman E. Bowers, finance committee chairman. It set forth the policy to be followed in the investigation:

"We recognize that public utility rate making must balance the interest of investors and consumers. This principle is clearly set forth by the United States Supreme Court. As elected officials of the City of Indianapolis, we also recognize that:

"Utilities should pay their share of the cost of corporate facilities used by them.

"Utility rates charged all customers should be based on the actual cost of the service and include a recognized fair profit.

"Utilities must provide modern equipment to insure the best and most economical service.

"Utility rates should permit fair salary and wage payments to utility employees.

"Monopolistic privileges and mass production facilities of public utilities permit low unit costs of service. Utility rates must recognize and permit full and economical use of facilities based on such low unit and incremental costs. Waste must be discouraged."

Queries Tax Payments  
In the case of Citizens Gas, the report found evidence that the utility has obligated itself to pay to the city an annual sum equal to the amount of taxes which its predecessor company paid under private ownership.

It also found a newspaper report dated May 3, 1935, in which the directors were quoted as saying that it was their purpose to negotiate immediately for natural gas.

The report recommended that the council find out why these two alleged statements of policy have never been carried out by the utility.

It also recommended that the council probe directly into the comparative costs of natural gas and of synthetic gas as produced by the utility and determine how much of net operating revenue is

## Times Carriers Get Basic Training In Business



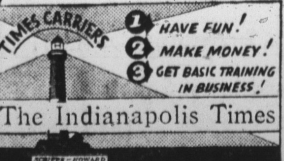
Billie Davenport

Billie Davenport is a Times Carrier Salesman who lives at 321 North Arsenal. Billie is getting a basic training in business that he could not get in any other kind of work. He is learning by actual experience (the last thing to learn) about SERVICE, SALES, COLLECTIONS, and ACCOUNTING—four important elements of any business he may later choose as a life work.

Billie has a pleasing personality and has made an outstanding record as a SALESMAN. The ability to sell which he is developing now may prove to be the deciding factor in his business life.

## BOYS!

Why not talk over with your parents the idea of becoming a Times Carrier Salesman? Then call Mr. Ballere, City Circulation Manager of the Times, at RILEY 5551, for route openings in your neighborhood. Boys outside of Marion county contact The Times Dealer in your town. If you have no Times Dealer, write Mr. Herb Smith, Country Circulation Manager of The Times... as Times Routes are being started in new towns every week.



## GARDENING: Spade Work Now Means Nice Spring Yard Caladiums Brighten Greenery

By MARGUERITE SMITH  
DON'T PUT your hoe and trowel away just yet! "There's a lot to be done in the garden in the fall," said Mrs. James R. Thompson, 1133 W. 32d st., last week as we walked around her attractive yard.

Her long experience ("I've gardened for 75 years—ever since I could walk," she said) has taught her that "if you want a nice yard next spring you've got to get it ready now. I've been digging in the dirt all week."

One of her fall garden chores—she will shortly "get out the grave-yard."

"That's the bunch of sticks I keep to mark my perennials," she explained. "My husband used to laugh at them sticking up all over the yard in winter. But it all got started when I found I was buying new perennials every spring and the next year they were nowhere to be found. Then I discovered he had been cleaning them up every fall along with the dead zinnias! So now I mark them before winter kills the tops."

MUCH OF the attractive quality of her flower filled yard is due to the neat edging plants that set off the borders. One in particular caught my eye. It's low growing, frosty, almost white foliage "stays that way all season," Mrs. Thompson explained, identifying it as veronica inana candida. It bears small spikes of porcelain blue flowers during the summer.

After the dead stalks are trimmed off it requires no more attention. It is worth getting acquainted with since veronicas in general are excellent subjects for poor soil though they appreciate extra plant food.

Mrs. Thompson's soil is so rich her parsley plants resemble young trees. She keeps it that way by composting all grass clippings and leaves but adds no dead plant trimmings. These, she thinks, are most likely to carry disease whether composted or allowed to stand in the yard all winter.

HER COMPOST arrangement is one that could be copied for the smallest of yards. An open slatted box built to fit a narrow space between garage and alley has the three lower slats fastened together and hinged. They can then be fastened up for easy removal of the finished compost or down when the box is refilled.

The brightly colored fancy leaved caladiums that have adorned shady spots outdoors all summer can be used indoors this winter to liven windows of greenery.

Their two requirements are shade and plenty of moisture, says Mrs. George F. Off, 5816 Carrollton ave. Her four kinds range from the lacy white on green pattern of candicans through combinations of red and green to one in which the predominant green is touched in



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the center with bright red and white.

CULTURE indoors or out is much the same. Mrs. Off potted the roots in rich wood's dirt and later sprinkled dry cow manure over the top of the pots, which she used in her porch boxes. Before cold weather she will take them indoors, gradually dry them off, shake the dirt off the roots.

They can then be stored in some dry loose material like peat moss if you wish to carry them through winter in the dormant state. But they are such energetic growers that their autumn growth for houseplants they will begin new growth after only a few days rest.

## HOOSIER POLITICS—

### Gates Prepares for Harder Going During Next 2 Years

By ROBERT BLOEM  
Election day, Nov. 5, observers believe, will mark the end of the "green years" for Indiana's No. 1 Republican, Governor Gates.

The two years which follow, they feel, will be a constant test of the governor's ability to stay on top, a test which will end only when he has tipped his hand on his plans for 1948. It is generally believed the governor took cognizance of this prospect when he accepted the post of national committeeman, a position calculated to keep him in the spotlight as well as to enable him to keep the Indiana G.O.P. there.

Past Experience  
The forecast of harder times ahead is based primarily on the experience of past administrations. A new governor in his first half of term in office invariably is the center of a lot of whooping-it-up, pointing with pride, governmental innovations, publicity.

Most governors would bear out that by the time the last two years roll around, certain of their supporters begin looking for advantage in the race to succeed him. Patronage jobs are pretty well shaken down. Those who didn't get one know after two years they're not going to get one and there's no longer any point to being "one of the boys."

Taking No Chances  
The feeling, generally, however, is that Governor Gates is not taking any chances on his last two years. As national committeeman he can hold the national picture and hold attention on a national as well as on a state plane.

Both his friends and his political enemies look for him to blossom forth with some first-rate publicity ideas after the election, plans that will make good reading in the newspapers. The party, cocksure as it is of victory Nov. 5, is working at election as though it weren't sure of a vote—the governor and his state chairman, Clark Springer, haven't overlooked the prestige value of an overwhelming vote margin.

Climax of the two-year test will

be the legislature which opens in January. The governor hasn't indicated what he plans to do to demonstrate his control of the legislature, but immediately after election, his strategy is expected to come into the open.

Burch Seen Leader Of State GOP Ticket  
Republican party leaders, particularly candidates, are beginning to come around to the belief that A. V. Burch, state auditor, and the man who "crossed" the organization over to the direct primary, will lead the Republican state ticket next month.

Mr. Burch's single utterance in favor of the direct primary, however, is not the main factor leading his "colleagues" to this conclusion. Strangely, it is his accordion band, a group of attractive brightly-dressed school girls who are stumping the state literally singing and playing the praises of Mr. Burch.

Because his girl accordion players must be in school, the band consists of a nucleus of professional players augmented by the teen-agers who rotate from day to day. The band usually consists of five to seven members, though nearly 40 girls alternate on the parts.

Mr. Burch, too, is regarded as having a definite "stake" in a big vote—his hopes to lay claim to the gubernatorial nomination in 1948.

LIGHTING ENGINEER TO TALK  
James C. Weeks, Westinghouse lighting engineer, will address a dinner-meeting of the Indiana chapter of the Illuminating Engineering society at 6:30 p.m. Monday in the Hotel Warren.

## 'TOT' JURY ASKS FURTHER PROBE

Requests Additional Time to Study Case.

Times State Service  
MADISON, Ind., Oct. 12.—Mrs. Lottie Lockman's heart was heavy with grief today. She had been indicted on a charge of attempted murder in Dupont's mysterious mercury poisoning deaths.

Deep in her heart, "Tot," the hymn-singing Good Samaritan of the hills, had hoped the grand jury of four farmers, the bank teller and the bricklayer, would exonerate her.

But yesterday, they walked slowly into the court of Judge Harry E. Nichols and solemnly jury Foreman Andrew Blake read the jury's report.

Would Continue Study  
A few minutes later, Deputy Sheriff Walter Sauley stood before Tot in the home of her attorney, Joseph Cooper Sr., and read the indictment to her.

"Yes, sir," meekly said Tot, her eyes downcast.

Sauley led her to the jail next to Jefferson county's ancient court house.

While indicting Mrs. Lockman only on the charge of attempted murder, the jurors asked permission to continue its study of the mysterious deaths of the persons whom Mrs. Lockman nursed.

The indictment is based on the poisoning of Mrs. Mayne McConnell, wife of wealthy Forrest McConnell, Dupont hardware dealer and cream separator salesman Mrs. Lockman managed the McConnell household.

Mrs. McConnell, who survived the illness, was one of the witnesses against Mrs. Lockman in the grand jury.

Report Awaited  
Meanwhile the jurors, the state and defense, await a report from toxicologists, to determine if the mercury found in the exhumed bodies of three elderly patients whom Mrs. Lockman nursed, was the cause of their deaths.

Tot spent only 25 minutes in jail yesterday while awaiting the \$2500 bond. Mr. Cooper produced two \$1000 bills and 25 \$20 bills. "Friends," whom Mr. Cooper refused to identify, furnished the cash.

State police investigators also are seeking to prove that the deaths of at least three other persons were due to mercury poisoning administered by the woman who always could be counted on to take care of the sick and the old in the Jefferson county hills.

One of them was Mrs. Minnie McConnell, mother of Forrest McConnell.

The others were Mrs. Hattie Calhoun and Uncle Fred Giddings, aged livery stable proprietor and farmer, who left his small estate to Mrs. Lockman.

Tot, whose hair has gotten noticeably grayer since the tumultuous events of the last several months, immediately went back to the home of her daughter, Mrs. LaVerne Jeffries, after her day in court.

"I'm still innocent," she said.

## CHIROPRACTORS TO MEET TOMORROW

The 36th annual convention of the Indiana Chiropractors association opens tomorrow at Hotel Lincoln for a three-day session.

Dr. Vinton F. Logan, president of the College of Chiropractors, St. Louis, Mo., will be the principal speaker at the meeting tomorrow. Merle Calvert, executive secretary of the association, said approximately 1000 members are expected to attend.

"I'm still innocent," she said.

The Junior auxiliary of the Public Health Nurses association will meet at 12:30 p.m. Monday at the home of Mrs. Horace Nodyke, 216 E. 32d st.

J. Elder Blackledge, magician and retired architect, will speak on "This Hocus-Pocus Business" at the Rotary club luncheon at 12:15 p.m. Tuesday at the Claypool hotel.

The Scientific club of Indianapolis will hear Prof. J. J. Davis, head of the department of entomology, Purdue university, discuss "New Developments in Insect Control" Monday noon in the Y. M. C. A.

WORKERS SET VOTE  
MILWAUKEE, Oct. 12 (U. P.).—Workers at the La Crosse, Wis., and La Porte, Ind., plants of Allis-Chalmers Co., vote today and tomorrow on agreements designed to end their long-standing strikes against the farm equipment firm.

North Park chapter 404, O. E. S., will have its stated meeting and observe Fruit for the Home night in North Park Masonic temple at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday. Mrs. Lillian Hewes is worthy matron and John Stadel, worthy patron.

Members of Koran Temple, Daughters of the Nile, will see all day Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Lillian Anderson, 1022 N. Pennsylvania at assisting her will be Mrs. Mae Ruth Ludwig, Mrs. Martha Jane King, Mrs. Thelma Hastings and Mrs. Martha Phillips.

## Shade of Sycamore

By Percy Marks

THE STORY: Gayle, daughter of a college professor, has just become engaged to handsome Bruce Bartlett, famous athlete and son of wealth. Visiting his home and parents for the first time, she is frightened by the sycamore in which they live. Although Mrs. Bartlett greets her kindly, Gayle feels that she can never be happy amid such extreme luxury.

CHAPTER VI  
THE LITTLE electric clock on the table beside the bed said 8 o'clock when Gayle awoke the next morning. "What do I do now?" she wondered helplessly. "I'll bet nobody else will be up before 10."

She pressed the button, and in a few minutes the maid entered the room. "Good morning, Miss Kent," she said, smiling pleasantly. "Then she went to the windows and drew up the shades. Bright sunshine streamed across the blue carpet. "It's lovely today—real spring."

"IT LOOKS wonderful from here. Won't you tell me your name, please?"

"I'm sorry," the maid said. "I ought to have told you last night. It's Lucille. What would you like for breakfast?"

Gayle considered. She was hungry, and she usually prepared her breakfast and gulped it in a wild rush.

She might as well make an occasion of all this leisure and service.

SHE SAID she thought she'd like orange juice, toast, coffee, and an egg with a slice of bacon.

Lucille nodded. "Right away," she promised and left the room.

Gayle washed, ran a comb through her hair, slipped on a bed jacket, and went to a window.

She seemed to be looking out on an endless park, all trees and lawns and flowers. Below her window a white dogwood tree was in full bloom, and two scarlet tangers were balancing on its branches.

SHE SIGHED. It was all too perfect for her.

She returned to the bed, put both pillows behind her, and waited for breakfast. Lucille appeared with it almost immediately.

The glass of orange juice was bedded in a silver bowl full of shaved ice. The toast and egg were under silver covers, and the coffee was in a silver thermos. And there was one lovely pink rosebud in a crystal vase.

LUCILLE placed the tray on a bedside table, wheeled it close to Gayle, and then went to the closet. "The linen dress?" she asked Gayle. "With the green applique?"

"Yes, I think so. It seems about right for a morning like this, and there's a green jacket to go with it."

Lucille appeared with the dress over her arm. "I'll have it pressed by the time you're through with your breakfast."

GAYLE at her breakfast slowly, wondering about the problems that confronted her. She had no training for dealing with servants.

For the past few years there had been one maid at home, a woman whom the whole family loved.

Gayle knew that one of the first things she would do after she had presented Bart to her family a week hence would be to go to the kitchen and give Belle a big hug. One certainly did not hug the maids at Sycamore. Well, anyway, Lucille was nice.

"HERE, I've got to hurry up," she admonished herself. "If I don't, she'll be up here drawing my bath and washing behind my ears. I couldn't stand that."

She drank her coffee too fast and scalded her tongue, but she took one final hurried gulp, slipped out of bed, and hurried into the bathroom.

A shower, she decided, would be quicker than a tub; besides, she had never enjoyed the luxury of a glass-enclosed shower where water poured over one from every direction.

THE experience was as pleasant as she had thought it would be, but she did not linger over it. She was in her slip and brushing her hair at the dressing table when Lucille returned.

She permitted Lucille to draw the dress, still smelling faintly from the iron, over her head; but she pulled up the zipper at the side before Lucille had an opportunity to.

Lucille tugged a little at the hem and then stood up. "It is very chic," she said admiringly.

"JUST a dress," said Gayle, half inclined to add, "which I made myself."

Lucille shook her head. "No. It is right." Then she almost visibly retreated to the position she considered proper and stood impersonally. "Mr. Bruce is still sleeping, and Mrs. Bartlett is also; but Mr. Bartlett is in the conservatory. He asks if you would be so kind as to visit him there."

"Of course. But I don't know where the conservatory is."

"I WILL show you."

Gayle followed Lucille down the marble stairway, across the hall, and through three rooms before they reached the conservatory.

She saw half a dozen servants working. "And last night," she thought, half amused at her own incoherence, "I thought they had a dozen servants. There must be scores."

The rooms were all very large, and one, which she supposed was the drawing room, was enormous. She tried to bolster her courage with contempt, and told herself that if the room wasn't all cluttered up with furniture and rugs, it would be swell for roller skating.

THE ATTEMPT failed. Her steps were faltering before the third room was half crossed, and she was as terrified at the ordeal of meeting Bart's father as she had been the night before of meeting his mother.

Lucille stopped at a door. "Miss Kent, Mr. Bartlett," she said, and stepped back to let Gayle pass.

There was nothing to do but go forward.

(To Be Continued)

## CPA HERE O. K.'S EIGHT APPLICATIONS

The Civilian Production Administration here has approved eight applications for new construction work totaling \$458,262 in Indianapolis.

Applications approved on the basis of "hardships" and to correct fire and health hazards follow:

Additional to two Wayne township schools to eliminate fire hazards, overcrowded and unsanitary conditions, \$260,000.

New building for Red Dot Foods, Inc., to replace structure destroyed by fire, \$30,000.

Additional buildings for Fairmount Glass Works, \$137,000.

New building for the Greater St. Luke Baptist church to replace one that has been condemned, \$10,000.

Elevator alterations at Lemcke building, \$13,600.

Alteration of A. J. Miller restaurant, \$592.

Rewiring International Harvester Co. garage, \$3350.

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MARRIAGE LICENSES			
William Jackson Merrill, 3120 N. Pennsylvania; Marie Louise LaRue, 3128 N. Pennsylvania.	Thomas Richard Graham, 404 S. Oxford; Donna Jean Bonest, 2306 E. Washington.	Edward Ethel Kegeris, 528 N. LaSalle; Margaret Mary Clark, 5915 Julian.	Wheeler, and Alois, Edith Bryson, 600 Lexington.
John Michael Corriden Jr., 1338 Shannon; Lucille Ellen Kuntz, 1010 W. Lincoln.	Dale Kennedy Young, 2677 Carrollton; Ben Ona Louise Kloss, 1821 E. Minnesota.	John Aley, 54, at Veterans, carcinoma.	DEATHS
Richard Oliver Black, 4104 E. 21st; Betty Margaret Hunt, McDonaldville.	Blair Eugene Gibbons, 641 Collier; Marjorie Evelyn Edwards, 343 S. Taft.	Wayne Hill, 53, at 41 W. 32d, coronary occlusion.	Anna Noble, 82, at 36 W. Vermont, cerebral hemorrhage.
Albert Joseph Cohen, Chicago, Ill.; Jacqueline Lee Sundt, 1215 N. Pennsylvania.	Charles C. Combs, 723 Fletcher; Thelma L. Robbins, 831 Lexington.	Earl Armstrong, 47, at 1010 Cotton, lobar pneumonia.	Mary Hall, 31, at Methodist, cerebral embolus.
Bert Davidson, 729 Union; Fredericka Elvin Pick, 1519 Central; Frances Lorraine Underhill, 1521 Central.	Boris Goloff, 145 N. DeQuincy; Violet Stebbins, 174 N. Warner.	Dorothy Hege, 24, at Methodist, arterio-sclerosis.	Frank McDermond, 54, at Long, carcinoma.
Owen E. Hall, 39 S. Mount; Grace Marie Blanton, 174 N. Warner.	Charles William Jackson Jr., 654 E. 13th; No. 4; Shirley Lee Becker, 745 W. 32d.	Harry Korbowicz, 51, at 1545 Reiner; Robert Smith, 12, at Riley, anemia.	Members of Koran Temple, Daughters of the Nile, will see all day Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Lillian Anderson, 1022 N. Pennsylvania at assisting her will be Mrs. Mae Ruth Ludwig, Mrs. Martha Jane King, Mrs. Thelma Hastings and Mrs. Martha Phillips.
Lafayette Porter, 59 Brigh; Mary Lee Powell, 2414 N. Capitol.	James Ernest Seigman, 1267 Oliver; Marian Loretta Moran, Beech Grove.	At St. Vincent's—William, Evelyn Herschell; James, Virginia Brown; Joseph, Jane Cooper; Clarence, Lulu May, and Paul, Helen Henne.	
Everett Senger, 945 Camp; Martha Elizabeth Owens, 727 E. 22d.	Harold Lynn Sius, Bloomington; Mary M. Smith, Morgantown.	At Emmanuel—Clifford, Alice Fuller.	
Francis Robert Strilling, 2624 Banker; Leatha Evelyn Burch, 2622 N. Harding.	George Wilbur Tuley, 158 W. 16th; Louise Harris, 2256 Columbia.	At Home—Robert, Selma Butler, 244 S. McKim; Noah, Grace Grindstaff, 523 Division; Allen, Evelyn Hemphill, 533 W. Morris; James, Aftenne White, 801 S. Arbor; and Dewey, Martha Murray, 827 E. Washington.	
William P. Willis, 3908 E. Washington; Lois Anne Elliott, 2836 N. Meridian.	Bobbie Gerald Warren, 529 N. Pershing; Georgia May Ross, 1002 S. Polis.	Boys	
James Hoopfinger, 1144 Prospect; Juanita Robertson, 1144 Prospect.	Jesse S. DeVaney, 1311 N. Grant; Helen Beatrice Rieder, 2168 Sugar Grove.	At St. Francis—Paul, Katherine Miller; At City—William, Perry Harris; Joseph, Sue Rose, and Everett, Edna Dorman.	
Ray E. Pennington, 277 Harrison; Grace L. Holland, 653 Birch.	John Wesley Porter Jr., 844 S. Kenwood; Dorothy Mae Purdy, 821 S. 3rd.	At Coleman—Edward, Elva Bustle; At Methodist—Robert, Lora Pruitt; Russell, Maxine Curry; John, Eva Deeb; Thomas, Louise Cressler, and Chester, Darline Ferguson.	
Otto Charles McClara, 2920 Hillside; Betty P. Wilkerson, 2920 Hillside.	Gilbert R. Baugh, 1919 N. Delaware; Minnie Lucille Spencer, 2258 N. Meridian.	At St. Vincent's—Hillery, Katherine Austin; George, Helen Jacks; Nod, Kathleen Schram, and Howard, Edna Coppock.	
Thomas E. Zverev, 1121 N. Grant; Dorothy Ruth Patterson, 1112 N. Central.		At Home—Earnest, Helen Barr, 438 Abbott Circle; Mildred Short, 1801 N. 31st; Alfred, Dorothy Swafford, 2207	