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58th YEAR—NUMBER 284

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1948

Entered as Second-Class Matter at Postoffice
Indianapolis, Ind. Issued daily except Sunday

**FINAL
HOME**
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It's a Tough Job Handling 22,000 Pounds in Blizzard



PERILOUS NIGHT—Edwin Titzer, Indiana's top trucker, shovels cinders under the wheels of a stalled tractor-trailer which blocked his passage near Terre Haute during the state's worst snowstorm yesterday morning. The other driver hung on Clinton hill when he couldn't get traction on the glazed highway.

Democrats Patch Up Party Rifts

Compromise Before Spring Primary Test

By NOBLE REED

The wide-open factional break in the Democratic Party that boiled to white heat two months ago is being patched up in an unprecedented harmony maneuver, it was learned today.

The regular Democratic organization leadership working in alignment with County Chairman Walter Boettcher, Henry Goett and David M. Lewis clashed in an open break with the administration of Mayor Al Feeney over the latter's City Hall appointment.

Battle lines were drawn in a showdown for party control in the coming primary contests for prosecutor and sheriff.

But in the last two weeks, some new strategy was injected into party maneuvers and the feud is leveling out toward a compromise on candidates.

Give City Hall O. K.

The talk now is that the City Hall boys will be given a "green light" for the sheriff nomination and the old regulars may come out of the compromise with a free hand in selection of a nominee for prosecutor.

The agreement may center on Louis (Cap) Johnson, the new City Hall traffic engineer, as the choice in the race for sheriff.

The regular organization may bring out William E. Steckler, attorney and member of the State Election Board, or Arthur J. Sullivan, the 1946 prosecutor nominee.

However, Mr. Sullivan has not indicated he will be interested in running again and may withdraw his name from the list.

Erbecker Most Active—Most active among all potential prosecutor candidates is William C. Erbecker, newly appointed City prosecutor, who already has organized a group of war veterans behind his candidacy along with a preliminary deluge of campaign publicity.

Others known to be interested in running for the Democratic prosecutor nomination include Andrew Jacobs, attorney who has been rough on the gamblers with law suits to recover dice game losses and John McNellis, former Municipal Court 4 judge and a Criminal Court nominee in 1942.

Mr. Jacobs would not be involved in any Democratic factional fight. If he becomes a candidate he would campaign on a gambling "clean up" platform, directing his barrage at Republican Prosecutor Judson L. Stark.

Another potential candidate who might get into the Democratic prosecutor race is Judge Emmett McManaman of the Speedway City Magistrate Court. He is close to the Mayor Feeney administration.

Against Outlawing Reds

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (UPI)—Attorney General Tom Clark today opposed congressional proposals to outlaw the Communist Party, saying it would only make "martyrs" out of Reds and turn them into a harder-to-reach underground.

Times Index

Amusements 24 Movies 24
Eddie Ash 36 F. C. Othman 17
Marq. Childs 18 Patterns 22
Classified 28-30 Radio 31
Comics 31 R. C. Ruark 17
Crossword 23 Side Glances 18
Editorials 28 Sports 24-27
Forum 18 Stranahan 24
Meta Given, 21 Teen Topics 21
Inside Indpls. 17 Weather Map 4
Mrs. Manners 21 Woman's News 20

The Indianapolis Times

FORECAST: Cloudy with little cold today, occasional light snows tonight, low 12 to 16; steady light snow Friday, high 25 to 30.

58th YEAR—NUMBER 284

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1948

Grain, Stocks At New Lows Since June, '47

Gates Scores Blanket Denial Of Rent Hikes

Says Federal Agency Ignoring Boards

Gov. Gates today charged that the policy of the Federal Housing Agency of turning down recommendations for rent increases is making the job of rent advisory boards virtually "impossible."

There is a mounting feeling on the part of board members over the state, the Governor said, that it is useless for them to investigate rent situations in control areas because any recommended increase will be turned down anyway.

The Governor's criticism leveled mainly at National Housing Executive Tighe E. Woods, was spurred by the recent resignation of the entire advisory board of the Auburn rent area.

That board sent the Governor a copy of a letter in which all five members refused to serve further and submitted their resignation to Mr. Woods. In the letter, the board said:

Reject Recommendation

"It was our understanding that recommendations we might make as a board would be approved and followed because of our close contact and familiarity with the rent situation in our area. However, on Dec. 15 we unanimously adopted a resolution recommending that the landlords in DeKalb County who had received no previous increase in rent should be permitted a 15 per cent increase."

"This recommendation has been rejected by your department . . . obviously upon the theory that your department is more competent to pass upon the question than members of this board who have lived in this community for years. Now we hope to get a lot more of them to do it."

The Labor Department reported:

"By virtue of the total lack of authority vested in us as a board to discharge our duties and responsibilities as we conceive them to be for the general welfare of the community, we are in effect rendering no public service nor are we fulfilling any public need."

"Pro Landlords"

In his criticism of the executive's policies, the Governor said he had recently been approached by a representative of Mr. Woods' office with a suggestion that boards be supplemented wherever their voting records indicated the board was "pro landlord."

Gov. Gates said he refused to supplement the boards because actually they were appointed by Mr. Woods' office upon recommendations which came originally direct from the mayors of the cities involved. The Governor said the mayors had carried out their assignment of naming well balanced bi-partisan boards in good faith.

The DeKalb County board, for example, was made up of three Republicans and two Democrats with three of the members being war veterans, one a labor union official and only one directly connected with real estate interests.

The apparent policy of the housing administration of turning down any and all recommendations for rent increases is making the job of the local boards extremely difficult if not impossible," the Governor said.

"Because of this attitude resignations from boards have been numerous and are increasing," he added. "It has become almost impossible to secure qualified persons to serve on these advisory boards."

Fair Board Orders New Building Plans

The State Fair Board today ordered preliminary plans drawn for the proposed construction of a new conservation building to house permanent exhibits at the Fairgrounds.

The order was issued on a motion made by Lt. Gov. Richard T. James, commissioner of agriculture. He proposed that the building be large enough to house permanent exhibits on soil conservation, wild life and forestry and that it include a public auditorium.

The cost of the proposed structure will not be estimated until preliminary plans are submitted.

Lt. Gov. James suggested that the building be erected on the north side of the Fairground race track, facing on 46th St.

Eisenhower to Retire From Army Saturday

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (UPI)—

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower announced today he will retire as Army Chief of Staff at noon Saturday.

Gen. Eisenhower told a National Press Club luncheon he will take a vacation before assuming his new job as president of Columbia University in May or June.

Gen. Omar N. Bradley succeeds him as chief of staff.

Gen. Eisenhower did not say where he will vacation or for how long.

Mr. Mitchell said Behren's management melted his \$68,000 savings down to \$55 while he was being doled out a slim allowance.

After he was fired, Behren threatened Mr. Mitchell's wife with death, an accountant testified.

Mr. Mitchell testified yesterday that Behren, "the guy who was my best friend," allowed him \$20 a week and his wife \$10 while keeping the rest of his big paycheque.

Behren also is accused of obtaining \$19,745 for his own benefit.

Behren's wife Anne Nichols, author of "Abie's Irish Rose," and Mrs. Wanda Schoeman, he also represented Wayne Morris and Grant Withers.

Mr. Mitchell testified yesterday that Behren, "the guy who was my best friend," allowed him \$20 a week and his wife \$10 while keeping the rest of his big paycheque.

But when he checked his three bank accounts in September, he said, he found the balance to be \$58.

He referred to the case of John

(Continued on Page 4—Col. 4)

Tips for Uncle's Nieces—

U. S. to Post Families On How to Buy to Save

Agriculture Department to Invade Kitchens To Advise Housewives in War Upon Inflation

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (UPI)—The government was getting ready today to invade the kitchen and tell housewives how to plan their meals in a nationwide campaign to fight inflation by voluntary means.

Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson was to work out details of the program at a meeting this afternoon with representatives of producers and consumer groups.

Mr. Anderson's aids foresaw a campaign in which the government will advise housewives what foods to buy and may even suggest how much of the family budget to spend on food. They said an effort will be made to get shoppers to pass up scarce items, like some meats, in favor of cheaper, more abundant foods.

The new anti-inflation drive will be backed by such slogans as "beast high costs with food budgets."

"What we need," said one agriculture official, "is a more business administration in running the kitchen. A lot of housewives have been doing just that for years. Now we hope to get a lot more of them to do it."

The Labor Department reported:

Watts Ponders New Trial Appeal

Lawyers, Family Talk With Condemned Man

By DONNA MIKELES
Times Staff Writer
SHELBYVILLE, Ind., Feb. 5

The mother and sister of Robert Austin Watts, condemned to die for the slaying of Mrs. Mary Lois Burney, arrived with lawyers here today to confer with Watts concerning an appeal for a new trial.

Officials at Shelby County jail said the condemned man's mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Watts, 2814 Scofield Ave., his sister, Mrs. Dorothy Gray and lawyers P. L. Harding and B. L. Brents were conferring with Watts.

Jack and Larry Cann, both World War II veterans, said some dozen women had responded to their plea for "solid, dependable women who will take the trouble of parents."

The Cann brothers said it is a sure bet that a plump, elderly mama is not likely to raid the icebox, invite her boy friend, for a jitterbugging session, play the radio loudly, or burn holes in the furniture.

What's more, they said, she has had more experience with kids and probably knows how to handle obstinate offspring while their parents are out for the evening.

The brothers said they plan to enroll a few hundred ladies and then open a bonded agency to compete with the teen-agers.

Biggest Break

It was the biggest break in the Chicago Grain Exchange since mid-October and the worst on the New York Stock Market since last May.

Stock transactions at New York totaled 1.2 million shares, compared with 700,000 shares the previous day.

At Washington, Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson said the price break in grain may have been due to "a lack of new speculative buyers."

It was learned, too, that the government stopped virtually all its grain buying for export as soon as prices began dropping yesterday. If it had bought, it might have had price ups.

Secretary Anderson said he had thought "for some time that prices were out of line." He declined to say, however, whether the price break was "welcome news."

Says Churchill Drank Before Fulton Speech

RICHMOND, Va., Feb. 5 (UPI)—

A Baptist pastor charged today that former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill "loaded himself with champagne, whisky, highballs and wine" before his world-stirring speech at Fulton, Mo., in 1945.

Dr. Bernard C. Clausen of the Euclid Avenue Baptist Church of Cleveland told the Richmond preaching mission last night that Churchill then "spoke the words that almost from that very day set the world afire with hatred."

Gloves Tourney Nears Finals

One more night—tomorrow—then comes the Finals in the annual Times-Legion Golden Gloves Tournament at the N. Pennsylvania St. Armory.

You'll want to see the fastest action in local amateur circles tomorrow night when the boys who have survived the preliminaries mix it up in the semifinals. The finals will be staged Friday of next week.

There still are seats left for tomorrow's session—although it'll be another large crowd.

Read the details—and where to get tickets—on the Sports Page.



TRUCKER'S STOP—Edwin Titzer, Evansville to Chicago driver for the Hancock Truck Lines, claims the best coffee between the two cities can be had at the Kat-A-Korner in Sullivan, Ind. He follows his advice here as Miss Jean Anderson, daughter of office owner, helps him to "Some call us Road Hogs."

Airline Sues Pilots

MIAMI, Fla., Feb. 5 (UPI)—

National Airlines today filed in Dade County Circuit Court a \$5 million suit against the Airline Pilots Association charging libel and slander.

Eddie didn't say anything as he drove on. Then he pulled into the terminal.

Another trip without "incident" was over.

"IT'S A good job," he said.

"Always something new. Some people think it is glamorous and call us Gentlemen or Knights of the Road."

"Some call us Road Hogs."