

Admit Deficiencies At State School For Feeble-Minded

Authorities Blame Shortage of Qualified Help, Lack of Funds

Superintendent Cites 'Unending Fight' For More Money to Improve Conditions

After Reporter David Watson had surveyed the Ft. Wayne School for Feeble-Minded Youth, The Times sent Victor Peterson to photograph the institution. Mr. Peterson interviewed school officials and herewith presents their explanation of conditions Mr. Watson found.

Administrators of the Ft. Wayne School for Feeble-Minded Youth admit that institution conditions are not all they could be. They admit that:

Patients at times are mistreated by employees who take disciplinary action into their own hands. Physical surroundings leave much to be desired. There is a severe shortage of help. Qualifications for employment are lax. The pay scale is low, the hours long and living quarters undesirable. Labor turnover is high. The struggle for state money is unending.

Worked as Attendant. For a week, Times Reporter David Watson worked at the school as an attendant to investigate these conditions which complainants had reported to this newspaper. His observations have been recorded in the preceding four articles of this series.

I went to Luther Hurley, superintendent and asked to be shown every room and broom closet in the institution. I told him I wanted to mirror the school in photographs. He gave me free rein, and said:

"We are not proud of a good many things here, but we make no attempt to hide anything. We are trying to do the best we can with what we have to work with."

Taken of Tour. Dr. L. P. Harshman took me on an exhaustive tour of the school. He is head of the hospital and has direct control over every movement of every patient.

Two factors seem to be the crux of the problems. One is the continuous lack of funds. They are adequate to keep institution doors open. That is about all.

When funds are available for improvement or repair, the school cannot hire the work done.

1900 in Institution. "We have 1900 patients," Mr. Hurley said. "We should have 270 employees. We have 209. Frankly, we have a hell of a time getting help. We cannot offer attractive pay, hours or living quarters."

"Many of our employees are older persons, loyal and understanding but untrained. At times a patient becomes violent. The older ones are in grave physical danger for they might be unable to protect themselves or restrain the patient from hurting himself or another inmate."

"We know of a few times when employees have taken immediate disciplinary action. They have been discharged," Mr. Hurley said.

Beg for Money. It is a known fact that state institutions have trouble getting money. For years administrators have converged on Indianapolis to beg. They wine and dine those who control the purse strings. It is undignified, but it has secured enough funds to keep institutions operating.

Dr. Harshman took me into the crippled ward for the feeble-minded. His only comment was: "See for yourself."

Here were 60 to 70 hopelessly crippled feeble-minded. Their bodies were so twisted I wanted to turn my head. The stench of human waste filled the air.

Many sat completely nude. On some no clothes can be kept for they tear them off immediately. The others were waiting for their bath.

These people can do nothing for themselves. Yet there was no attendant.

Inmates Lend Aid. Higher type inmates are used here as help. In the same series of rooms are cells for those who have insanity as a complication of feeble-mindedness. Inmates care for them also.

"This is the room that members of the budget committee always avoid. They don't want to see it. They ask to be excused. They say they will take our word for it," Dr. Harshman said.

The physical plant of the school

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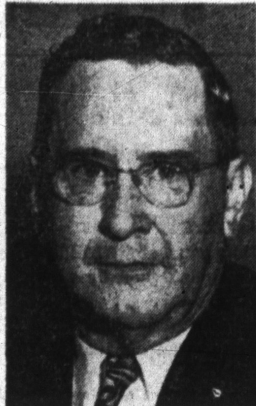
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BUSINESS PROBLEM—Luther Hurley, superintendent of the Ft. Wayne State School for Feeble-Minded Youth, finds his efforts to improve physical conditions at the school are blocked by the lack of estimates and bids on construction work.



PERSONNEL, FINANCES—Dr. L. P. Harshman, head of the school hospital, said the cripple wards bear the brunt of the help shortage. There are no attendants there. Higher type inmates perform the duties. Pay is not sufficient to keep attendants in this section.

needs attention. The fire alarm system does not work. Roofs leak. Plaster needs repair, over-all painting is necessary, the fence is falling apart. The central boiler house is in bad condition.

Needs Overhauling. Besides this, the institution's school needs a complete overhaul. Its heating system does not function in cold weather. When temperatures drop, the school closes.

Some of these programs have been on the docket for a year. The state has made the money available. Still they go unattended.

"I've done everything in my power to correct these conditions," Mr. Hurley said. "I'm stymied. Under state law we must have estimates and bids."

"Please Don't Ask." "No one will estimate or bid in this day of cost plus work. My long-time personal friends in the industrial world have said, 'Luther, please don't even ask me to make an estimate.'"

These are the conditions at the state school, the whys and wherefores they exist.

"Through all this we are trying to get the patients to live here as they would in the outside world," Dr. Harshman said.

Journalism Units Pick 16 Students

Sixteen upperclassmen in Butler University have been pledged to the Theta Sigma Phi and Sigma Delta Chi chapters of the national professional journalism fraternities for co-eds and male students, respectively.

Five girls, all of Indianapolis, pledged to the Theta Sigma Phi. They are Misses Barbara Lovelle, Dorothy Newburg, Marjane McKay, Alice Robertson, and Patricia Smith.

Indianapolis pledges to the Sigma Delta Chi to be initiated Nov. 1. They are Robert Chapman, Frank T. Evans, Thomas King, James Oliver, William W. Roberts, Roy Uppitt, Rex Van Trees, Harold Wilson and Albert H. Woolridge.

Other Sigma Delta Chi pledges are Edward Fike, Louisville, and Richard Thompson, North Vernon.

Churchill Fears New World War

Says U. S. Atom Sale Bar to Soviet Grab

LLANDUDNO, Wales, Oct. 9 (UP)—Winston Churchill warned today that a third world war seems to be "remorselessly approaching" and that the only thing keeping the Soviets from overrunning Europe is the American stockpile of atomic bombs.

"There seems to be remorselessly approaching a third world war," Mr. Churchill told the Conservative Party conference here. "Nothing stands today between Europe and complete subjugation to Communist tyranny but the atomic bomb in American possession."

"Bolshevik Russia is already heavily armed and her forces in Europe far exceed those of all the western countries put together."

Hits Red Aggression. "I will not encourage you with false hopes of a friendly settlement with Soviet Russia," Mr. Churchill said in one of the most pessimistic declarations yet made by a British leader.

He denounced the "growing aggressiveness and malignity of the Soviet government and its complete breaches of good faith."

"Indeed, I only wondered that it took the British and American peoples, in spite of all the lessons of the past, so long to realize the fearful challenge to their life and freedom which was being opened upon them from the east," he said.

O'Banion Fortune Is Fast Fading

(Continued From Page One) much like the millions. But there is one who has attempted to keep the Irish family tree up to date.

Mr. O'Banion sought out his cousin Ira O'Banion of Tipton, former owner-editor of the Tipton-Tribune. The 90-year-old cousin has delved deep to trace the family line. He has written a family history.

"Poof, it's a myth," the historian exploded. "Don't you be putting any money into it, John," he warned.

"There's no estate. I think you're fooling away your time. Take the advice of an old man and forget it."

"The O'Banions have been chasing that pot of gold for a long time. It was 50 or 60 years ago that we had this same story and everyone got excited."

"Later many an O'Banion spent money trying to get the fortune. I don't think it exists," he said.

"John, it's a family tale and once was more than just legend. But that was long ago," the aging newspaperman said.

According to the historian's memory there was a fabulous fortune which had its origin in Manhattan real estate.

The story begins in Holland and King County, Ireland. In 1628 the forebears of Abraham Vandusen came to the New World.

In the late 1800's, Mr. Vandusen found himself in possession of property destined to become part of the heart of the nation's greatest city, Ira O'Banion recalled.

Meanwhile, members of the O'Banion family were tiring of treatment Ireland received at the hands of the British Empire. In 1704, the O'Banions changed the name to O'Banion. An O'Banion met a Vandusen and the families joined in marriage.

In the waning years of the 18th Century the Vandusen-O'Banion property was leased on a 99-year basis. That is as far as Ira O'Banion has been able to trace the million-dollar story.

Now, more than 150 years have passed. There is belief that some O'Banions have received money from the estate. More thought they were going to come into millions. Others spent money hoping to unearth the fleeting fortune.

It will be a relief to the brothers and sister to learn the whys and the wheel of fortune spins. The news has been upsetting.

They have been too excited to eat or to sleep. They are understandably nervous. The prospect of riches is sweet, but they do not expect to change their ways.

"Rich or poor, I'm just plain John, the prospective millionaire said."

"I'd kind of like to know how we stand. One thing is sure, if we never get it, we'll never miss it. I know I'm not dreaming the whole thing, but if someone is pulling my leg they better find a hole, crawl in and pull the hole in after them," he said.

Late yesterday he again checked his box in the post office, hoping a promised letter from the New York lawyer had arrived. "I could use the money. I owe about \$300 now," he said.



LOVELY LINDA—Linda Darnell talks things over with a committee of disabled veterans, Harold Lane, Johnny Weiss, Bill Stalcup and Everett Barger. She arrived in Indianapolis Friday night to visit disabled veterans in hospital installations here under the sponsorship of the newly reactivated USO.

Washington Calling—Tough Controls Drafted For War Emergency Use

(Continued From Page One) every four years, total this year should be at least 54 million. Democrats wanted 60 million.

New York City registration is down 235,000 from 1944. Large Jewish population there is dissatisfied with Truman policy on Palestine. It's down in Indianapolis. In most other cities registration is up: Philadelphia, 135,000; Pittsburgh, 37,000; Cleveland, 50,000; Detroit, 75,000.

California increase is estimated at 500,000. Pennsylvania's at 300,000. Ohio, increase, 200,000. West Virginia, Washington State, Boston and other points are up.

Democrats Hopeful. SOME DEMOCRATIC Senators still say they haven't given up hope of Truman victory.

But despite huge turnouts in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, Truman got gloomy reports from political leaders in both states. Only slim chance of carrying them, they said.

Democratic committee's latest effort is picture-book story of Truman life, with heavy emphasis on war record, no mention of boss Pendergast connection.

Truman friends discount announcement that Al Smith relatives are for Dewey. Just an old family tradition, they say. Smith supported Alf Landon and Willkie. He backed Roosevelt fourth term only because of war.

Don't expect anything to come of declaration by Gov. Folsom of Alabama for Truman. There's no way to vote for Truman in his state! And Folsom doesn't control legislature, can't alter situation.

Seek Cabinet Posts. LOUIS BROMFIELD, author and Ohio farmer, is reported as hoping he'll be Secretary of Agriculture in Dewey cabinet.

Same sort of indications come from Sen. Guy Cordon (R. Ore.) about Interior post.

Same Program Likely. HOUSE REPUBLICAN Leader Halleck predicts Dewey will continue program initiated by 80th Congress.

In Illinois state Chamber of Commerce speech he forecast reduced government spending, lower taxes, retirement of public debt, and "better regulation of what is exported abroad in carrying out the foreign aid program."

Talk like that is giving Europe jitter, say men just back from there. Marshall plan countries remember Taber's try at cutting funds; shiver at what they think may be coming.

May Face Defeat. REP. GERALD W. LANDIS (R. Ind.), slated to be chairman of House Education and Labor Committee in next Congress, may be defeated because of his vote for Taft-Hartley.

He once was mine worker, comes from Indiana's leading coal-producing district. He tried



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Plan for Truman, Dewey Visits

(Continued From Page One) Athletic Club. He will be accompanied, as usual, by Mrs. Truman and their singing daughter, Margaret.

War Memorial Speech. A reception for the President will begin at 4:30 p. m. at the Indiana Roof ball room and will last until 5:30 p. m. Private dinner arrangements have been made for the Trumans and the tour will reach its climax with an 8:30 p. m. speech from the north steps of the Indiana World War Memorial.

Indianapolis police and fire departments will provide security for the presidential campaign. National guard troops and soldiers from Ft. Benjamin Harrison also may be on hand to assist in maintaining the traditional web of security which must always surround a President whenever he appears in public.

Oil Executive Raps Communists. Communism and government bureaus came in for a verbal trouncing in the address of F. J. Rarig of Philadelphia before the Indiana Independent Petroleum Association yesterday at the Severin Hotel.

Mr. Rarig, representing the Rarig & Haas Co. of Philadelphia, said: "In communism we have a government system of terror and collective economy. In America, the founding fathers did not put their trust in government bureaus and private monopoly."

Officers of the association are Morris Parker, South Bend, president; P. H. Logan, Indianapolis, vice president; Emmett Farmer, Camby, treasurer; and George W. Hofmeyer, Indianapolis, secretary. New directors are A. J. Kramer, Ft. Wayne; J. E. Heesfeldt, Indianapolis; T. Turner, Indianapolis, and M. H. Williams, White-

land.

Invite Spain to Meet. MADRID, Oct. 9 (UP)—The United States embassy announced today Spain has been invited to attend an international conference on Northwest Atlantic fishing to be held in Washington next January. The invitation was the first extended Spain from the U. S. since the American ambassador was withdrawn from Madrid.

INDIANAPOLIS CLEARING HOUSE

Clearings Today \$10,395,000

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Good, Bad News. GOOD NEWS for margarine eaters: "Food Topics," grocery trade publication, says: "Prompt action in next session of Congress on bill to repeal federal margarine taxes has been promised by Senator Taft."

No-so-good news: "Successful farming," Iowa farm and dairy magazine, quotes Dewey as saying: "I don't believe the consumer will benefit as much as we're told, so I don't think there is much point in removing the tax."

Gates Is 'Hatchet Man' For Worried GOP Cohorts

(Continued From Page One) 200,000 votes or more that they've been drifting along in a pink cloud. The fact seems to be that Mr. Schricker is a real threat. With GOP governor nominee Hobart Creighton conducting his campaign on a white glove basis, "not mad at anybody," somebody has to start tearing into Mr. Schricker. Gov. Gates isn't running for anything, so it looks as if he's been elected hatchet man.

Next worry of the GOP strategists is whether the blasting governor might stick his neck out too far. Democrats are taking the governor's blows with wide grins, saying: "We'd rather fight with Mr. Gates than anybody."

Wise GOP heads, on the other hand, are aware of the fact that we all make mistakes and realize that this business of asking embarrassing questions can backfire if it's carried too far.

He was caught, got his summons and expected the worst. Instead he got a fine of \$3 and costs—suspended. Then the blow fell, at least temporarily. The judge also suspended his driver's license for 30 days, and took it up.

But imagine his surprise, having already had a small fine suspended, at finding his driver's license in his mail box the next day.

Politics on a Bench. THERE'S A STRONG continuing movement, especially among the top lawyers, to get the judicial candidates off the party ticket. They point out the judge elected by a party too often gets the idea that he owes the party bosses something for getting him on the ticket.

This leads to political pressure on the courts, breaks down justice, and puts the politicians in a position to "do a few favors" for their friends, political henchmen and the skim living operators in the petty racket.

The pressure is such the year that something may be done about it. The judges want it most of all to prevent infringement on their self-respect, their community standing and their careers in public office.

Observers have pointed out that it is almost impossible to put a confessed and convicted killer in the electric chair in Indiana, and even after they get the death verdict, they hang around a year or two to be fed and clothed by the State.

Need More Police. CITIZENS WHO are up in arms about the consistently high record of attacks on women in Indianapolis streets have taken a close look at the Police Department. They report that, while the police admittedly have failed to stop molesters, the department actually has about 60 unfilled vacancies.

At one time this year the number of vacancies is reported to have totaled 90.

And there is some concern over the morale and efficiency of the department. Observers point to

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