

State Board Asks Changes In School Setup

Cites Educational, Economic Reasons

A sweeping re-organization of county public school administration in Indiana was recommended yesterday in a report of the Indiana School Study Commission.

The commission proposed "in the interest of economy and an improved educational program" Indiana should consolidate counties in one unit for school administration, except for city school systems.

The 57-member commission, composed of prominent Hoosier educators and laymen, has had the Indiana public school system under study and consideration for the past eight months.

'Serious Deficiencies'

"Many local public school administrative units, especially town and township units, are entirely too small to meet acceptable standards and a satisfactory school program can never be offered in these small units under the present organization plan," the report stated.

The facts gathered by the commission disclose several "serious deficiencies" of the small high school:

ONE: The school program is too narrow and restricted to meet the pupils' needs for living in a modern complex world in spite of the fact expenditures per pupil range as high as two or three times those of high schools of adequate size.

Prohibitive Investment

TWO: The investment required per pupil for adequate building facilities is practically prohibitive at present construction costs.

THREE: An undesirable amount of departmentalization is commonly forced upon seventh and eighth grades and frequently children in the elementary grades are handicapped because of overloaded classes.

FOUR: Small township schools are finding it increasingly difficult to attract and hold competent teachers, partly because the teachers are required to teach so many different subjects.

Better Administration

The recommended change in administrative organization would make for a better administered school program, easier financing and a greater educational program than is now possible under the present township organization, the report indicated.

The proposal stated that each county should have a county board of education responsible to its citizens for the organization and operation of the school program. The board would be composed of five persons elected on a non-partisan ballot for four-year overlapping terms.

Bus System Change

The recommendation provides for the county superintendent of schools to be employed by the county board of education and would be designated by law as executive officer and secretary of the board.

An annual saving of more than \$3 million to Hoosier taxpayers would be accomplished by complete reorganization of Indiana's expensive school bus system, a second report disclosed.

Local school administrative units should move as rapidly as possible toward public ownership of buses, it was urged.

Defends Monroe County Schools

Times State Service

BLOOMINGTON, Nov. 13 — Monroe County Prosecutor Robert F. McCrea tonight denied charges that "deplorable conditions" exist in Monroe County schools.

"For the record," Mr. McCrea declared, "the schools of Monroe County are in a deplorable condition in any sense of the word."

It is true, however, he added, that in some instances a few of the buildings could stand minor repairs.

But he said, "charges that children are being taught in dilapidated buildings and the stench of outdoor toilets" were totally unfounded.

A grand jury probe, he said, was ordered by Judge Q. Austin East after several parents complained that some children suspected of being infected with lice were circulating among the other youngsters.

Electronics School Holds Autumn Festival

Indianapolis Electronics School students put away their slide rules last night to celebrate the school's autumn festival arranged by James H. Schultz, president, in observation of IES's first year of operation.

Dancing, games, door prizes and a demonstration of television receivers made up the evening's program. The school, a division of the Indiana Electronic and Television Corp., is at 312 E. Washington St.

Three Passengers Rob Taxi Driver of \$26

Three cab passengers robbed their driver of \$26 and his watch after hailing him at Michigan St. and Indiana Ave. last night.

The driver, Thelmer Tinsley, 33, of 2213 Martindale Ave., told police the men threatened him with a revolver and fled through Belmont Park, 1200 N. Belmont Ave., after taking his money.

Hotels to Stay Open At Four State Parks

Indiana State Park hotels at Pokagon, Clifty Falls, Turkey Run and Spring Mill will remain open during the winter months.

Officials of the Indiana Department of Conservation's Division of Parks announced that a full slate of winter sports, including skiing, sleigh rides and tobogganing will be provided.

It Can Happen Here—U. S. DP's



Displaced persons . . . Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Wert and their five children (left to right) Kenneth, Sanford, Claude, Priscilla and Beverly.

Tent Eviction Order Sinks Hopes of Submarine Hero

Survivor of U. S. Undersea Raider Faces Life of Displaced Person—American Variety

Marion County has taken steps to evict a wounded Navy veteran, his wife and five children from their tent-home, 1502 Ritter Ave.

A representative of the Marion County Building Commissioner's office this week handed an eviction notice to Marvin Wert, 36-year-old survivor of America's famed wartime submarine raider Trigger.

The notice read: "This tent is in violation of Sec. 11 & 12—Ordinance No. One, Marion County Board of Commissioners and occupancy is ordered stopped until permit has been issued. Marion County Building Commissioner, 71 Court House. Disregarding or removing this notice is punishable by law."

Confronted with this latest ultimatum and not knowing where to turn for aid, the Werts plan to continue living in their patched-up tent home until forced out.

"What else can we do? Where else can we go?" the ailing former serviceman asks.

He Lost His Home

A building permit would be a further financial burden on the Werts. In addition, they fear that their tent may not pass the rigid sanitation and building code of the county.

The Wert family's plight was first brought to light in a Times story last week.

Mr. Wert, wounded when a Japanese depth charge damaged his submarine, lost his home at 3833 Kessler Blvd. several weeks ago after the owner sold the house.

Unable to find another place to house his family and financially unable to purchase a home, Mr. Wert in desperation pitched a tent for shelter.

Tent Barely Manages

There his wife and five children—Priscilla, 3; Beverly, 9; Sanford, 7; Kenneth, 11, and Claude, 13—brave winter winds, rain and snow. Their Army surplus tent barely manages to house the two beds, ice box, clothes rack, stove, table and chairs they have crammed together.

Still under a doctor's care from his wartime injury, Mr. Wert is nevertheless hoping to build a home on the plot of ground.

Former aid from several sources, including the American Legion, Mr. Wert is waiting but



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He just naturally wants his clothes (and right now his WARM clothes) to come from The Man's Store ("The Home of the Outercoat")—no less!

He likes the masculine surroundings of his own shop on the Fourth Floor—he appreciates the knowledgeable services of people who understand a boy's heart and his head and his anatomy—

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And if he has an awakening, an instinctive sense of VALUE—he knows that the Strauss Creed—"THE BEST at YOUR price—no matter what the price"—is likewise a matter of PERFORMANCE!

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Glass Fragments Fix Slaying Site

Sharpe Believed Shot On Grandview Dr.

Police today said they were certain Andrew L. Sharpe, Indiana Ave. tavern owner, was killed at a spot on Grandview Dr. a few feet from the weedy lot near Highland Golf and Country Club where the body was found Friday afternoon.

They based their conclusion on fragments of glass found in the drive yesterday which fitted into the broken ventilator wing of the murdered man's car.

John O'Neal, chief of detectives, said it was apparent the killer dragged the body from the car to a spot about 15 feet from the drive, then returned to the car and drove it back to Indianapolis. The abandoned car was later found parked in front of St. John's Catholic Church, 127 S. Capitol Ave.

No Clues to Killer

Meanwhile, detectives reported they had uncovered no clues which might lead to capture of the killer who shot the 44-year-old tavern owner twice through the head as he sat under the steering wheel of his car.

Mr. Sharpe, a native of Seymour, resided at 3960 Rookwood Ave. He had resided in Indianapolis most of his life.

Services will be at 1 p. m. tomorrow in Allen Chapel.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Kathleen Sharpe, two sisters, Mrs. Adelaide Henderson, Indianapolis, and Mrs. Susie Harris Waycross, Ga., and two brothers, Urian and Finch Sharpe, both of Indianapolis.

wonders whether his family will be able to survive the cold spell before help arrives.

Ousted Trooper Gets Back On State Force As Detective

Attorney General Urges Police To Reinstate Officer Fired a Year Ago

By ROBERT BLOEM

Ernest J. Richardson, former state policeman from Lebanon, was back on the force as a detective today, newest development in the weirdest legal tangle in department annals.

He was fired just about a year ago. It all started when a Bloomington youth, on parole from the state reformatory, gave a bum check for a cow at a Crawfordsville livestock sale early in 1947.

Mr. Richardson investigated the case as a member of the state police force. He was a friend of the plaintiff, a Whitestown farmer who eventually got his cow back.

As proceedings wended their weary way through Montgomery County Circuit Court, the father of the accused youth complained to state police headquarters that Mr. Richardson and the farmer were trying to obtain money from him in return for an agreement not to testify.

Four top officers of the department investigated, arranged a "trap" to catch the complaining father, Mr. Richardson, and the farmer at a rendezvous.

No Bribe Passes

The planned rendezvous came off, but no bribe changed hands. The state police department, on Oct. 24, 1947, found that Mr. Richardson was guilty of conduct unbecoming an officer. He had failed to keep his superiors posted on his movements, such as the meeting with the defendant's father and the farmer, for example.

The judge of the court turned the matter over to the grand jury. He instructed the jury that they might find the officers guilty of a felony because setting a

trap like that might be construed as encouraging Mr. Richardson to take the bribe.

First the grand jury called in Mr. Richardson. Under the law which says you can't make a man testify against himself, that meant Mr. Richardson couldn't be indicted. He was in the clear.

Next they called the Whitestown farmer, automatically clearing him, too.

No Answer to Plea

With nobody left to indict but the four state police officers, the grand jury indicted them. They filed a plea in abatement to wipe off the indictment, and so far the Montgomery County prosecutor, who conducted the grand jury investigation, hasn't gotten around to answering the plea.

Now, with the four officers still technically under that indictment, the attorney general has found that in July, 1947, the state police board didn't do quite right by Mr. Richardson when they demoted him from detective to trooper. They didn't do it in writing. Also, they never gave Mr. Richardson a public hearing on his later dismissal.

The attorney general's office recommended he be reinstated. That's where we came in, at the start of this story.

Traffic Accidents Here Injure Five

Boy, 3, Runs From Mother's Side, Hit

Five persons were injured in local traffic accidents last night. Stanley Moore, 3, of 220 Bright St., was struck by an automobile driven by Arthur Hawkins, 42, of 817 Yoke Ave., when he ran from his mother's side in the 700 block Indiana Ave.

He is in serious condition in General Hospital.

Two teen-age girls were slightly injured when the car in which they were riding overturned in an accident in the 3400 block Broadway.

Treated and released from Methodist Hospital were Ann Amato, 16, of 3628 Hemlock Ave., and Virginia Ruddell, 16, of 4455 Park Ave.

Ronald Gooley, 14, of 1304 DeLoss St., is in fair condition in General Hospital. He was injured in an accident in the 1200 block English Ave. While riding his bicycle, he was struck by a car driven by Charles B. Ernest, 58, Maywood.

Norman Terry, 27, of 1701 Howard St., who was in an accident at Shelby and Prospect Sts., charged his wallet was stolen last night by a passenger in the other vehicle involved.

The man accused of the theft was later arrested by police and charged with petit larceny.

BRITONS WARN RUSS

BERLIN, Nov. 13 (UP)—The British military government warned the Russians tonight that any attempt to force down British air-lift planes will be regarded "as a matter of utmost gravity."

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