

# Legion Post Cites 6 Police And 4 Firemen For Merit In 1948



Martin Fahey... companion of Patrolman Sheehan in patrol car.



Michael Garvey... applied artificial respiration to drowning child.



Ray Whobrey... with Patrolman Jefferson risked life in arrest.



Harold Jefferson... arrested robbery suspect after gun duel.



Battalion Chief Arnold W. Phillips... carried child from fire.



Capt. Michael J. Gardner... rescued child from burning home.



Pvt. Charles J. Schenck... crawled through wreckage to aid victim.



Battalion Chief Bert A. Unversaw... carried aged woman to safety.

## Awards Hail Services 'Beyond Call of Duty'

Acts Run From Seizing Suspects In Shooting to Rescue of Lives

Six policemen and four firemen were awarded certificates for "meritorious" service during 1948 last night at a dinner given by Robison-Ragsdale Post 133, American Legion.

Police officers cited by the Legion for outstanding action beyond the call of duty were Harold Barnes, Michael Garvey, Michael Sheehan, Martin Fahey, Harold Jefferson and Ray Whobrey.

Firemen receiving merit citations were Battalion Chief Arnold W. Phillips, Capt. Michael J. Gardner, Battalion Chief Bert A. Unversaw and Pvt. Charles J. Schenck.

H. Ellis McCammon, post awards chairman, and Virgil Shepherd, director of the Indianapolis Chapter, American Red Cross, presented the citations at the post's 18th annual open house in Central Christian Church.

Those cited and their service were:

Harold Barnes—Radioed description of hit-and-run driver who later confessed to fatally injuring Patrolman Robert Baker.

Michael Garvey—Alert action saved life of child pulled from Eagle Creek by giving artificial respiration.

Michael Sheehan and Martin Fahey—Questioned occupant of taxicab who turned out to be holdup man suspected of an attempt to kill.

Fired Several Shots—Harold Jefferson and Ray Whobrey—Arrested robbery suspect after chase in which the man fired several shots at the officers.

Battalion Chief Arnold W. Phillips and Capt. Michael J. Gardner—Carried two children from burning home.

Battalion Chief Bert A. Unversaw—Carried aged woman to safety after battling his way through flames and smoke to third floor of an apartment building.

Pvt. Charles J. Schenck—Supported severely injured man trapped in wrecked car for two hours who was in danger of death from loss of blood.

Enters Bill to Survey Small Business Needs

A State Representative moved today to give the Hoosier small businessman state aid in fighting his battles.

Rep. Charles E. Turner (D. New Albany) introduced a bill in the House which would provide a state commission to make a "study and survey" of the problems of small businesses and recommend legislation which might assist them.

The commission would be made up of representatives of the State Commerce, Agriculture, Industry and Public Relations departments.

## Mother, 2 Tots Perish in Fire

Firemen Rescue 12 In Kansas City Blaze

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 2 (UP)—A mother and her two children died today in an apartment house fire as firemen rescued 12 other residents of the building by ladder.

The victims were Mrs. Dorothy Beckman, 26, and her children, Lois Susan, 3, and Mary, 2.

Thirty-one other residents escaped but 12 of them were trapped on the top floor of the two-story building until aided by firemen.

District Fire Chief Al Wahlman said Mrs. Beckman and her children were asleep in a rear second-floor apartment when the mother was awakened by smoke. She attempted to reach a window but was overcome. All three died of suffocation.

The husband, H. A. Beckman, a postoffice employee, was working at the time.

Protective Group To Seat Officers

Open house and candlelight installation of officers of the Degrees of Honor Protective Association will be held at 8 p. m. tomorrow at 734 S. State Ave.

The refreshment committee includes Mrs. William McCaslin and Mrs. Harry Sechrist. Mrs. C. R. Rhoades will handle entertainment.

Officers to be installed include: Mrs. Rhoades, president; Mrs. J. K. Garriott, past president; Mrs. Burr Macy, first vice president; Mrs. McCaslin, second vice president; Mrs. Lawrence Rosemeyer, financial secretary.

Mrs. Elmer Lumley, treasurer; Mrs. Clifford Glunt, recording secretary; Mrs. Harold Holschuh, usher; Mrs. Harry Sechrist, assistant usher; Mrs. H. M. Fox, color bearer; Mrs. Jess Callaway, left assistant; Mrs. Garwood Storer, right assistant; Mrs. Mary Ragsdale, inner watch.

Escorts appointed are: Miss Trevelia McCaslin, Mrs. Mildred Bartram, Mrs. Andrew Zervas and Mrs. Jewell Gebel.



Michael Sheehan... held suspect in shooting.



Harold Barnes... action led to arrest of hit-and-run driver.

## Ice-O-Rama Costume Committee Seeks Help

With 21 volunteers assigned to the costume committee for The Times Ice-O-Rama, more women are needed to complete the job of providing outfits for the some 600 amateurs in the Infantile Paralysis Fund benefit show.

Women wishing to help on the committee are requested to telephone Mrs. Norma Koster, supervisor of special activities for the City Park and Recreation Department at WA-4576. They may also write Mrs. Koster at the park department, 101 E. 27th St.

The department annually cooperates with The Times in producing the Ice-O-Rama.

The costume committee is at work in headquarters at Tomlinson Hall, Delaware and Market Sts.

Chairman of the committee is Mrs. Andrew Bicket, 3115 Guilford Ave.

Sub-Committees Named—Other members will be assigned to direct the creation of costumes for various group numbers in the show. They are:

Mrs. Charles LaDuke, 4925 Carvel Ave.; Mrs. Chester Barney, 3058 E. Fall Creek Pkwy.; North Drive; Mrs. D. O. Carlstadt, 1314 Burdick Pkwy.; Mrs. Paul Allison, 222 N. Tacoma Ave.; Mrs. Paul Delbaue, 906 Downey Ave.; Mrs. G. L. Muench, 4917 Gracefield Ave.; Mrs. H. Leitz, 1919 Broad Ripple Ave.; Mrs. Orville Abing, 4701 Indiana Ave.; Mrs. Art Quesser, 4207 N. Pennsylvania St.; Mrs. John Riddle, 4546 N. Pennsylvania St.; Mrs. E. W. Spears, 2844 Eugene St.; Mrs. Bernard Lynch Jr., 1341 E. 72d St.; Mrs. Howard McCord, 7149 Edgewater Pl.; Mrs. Byron Harrell, 523 E. 37th St.; Mrs. R. O. Richards, 5108 Broadway; Mrs. R. C. Williams, 4318 N. LaSalle St.; Mrs. R. W. Pearce, 3610 Balsam Ave.; Mrs. C. L. Waggoner, R. R. 18, Box 384; Mrs. B. Burkhead, 1001 College Ave.; Mrs. Clinton Miller, 3366 College Ave.

The Times Ice-O-Rama will be staged Feb. 24 in the Fairgrounds Coliseum. This is the first week to order tickets by mail.

## 2 Men Killed In State Traffic

Train-Car Collision Fatal to 34-Year-Old

One man died in a train-car collision early today and one other fatality on the highway was reported.

Robert F. Ostermeyer, 34, of Muncie, was killed instantly at 1 a. m. today when his car was struck by a New York Central passenger train four miles east of Muncie.

State police said tracks in the snow indicated the motorist had been driving down the railroad tracks for about a half mile before meeting the 70-mile per hour train. Engineer of the train was J. H. Marcus, Indianapolis.

William C. Tornhill, 24, Winchester, was killed when his car ran off of State Rd. 9 north of Alexandria, plunged down an embankment and overturned at about 6 p. m. last night.

Drowns Coasting

WATERLOO, Feb. 2 (UP)—Sharon Wilson, 5-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wilson, was drowned in Cedar Creek yesterday when her sled struck the stream's bank and she was thrown into the water. An uncle of the girl recovered the body about 200 feet downstream.

## Detectives Round Up Gang Of 9 To Crack Robbery Ring

(Continued From Page One)

W. 11th, also charged with robbery with a deadly weapon.

At the home, police recovered some \$1800 loot from the Karstadt Cleaning burglary. On Jan. 19 the gang broke into the cleaning place, loaded a truck with merchandise and drove away.

Several garments, including a suit of Dr. Frank Sparks, president of Wabash College and the topcoat of former Prosecutor Judson L. Stark, were sold by the gang, but were recovered.

Detectives said they also found garments positively identified as those taken from the Tri-State shop at 17 E. 16th St. on Jan. 9 but the men have not admitted this burglary.

Admit One Hold-up—They admitted one hold-up at the Liquore Store at 2000 N. Rural St., but denied a second hold-up there in which the clerk was beaten. They also signed statements admitting the \$400 holdup of the J. & F. Liquor Store, 1309 N. Capitol Ave.

Other holdups cleared by the arrests included gasoline stations at 2844 N. Capitol Ave., 1402 N. West St., 1102 E. 30th St. and 801 S. West St. Officers said the men denied some 20 other burglaries and holdups in which they were believed implicated.

## NAACP May Back Watts in Appeal

Attorney General Will Fight Action

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People indicated today it would back Robert Austin Watts' appeal of death sentence before the U. S. Supreme Court.

The 27-year-old former Indianapolis city truck driver, convicted of the sex murder of Mrs. Mary Lois Burney, was granted a 30-day stay of execution by the Supreme Court Monday, a few hours before he was scheduled to die in the electric chair at Michigan City Prison.

Meanwhile, Indiana Attorney General J. Emmett McManamon said if the NAACP took up the appeal of Watts he and a deputy would go to Washington to fight such action. He said the deputy would probably be Frank E. Coughlin who with Merl Wall, another deputy attorney general, represented the state in the prosecution of Watts.

The NAACP is said to be basing its appeal on the grounds there were no Negroes on the Shelby County jury which convicted Watts, and that the conviction Watts gave state police after his capture was drawn from him by duress.

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