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Foundation Begins 33d Year of Aid

Education, Other Benefits Is Main Work of Charity

By JOHN V. WILSON
One of Indianapolis' little-known charitable organizations—the Indianapolis Foundation—is entering its 33d year of aid to unfortunate individuals in the community.

Since 1924 the Foundation has made it possible for more than 200,000 persons in the city to receive educational, philanthropic and charitable benefits—the equivalent to one-half of the present population.

The Foundation, in effect, serves as a "middle man" between donors who provide bequests for charitable projects in their wills and established civic agencies.

Strange Bequests

Occasionally, however, the Foundation receives a variety of bequests which are impossible to put into effect.

One donor who died in the early 1900s expressed the wish that some of his funds be used for the "maintenance of a public bath house or bath houses . . . for the use of the worthy poor."

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, in another city, once was left \$350,000 for building horse troughs wherever needed in the world. The fund still stands idle.

The Indianapolis Foundation also receives many unusual requests for funds. One man asked for money to underwrite a "swap-barter" exchange to be used principally in times of widespread unemployment. Another, interested in writing a history of World War II, wanted the Foundation to underwrite its publication.

Established in '16

The Foundation was established in 1916 by the city's three trust companies—Indiana Trust, Fletcher Trust and Union Trust—for the receipt of gifts or bequests for "promoting the welfare of persons now or hereafter residing in Indianapolis."

Members of the board of trustees, who serve for three-year terms, are appointed by the Federal Court Judge, the Marion County Circuit Court Judge and the Mayor. Present members, who serve without pay, are Thomas D. Sheerin, chairman; Robert A. Efraymson, Emsley W. Johnson, Eli Lilly, Eugene C. Miller and J. Dwight Peterson.

Present Foundation director is Paul M. Ross, former Indianapolis newspaperman.

A unique feature of the Foundation is that no funds go directly to the beneficiary. All funds are voted by its board of trustees and then channeled to the various agencies.

Found School

One of the most significant phases of the Foundation has been its sponsorship of demonstration projects which have been taken over on a permanent basis by civic or government groups.

In 1925 the Foundation, with the co-operation of the Indianapolis public schools, established the James E. Roberts School for Handicapped Children. The school has grown from an original enrollment of 20 pupils to the present 220.

Other demonstration projects have included cancer research at General Hospital, expansion of Flanner House program, establishment of a psychiatric division at General Hospital and contributions to the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra for free concerts for school children.

Another important phase of Foundation work is the annual provision for scholarships to local high school and college students. Funds provide lunch money, books and carfare for high school students.

In 1948 the Foundation granted approximately \$12,000 in scholarships for 40 college and 47 high school students.

Arrest Car Dealer In Bank Shortage

An extensive search for a Chicago Heights, Ill., used car dealer wanted by the FBI in connection with a bank shortage at Dyer, Ind., ended yesterday with the arrest of Elmer Roland Hedges in Crete, Ill.

Hedges, the FBI charges, collaborated with William Gettler, former cashier of the First National Bank in Dyer in misappropriating nearly \$400,000 of the bank's funds. Gettler now is free on \$15,000 bond on charges of conspiracy to violate the National Banking Act.

Gettler was arrested by agents in January, shortly after the shortage in the bank funds was discovered.

The two men had employed a bogus check scheme to obtain money for the purchase of used cars for re-sale, officers stated. Agents said examination showed accounts were juggled to cover the bogus checks.

Hedges, who is 36, was taken to Hammond for arraignment before a U. S. commissioner.

He failed to provide \$15,000 bond at arraignment and was taken to Lake County Jail in Crown Point.

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Washingtonian Club 'Big Sisters' To Entertain 9B Girls At Party Thursday

Washington High School 9B girls will be guests of their "big sisters" members of the Washingtonian Club, at a Valentine party Thursday afternoon in the school cafeteria.

Participants on the program will be Betty Poland, Jean Smith, Patay Sheetz, Betty McIntire, Martha Bunch and Shirley Laram. Forming the receiving line will be the club president, Betty Brown, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Gignery, Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Jones and Mr. and Mrs. Justin Marshall.

Other officers of the club are Jean Harrell, vice president; Norma Ayres, secretary, and Mary Jane Spiehler, treasurer. Chairmen in charge of the party

are Kathryn Hendrickson, program chairman; Martha Bunch and Fae Bridges, refreshments; Mary Jane Spiehler and Norma Ayres, decorations; Fae Bridges, "big sister" arrangement; Betty Voegel and Mona Lee Francis, reception. Officers of the Washington Student Association will be installed Thursday morning in the school auditorium. Officers include Glen Hawkins, president; Harry Badger, vice president; Sue Blank, secretary; Deenie Geloff, treasurer, and George Theofanis, sergeant-at-arms.

Rose Ebert, Southport High School senior, has been named

winner of the school's good citizenship award, sponsored by the Cornelia Coke Fairbanks Chapter, DAR.

The chapter will present a \$100 savings bond to the winning high school senior girl this year.

Miss Ebert, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. J. Wayne Ebert, R. R. 1, has been

secretary of her junior and senior classes, and vice president of the student organization. She is a

member of the Booster Club, Anchor Staff, National Honor Society and vice president of Quill and Scroll.

Gordon Smith, Broad Ripple High School sophomore, has won top honors in the annual oratorical contest sponsored by Broad Ripple Post 312, American Legion. He spoke on "Security Under the Bill of Rights."

Other winners were Nancy Phippen, second; Ted Jenner, third, and Ruth Jacobs, honorable mention.

A Broad Ripple alumni re-

organization meeting was held last night in the school auditorium.

The birthday of K. V. Ammerman, Broad Ripple principal, was honored at a faculty dinner Thursday. Silvin D. Weaver gave the invocation and Hubert L. Wann was toastmaster.

Thirty Tech High School freshmen and sophomores toured the Arsenal Cannon, student newspaper, last week at the first meeting of the Cub Club.

New members of the club are Patricia L. Adams, Norma Bryant, Wanda Bryant, Harold Comer, Maurice Cordell, Ronald

Sy Porekz of the Tech art de-

partment won a \$100 prize at the annual Hoosier Art Salon with his painting, "An Old Estate."

Curry, Nancy Lee Edmonds, Martha L. Edwards, Vaudene R. Fable, Mary Ann Fletcher, Ramona Grounds, Robert E. Hales, Robert E. Harsenstein, Barbara Hawthorne, Ida E. Hiden,

Also Barbara J. Johnson, Jo

Ann Kennedy, Shirley Koehl-

er, Alex T. Kutz, Patricia

Mitchell, Charles R. Mohr, Bebe

Joyce Murray, Jo Ann Perry,

Glenna Rigdon, Jean Sanders,

Robert Standeford, Donna Wal-

lace, Grace Watson, Roland O.

Wetzel and Stuart D. Winter.

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Ralph Hesler is interlocutor of the show, while Jack Noon is committee chairman.

Ripple Legion Post Plans Minstrel Show

A minstrel show will be presented by Broad Ripple American Legion Post No. 312 in the high school auditorium Friday and Saturday evening.

Fourteen specialty arrangements will be included in 70 numbers in the program, produced and directed by Leroy H. Bassett. Also included are the Broad Ripple Post Chorus under Roger Riley, chorus director, and the post band. Mrs. H. P. Hafflich is in charge of musical co-ordination.

Ralph Hesler is interlocutor of the show, while Jack Noon is committee chairman.

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