

## STATEHOUSE ALUMNI



Ralph F. Gates ... back in niche as Columbia City lawyer.

Ed Jackson ... from log house to Statehouse to log house.

Paul V. McNutt ... now a New York corporation lawyer.

Governor Schricker ... back in business at the same old stand.

M. Clifford Townsend ... an ear of Ohio corn on an Indiana stalk in Florida.

By VICTOR PETERSON

**SINCE** Jonathan Jennings stepped down as Indiana's first governor in 1822, a long line of chief executives has followed his footsteps.

Vacating the No. 1 post, each has merged with the people to become another Mr. Citizen.

Today the state numbers five living former governors.

They are Ed Jackson, Republican, Orleans, 1925-29; Paul V. McNutt, Democrat, New York, 1933-37; M. Clifford Townsend, Democrat, near Marion, 1937-41; Henry F. Schricker, Democrat, Indianapolis, 1941-45, and Ralph F. Gates, Republican, Columbia City, 1945-49.

**GOVERNOR SCHRICKER** is back at the same old stand running the state. The only man twice

elected to Indiana's key post, he is swinging into the fast-tempo required of a Hoosier governor.

His first job was to ride out a stormy general assembly session. His tasks are a far-cry from his nonpolitical duties of the past four years as vice president of the Fletcher Trust Co.

**MEANWHILE**, his predecessor has returned to his niche in Columbia City as a partner in the law firm of Gates & Gates.

A narrow flight of wooden steps leads to the second floor offices where Mr. Gates shares space with brothers John and Benton. Vestiges of his governorship are evident near his desk. There are stacked boxes of his personal papers.

"I'm very well pleased to be back in business," he said. "My only political desire is to get my party to become something more than a 'me too' organization."

On the street, in his office, he is Ralph to young and old. Nearly every day he climbs the iron stairs to the third floor of the Whitley County Courthouse to visit or argue a case before Circuit Judge Lowell Perley.

Mr. Gates has done considerable speaking since his return. In June he will address the eighth grade at commencement exercises.

**FORMER GOVERNOR TOWNSEND** and his wife are sunning themselves far from Indiana.

Now in Sarasota, Fla., they are known as Cliff and Nora to some 929 other families living in trailers in City Trailer Park. Their trailer easily is distinguishable from the others for her xenias and his corn.

"I planted some Indiana corn last New Year's day just to see if it would grow in Florida soil," the ex-governor said. One stalk bears a yellow ear of Ohio corn. Close inspection shows the ear to be wired on, the practical joke of a neighbor, J. F. Thomas, a former Buckeye.

At 64, Mr. Townsend has learned to take life in easy strides. Trout fishing in the bay and watching the Boston Red Sox spring training games are favorite pastimes. A son, Max, looks after the family 360-acre farm near Marion.

**MR. MCNUTT** is the globe-trotting variety of former governors.

Today the silver-haired, handsome dynamo of Indiana Democratic politics in the mid-thirties lives with his wife in a fashionable New York City apartment.

A nationally-known attorney, he maintains a downtown law office at 84 William St., in New York's financial district, and an office in Washington, D. C.

An imposing figure, Mr. McNutt practices corporation law, principally for large insurance underwriters, but makes comparatively few court-room appearances.

Now inactive politically, and presumably uninterested in political office he is the unsalaried consultant for the Economic Co-operation Administration's China program.

He plans to go to China and Manlia soon for a two-month business trip. His daughter, Louise, has a government job in Washington.

**FOR FORMER** Gov. Jackson it has been a round trip from log house to Statehouse to log house. Now 75 and recovering from his third stroke, Mr. Jackson still exhibits the virility which made him well-known as a man of the great outdoors.

Believed to be a descendant of President Andrew Jackson, Indiana's governor of the late twenties has been living in his new log house near Orleans for 11 years. Ill health forced him to leave Indianapolis and his law practice after his term expired.

He describes his years in the country as his happiest and looks forward eagerly like any grandfather, to visits from his grandchildren.

It is high on a windy hill that his cabin is set. Through the windows the bright sunlight of spring pours and Mr. Jackson likes to look out on the broad acres where his Aberdeen Angus cattle graze.

Like the other Statehouse alumni, he stepped from office to shed the cloak of governor and became Mr. Citizen.

*Bonnie Blue* REVIEW

THROUGH THE  
LOOKING  
GLASS

Johnny Sullivan, 6, and Sandra Meko, 4, ... Adagio practice.

TIMES PICTURE STORY BY LLOYD B. WALTON

"IN another moment Alice was through the glass and jumped lightly into the looking glass room, exclaiming: 'Oh, what fun it will be when they see me through the glass and can't get me!'

Not everyone can jump clear through the looking glass like Alice. But at LaShelle Vocal Dance Studio, 1716 N. Pennsylvania St., there's a large ceiling-to-floor mirror, an Alice-mirror of tiny dancing tyros.

Like Alice, these little girls and a few little boys too, "jump lightly" through the looking glass.

Mrs. Bonnie Blue LaShelle and pupils Judith Lynn and Cheryl Kaye Cutright and John L. Sullivan III ... Petite battement.

Many Ann Kuetemeier, 5 ...

A future ballerina.

Sandra Meko ... Back through the looking glass.

Joey DeCenzo, 9, ... On toe and stretch.