

# Four Of Political Faithful Given \$300 Job Plum Rewards

## Sit on Stool At Fletcher's Office Door

He Says They Did Great Work in Handling Crowds

By PHILIP F. CLIFFORD

In politics there is no better insurance for the future than for political big wheels to "reward" faithful ward and precinct workers.

Do these rewards mean an extra burden to the taxpayer? So what? A guy with his sights set on tomorrow's political horizon just has to give the boys a "helping hand."

And County Treasurer Louis W. (Call me Uncle Louie) Fletcher, has a large, generous hand with which to help the boys . . . at added expense to Mr. Taxpayer, of course.

At the beginning of this month he doled out four such rewards. The quartet appeared on Mr. Fletcher's extra payroll at \$300-a-month. But the purpose of their employment is somewhat nebulous.

Take Turns on Stool  
Veteran Republican ward and precinct workers, the men, Leo Scharffin, John T. Goodnight, Harold J. Hughes and James B. Chappell, for the most part, courthouse observers said, did nothing more than take turns sitting on a stool outside the treasurer's office.

Mr. Fletcher, however, said they did more than just sit.

In fact he was loud with praise for their "excellent and invaluable work in handling last minute crowds of taxpayers."

"Yes," Mr. Fletcher stoutly declared, "I paid 'em \$300 a month. They earned every cent of it. They did a tremendous job."

"Doing what?" a reporter asked Mr. Fletcher.

"Why . . . why . . . doing their assigned duties," Mr. Fletcher said.

"Like taking turns on the stool," pressed the reporter.

"Hell, no," the florid-faced Mr. Fletcher exploded. "Handling crowds."

Reminded that "handling crowds" only entailed two days of the three weeks the men were on the county payroll, Mr. Fletcher said the men "did other things" for the remainder of the time.

"Like sitting on the stool, no doubt?" the reporter queried.

Then he's hurt.

Mr. Fletcher appeared hurt. He thought the question was unfair.

"I'm proud of my choice in these men," Mr. Fletcher said. "If I had to do it over again, I'd do it. The way they handled those crowds was beautiful. It was a sight to behold."

Of course, Mr. Fletcher can't "do it over again."

He goes out of office Dec. 31. But at least he has taken care of some of the boys.

A check of records in the auditor's office disclosed that Mr. Fletcher, early last summer requested \$17,000 for "extra help" for the last tax payment period.

The economy-minded County Council gave him \$12,000. The council also slashed a \$3000 appropriation request for "additional equipment" to \$2500.

**Finance Firm Official To Address Convocation**

Dr. Ernest A. Dauer of Household Finance Corporation, Chicago, will address the Butler University College of Administration convocation Wednesday.

He will speak on "Consumer Credit—Yesterday and Today." The convocation for students and faculty members will be held at 11 a. m. in Arthur Jordan Hall.

**Bums Find Used Cars Make Good Flood Cause**

FALL RIVER, Mass., Nov. 26 (UP)—Bums and drunks have found a new way to beat the price of a flop house.

Police have found them getting into unlocked automobiles on used car lots and curling up for some sleep in the rear seat.



Leo Scharffin



Harold J. Hughes

## Jacobs' Senate Boat Still in Dock

Dinner-Meeting Fails As 'Launching' Party

Congressman Andy Jacobs gathered his friends around him last night for a "friendly get-together" and a two-hour dinner.

Rumors that the affair was intended to boost the pipe-smoking Representative for Senator next year didn't pan out. The "launching" party remained in dry dock.

Toney E. Flack, West Side publisher, took the floor to dispel the rumored boost. He said to reporters:

"We're just a group of Andy's friends and that's all the meeting was called for. If you see any headlines tomorrow to the contrary, somebody's a damn liar."

Pay \$2.50 a Plate  
And 57 friends paid \$2.50 a plate to talk with the Hoosier Democrat Congressman.

After the roast beef fare, Rep. Jacobs answered questions of the diners. They ranged from queries on real control to old age pensions.

But the main thing Rep. Jacobs said he wanted to get across was the clarification of issues concerning his forthcoming debates with Hoosier Sen. Homer E. Capehart.

He said the issue will be the programs of the Democrat and Republican parties. He said he expected the debates will be conducted in an "objective and respectable way."

Won't Back Socialists  
One diner asked if Rep. Jacobs would support British socialism which Sen. Capehart said would be the basis of the debates. The reply was: "Of course not."

To a question on social security the Congressman replied, "It should be made adequate to take care of the wants of old people."

He reiterated he was against the Townsend old-age pension plan. Rep. Jacobs observed in closing:

"I'm just about as happy tonight as I expect to be in my life. I don't usually get to see the people I want to, but I did tonight."

**Card Party Planned**

Wayne Township War Mothers No. 2, will hold a card party and bazaar at 8 p. m. Thursday in the new Wayne Post 64 American Legion home, Holt Rd. and Oliver Ave. Proceeds will be used for rehabilitation work in the Indianapolis veterans hospitals.

**'Russian Roulette' Kills 12-Year-Old**

FRANKLINVILLE, N. J., Nov. 26 (UP)—Twelve-year-old Elaine Blood killed herself in her home today while showing a younger girl how to play "Russian Roulette," police reported.

Sole witness was 10-year-old Patricia Kress, Elaine's neighbor, police said.

"She got a revolver out of a drawer. It was unloaded, but she found some bullets and she put one in it. Then she said 'look, this is a game. You point it at yourself, you spit this around and then you fire,'" Patricia told police.

The next instant, Patricia said, there was a loud explosion. Patricia ran screaming to a nearby garage where an attendant called police.

When police arrived, Elaine was dead, the revolver clutched in her hand.

**Champion Steers Raised by Two Girls**

CHICAGO, Nov. 26 (UP)—An Aberdeen Angus steer raised by a 15-year-old girl was named Junior Grand Champion today at the International Livestock Exposition Golden Jubilee.

Bonnie Lou Logan of Van Wert, O., walked away with the winner's ribbon with her calf, Lin-Lo, which also became eligible to compete for the Grand Championship.

The reserve junior grand champion also went to a girl, 12-year-old Betty Harder of Carlock, Ill., who stands only five feet tall. Her calf, Lucky Strike, was judged second best of the 300 blue-blooded animals exhibited by the nation's farm youngsters.

## Fear Confusion Here in School Course Change

First Major Revision in Nearly Century Due Next Fall

By CARL HENN

The first major change in almost 100 years of Indianapolis high school class routine, due next fall, will restrict the students' choice of studies.

Classes will be lengthened from 40 to 55 minutes and cut from nine to seven a day, and courses now worth a half-credit each semester will be given full credits by order of the Indian State Department of Public Instruction.

Protests of alarmed high school principals, teachers, and parents of students have been ignored or minimized by the state group, which is carrying out changes ordered in 1947 and 1948. State officials say any difficulties can be worked out.

**Expect Confusion**

Schoolmen here hold a different view. They say our large city schools, with thousands of students and a multitude of courses to offer, will find it much more difficult to adjust than will small country schools.

In the opinion of Principals H. H. Anderson at Tech High School, Walter G. Gingery at Washington High School and others, the State Board of Education, in making the changes mandatory for all Hoosier high schools instead of optional, has harmed Indianapolis schools and students.

The lengthened period alone, although it gives the student fewer periods per day and creates a need for more classroom space, will not do the damage. It is the change in credit rating that will restrict the high school pupil to a program centered on the three R's.

Students are required to take an average of four basic courses a semester, each worth one credit. In addition, they may choose an elective study, many of which now are worth a half-credit.

The North Central Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges, a powerful accrediting organization which covers 20 states including Indiana, strongly recommends that only students in the top 25 per cent of their studies be allowed to accumulate more than 4½ credits a semester.

Next fall the half-credit courses will be worth a full credit, except for physical education. The average student who takes a course in addition to the four basic classes will find himself saddled with five credits, more than the school or North Central wants him to have.

Many of these electives are practical training courses such as arts, crafts, shop, mechanical drawing, cooking and baking, journalism, typing, chorus, band and orchestra.

Fifty per cent of the youngsters who enter high school leave before they are graduated for several reasons—they want to work, can't afford school or are not interested. Some of them just don't care for education, as a man may not care for desk work or a woman may detest housework.

Of those who are graduated, only about 20 per cent go on to college. The rest—about 80 per cent of our youth—must earn their living without college education.

For some, the practical training they receive in high school may bring them more money than they could otherwise earn. For others, the elective courses in big high schools prove more interesting than the basic studies and tend to keep them in school until they are graduated.

It is the elective courses in our Indianapolis high schools which will suffer when the new program is instituted next fall, according to many of the men and women who oppose the state ruling.

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## Accidentally Shot in Leg



Mrs. Alta Boyd, great-nephew Mike and neighbor Mrs. Vandegriff . . . Taffy and near tragedy.

"Grandma, we want taffy candy," chorused Mike Fryar, 4 and his sister, Mary Anne, 3. Indulgently, their great-aunt, 72-year-old Mrs. Alta Boyd, reached to the top of the cupboard in her home at 2143 Station St., for a dish of candy.

As she pulled the dish toward her, a 22-target pistol also atop the cupboard clattered to the floor and discharged. Screaming, Mrs. Boyd fell with a bullet in her right leg.

As she screamed, Mrs. Martha Vandegriff, next door neighbor, rushed over. She applied a tourniquet until an ambulance arrived and took Mrs. Boyd to St. Francis Hospital.

It was Mr. Ward who disclosed Mr. Stokes' seizure. He said that the vice consul had not been freed more than six hours after his arrest.

**Fireman Finds Mother He Hadn't Seen Since Babyhood**

Four-Year Search To End in Reunion

By CARL HENN

A city fireman who four years ago discovered he was an adopted child and that his real mother was still alive has located her and is planning a reunion.

Carl Wagner, 31, of 1236 S. Senate Ave., is eagerly awaiting a meeting with the mother who

placed him in a home for adoption when he was 6 months old.

Since July, 1946, Mr. Wagner has known that Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wagner, whom he called "Father" and "Mother" until they died, were only foster-parents. But it was only through chance he was able to locate his real mother.

She is Mrs. Clara P. Bruner, now of Goldendale, Wash. She and the son she bore in 1919 have exchanged letters and pictures of each other. They have not yet decided where and when they will meet.

It was in June, 1919, that Mr. & Mrs. Wagner adopted a six-month-old child from the Florence Crittenden Home, now the Suerma Coleman Home. The mother was Clara Burgan, the father Charles Mayers, of St. Joseph, Mo., a brakeman on the railroad.

Carl grew up believing Mr. Wagner, who died in 1931, and Mrs. Wagner, who died in 1926, his true parents. He went to live with Mr. Wagner's brother, then to Gibault Home in Terre Haute, then back to Indianapolis to stay with Mrs. Wagner's sister.

Served in Army  
In 1940 he enlisted in the Army. It wasn't until he returned in 1946 that his foster-aunt, Mrs. Ruby Crissen, told him he had been adopted. At first, he refused to believe her. Then he consulted authorities at Suerma Coleman Home who showed him adoption papers.

From them he learned the old Burgan address. Occupants there told him the house had changed hands several times. A call to every Burgan in the telephone book led nowhere. He found his mother's name had been entered in a record book at Central Chris-

tian Church, but later scratched out.

For about two years he was baffled, without a clue to his mother's whereabouts. Then he married Honorine Willard, who lived across the street from Mrs. Crissen. Honorine urged him to continue the search for his mother.

Carl went to the Board of Health. While inquiring for birth and death records, he told a sympathetic woman clerk his story. She told him she might be able to help, if he'd be willing to wait for a call from her.

Gets Mother's Letter  
Months later, while he was working at Pumper Station 15, 2101 English Ave., the clerk called him. She remembered his mother's folks, and recalled some relatives living on Carrollton Ave.

After the firemen met them, his search was over. Within five days he had a letter from his mother.

"How often I've wondered how you were and where you were," Mrs. Bruner wrote. "I started several times to locate you but I was advised not to interfere with your life."

"I would so love to see you after all these years. I believe my heart would tell me who you are without anyone telling me. We will make plans to meet very soon and end this separation."

**Hit-Run Victim Arrested as Drunk**

An East Side woman, who was in fair condition in General Hospital after being struck by a hit-and-run automobile late yesterday, was arrested on a charge of drunkenness.

Mrs. Gloria Shannon, 35, of 9901 E. 16th St., was struck by a late model cream-colored car, eye-witnesses told police, as she started across Arlington Ave. at 16th St.

Hospital authorities reported the traffic victim suffered a broken right leg and head injuries.

**VA Reported Ahead Of Hospital Schedule**

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26 (UP)—The Veterans Administration reported today that its postwar hospital construction program is "well underway" and ahead of schedule.

It said the \$750 million program will be completed by 1953. When finished, the VA will be able to give hospital treatment to 131,000 veterans at a time, in some 67 new hospitals and 42 additions to existing facilities.

VA planned to complete 28 hospitals by next July 1 and another 10 hospitals by Dec. 31, 1950.

**Minimum Wage**

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Nov. 26 (UP)—The value of a housewife's duties in taking care of a seven-room house and cleaning, mending, washing, ironing, cooking and baking for a husband and daughter was estimated at \$25 by a witness in a civil suit here.

## China Reds Won't Let Ward See His Aid

Jail Vice Consul On Spy Charge

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26 (UP)—American Consul General Angus Ward's top aid at Mukden has been arrested on a "fantastic" spying charge and is being held incommunicado by Chinese Communists, the State Department said today.

The latest victim of Communist efforts to force the United States to "lose face" in the Orient is 26-year-old Vice Consul William N. Stokes of Staten Island, N. Y.

He was "removed" without a warrant and apparently by force from the American Consulate yesterday—only three days after Mr. Ward himself had been released from a Communist jail cell.

It was Mr. Ward who disclosed Mr. Stokes' seizure. He said that the vice consul had not been freed more than six hours after his arrest.

Mr. Ward reported the new incident by telephone to U. S. Consul Gen. O. Edmund Clubb at Peking who relayed it to Washington.

The State Department promptly branded the charges as "fantastic," "ridiculous and absolutely false." It directed Mr. Clubb to file "the strongest protest" with Chinese Communist officials in the Communist capital.

Mr. Stokes apparently was being held incommunicado. Mr. Ward was not permitted to accompany him to the hearing.

The State Department believed the case involving Mr. Stokes was what it called a false charge put out last June.

On June 18, 1949, the North China News Agency in a story dated Mukden asserted that an American military spy ring was using the consulate at Mukden as an espionage base.

The Communist report said United States, Chinese, and Mongolian personnel operated the ring. It 18 herds entered.

said Communist authorities had seized radio transmitters, code books and other paraphernalia.

Mr. Ward said Mr. Stokes was taken to a Communist "court" without a warrant for a hearing in connection with "spying charges."

Mr. Ward reported that he had been unable to obtain any information of any kind on Mr. Stokes' detention and that he had been unable to determine "in what capacity" Mr. Stokes was taken to the court.

**CITE BUTTERFAT YIELD**

RUSHVILLE, Nov. 26—Eight of the 217 dairy cows in the Rush County Dairy Herd Improvement Association produced more than 60 pounds of butterfat during October, it was reported today.

Meivin Cole Jr., official cow tester for Rush County, released figures on the monthly survey. The herd of Samuel Lewis, Anderson Township, led the list of 18 herds entered.

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