

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 E. 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 a 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 stashed a \$3000 appropriation request for "additional equipment" to \$2500.

Finance Firm Official To Address Convocation

Dr. Ernst 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 Flop House

FALL RIVER, Mass., Nov. 26 (UPI)—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.



Harold J. Hughes

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 Indiana 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. W. 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 hampered 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 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 90 per cent of our youth—must earn their living without college education.

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.

IT SAVES TIME — makes your shopping easier.

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Russian Roulette Kills 12-Year-Old

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

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, back to Indianapolis to stay with Mrs. Wagner's sister.

In 1940 he enlisted in the Army.

It wasn't until he returned in 1946 that his foster-aunt, Mrs. Ruby Crispen, told him he had been adopted. At first, he refused to believe her. Then he consulted authorities at Suemma Coleman Home who showed him adoption papers.

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

With the fashion features usually found in far more costly dresses—the button accented yoke—the surplice closing—the gracious side flaring pocket—the buttons tapering the sheath-like skirt.

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In WINE, ROYAL BLUE and NAVY.

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NEW-AS-TOMORROW RAYON GABARDINE CLASSIC

Accidentally Shot in Leg



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

... Taffy and near tragedy.

The cupboard cluttered to the floor and discharged. Screaming, Mrs. Boyd fell with a bullet in her right leg.

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

As she pulled the dial toward her, a 22-target pistol also atop

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 yet decided where and when they will meet.

It was in June, 1919, that Mr. and Mrs. Wagner adopted a six-months-old child from the Florence Crittenton Home, now the Suemma Coleman Home. The mother was Clara Burgen, the father Charles Mayers, of St. Joseph, Mo., a brakeman on the railroad.

Mrs. Bruner, now of Goldendale, Wash. She and the son she bore in 1919 have exchanged letters and pictures of each other. They have yet decided where and when they will meet.

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

VA Reported Ahead Of Hospital Schedule

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26 (UPI)—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 25 hospitals by next July 1 and another 10 hospitals by Dec. 31, 1950.

Minimum Wage

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Nov. 26 (UPI)—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.

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