

Powerful House Group OKs Half-Million-Dollar Teacher Pension Boost

Bill Calling for Extra \$525,000 State Appropriations Wins Unanimous Nod

By ANDY OLOFSON

A half-million-dollar increase in teachers' pensions today had the blessing of the powerful Ways and Means A Committee in the Indiana House of Representatives.

The bill, calling for an extra \$525,000 state appropriation, is the first one to be reported out by the committee, which yesterday voted unanimously to recommend the bill's passage.

The measure, as amended in committee, calls for an increase of 85/100ths of a cent in the state property tax levy beginning in 1953. It originally had called for a 1-cent increase in 1953 with an additional extra cent to be added in 1954.

The bill calls for increasing the state's share of each teacher's pension from \$59 to \$50 a month. Teachers receive additional amounts from the retirement fund based on how much they have paid in over the years.

In the committee meeting yesterday, State Police Superintendent Arthur M. Thurston told the group that he would be willing to drop any interest in the requested appropriation of \$1,300,000 for a new state police headquarters providing the committee would support an extra \$250,000 in salary increases for his state troopers.

Mr. Thurston is asking for a \$50 a month across-the-board increase for all state policemen. Troopers at the present time receive \$200 a month with a \$70 subsistence allowance.

The author of the "Little Hoover Commission" bill, Rep. Paul Moeller of Ft. Wayne, also told the committee that the requested \$100,000 appropriation for this government-study group might be cut in half without endangering the project.

The committee also discussed amending the bill to require the printed report of the commission to be in the hands of the legislators by Dec. 1, 1952, so that they would have time to study it before the 1953 session starts.

Tax Study

Republican strength in the Indiana House of Representatives was being massed today to support a bill calling for an 11-member state tax study committee to re-examine the state's whole tax structure and make recommendations to the 1953 session.

Following a meeting of the GOP policy committee meeting, it was announced that the bill would be introduced by Rep. Glenn Sienker, majority leader from Monticello, and Rep. Laurence D. Baker of Kendallville.

The bill will appropriate \$25,000 for expenses of the commission.

The commission will be made up as follows:

The three members of the state budget committee—the Governor, state auditor and state treasurer.

Four members to be named by Rep. W. O. Hughes, Speaker of the House—one representative from each party in the House and two lay members.

Two members to be named by Lt. Gov. John Watkins, president of the Senate—one senator and one lay member.

Two members to be named by Sen. John W. Van Ness, president pro tem of the Senate—one senator and one lay member.

A bill introduced earlier in the Senate will be shunted into the discard pile, G. O. P. leaders explained.

Withholding Tax

A second gross-income tax withholding bill with bi-partisan sponsorship will be introduced in the House today or tomorrow.

It will be introduced by Rep. James Hunter, East Chicago Democrat, and Rep. Walter Acker, the Evansville Republican who just this week returned from Navy duty in Korean waters.

The new measure differs from the bill introduced yesterday by Rep. Ralph W. Myers, Anderson Democrat, in that it will exempt the first \$1000 of wages or salary from the withholding provision rather than pro rate the exemption over each pay period.

Rep. Hunter, who led the unsuccessful fight for this bill two years ago, says the new measure will make it easier for employers to compute the amount of tax to be withheld and also will eliminate many refunds that may be necessary under the other plan.

In co-sponsoring the bill, Rep. Acker said that many workers in the Evansville area have personally asked him to support such a measure.

"This bill will eliminate many of the present evasions of this state tax and should increase the state's revenues by several millions of dollars a year," he declared.

Parade Tells How Elephants Learn 'A, B, C's'

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Married Teacher Bill Passes House

Measure OK'd After Long Debate

Thou shalt not force any Hoosier woman into the lifetime status of "old maid school teacher."

This commandment to Indiana school boards was included in a bill passed 67-25 by the House of Representatives yesterday after extended debate.

The bill prohibits any school board from refusing to hire a teacher because she had married. Fight against the bill was led by Rep. David L. Grimes, Fillmore Republican who is both a teacher and a farmer.

He based his argument on the ground that the measure was just another step to abolish "home rule," since it would further limit the discretion of local school officials in hiring teachers.

Many Improve

But Rep. Addison Beane, Booneville Democrat, declared:

"Many teachers actually became better teachers after they are married and I think it only right that the legislature prohibit any local prejudice against hiring married teachers."

The debate also brought the first comment of the session from Rep. Philip Wilkie, the heretofore silent Rushville Republican who introduced bills to increase state aid to schools and to raise teachers' salaries.

"In these difficult times," said the son of the 1940 G. O. P. Presidential candidate, "we not only face a shortage of manpower, but we have a potential womanpower shortage too. We may find that we will desperately need married teachers and I don't think there should be any rule against hiring them."

Survey of City Traffic Launched

Contracts Are Signed With Chicago Firm

An all-inclusive survey of city traffic has been inaugurated with the signing of contracts with the H. W. Lochner Co. of Chicago.

Harry W. Lochner and Merion F. Postle, representatives of the company, met with the Mayor's Traffic Improvement Committee yesterday to complete arrangements for the project recommended by a U. S. Chamber of Commerce traffic expert last fall.

The survey has been instituted to help in long-range traffic planning and improved use of streets, parking and traffic equipment now available. The survey is expected to require four months.

Light Timing Urged

While a definite list of recommendations won't be offered by the traffic engineering company until that time, Mr. Lochner suggested yesterday that traffic lights in busy areas be better timed. He also suggested "speed runs" of those areas to get a measure of the extent of congestion.

Mr. Lochner said it would require two or three weeks alone to begin assembling material on trouble spots. Representatives of the Indianapolis Junior Chamber of Commerce offered the company any assistance it may require.

Spokesmen for the trucking industry had their say before the committee, one of them asking for elimination of 50 per cent of the city's traffic lights to help relieve traffic congestion.

Another representative of the trucking industry, James E. Nicholas, executive secretary of the Indiana Motor Truck Association, told the committee steps should be taken to eliminate excessive traffic from the mile square.

He advised the beginning of an "inner-belt" system of traffic movement, involving the use of by-passes and the dropping of Merrill St. elevation. "An unfortunate thing about city traffic is that everything leads to the center of town," he said.

Directs Times Ice-O-Rama



Mary McClean . . . director of The Times Ice-O-Rama

Plenty of choice reserved seats for The Times Ice-O-Rama will be available tomorrow when the over-the-counter sale of tickets opens at the Marrott Shoe Store, 18 E. Washington St.

Tickets will be on sale daily from 9:30 a. m. until 5:00 p. m.

Admission received by mail have been sent out. The thousands of tickets still remaining will be available only at the Marrott Shoe Store ticket counter.

Prices are: Box and parquet chairs, \$1.20; north and south side mezzanine, 85 cents; east end mezzanine, 60 cents. Prices include tax. Every seat is reserved.

Net proceeds from the show will go to the Infantile Paralysis Fund.

Some 500 skaters of all ages will perform in the colorful two hour show, when it is presented Feb. 22 in the Fair Grounds Coliseum.

Hits Publishing Of Welfare Data

Hunt Fears Loss Of Federal Funds

Indiana might lose \$18 million a year in federal funds if a Senate bill to open welfare files to the public becomes law.

That was the testimony of Maurice O. Hunt, State Welfare administrator, before the Senate Social Security Committee yesterday.

He said an interpretation of the bill by the Federal Security Administration revealed that a "serious question" was raised over conflict with federal law.

The federal agency which gives the state \$18 million a year under the welfare program has a regulation restricting the disclosure of information on welfare recipients.

Want Publication

The Republican-sponsored measure would require county welfare boards to make public the names and amounts paid to welfare recipients.

"In the event federal funds should be withdrawn," Mr. Hunt said, "the continuation of the program under Indiana law would necessitate, on the basis of present estimates, an additional request from state funds of approximately \$11 million, and from county tax revenues approximately an additional \$7 million."

Another welfare bill introduced in the Senate yesterday would authorize sheriffs and prosecutors to vote with circuit court judges in the selection of county welfare boards.

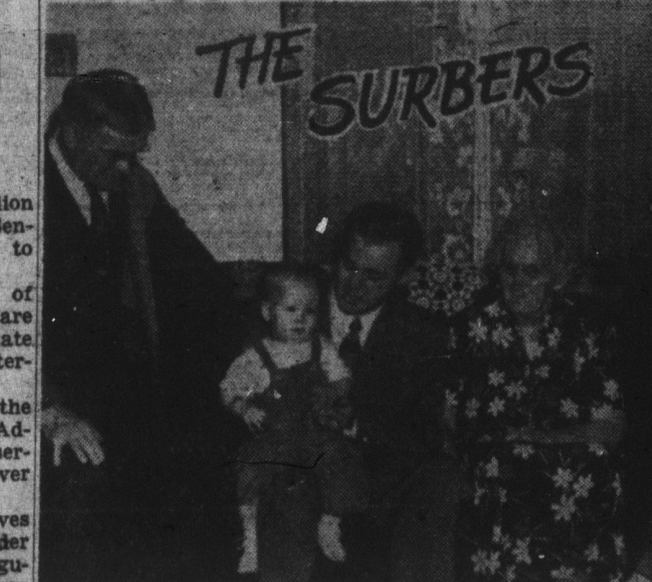
It would also limit the terms of board members to four years in an eight-year period.

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Five Generations Get Together



Nine-month-old Frederick (Rickey) Surber is the center of attention in this five generation picture. Frederick Surber, 4101 W. Washington St., at whose home the picture was taken, is holding his son on his lap. On their right is Mrs. Sarah Surber, the little boy's great great grandmother. She is 84. Seated on the far left is Frederick Surber, great-grandfather of Rickey. Kenneth Surber, on the far right, is his grandfather.

Youth's Second Bid To Escape Backfires

BEDFORD, Feb. 1 (UP)—Kenneth Compton, 17, Orleans, who escaped from the Indiana Boys' School two weeks ago, was held in the county jail here after his second attempt at freedom went amiss.

Sheriff Zelbert Hawkins said he surprised Compton removing bricks from a jail wall yesterday. Compton had been jailed for Orleans authorities on a burglary charge.

FIRST 25 PATIENTS

WESTVILLE, Feb. 1 (UP)—The Norman M. Beatty Memorial Hospital received its first 25 patients today. Dr. H. G. McMahan, superintendent, said the patients were transferred from the State Mental Hospital at Logansport.

NAMED MAYOR

GREENSBURG, Feb. 1 (UP)—Sheldon Smith, 33, Decatur County Republican chairman, was named mayor here today to succeed Earl Woodward who resigned. Smith, who was state Young Republican chairman during the 1950 campaign, was elected by the city council.

HOOSIER IS KILLED

As Train Hits Truck

WILMINGTON, Ill., Feb. 1 (UP)—Stanley Bartoszek, 36, Whiting, Ind., was killed yesterday and his brother-in-law, Walter Carpenter, 35, Hammond, Ind., injured when a Wabash train hit their truck near here.

Police said the windshield of Mr. Bartoszek's truck was frost-covered and he apparently was unable to see the train.

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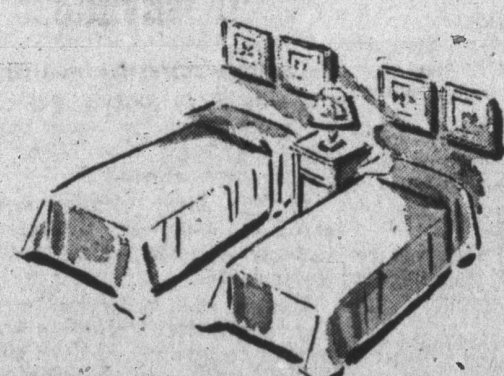
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