

“Cooperation is Urged in School Affairs” Chamber adopts a resolution asking IPS to create a segregated school system with a high school building conveniently located in each section of the already segregated Indianapolis

# Important Stands Taken by Chamber Board

July 1922

Monthly Meeting of Board of Directors Devoted to  
Wide Variety of Questions of Great Importance to City

**T**HE public service commission should be hesitant at this time about granting any rate increases to public utilities, on account of present economic conditions, members of the board of directors of the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce declared in a resolution adopted at their regular June monthly meeting in view of the hearing by the commission on the petition of the Indiana Bell Telephone Company for increased rates in Indianapolis.

The resolution expressed the opinion that the commission should refuse all rate increases to utilities except when it is conclusively shown that the refusal of an increase would result in impairment of the financial responsibility of the corporation or constitute a threat on the continued existence of the company. Rapidly fluctuating values, such as exist at this time, make it difficult to determine the factors entering into the financial situation of any particular public service corporation, the resolution points out.

### Resolutions on Utilities

The resolution on the public utility rate situation follows:

“Be it Resolved, That the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce affirms its adherence to a previously declared principle, embodied in resolutions adopted July 7, 1921, that for sound economic reasons a community should pay for the service rendered by public utility corporations, a price fair to the corporations, so as to insure a just return on invested capital.

“During a period of rapidly fluctuating values, when it is difficult to determine what factors may affect the situation in which any particular corporation finds itself, the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce feels that, as a general policy, increases in the rates asked by public service corporations should be refused except upon the conclusive demonstration that the denial of such an increase would impair the financial responsibility and constitute a threat upon the continued life of the corporation.”

### No Industrial Exhibit This Year

The board, on the recommendation of the manufacturers' committee, decided not to hold an industrial exposition this year, because of lack of housing facilities. Thousands were turned away from the Manufacturers' building at the state fair ground, where the exposition was held last year because of congested conditions there, it was said. With the completion of two new buildings close to the Manufacturers' building as contemplated by the state board of agriculture, ample facilities will be afforded for an exposition next year. The members of the manufacturers' committee are: Henry I. Raymond, Jr., chairman; Roy E. Adams, H. C. Atkins, Garvin M. Brown, Niles Chapman, J. A. Cox, LaMonte Daniels, E. H. Darrach, J. A. Daugherty, Frank L. Fisher, H. T. Griffith, J. I. Holcomb, W. H. Insley, Alfred Kauffmann, Miss Eldena Lauter, Otto R. Lieber, Paul P. Parker, Phil J. Plunkett, Jr., Wm. M. Taylor, Guy A. Wainwright, Aaron Wolfson, A. C. Spahn, Max Robbins, Carl C. Gibbs, Jesse E. Hanft, Nathan Berkowitz, John I. Booe, Irving W. Lemaux, Carl Wagner, George M. Class.

The department of civic affairs was authorized to send a questionnaire to business, community and civic clubs to obtain expressions as to a new method of apportioning costs of resurfacing streets. The present method was said to be working a hardship on abutting property holders, who are compelled to pay all the costs.

In the discussions before the board it was pointed out that while

the theory of the old law on the subject was sound at the time of its enactment, the use of automobiles and trucks had put an entirely new aspect on the situation.

### Proposals for Paving Streets

The questionnaire proposes four ways of handling the resurfacing cost problem. One is that the total cost be paid by the city. Another that the city and property owner contribute equally. A third would put two-thirds of the cost on the abutting property owners and one-third on the city. The fourth puts the entire cost on abutting property holders.

From the information obtained a resolution is to be adopted by the directors and submitted to the city government for consideration.

### Resolution on W. P. G. Harding

A resolution relating to W. P. G. Harding, governor of the Federal Reserve Board, was adopted as follows:

“Whereas, The term of office of the Hon. W. P. G. Harding as governor of the federal reserve board expires in August, 1922, after eight years of faithful service, much of which was rendered during a critical period in the history of this country, and as a result of which he is exceptionally well qualified for reappointment by reason of unusual knowledge of the principles and operations of the federal reserve acts, therefore

“Be it Resolved, By the board of directors of the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, That the President of the United States be urged to reappoint Mr. Harding as governor of the federal reserve board; that such reappointment is merited by reason of his broad-gauged, constructive service rendered to the country both during the period of the late war and during the reconstruction period, and that it is the sense of this board that the general business interests of the country will be promoted by his retention in spite of petty criticisms which have occasionally manifested themselves from a few sources.”

Assistance is being given by the Chamber to the Indiana Sunday School Association, of which A. B. Cornelius is president, in an effort to bring the quadrennial meeting of the International Association to Indianapolis in 1926. It was brought out at the board meeting that funds to handle the necessary arrangements in case the convention comes to Indianapolis have already been guaranteed by public-spirited Indianapolis citizens.

### Co-operation Is Urged in School Affairs

Two resolutions, one urging “the friendliest co-operation” between the board of school commissioners and the superintendent of schools, and recommending that each exercise its function as prescribed by law free from any outside influence or suggestion, and another recommending that the school board, in its development of a comprehensive high school system, give attention to the necessity for a separate high school building for colored pupils, were adopted by the board. The second resolution published below was referred to the executive committee by the board of directors of the Chamber, and adopted by them on the following day. Both resolutions came to the board of directors from the education committee. Members of this committee are: Philip Zoercher, chairman; Milo H. Stuart, W. D. Allison, Hilton U. Brown, George Buck, Rev. Edwin Cunningham, W. A. Hacker, Miss M. E. Hoagland, E. H. K. McComb, Jesse C. Moore, James M. Ogden, Charles J. Oval, Lee Burns, Miss Anna Brockhausen, J. R. H. Moore, Robert L. Moorehead, Miss Georgia Alexander, Mrs. Angela Moler, Albert



“The Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce through its board of directors speaks for nearly 4,000 public spirited citizens of Indianapolis. It is interested in a broad way in every activity and problem in this city. The Chamber is first, last and all the time for Indianapolis.”  
O. B. Iles,  
President of Chamber