

PRINCIPAL POINTS IN REPORT ON INDIANAPOLIS SCHOOL AFFAIRS

The principal points of the report on the school affairs of Indianapolis, submitted Thursday by the subcommittee of the education committee of the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, are:

The report sets out that when the new school board was elected in 1921, it pledged itself against wasteful expenditures, employing relatives or business associates, forming of cliques in school management, and in favor of maintenance of the teachers' retirement fund.

It points out that two of the members elected then—Adolph G. Emhardt and Dr. Marie C. Haslep—since assuming office, have united with Bert S. Gadd, of the preceding majority faction, in formation of a new faction, thus forming a clique in school management.

It charges wasteful expenditures, particularly with regard to the 1922-1923 coal contract.

It sets out the appointment of a brother of Mr. Emhardt and a sister of Dr. Haslep to positions paying good salaries. It asserts that the teachers' retirement fund was imperiled by an action proposed by the board, but never put through.

The clique has centered about Mr. Gadd, the report says, and it shows how building policies of the preceding majority faction, in opposition to which the new board was elected, have been followed in the main.

The sudden change in front of the present majority faction Tuesday evening, when it invited conferences with others on its building program, is an admission that the policy followed in the past was wrong, it is asserted.

Responsibility for some appointments must rest on Charles L. Barry, a minority member, the report says, but it adds that it must be considered that he has made a fight for the policies and principles

the community voted for in 1921. Commissioner W. D. Allison is praised.

Recommending that Commissioners Emhardt, Gadd and Haslep be called on to resign, the committee expresses the hope that the board might then be made up of Charles R. Yoke and Fred Johnson, elected in 1921 on the ticket opposed to the policies of the old board, and Mr. Barry and Mr. Allison, with a fifth to be chosen by them.

A thorough report on school building conditions is given, setting out the great need for new buildings, criticizing expenditures of the past in view of present needs, and urging the formation of a general school building plan and a financial plan by which the program would be made possible.

Criticism of the system of the business department is expressed. The business director should be the head, and the purchasing agent and superintendent of buildings and ground should be under him, it is said. The business director should shape policies in the business department.

Clipped By:



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Mon, Jan 21, 2019