

Monthly Newsletter December 2022 Loflin Center on IPS History
December 1922 events leading up to the creation of Attucks, Washington,
and Cathedral HSs, and the move of Shortridge HS and Butler College*

Dec 1 IPS Board debates new building program to ease overcrowding. Where Attucks will be located is discussed: <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82015313/1922-12-02/ed-1/seq-1/>. Board favors \$1,788,000 outlay for schools. Total number of Blacks students reported: Tech=124, Shortridge=269, Manual=320: 713 total.

Numbers/percents based on Sept 21 data of attendance at schools: ATHS 3,916/124 (3%) Black; SHS, 1,953/269 (14%) Black; MHS 1,885/ 320 (17%) Black. *Totals: IPS high schools had 7,754 students, 713 or 9% of students were Black.*

Dec 3 Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill filibustered for 4 days by US Senate Democrats. They say it is unconstitutional. Senate Republicans finally give up pushing for the law.

Dec 4 Local pastor, Rev Henninger (East 10th St. M.E. Church/2327 E. 10th), defines 100% American as a citizen who seeks to make Christianity respected and the laws of God revered as well as the Constitution.

Dec 4 Butler planning committee to report December 6.

Dec 5 “Hustling 100” meet at Englewood Christian (57 N. Rural) endorses IPS building program for segregated high schools. Also, Englewood’s “Hustling Hundred” now for Butler move to Fairview: Englewood’s Rev. Frank E. Davidson for Fairview Park spot at W. 46th St. and Sunset Ave.

<https://vorcreatex.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/12.04.1922-Hustling-100-Englewood-Christian-Church-57-N.-Rural-for-segregated-IPS-and-relocation-of-Butler-College.pdf>

Dec 5 IPS Commissioner Chas. Barry says building program for an Attucks, Washington, and new Shortridge too costly.**

Dec 5 *Star* editorial “The Butler that is to be” praises Butler move to Fairview. Hilton U. Brown, *Star* editor and Butler board member is looking 50 years into the future and a “still greater Indianapolis.”

<https://vorcreatex.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/12.05.1922-Butler-That-Is-To-Be-Star-editorial-on-the-big-picture-plans-for-Indianapolis-via-the-relocated-Butler-College-at-Fairview-park.pdf>

Dec 6 Catholic school burns in Canada/5th in a series of fires.

Dec 7 Canadian schools arm against firebug.

Dec 7 William G. Irwin (industrialist, banker, patron of arts of Columbus IN—who helped found Cummins [diesel] Engine) is named head of Butler endowment committee.

Dec 7 Northwest side realtors help Butler come up with Fairview down payment.

Dec 7 Ex-Indy mayor Bookwalter (1901-1903; 1906-1910) says Indy's north side growing.

Dec 12 Rev. William White of Simpson M.E. Church and Rev S.O. Davis of Jones Tabernacle protest all-Black school.

Dec 12 Chamber of Commerce (Education Committee chair Mr. Philip Zoecher) sends letter to IPS board--says Chamber will help with building program.

Dec 13 Board votes unanimously for a separate high school probably at Northwestern (Dr. MLK Jr. St.) and 21st St. (Wm. Allison out of town). Supt. Graff says enrollment up. IPS needs more room. IPS has 800 Black students--shows Blacks want an education. 800 enough for own school--will provide best chance to develop initiative/self-reliance via qualified Black teachers. Board Pres. A delegation of 7 protests an all-colored high school. Dr. A.J. King says “insidious forces” behind move for segregation have spread to Chamber of Commerce. Dr. O. Langston fears Jim Crow streetcars; R.L

Baily/Dr. Berry of national NAACP speak. Board Pres. Barry says decision made without racial animosity. Mrs. E. Settles of the American beauty club protest too.

Dec 14 Butler officials to hear plan by northwest side group (Mapleton Civic) to help Butler raise \$20,000.00 down payment for Fairview Park.

Dec 15 Illinois and Negro Problem: too many Black people in Illinois up from the South via the 1st Great Migration. See Indy's version of the "Negro Problem" which centered on the amount of comingling among Black and white students in and around Shortridge at Pennsylvania and Michigan: <https://vorcreatex.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/04.28.22-The-Negro-Problem.pdf>.

Dec 15 194 Masons take degree at Scottish Rite.

Dec 16 Butler will buy Fairview before Christmas.

Dec 22 Felix McWhirter elected President of Chamber/was treasurer.

Dec 26 IPS Dr. Haslap recommends west side high school to be called High School of Commerce and that land will be purchased for Black school.

Dec 26 Chamber of Commerce education committee says building program should start immediately to save money.

Dec 27 Scientists want evolution taught in schools.

Dec 29 *Indiana Jewish Chronicle* Jews in Montreal making own schools. Do not want to go to public or Catholic schools. Jewish schools for Jewish youth will make youth both good Jews and Americans.

Dec 29 Butler completes deal for Fairview Park.

*Most of the above information is from the *Indianapolis Star*

**IPS Commissioner Charles Barry was a Catholic and was against the building program. There were so-called parochial school laws in a couple of states requiring all students to go public schools [09.21.22 Klan wants law requiring every child to attend public schools at least 5 months a year. American Lutheran League says this would leave parochial schools empty.](#) I think Indy Catholics didn't want IPS to grow and thus have more room for Catholics.

And a few years later, Indy Catholics would be buying land for Cathedral HS which opened in September of 1927—the same time Attucks and Washington opened: [03.05.26 Catholics to open Cathedral HS: Religion expands as a factor in Indy's Jim Crow education system.](#)

The Klan, who won the 1924 IPS election, had come out against the building program in 1922. Here's link to KKK newspaper on the issue...many *Fiery Cross* papers are lost but this one's the only one mentioning IPS: <http://bl-libg-doghill.ads.iu.edu/gpd-web/fierycross/1923216/1923216.pdf>.

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p.s. Here's info on Klan and Attucks saying the Klan was more interested in politics/patronage than IPS/education: [Myth vs. Fact: Crispus Attucks High School and the Ku Klux Klan.](#)