Engineer's Attorney to Talk With Officials on Resignation

Redleg Star to Be Honored

County commissioners said today they expect to learn this week whether Philip Partridge, county engineer, charged with arson in the firing of the Lincoln School building here July 3, will resign voluntarily or whether the commission must instruct Prosecutor Richard L. Davis to file "misconduct" charges against Partridge to get him out of office.

The officials said that charges were to be filed earlier this week, but the action was postponed after the prosecutor talked to Charles (Bud) Wilson, West Union attorney, who has been employed by Partridge in the Eilen case.

Wilson told officials that he would be here Friday afternoon to meet with Davis and the commissioners to see if they could reach an agreement whereby Partridge would resign his post.

COMMISSIONERS asked Partridge to resign on July 7, a few hours after they learned that he had confessed setting fire to the school building during a severe electrical storm, causing damage estimated to be between four and five thousand dollars.

At the time of the request, the engineer refused to resign, saying that he had done nothing wrong "as an engineer." He told officials that the setting of the fire had nothing to do with his job.

The engineer had intimated earlier that if Partridge did not resign, he would file "misconduct" charges and would also call the April term grand jury into special session to hear the evidence in the case. If indicted and convicted on an arson charge, the engineer would resign automatically or be out of office.

The conviction must come before any "mistaken" muster is effective, however.

A CINCINNATI building firm that held the $2,000 bond on Partridge as a county official, lifted their bond after he confessed setting the fire. At the time, commissioners reported that they would not approve any bills from the engineer's office as long as he remained in the post, and said any agreements made by Partridge on behalf of the county would not be honored.

On this, said the engineer, he has not reported to his office since his return from the Lima State Hospital last Friday, when he was given examinations over a 30-day period and rated "legally insane."

ONE MEMBER of the group said that he had not understand why the school board appropriated the lot a few years ago because they needed extra ground, then recently decided that it wasn't needed.

Cline said the board of education could appeal the ruling of the commission by taking the matter to city council.

Board of Education's Request Is Vetoed

The city planning commission held a special meeting in the city building Monday night at which time the group considered a request by the Hillbore Board of Education to rezone a portion of the school property.

The request for the rezoning of the property was made by the board after it had approved a plan to lease a vacant lot on the corner of Main and Elm Streets to John L. (Jack) Matson, local auto dealer, for use as a used car lot.

The commission, at its meeting Monday night, turned thumbs down on the move by refusing to consider the request. The members voted unanimously against the action.

Paul Cline, chairman of the commission, said that the members discussed the matter, but it was decided that the group could not initiate "spot zoning" action in the city and still carry out a sensible zoning program. The members also reported that public opinion was against leasing the lot to the Matson firm.

267 Persons Treated Here

Local Hospital Reports Busy Month in July

A total of 100 patients were admitted to Highlands Community Hospital for treatment or observation during the month of July, according to a report prepared by Walter Ellis, hospital administrator, and presented at the monthly board of directors' meeting, Friday night.

The administrator pointed out that this figure does not include "out-patient" service, where the patient is treated or examined, then released without being con

Entries for Fair Are Being Filed

Attractions Set; Expect Heavy Livestock Entries

Entries have begun to flow in for the annual Highland County Fair, Sept. 8, 9, 10 and 11, Clarence Larkin, fair board secretary, reported this week.

Entries in the open classes of livestock are expected to be heavier than in the past, the secretary said.

Tents from the Galvan Tent & Awning Company of Lima will be used again to house the entries. The National Guard garage will house the 4-H, FHA and FFA exhibits.

Five or six rides for the midway will be provided by the Russell firm of Cincinnati. Various other concessions will join the midway.

PREMIUMS TOTALING between $400 and $500 are being offered in 11 departments. Expanded classes may boost the total paid this year.

School bands will participate in the daily program and the Highland County Drum and Bugle Corps is scheduled for an appearance on Saturday night prior to the horse show.

One of the usual attractions, the light and heavyweight pulling contests, are scheduled for Wednesday night, Sept. 8. Two trophies will be offered, one for each class.