

Tax dispute at IU surfaced in 1923

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editorial which appeared in the *Washington Democrat*. It said in part:

"A bill to remove Indiana University from Bloomington to Indianapolis is in the legislature. Why not? Indianapolis is the only one-city state in the union. . . . Even the old reformatory was too far away, so they're building a new one close to Indianapolis for that city's convenience. All the favors of the highway commissioner are showered upon Indianapolis, and it is said the state capitol is sore because it is impossible to move West Baden to monument square. Indianapolis has hogged about everything in Indiana, so why not let them have the Bloomington University too?"

HELP WAS ALSO AT HAND from others, according to the *Telephone*. It reported to its readers, "Friends of the fraternities claim that if the bill is passed to tax them, it will result in the fraternity property being sold and therefore the state will have to expend a huge sum to build dormitories to house girls and boys now living in the Greek letter houses."

Telephone editor Blaine W. Bradfute wrote and published a long editorial about the matter on Feb. 1. It began on the first page and was continued inside the newspaper and said, in part, that Bloomington was a healthy, moral community with a minimum water supply problem and no red-light or white-light district.

THEREAFTER NEWS ABOUT Johnson's and Clapp's bills disappeared from the newspapers. Presumably, for the Greek system at IU, the loss of tax-exempt status ceased to be an issue. The March 3, 1923, issue of the *Telephone* informed its readers that the Alpha Tau Omega and Phi Delta Theta fraternities had announced plans for additions to cost approximately \$30,000 each.