

Charity efforts were apparently misplaced

In all of the history of town/gown relations, there was one little incident in history when Indiana University student philanthropy went awry and must have left a few of them scratching their heads in disbelief.

The story unfolded under a headline — "University Charity Workers Are 'Taken In' By Wealthy Farmers" — which appeared in the *Indianapolis News* during the 1920s. It seemed that students Dan Goodman of Terre Haute and Paul Baugh of Bloomington had been taking a hike in the country east of town when they came upon a dilapidated two-room shack. The *News* reporter did not relate why they knocked on the door — only that, "The sympathy of the boys was immediately aroused and, stepping inside, they found a bare room, with two people, a man and a woman, who appeared to be about 70 years old, occupying the only furniture in the room aside from an old, rusty stove, which was without a fire."

The *News* article said that the



Looking back

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10/18/68

two items of furniture were an old cot and a rocking chair. Compassion flowered in the breasts of the two students, especially when the woman, who was sitting in the rocker, said, "Our apples are all gone, and we can't offer you anything to eat, because we have nothing in the house." The old man underscored his wife's comment by adding that they didn't have any money either.

Well, the students built a fire in the stove and left the couple what little cash they had in their pockets at the time. Back on the campus, they took the story to Albert Miller, the secretary of

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