IS HE RUBIN OR WILLIAM JAMES?

Naming Baby Stirs Up Family Feud

What's in a name?

In this case, a bitter family feud.

When Willie Hightower, of 3200 Hendricks, married his wife, Lillie, on June 11, 1944, it was agreed that she would name the girls and he would name the boys.

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THERE CAME over the years Gracie, 4; Mary, 3, and Elinor, 2. Lillie named them all.

Then on Nov. 22, 1949, a boy was born.

Willie named the baby William James. But he heard his wife and female relatives call the baby Rubin.

Willie went to the Board of Health and discovered from the birth registration papers that his wife had pulled a fast one. The baby was registered as Rubin.

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HE CHANGED the name back to William James. His wife went back and changed the name back to Rubin. Willie went back to change the name again, then decided to hire an attorney.

The lawyer, Seabron F. Hall petitioned Circuit Judge Arthur Webster for an injunction to make the wife stick to naming the girls.

Judge Webster ruled he had no jurisdiction, that it was purely a "matter between the parties."

So William James' name still is Rubin officially.