LETTER FROM THE STATE CAPITOL

BILL INTRODUCED DESIGNED TO MAKE STATE CONSTABULARY PERMANENT DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE.

$375,000 A YEAR FOR UP KEEP

Commanding Officer would Establish Local Headquarters in Various Places Best Located For Efficient Work.

By William Lee Calnon

—Lansing, Mich.

Chairman Weissert, of the house military affairs committee, has introduced the bill designed to make the state constabulary a permanent Department of State Police.

The bill provides for a commanding officer of the troops who will be an appointee of the governor. All other appointments are to be made on the recommendation of the commanding officer. They include one assistant to the commanding officer, who will be the adjutant and quartermaster; six captains; eight lieutenants; twenty sergeants, thirty corporals, and one hundred and fifty troopers. The troopers may be dismissed from the service by the commanding officer when necessary, but the officers, after appointment on recommendation of the commanding officer, would be removable only by the governor and only for inefficiency or misconduct.

The sum of $375,000 a year is asked for maintenance of the state police. Salaries provided by the bill are $3,000 for the commanding officer; $2,500 for the adjutant-quartermaster; $2,400 each for the captains; $2,000 each for the lieutenants; $1,200 each for the sergeants; $90 per month each for the corporals; and $75 per month each for the troopers, except in their first six months of service, when at would be $65 a month.

An increase of $100 a year each for officers and $50 a year each for troopers is provided, for a maximum period of five years, increases to stop after that time of service. All applicants must be citizens of good moral character and able to pass satisfactory physical and mental examinations. They would have 24 days furlough each year.

The force would be equipped with uniforms, quarters and horses. The railroads and steamboats would carry them on requisition orders, to be paid later by the state. The commanding officer would establish local headquarters in various places about the state to which the troopers and their officers would be best located for efficient work.

The troopers could make arrests without warrants whenever they saw any law being violated and would assist local police about the state whenever possible. They are barred from accepting any fees of any nature for performance of their duties.

An interesting project is found in a bill introduced by Rep. Frank A. Smith, of Wexford county. It aims to create a "county board of educational assistance", to consist of the county school commissioner, secretary of the poor board and prosecuting attorney. To this board crippled persons desirous of learning some trade or get other training which would enable them to earn livelihoods, but who are without funds sufficient to see them through, could make application for assistance. The board could help them to the extent of $400 a year each, as well as in finding the proper place to learn. The bill provides that the state pay one-half the expense the county assumes in this line. It also is provided that those aided may repay the state and county afterwards, giving their notes if so desired.

A state purchasing agent, with a two year term of office, is created by a bill introduced by Rep. Young. Such agent would look after the purchase of all supplies, merchandise and articles of every description needed for the operation and maintenance of all state penal, reformatory or charitable institutions. Each institution would have a storekeeper to receive the supplies from the purchasing agent and look after their use.

Senator Scully has introduced a bill to amend the section of the insurance code applying to farmers' mutual fire insurance companies so that these companies may insure risks of all kinds. They now are limited to farm property and to schools, halls and other buildings located outside the limits of incorporated cities and villages.

Rep. Leland has put in a bill to allow a deer hunting party of four to kill an extra deer for camp use. At present it takes a party of six or more to have an extra deer allowed. This bill bids fair to bring on the biennial house row over the whole deer hunting proposition.

Senator Stoddard has introduced a bill which would enable landowners to prohibit hunting or fishing on lakes, ponds or rivers entirely within private property.

Michigan's ratification of the federal prohibition amendment having been called into question because of its being termed a "concurrent resolution" and not a "joint resolution," there was some uncertainty as to whether or not the legislature would have to ratify it all over again. It finally was stated from Washington that action a second time would not be necessary, but that a resolution correcting the language of the original would be sufficient. While this matter was in an uncertain stage, however, Rep. Dunn had tabled a resolution which he offered when the 36th state ratified the amendment. The resolution started off that 35 other states had joined with Michigan in making the nation dry and hoped for a dry world. But it looks now as though Michigan will be ranked further down the list of states than 36th because of the time needed to correct its first resolution.

The house has adopted a resolution calling upon the state board of auditors to inform it as to the status of matters regarding the $800,000 state office building provided for by the last legislature, work on which has been held up because of the war, in accordance with the government's request.

Good roads have received more attention than anything else in legislative circles recently. A meeting was held here of representatives of thirteen counties, who organized to promote a "Victory Highway" across the state. It is planned to have it run from St. Joseph and Benton Harbor to Kalamazoo, to Battle Creek, to Battle Creek, to Lansing, to Owosso; to fork there, with one branch running to Port Huron and the other to Saginaw and Bay City. Small parks and markers on which the names of Michigan soldiers could be placed are suggested for this highway.

Phil J. Cosgrove, of Hastings, good roads, enthusiast, made a stirring speech to the senate on good roads, on invitation of the senators. After his speech the senate adopted by unanimous vote the Connelly joint resolution to amend the constitution so that the state may bond up to $50,000,000 for road purposes. The house is expected to pass the resolution within a short time and it will go to the people at the April election.

Refusing to be "bossed" by the state senate, the house of representatives is sending its committees on the various state institutions on trips to them, so they can inform themselves by personal observation on the needs of each one. Rep. Deisel tried to get the house to follow the lead of the senate in abandoning the institutional visits, but the house members voted 65 to 29 in favor of the trips. House members became wrought up over the alleged effort of the senators to tell the house what it should do.

The committee to investigate the affairs of Jackson prison has been named by Speaker Read and Lieut. Gov. Dickinson, and has begun its work. The committee consists of Rep. Charles O. Blinn, of Caro, chairman; Rep. Fred H. Wells, of Cassopolis; Rep. Robert B. McDonald, of Houghton; Senator J. Mark Harvey, of Constantine, and Senator George Millen, of Ann Arbor. The committee engaged Rudolph Loomis, stenographer of the Ingham circuit court, as its stenographer, and William H. Graham, of Lansing, as clerk. An expert auditor also will be engaged later.

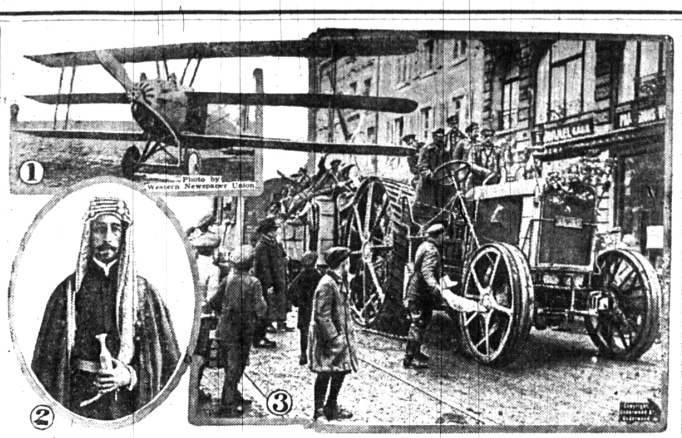
The state health board has had a bill introduced by which the board as at present constituted would be abolished. In its place it is proposed to have a state health commissioner, to serve a six year term at a salary of $6,000 a year, and a deputy at $3,000 a year. In addition there would be a council of health of five members, at least three of them practicing physicians, appointed by the governor to six year terms. In time of epidemic the state commissioner, with the consent of the council of health could establish quarantines and bans in places where it was deemed necessary.

Rep. McDonald has introduced a bill to amend the compensation act so that compensation would be increased from 55 per cent to 66 2-3 per cent of an injured workman's wages. The minimum compensation would be increased to $7 a week and the maximum to $15. The bill also adds to the list of dependents children over 18 who are incapacitated from earning their own living, and fathers-in-law and mothers-in-law.

Senator Wood wants to amend the state constitution so that members of future legislatures will be paid $1,200 instead of $800 as at present. Senator Hayes wants another constitutional amendment to provide that salaries of supreme court justices and judges of courts of record may be raised during their terms of office.

The senators are not quite as speedy as the house members in the introduction of new bills, but a few come in at every session. Senator Wood, of Detroit, introduced one which would require all sheriffs who employ more than one deputy to give preference hereafter to honorably discharged soldiers and sailors in making up his list of appointees.

The state labor department has had two bills introduced, one of which increases the term of the commissioner from two to four years and the other increases the coal mine inspector's pay from $4 a day to $2,200 a



1—New Curtiss airplane, fastest in the world, built for the American navy. 2—The Emir Feisal, son of the king of the Hedjaz, who has been in England to present his fathers respects to King George. 3—Government troops in Cologne celebrating the order to remobilize to combat the Spartacans.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Formal Sessions of the Peace Congress Begun; League of Nations Up First.

MANY PLANS ARE PRESENTED

Americans Carefully Safeguarding the Monroe Doctrine—Poland to Get Help—Armistice Terms Made More Drastic—United States For National Prohibition.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Unless the peace congress, which held its first formal session on Saturday, changes its mind, the world must be satisfied hereafter with such information concerning its deliberations as is contained in the official communique issued daily. Possibly because of a breach of confidence on the part of some correspondent, the supreme allied council adopted a resolution that the delegates shall not talk outside the peace chamber of the doings of the conference. The hundreds of high-priced journalists gathered in Paris from all parts of the world, in order to devote their time to describing the majesty of the Arc de Triomphe and the allurements of the Paris boulevards. The American and British correspondents formally and energetically protested against this rigid censorship. Later the rule may be relaxed, otherwise the demand for "open covenants of peace openly arrived at" goes by the board.

In the preliminary work of the conference the make-up and procedure of the congress were settled. It was decided that the United States, the British empire, France, Italy and Japan should be represented by five delegates apiece. The British dominions and India besides are represented as follows: Two delegates respectively for Australia, Canada, South Africa and India, including the native states and one delegate for New Zealand. Brazil has three delegates, Belgium, China, Greece, Poland, Portugal, the Czecho-Slovak republic, Roumania and Serbia have two delegates apiece; Siam, Montenegro, Cuba, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Liberia, Nicaragua and Panama one delegate apiece. The delegates will vote as units.

A great deal of time last week was devoted to consideration of the various plans for the league of nations, the organization of which was the first matter taken up by the peace delegates after they began their formal sessions, in accordance with the desire of President Wilson. Many schemes for the league were submitted, these dividing themselves generally into two groups which differ as to the means of making effective the decisions of the league. One holds that the rulings of the society of nations should be backed up by its combined physical forces; the other, that such force will not be necessary. In the examination of the plans it seemed certain that a compromise would not be difficult to reach.

Prodded by the expressed anxiety of the senate, the American delegates carefully examined every scheme submitted to make sure that nothing in them endangered the cherished Monroe doctrine. They appear to be satisfied that this American ideal is not imperiled and that, on the contrary, the league would in effect extend the principle of the Monroe doctrine to the whole world. The senate is not so sure of this, and Senator Borah, who strongly opposed the formation of the league, introduced a resolution which, if passed, would serve notice that the senate will not ratify a treaty the provisions of which conflict with the Monroe doctrine and with the traditional duty of the United States to enforce that principle.

The matter of extending aid to Poland was one of the serious things discussed last week, especially serious because it probably involves the problem of what the allies shall do in the case of Russia. The American and British delegates were said to have agreed that, while none of their own troops should be sent to help the Poles, the two Polish divisions recruited in the United States should be sent from France through Germany to assist the government set up by the Polish national committee. These troops would cooperate in stemming the tide of bolshevism that is flowing west from Russia, making the new Poland a strong bulwark against that flood of anarchy. The plan is a concession to the ideas of the French, who are convinced that bolshevism cannot or should not be dealt with militarily in Russia by the allies. It also is likely to compel General Pilsudski to come to an agreement with the Polish national committee as represented in Poland by Paderewski.

The Spartacan revolution in Germany—or at least in Berlin—has fizzled out. Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg were captured and, according to report, killed. The other leaders are under arrest or dispersed and some hundreds of their followers are dead. After a week of terror the police were reinstated and armed, order was restored and business was resumed. In some other cities the "Reds" are still in control, but their chance for ultimate success seems to have gone glimmering. For one thing, Hindenburg still has under his command an efficient army of more than a million men, and most of these troops he is holding true to the Ebert government.

This fact about the German army leads to the warning issued by the Central News of London, that a situation exists in Europe under which war may break out again at any time and that the British scheme of demobilization will have to be radically changed—which may also apply to American demobilization. An "unimpeachable authority" is quoted as saying that Great Britain will have to keep an army of occupation on the Rhine for many months, which accords with the opinion of others concerning all the armies of occupation. It may be this note of alarm was caused by the discovery that the Germans were trying to evade some of the terms of the armistice and by the more drastic conditions imposed by Marshal Foch in granting an extension of the armistice. It was reported the marshal even threatened to march directly on Berlin if the Huns didn't fulfill their pledges. It was stated unofficially that the new terms included the following:

First—Retribution upon the Germans for the murder and ill-treatment of allied prisoners.

Second—The machinery and goods stolen by Germany from France and Belgium to be at once given up.

Third—German gold, amounting to more than $400,000,000, to be moved from Berlin to a safe place, probably Frankfort, and protected from bolshevism in Germany en route. Certain other property to be surrendered.

Fourth—Germany to give over her shipping, of which she is believed to have 4,000,000 tons, to carry food supplies to countries in Europe in need of them.

Fifth—Any U-boats on the stocks to be handed to the allies for their disposal, or to be destroyed and no more submarines should be built.

Germany is fully justifying all those who refused to believe in her good faith under any circumstances. She is determined not to permit the establishment of an independent Poland because she still proposes to grab enough in the east to make up for her losses on the west, and a Polish state would prevent this. The Germans are said to be supplying arms to the bolshevikki who are ravaging parts of Poland, and there was heavy fighting last week between the German troops and the Poles near Kalmar. It was reported that Hindenburg himself would lead the German army against Poland.

The world-wide activities of the bolshevikki took in Argentina, Uruguay and Peru, where there were desperate strikes accompanied by bloody fighting, engineered by bolshevik agents. They also sent from Russia 4,000,000 gulden to Holland for a coup d'etat and riotous demonstrations planned for January 20. In this plot the German radicals were co-operating with Wijnkoop, the Dutch socialist leader.

Because of dissension over Italy's territorial claims the cabinet resigned and Premier Orlando was commissioned to form a new one. Several members were bitterly opposed to Foreign Minister Sonnino in his demands that Italy be given the whole of the Dalmatian coast, holding with President Wilson that part of that territory should justly be given to the Jugo-Slav state.

Little Luxemburg also had her crisis last week. After a republic had been proclaimed, and suppressed within a few hours by the French military authorities, Grand Duchess Marie abdicated and was succeeded by the eldest of her sisters, Princess Charlotte. Marie had lost the favor of her people because, though she protested against the passage of the German armies through the principality, she afterward entertained high German personages.

Speaking of high personages, there are some queer reports coming from the refuge of the former kaiser in Holland. It is declared he is bordering on insanity, talking almost incessantly and incoherently and wandering about at night. It is also said that his health is failing rapidly. The Germans, who supported Wilhelm heartily until he turned out to be a loser, are now heaping abuse on him and the German commission appointed to determine his responsibility for the war has recommended that he be brought to trial, declaring that marginal notes in the kaiser's handwriting on papers in the foreign office prove him to have been one of the chief war makers. This scamperin course of the Germans certainly is superfluous, for the allied governments will see to it that Wilhelm and others get the punishment they so richly deserve.

The desperate need of the liberated peoples of central Europe for food will be relieved as soon as possible. Urged by President Wilson, the American house of representatives appropriated $100,000,000 for this purpose, and it is understood the other allied nations will do their part. The money is not to be spent for food for the Germans, but much of the relief will go to the peoples formerly under the rule of the Emperor of Austria. The British army in Italy did a grateful thing the other day when they sent several trainloads of food to starving Vienna in recognition of the decent way in which the Austrians had treated British prisoners of war. Hungary, which has been made a republic under the presidency of Count Karolyi, is appealing to the allies for its share of help, as well as against being deprived of any of its territory by the surrounding new nations.

Turkey came to the front with the report that the Turks had finally surrendered Medina, the holy city of the Mohammedans, to the king of the Hedjaz. This capitulation was included in the terms of the armistice, but was delayed by the long isolation of the garrison. The disposition of Constantinople also was brought under renewed discussion by the submission of the claims of Greece to the peace delegates in Paris. The general belief was that the city would be placed under international control rather than turned over to the Greeks.

The United States went dry last week, national prohibition "going over the top" when Nebraska ratified the constitutional amendment, being the thirty-sixth state to take that action. The amendment goes into effect one year hence, but as the war measure passed by congress establishes country-wide prohibition on July 1 the dry era will really date from that day. The leaders of the prohibition party naturally are joyous over the triumph of the cause for which they struggled through so many years, and they now have a vision of a boozeless world. They have established headquarters in many foreign cities and say they are making great headway. The United States is the first great nation to adopt prohibition, for the Russian ban was only on vodka, and that has been lifted by the bolshevik government.

SEE CANADA LANDS

Inspection of Choice Farm Acres Will Be Profitable.

Cost Only a Trifle Compared to Possible Benefit to Be Derived—"Ye Happy Fields, Unknown to Noise and Strife, The Kind Rewarders of Industrial Life"—John Gay.

There are thousands today looking for farms to buy, and with the hundreds of thousands of acres offered for sale, there is no lack of opportunities. But there are all classes of lands, good, bad, and indifferent, much of each. The government of the Dominion of Canada has no land for sale, but within the boundaries of the Dominion there are unlimited acres of choice land owned by railway and land companies and private individuals. It holds no brief for any, nor are any of them clients. But it is to the interest of the Dominion to have the hundreds of thousands of acres placed under cultivation, for every acre thus cultivated adds to the revenue which helps pay the government of the country. It is with the purpose of setting forth the agricultural advantages that Canada, especially Western Canada, possesses, that attention is drawn to the fact. The purpose is to place before the reader truthful statements, and advise the prospective settler as to the necessity to investigate and inspect, leaving to his own deduction the matter of his selection. Once he decides, the government will render him any further information necessary as to location, prices and value of land, and assist him in every way possible to become settled.

The cost of a trip to Western Canada, to any portion of the three provinces—Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta—specially indicated in this work, is but a trifle compared with the benefits that a personal inspection may give. Therefore the advice is to do so. Low rates on railways will be arranged and every opportunity afforded for giving the country a thorough and careful examination. It may be that you wish an improved farm, all ready for occupation and cultivation; you may want raw prairie, which only requires plowing and the other preparation necessary for a seed bed, leaving it to yourself to erect your buildings, sink your well, prepare your garden, and ascertain how close you are to school, church, town and market. You may wish to go into mixed farming, combining the raising of stock with the growing of grain. In this case you will look out for some shelter from sun, wind and storm, and want a farm a portion of which may be cultivated for grain, and pasture fields connected with it. You may make this out of the open level prairie, but you will do better to secure a partially wooded lot, where water and pasture are already at hand. You may wish to go into the raising of cattle, or sheep alone; then you will care less for the open prairie, but select something that may cost you less in the more northerly districts. No matter what you may want, unless it be land upon which to grow cotton, bananas or other tropical or semi-tropical products, your inspection trip will reveal to you that Western Canada possesses possibilities beyond which any literature you may read advises you.—Advertisement.

Resourceful Doughboy.

I have seen a doughboy with a command of the French language embracing three words and one of them was vin ordinaire. I have seen such a doughboy make himself thoroughly at home in a French family, entering their life like a brother. He was able to make them understand whenever he wanted anything, he was able to glean all their family history, and he imparted a lot of information about the United States that would have done credit to an old stock salesman. What's more, he told stories to the children, learned all about Suzanna's affair with a soldier, and taught grandpa to shoot dice for five centimes a throw one cent.—George Pattullo, in Saturday Evening Post.

Clinics Successful.

Milwaukee offers herself as a living proof of the truth of the assertion that as intelligence in the care of young children increases the death rate invariably decreases.

Six years ago this city established a municipal health bureau, and for two years previous to that she has systematically compiled and kept her infant mortality figures.

According to these figures the mortality of infants under one year of age was in 1912 25 per cent of all the deaths occurring in the city. In 1917 it was only 20 per cent. This substantial decrease is attributed to the fine child welfare work carried on by the local committee.

How It Turns Out.

"Love is blind," launched out the chronic quoter, for the 'steenth time.

"Quite true," agreed the henpecked man, glancing furtively about, "but after marriage a man has his eyes opened and a woman develops a keen sense of touch."

Hopeless.

"The extreme hauteur of this hotel clerk annoys me."

"Why don't you complain to the manager?"

"I understand he apes the manager."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Unless you have faith in your efforts it will be a failure.