LETTER FROM THE STATE CAPITOL

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ADOPTS BILL TO CONTINUE STATE CONSTABULARY IN FORCE.

BUDGET BILL PASSES HOUSE

Measure Passes House Requiring Highway Commissioners to See That Weeds Are Cut Along Roads By July 1.

By William Lee Calnon.

—Lansing, Mich.

The bill to continue the state constabulary in existence has been adopted by the house of representatives by a vote of 79 to 12. The vote does not indicate it, but the bill passed only after two days of hard battling among house members, one fight coming in committee of the whole and the other when the bill was up for final passage.

The principal contention was over the giving of preference, in appointing troopers, to veterans of the recent war. The bill, as it came before the house from the ways and means committee, had a paragraph stating that preference should be given to honorably discharged soldiers, sailors and marines and to veterans of the constabulary. An amendment was offered in committee of the whole to give preference to veterans of the war with Germany. Friends of the bill declared this was intended to discriminate against men who had seen service in the present constabulary, but not in the war, and that the intention also was to exclude any preference being shown Spanish war veterans.

Another attempted amendment was to limit the life of the constabulary to two years. This was countered by the bill's supporters with the statement that the next legislature can discontinue the constabulary, if it so desires, by simply not appropriating the money to continue it. Efforts to cut down the pay of the commanding officer and to reduce the number of captains also failed. The two-year amendment came nearest to passage, getting 43 votes to 50 against it. Thorough organization of friends of the bill was what put it through, but half a dozen roll calls were made necessary before they finally succeeded. The bill now has gone to the senate, which also has before it a resolution by Senator Lemire to abolish the constabulary.

The budget bill passed the house by a vote of 85 to 5, the threatened fight on this measure has materializing to any extent. In committee of the whole an effort was made to place the salary of the budget director at $2,500 a year, instead of $4,000. The bill's supporters declared that a man of the right caliber to make the budget system a success could not be had for $2,500, and defeated the amendment. The fight on the bill practically stopped there. The house amended the bill, however, to give the University of Michigan and the Michigan Agricultural College control over the student fees they collect and guaranteed that the appropriations to finish buildings now under construction would be continued. These amendments caused the bill to return to the senate, which adopted it some time ago.

The companion bill to the budget bill, to establish a uniform system of accounting for state institutions, went through the house by 90 to 0.

The house has received the report of its committee which investigated the Adrian school for girls. The committee recommends the dismissal of the entire board of control and of the superintendent of the school, the erection of a new school building with proper lighting, ventilation and sanitation; a new board of five members who will establish a modern system of conducting the school; and sufficient appropriations to accomplish these ends. The committee placed the entire blame for shocking conditions at the school on its management and said the legislature had been granting in the past the appropriations asked for and was not blamable for stinginess. Betterments suggested by past legislative committees had not been heeded, the report said. The house gave the committee a manimous vote of thanks for its work.

On the same day the report was read in the house Gov. Sleeper demanded the resignations of Mrs. Anna Palmer, of Saginaw, and of Forrest Badgley, of Jackson, from the board. Treasurer Taylor, of Adrian, whose term had just expired, would not be reappointed, the governor said. Later he announced the new board as Mrs. Delphine Dodge Ashbaugh, of Detroit; Mrs. Dudley Waters, of Grand Rapids, and Jacob Sampson, of Adrian, former prosecutor of Lenawee county, and former law partner of Justice Bird, of the supreme court.

The Senate has adopted the Condon bill to make the English language the basic language of all schools in Michigan. Other languages may be taught, provided not more than one-fifth the school time is used in teaching them.

Rep. Ezra H. Hall of Lake City, won the distinction of killing a bill with one speech against it. The bill aimed to give county school commissioners minimum salaries of $1,200 and to require that they devote their entire time to the duties of their offices. Hall, for 15 years a school commissioner himself, declared that many small counties could afford to pay only the minimum and had only work enough to keep the commissioner busy for one-quarter to one-half the time. By leaving the matter to the county supervisors good men could be secured who had time to earn other than the county salary, he said, while under the proposed law mediocre commissioners would be a certainty. The house accepted his views and indefinitely postponed the bill.

In spite of the objections made by some of the house members to appropriations for the University of Michigan and the Michigan Agricultural College until both of those institutions explain what they done with the proceeds of the mill taxes on which they mainly depend, special appropriation bills for both are coming in. The latest, for the M. A. C., were introduced by Senator Jane's Henry, of Battle Creek. One bill asks for $300,000 for a library and administration building at the East Lansing institution. Another bill asks for $270,000 for an auditorium. A third bill asks for $151,000 for college extension work.

The house passed bills requiring township highway commissioners to see that all weeds along roads are cut by July 1 of each year and to compel property owners to cut them. It also passed the bill to allow townships to vote how much they are willing to spend on the care of cemeteries, removing the present limit of $200 a year. The O'Brien bill to compel county treasurers having offices separate from other county officials also passed the house. Still another bill to get safely through the house is the Ewing measure to require a standard 54-inch gauge on all vehicles hereafter sold in Michigan.

A new road bill has made its appearance, introduced by Rep. Atwood, to provide for the proportion of cost between the state and county of federal aided roads. Counties would have the privilege under this bill of spreading the road taxes on the rolls according to the amounts left after the national government and the state had paid their pro rata shares of the whole cost of the roads, and of dividing up the cost according to the assessed valuation of the county.

Rep. Watkins has introduced a bill to authorize the superintendent of public instruction to afford suitable instruction and vocational training for adult blind persons in their homes and communities to enable them to be self-supporting. The idea of the bill is for a co-operative line of work among blind persons and those interested in their welfare. The Michigan Association of Workers for the Blind is backing the bill.

Among recent bills is one by Senator Hicks which would make nuisances of vehicles carrying liquor and allow them to be abated by court injunction. The bill is an amendment to the act which abates disorderly houses by injunction. Senator Scully has introduced a resolution to amend the constitution so as to provide for a graduated state income tax. This followed action by the senate taxation committee in killing a straight income tax proposal.

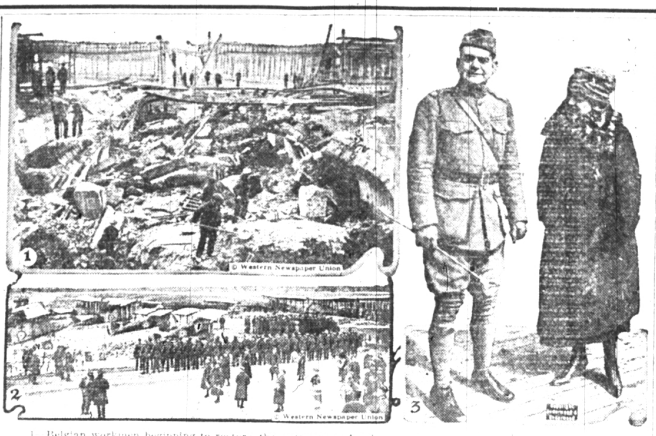
Senator Baker has introduced a bill to re-apportion the state and have just ten judicial circuits, all the judges of which would receive from the state a salary of $5,000 per year. Cities and counties could pay any additional sums they desired. Senator Baker also introduced a resolution to authorize the war preparedness board to loan money to returned soldiers with which to pay the premiums on the war policies of insurance.

Rep. Young, chairman of the house committee on labor, has introduced a bill calling for jury trials in contempt of court cases growing out of labor disputes. Under the terms of the bill any one complained of on contempt charges would have a chance to respond and to demand that a jury hear the testimony. The trial judge would be prohibited from charging the jury to bring in a verdict of guilty.

On the last day on which it was possible to pass a constitutional amendment so as to get it on the April election ballot, the house adopted the Hayes resolution to submit the matter of raising salaries of the justices of the supreme court during their terms of office. This now will be on the ballot in April along with the good roads bonding amendment.

Senator Tufts has a resolution in the senate to amend the constitution so that the legislature will have power to set the salaries of the state treasurer, the auditor general and the secretary of state. Each of those officials now is limited by the constitution to $2,500 a year.

The legislature has hit up a high speed gait, but new bills are piling in at such a rate that if consideration given to all of them the lawmakers will be here all summer. The total of bills in both houses is nearing the 1,700 mark.



1. Belgian workmen beginning to restore the entrance and railway connections of the great railway station in Ghent, destroyed by the Germans. 2. Scene at Hendon aerodrome, England, which Lord Londonderry, for the government presented to the Canadian Government Eleven airplanes. 3. Col. E. M. Wise, commander of the Second battalion, Fifth marines, in the battle of Chateau Thierry, and Mrs. Wise photographed on the colonel's arrival in New York.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

President Departs for France Without Senate's Approval of Nations' League.

CHANGES MAY BE NECESSARY

Filibuster in Senate Kills Urgent Bills and Early Extra Session is Predicted—Progress of the Peace Conference Delegates in Paris.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

When President Wilson sailed away on his return trip to France last Wednesday there must have been some bitterness in his soul. For a very considerable part of the senate had refused to accept his dictates concerning the constitution of the league of nations, and congress had adjourned under circumstances that seem to make necessary the early calling of an extra session despite the president's flat declaration that he would not summon the new congress until his return from Paris.

Mr. Wilson, in his speech in New York, asserted that the great majority of the American people favor a league of nations, and there is no doubt of the truth of the assertion. It is favored, too, by a great majority of the senators, but many of them, and presumably many private citizens, do not favor the constitution of the league as it now stands. The president has told us that it is practically impossible now to amend the drafted constitution, but that he is mistaken in this is the opinion of the opposing senators, and, according to recent dispatches from Paris, some of the delegates to the peace conference agree with them. After 39 Republican hold-over senators and senators-elect had signed a round-robin declaring that the league constitution should be altered and that it should not be considered further until the peace treaty had been ratified, it was plain to the administration leaders, if not to the president, that some compromise was necessary. Therefore, possibly with the authorization of Mr. Wilson, Senator Hitchcock asked Senator Knox to draft the amendments which he and other Republican senators desire. At this writing the results of this step are not known, but it seemed likely that if the president should concede some of the changes asked, the senators would consent to making the league an integral part of the peace treaty. On this latter point the president takes a determined stand, telling his New York audience that when the treaty comes back for ratification "we will find the covenant not only in it, but so many threads of the treaty tied to the covenant that you cannot dissect the covenant from the treaty without destroying the whole vital structure."

That a majority of the American people are in favor of the league constitution as it now stands is doubted by Senators Borah, Lodge, Knox and others of its opponents. They say they are receiving numerous letters daily that protest against it, and are willing that it should be submitted to a national referendum. Though the question seems to be drifting into the field of partisan politics, it must be said that a number of Democratic senators are as much against the present league plan as are the Republicans who signed the round-robin, while some Republicans are heartily supporting the president. In the next senate there will be at least 32 votes against the league, enough to prevent its adoption, if all the Democrats should be joined by the Republicans.

When the navy department was [illegible] Sherman, France and La Follette. They assumed all responsibility for their action for the Republican leaders would have permitted the passage of some of the bills, especially that adding $75,000,000 to the revolving fund for railroad administration. Two measures that did get through in the last hours were the Victory loan and billion dollar wheat guarantee bills. The purpose of the filibuster was to compel the president to call the new congress in extra session in a short time and so urgent are many of the measures that failed of passage that it seems likely he will have to yield to the demand. When he left America, however, he expected no extraordinary session of the congress he helped to elect in the recent election. His supporters say he is impossible for him to be in Washington because of the more pressing affairs elsewhere, to conferate with the houses.

When they immediately recalled Mr. Wilson's statement before his departure for France last December, that legislation could go forward unimpeded in his absence and that he could keep constantly in touch with congress by cable and wireless.

It is the president's own opinion that the failure of emergency legislation will seriously disorganize all conditions, and because there is general agreement on this it is predicted the extra session of congress will be called not later than in May. There is no likelihood of Mr. Wilson's being back by that time, for he has announced his intention of remaining abroad until the work of the peace congress is completed.

At first it was thought the failure of the appropriation for the railway administration would result in the almost immediate return of the roads to their former owners, though this is desired by neither the owners nor the general public. Director General Hines stated later that a new plan of financing the situation would be devised, that an effort would be made to prevail on the railroads and other business interests to borrow money necessary to enable the administration to go forward with its railroad plans and that in no case would he countenance a policy which would slow down industry or throw men out of employment. The director general also declared that "there is no occasion to discuss the question of relinquishment of the railroads."

The fact remains that the railroads must have at least $500,000,000 before May 31, and if they are forced to borrow in the market the success of the Victory loan will be jeopardized.

With the return of Premier Lloyd George to Paris the peace delegates took up the consideration of Germany, making first the question of the disarmament of the enemy, naval and military, which was lifted from the armistice terms and will become a part of the peace pact. As framed by the commission, this clause will effectually safeguard the world against aggression by the Huns for a long time. As was expected, the amount of money to be exacted in reparation has been cut down greatly, but it still stands at an enormous sum. The commission on the matter of the western frontier was said to have virtually finished its work. France may not get all her most enthusiastic citizens hoped for, but an adequate buffer between her and Germany will be provided by the creation of the neutralized zone along the west bank of the Rhine.

According to [illegible] Wilhelm and his crew created so many [illegible] That Ebert government by the way is becoming [illegible] Bavaria, Saxony and other states [illegible] Ebert government is not [illegible] to try the accused individuals whatever may have been their rank. Eminent legal bodies in several countries have rendered decisions of note variance with the reported finding of the commission over which Lansing presides. The Pan-German leagues are taking steps to protest the exclusion from participation in the peace proceedings. It was declared that the government would decline to publish its full possible correspondence of the armistice times to circulate pro German pamphlets. The demands of the allies for the immediate surrender of part of their shipping were held to be inexcusable because they would "paralyze the country's economic future," and the dismissal of German crews from the ships requisitioned was also objected to.

In many parts of Germany the disorders created by the Spartacists continue unabated, and there has been frequent and bloody fighting in Berlin as well as other places. The Reds keep up their method of starting strikes and in addition are said to be trying to open up the way through Koenigsberg East Prussia, for the entry of Bolshevik brother from Russia. The move was temporarily checked by the sending of strong forces of troops. Government soldiers also operated effectively in Berlin, where the Spartacans were trying to get possession of the police stations but were routed by artillery fire. The government press predicted that the workingmen and the government would reach an agreement and that the general strike would fail leaving the most radical Reds as the only malcontents. The government has proposed that the soldiers and workingmen's council be made an organic part of the governmental system under the new constitution that is being constructed at Weimar.

Most of the present German leaders are still against any concessions to the demands of the Poles on the eastern frontier, and the allied commission now in session at Koenigsberg on the Brandenburg-Posen border has a difficult question to settle. Field Marshal von Hindenburg is quoted as saying that the territory in dispute never will be held by the Poles but will belong to either the Germans or the Bolsheviki. He declares the enemy's hordes cannot be beaten off unless the people there rally to the defense of their homes and their families.

The allied forces in northern Russia have retired somewhat before the attacks of the soviet troops, but have inflicted great losses on them. Trotsky is getting his big army more organized and is reported to be planning to drive through Bessarabia and into Roumania and Hungary, with the expectation of capturing Budapest. The most amazing story coming from Russia recently is that the soviet government hopes to arrange a big loan in America in return for putting back railroad concessions. And at about the same time [illegible]

The Japanese [illegible] Vladivostok [illegible] Wilhelm [illegible] was not upon either [illegible] delegation [illegible] is their murderous warfare and who is criminal every American Great Britain, France or Belgium is not compelled to try the accused individuals whatever may have been their rank. Eminent legal bodies in several countries have rendered decisions of note variance with the reported finding of the commission over which Lansing presides. The Pan-German leagues are taking steps to protest the exclusion from participation in the peace proceedings. It was declared that the government would decline to publish its full possible correspondence of the armistice times to circulate pro German pamphlets. The demands of the allies for the immediate surrender of part of their shipping were held to be inexcusable because they would "paralyze the country's economic future," and the dismissal of German crews from the ships requisitioned was also objected to.

HOME TOWN HELPS

PLAN CITY FROM THE START

Will Cost Less and Give Better Results When Proper Plans Are Made for the Future.

To have any plans for the whole city, on which all its people may unite is a great gain. We can hardly conceive of any citizen's starting to build a house without any plan for the building. But it never seems to occur to all the citizens in starting or developing any town or city to have a plan worthy of that larger home which every town and city is, on which to lay it out or build it up. So towns and cities are built in a haphazard way. They seem to be thrown together at the start and run up haphazard as they grow. Their future seems to be always out of sight and out of mind. Buildings are crowded together without space for sunlight and fresh air to keep their people well. Scant spaces if any are left for the children's play and the people's recreation, for thoroughfares or parks, for residence purposes reserved from the invasion of factories, railway tracks and yards, much less for any green grass or flowers or trees. Provisions for such common decencies, conveniences, comforts, healthfulness and pleasure are generally afterthoughts which cost enormously more than to provide them by planning far ahead. This planlessness is well characterized as "a crazy quilt."

LOOKING TO CITY'S FUTURE

When Remoding Is in Order, People Should Profit From Mistakes Made in the Past.

The city of the future will do more control more and forbid more than the city of today—and precisely because it will be larger and more complicated. Its government will have to be conducted in a more orderly and compact fashion. Nearly all the recent charter changes concentrate authority, either in the hands of the mayor or of the so-called governing commissions.

It may be that the city of the future will become too large and attempt too much. Some think this point has been reached already.

The American cities, flexible in their methods, should always be free to adopt any measures, within the limits of law and justice, that promise to benefit their inhabitants. A while ago the fashion was to shrug our shoulders and turn our backs on the problem of municipal government. Today we are beginning to see in the remodeling of our cities a great and golden opportunity.

Victory Gardening Encouraged.

Victory gardening is to be encouraged by every means possible. The United States railroad administration already has started to spread the message along many of the lines under its control. Through J. L. Edwards, director of the agricultural section, the divisional agents have been instructed to do what they can to promote the garden movement throughout the country. Posters have been sent by the commission to these agricultural supervisors in many places throughout the South. Many railroads in the United States last season stimulated gardening by furnishing land along rights of way to their employees, providing them with garden booklets and putting up posters in stations and other conspicuous locations. They will do the same in 1919.

Planting Nut Trees.

Most farms have a little rough ground along the bank of a creek, or some other place, that cannot be cultivated.

Hickory and black walnut timber is getting scarce and high; and such trees do well in those locations.

If the rough ground is soft in the winter or spring it will take a brown stick and punch a hole here and there two or three inches deep and drop in a hickory nut or black walnut and press down the dirt with his foot, in a few years those unsightly places will be covered with an attractive grove, which quite a while later will be valuable timber.

Things Making for Prosperity.

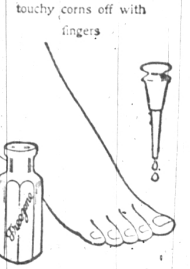
A well-balanced city means a city in which business can be most economically and successfully conducted. Planning for good public health, long life and more leisure and contentment for all is necessary. Beautiful parks, fine monuments, well-laid-out streets, relief from noise, dirt and confusion—all these things and many other—are agencies that make not only for the future greatness of the city, but for the happiness and prosperity of its people.

Shorter Cut Across Adriatic.

At Varano Garganico, province of Foggia, a new harbor is being constructed to shorten the distance across the Adriatic sea to Dalmatia. The new harbor will be connected by rail with the interior of Italy. A branch line from Varano to Apricena is being pushed to completion. The work for the harbor construction and the railway will also stamp out malaria in a large district. — Italian-American News Bureau.

LIFT OFF CORNS!

Apply few drops then lift sore, touchy corns off with fingers



Doesn't hurt a bit! Drop a little Freezone on an aching corn, instantly that corn stops hurting, then you lift it right out. Yes, really!

A tiny bottle of Freezone costs but a few cents at any drug store, but is sufficient to remove every hard corn, soft corn or corn between the toes, and the callouses, without soreness or irritation.

Freezone is the sensational discovery of a Cincinnati genius. It is wonderful.

Womanlike, Etc.

Old Timmins was puzzled. Women were queer, there was no doubt of it.

"Oh, dear, I wish we had a dog, lovely house."

"What for?" said old Timmins, just to humor her.

"I'd like to give a party," she answered.

"Thank you, such a crowd of friends it would give you pleasure to invite?"

"Yes, but such a lot that it would be heartily not to invite?" said his wife.

FREE INFORMATION FOR HOMESEEKERS.

The U. S. Railroad Administration has assembled information regarding farm opportunities in various states, and will furnish it to homeseekers free of charge. The work will be done through the newly created Homeseekers Bureau, headquarters in Washington.

"We are receiving about 1,000 letters a week from people who want to locate and farming," said H. F. Elliott, manager of the Agricultural Section of the U. S. Railroad Administration. "The inquiries come from every state, asking about agricultural advantages in undeveloped territory. We furnish dependable data, and through our service many investors have been able to find just what they were looking for.

"Our information is put out in form of illustrated booklets, by states, sent to those sufficiently interested to write and tell us what kind of a farm project they have in mind, and naming the state the opportunities in which they desire to investigate. Homeseekers can find in the United States productive land at reasonable prices and on liberal terms, close markets, excellent transportation facilities, a satisfactory climate and ideal living conditions. Now that the war is over, I look for a great rush to the open spaces beyond that of any pre-war period." Correspondence from homeseekers is solicited. Address, Room 506, Homeseekers' Bureau, U. S. Railroad Administration, Washington, D. C.—Adv.

A Mistaken Signal.

Camping in the Maine woods, a New Yorker was awakened from a deep slumber by a strange knocking just outside the tent.

Listening a moment, he said to the guide:

"Wonder if that can be a member of my lodge. It sounds like the signal of a brother knock."

"No," replied the guide; "unless I am greatly mistaken, that's brother woodpecker."

OPEN NOSTRILS! END A COLD OR CATARRH

How To Get Relief When Head and Nose are Stuffed Up.

Count Effe! Your cold in head or catarrh disappears. Your clogged nostrils will open, the air passages of your head will clear and you can breathe freely. No more snuffling, hawking, mucous discharge, dryness or headache; no struggling for breath at night.

Get a small bottle of Ely's Cream Balm from your druggist and apply a little of this fragrant antiseptic cream in your nostrils. It penetrates through every air passage of the head, soothing and healing the swollen or inflamed mucous membrane, giving you instant relief. Head colds and catarrh yield like magic. Don't stay stuffed-up and miserable. Relief is sure.—Adv.

The Fox Trot.

Flannigan (listening to new jazz record)—What kind iv music do ye call that, Norah?

Daughter—That's a fox trot, daddy.

Flannigan—An' how many tin cans did th' fox have tied to his tail when he throttled?—Buffalo Express.

Freshen a Heavy Skin

With the antiseptic, fascinating Cuticura Talcum Powder, an exquisitely scented, convenient, economical face, skin, baby and dusting powder and perfume. Renders other perfumes superfluous. One of the Cuticura Toilet Trio (Soap, Ointment, Talcum).—Adv.

Many a man's word is like an echo—merely a hollow mockery.

Your Eyes Granulated Eyelids, Eyes inflamed by exposure to Sun, Dust and Wind quickly relieved by Murine EyeRemedy. No Smarting, just Eye Comfort. At Your Druggists or by mail 60c per Bottle. For Book of the Eye Free write Murine Eye Remedy Co., Chicago.