

### LEGISLATOR EXPOSES PLAN TO CONFUSE

(Continued from Page One) some Murphy legislators not even rising from their seats, called out, "don't take up the time to read them," "what's he trying to do, keep us here all summer?" Another wanted to have the amendments "considered" read, so they could be disposed of without the necessity of the clerk reading them entirely through. "It's time to adjourn now," he added.

After the clerk had finished reading the proposed amendments even two or three free spending Republicans joined with the Murphies in protesting the slashes the amendments proposed. They squealed like big fat porkers being thrown into the slaughtering pen.

Think of the absurdity of it—a member of the legislature suggesting reductions in the appropriations the Governor wanted! Mister Reader—the writer will confess to you now that a most uncomfortable half hour was given by him against the suggested such a thing as reductions in these staggering appropriation bills that now await the vote of those who voted for them. It was just like stepping into a hornets nest.

Don't let any one fool you! Governor Frank Murphy and the whole caboodle of his official family WANTED AND DEMANDED the passage of the appropriation bills just as they went to the floor of the house from the ways and means committee.

What happened to the amendments that the writer proposed which would have reduced the appropriation bills by millions of dollars?

They were OVERWHELMINGLY DEFEATED. After their defeat came the vote on the main question—the appropriation bills. A strong party leader of the majority chose to add additional debate by demanding "the previous question."

Who voted against these staggering appropriation bills? Just two members of the legislature—Frank Calvert of Highland Park and Elton R. Eaton, of Plymouth.

That day and for several days thereafter one would have thought that the writer had sinned as no man ever before had sinned because he had the audacity to do such a thing as to try and cut down the amount of money a lot of greedy politicians wanted to take away from the taxpayers.

All of the legislative members did not feel so hostile to the writer as these few paragraphs might indicate. While they voted against the writer's amendments and for appropriations that had been demanded by Governor's official family, some of these Democratic members confidentially told the writer that they did not approve of the excessive appropriations being made and they did not like to vote for them.

"But what else can one do, the Governor's crowd wants these appropriations and they will have to be made, that's all there is to it," said one Democrat when discussing the matter privately.

Even Clyde Stout, Democratic chairman of the ways and means committee, openly stated that the floor that he did not believe in voting such big appropriations indicating at the same time that he wasn't much else that could be done about it.

"Only the good Lord knows where they will get the money," he said.

In justice to Speaker Schroder it should also be stated that he was not presiding in the house when the writer's amendments were under consideration.

The writer said during his campaign that he thought state expenses under the Republican Fitzgerald reign were too high and the pledge was made that an honest effort would be made to reduce the costs of the state government if elected to the state legislature. When the Democratic appropriation bills came before the house, the amounts were of such vast totals it was almost impossible to conceive of public officials asking for so much tax money. In presenting the series of slashing amendments a campaign pledge honestly made was being carried out. Any one associating constantly with farmers, small home owners and workers, cannot help but know that the tax burden is nothing less than a ball and chain around the necks of most of people today.

Of course there must be taxes, but NOT TAXES to send some warfare director down to Atlantic City for a vacation to provide big automobiles for the joy rides of beer lapping political job holders and pay a lot of useless and unreasonable salaries for sitting around looking wise, but possessing no knowledge of their work or of the state.

It might be well to go back to the early days of the legislative session for a little additional background to all of this set-up for the big political propaganda now being dished out to newspaper readers almost daily in Lansing.

When the legislature convened in January, there was on the desk of each member of the house and senate, the state budget for the years of 1937 and 1938 that had been prepared by the budget director.

propositions had been for each state commission and each state institution during the two previous years.

The amount also showed the amount of the appropriation each state institution and department was asking for the years of 1937 and 1938.

It also contained what the budget director had recommended for the total amount of cash believed essential for the proper conduct of these institutions and departments.

Appropriation bills were being prepared to conform more or less to what had been recommended by the budget director.

Then came the swarm of new political job holders, politicians who had "done their bit" to help win the election. They looked over the budget book.

They saw the big totals, running up into the five, six and even seven figures. They gasped in glee! "Baby, look at that! Say, there's that much money lying here waiting for us. Let's get MORE, MORE, MORE! Do you think we're here for our hoopoes?"

And how they went after those hard-earned taxpayers' dollars! Only those who were on the side can tell you.

And so it was that the pay checks of new appointees that heads and new state political job holders began to jump joyfully.

Mind you, the first pay checks a lot of these new job holders received were higher than they had ever been able to make before in any job.

So filled were some of the offices with new appointees that one in walking through the various state departments would have thought an over-day state political convention was in session. They all had to be paid and they all wanted more money.

Then the Governor came back from another vacation and he gave his approval to all that was being done.

The old budget director who had served through various state administrations held up his hands in horror at the squandering of public funds! He told members of the legislature, he told EVERYBODY where state finances were headed for.

"There will not be tax money enough to pay the bills," he warned.

It wasn't long after a new story had appeared in some of the state papers that the budget was going to be out of balance and appropriations were not cut or NEW taxes provided, that it was rumored around in Lansing that Governor Murphy was about to appoint a new budget director.

Soon came the word that a fellow named Harold Smith, "officially" Ann Arbor who had profited pretty well off tax earned dollars was going to take the place of the old budget director who had so strongly protested the increased appropriations.

The old budget director was told to take his vacation and the new man then appeared on the scene. His time hadn't "officially" started when he took over the budget job.

After that there wasn't much more talk in official circles about the budget being out of balance, it is true that newspapers now and then said something about it, but that was all.

And then, lo and behold, after the regular session had adjourned and the members had gone home, the new budget director made the GREAT and timely discovery that the budget was out of balance!

So we read in the big daily newspapers today, four months later, that the Governor and his budget director are burning the midnight oil trying to balance the budget! What a farce!

Why is it a farce and how can they juggle the figures to fool the taxpayers?

That's easy, easy to get away with too, unless one takes a little time to go back and do a little checking on appropriations.

How is this budget trick being done?

Let's take Governor Murphy's own office, the executive office for one example.

The total amount of money appropriated for this office for 1936 was \$40,000.

The present legislature appropriated \$57,000 for the governor's office for 1937.

Governor Murphy and his budget director cut this appropriation to \$218,200.

The present legislature appropriated \$224,950 to the attorney general's department for 1937.

Newsprint dispatches the other day said this total had been cut by the "Governor and his budget director" to \$117,825.

appropriated \$317,500 for the public utilities department and each state institution during the two previous years.

That's a big cut, the "budget director" will say.

But it still remains almost \$150,000 higher than it was for the previous administration.

On the floor above the utilities commission is the office of the state department of agriculture.

This department in 1936 was appropriated \$252,000. That, in the opinion of the legislature, is higher than it should have been that year.

Well, the Murphy legislature came along and appropriated \$465,650 for this department for the year of 1937. Governor Murphy and his "budget director" the other day reduced this amount to \$377,771. Yet the department has more than \$125,000 for this year than it had in 1936.

There has been a lot of comment by Lansing visitors as to the "REQUEST" for the capitol and state office building. The floors are not as clean as they should be, everything looks sort of messy like, including the grounds.

The legislature in 1936 gave to the superintendent of the capitol \$232,000 to use in keeping things slicked up a little.

The present Murphy legislators didn't think that was enough and they "REQUEST" the capitol superintendent increased the appropriation for this year to \$308,850.

The other day Governor Murphy and his budget director "reduced" this amount to \$277,045. That's about \$48,485 higher than it was during the previous administration.

So it goes on and on through all the various appropriation items, higher, HIGHER, HIGHER than before!

But the Governor is "balancing the budget!"

It is not "outside" influences on the legislature as some critics claim which brought about these big appropriations. It all came from the political powers that now control the state government.

Governor Murphy vetoed one appropriation bill, a bill providing \$250,000 for snow removal in the Upper Peninsula. What happened after this display of "economy?"

At the special session he called in July following the regular session, he sent special message to the legislature asking for the re-actment of the very appropriation bill he had vetoed a few days previous.

What a joke—what a farce it all is, if it wasn't such a serious matter for the poor devil in the fields or in the shops in order to get enough cash to keep body and soul together.

The present state administration deliberately and knowingly put the budget out of balance to accomplish the purpose of raising state expenses without the taxpayers knowing the real truth.

Michigan taxpayers are being looted, their pockets are being picked by a lot of useless tax eating politicians.

They are being given a lot of false propaganda about the "budget being balanced" to cover up the trick. The state officials know it is phony and it is about time the taxpayers know it.

**CITY'S WATER SUPPLY AMPLIFIED FOR POPULATION INCREASE**  
Birmingham's water supply is now so abundant that it can furnish an average of a thousand gallons per minute more than local consumption demands. The latest well, costing \$10,000, is being constructed at about two-thirds of the cost of a similar well during previous years.

**STATE OF MICHIGAN—In the Probate Court for the County of Oakland.**  
At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, in said County, on the 25th day of October, A. D. 1937.

**JAMES H. LYNCH, Judge of Probate.**  
In the Matter of the Estate of Harry J. South, Deceased.  
Maud L. South, executrix of said estate, having filed in said Court his final account and petition praying for the examination and allowance thereof, assignment of the residue of said estate, and the discharge of said executrix:

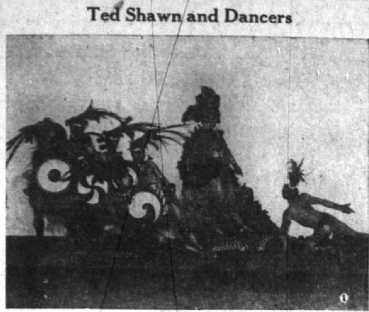
It is Ordered, that the 22nd day of November, A. D. 1937, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate Office, he and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition.

It is Further Ordered, that public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order, for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in the Birmingham Eccentric, a newspaper printed and circulated in said County.

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The camera study of Shawn, famous exponent of the dance form, is but a forerunner of what he will bring to Detroit audiences when he appears on the Town Hall series, November 12. He will perform, with his troupe, his "O Libertad", which he calls an American saga in three acts.

to foster proper understanding between America and Great Britain.

**BIRMINGHAM'S EMPLOYEES ARE UNDER-PAID 10 TO 15 PER CENT**

The total number of employees in all of Birmingham's city departments is 73. According to statistics, Birmingham's employees are still receiving from 10 to 15 per cent below their pre-depression salaries.

### HOUSE STARTS CLASSES

With such a discipline as Ted Shawn, rhythmic exercise and reciting is a fact which gives every indication of becoming a fact. The Community House firmly believes this and is offering a class to prove it. The class is held at 5:30 Friday morning.

The work in such a class, according to instructors, is meant primarily for women and those who cannot stand the strain of the more violent forms of exercise. A typical morning's workout might include drilling, special floor work for those who want to get more quickly, and an active game or folk dance. Full particulars may be had by communicating with the Community House.

**Art Lessons Start**  
Art students who wish to specialize in water color, crayon or oil are invited to join the art classes at the Community House.

Robert Wing, talented Baldwin student, will conduct a class Saturday, from 10 a. m. to 12 noon. Students may enroll at any time. All work made progress or be completed at the pleasure and convenience of the students.

Wing has had considerable experience in such work and is presently engaged in the completion of a mural at the Adams Junior high school. There will be no charge outside of the cost of materials and everyone is welcome to join.

WE HEARD IT SAID BY— Lawrence Hulbert, City Commissioner: "I am opposed to Birmingham assuming any more responsibility for sewage outlets for territory not within our boundary. Not until we get our new sewage plant installed and working should we try to accommodate people who build their houses outside of Birmingham—even though they are willing to pay double rates for this convenience."



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