

## Michigan Mirror

NON-PARTISAN STATE NEWS LETTER

By Gene Ailsman

**Michigan Press Association**  
LANSING—This week-end brings the deadline for action by local legislative bodies on sale of liquor by the glass. Midnight Saturday (Sept. 18) affords the final opportunity for legalizing hard drinks by municipal council vote. Extent of the state legislature's liberalizing act is just coming to a focus. According to Lawrence D. Rahilly, acting secretary of the Liquor Control Commission, the trend of Michigan communities is distinctly "wet." In fact, he fore-

casts an increase of approximately 150 per cent in the number of townships, villages and cities which are permitting sale of hard liquor in "restaurants or hotels" for the first time since the previous referendums, years ago.

The state capital city, Lansing, favors its present policy of permitting the serving of only beer and wines. The city council voted three-to-one against a proposed change.

Increased revenues from the state's monopoly of liquor are expected to follow the spread of wet areas in Michigan. The commission

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is planning a step-up in liquor prices this fall.

**"Second Dillinger"**  
Capture of Al Brady's "Second Dillinger" gang is the immediate objective of state police forces in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Kentucky. Leaders met at Indianapolis and mapped plans for coded radio messages and emergency interstate highway blockades.

The Indianapolis conference is considered an effective answer to the charge of J. Edgar Hoover, head of the G-men, that the Indiana state police captain was "not co-operating" with federal operatives who are leading the Brady manhunt. Hoover's statement led to the resignation of the Indiana official.

Michigan's state police commissioner, Oscar O'Brien, preaches a firm bureau organizer. Whereas jealousies formerly have existed between local law enforcing authorities and the state troopers, friendly teamwork has been established in Michigan. Horse and buggy conditions have been outmoded by speedy automobiles and wide highways.

**Public Enemy No. 1**  
America's foremost motor-manned state is Michigan.

There is no speed limit on its highways.

The fact that automobile accidents during the first seven months of 1937 showed an increase of 30 per cent over the corresponding period in 1936 constitutes a shameful record—which has induced state authorities to seek drastic remedial steps. "Something must be done," insists Dr. C. C. Slemons, state health commissioner. The Labor Day week-end toll was 39 lives.

Following a state-wide study, the head of the Michigan State Police uniformed division recommends a fixed speed limit of 50 miles an hour.

The careless driver, Public Enemy No. 1 in Michigan is held responsible for 1,913 deaths in 1936.

**Paralysis Preventative**  
Out of Michigan may emerge a much-sought preventive of infantile paralysis.

Such is the hope of scientists who are watching anxiously the outcome of tests being conducted by researchers of the University of Michigan medical school.

In quest for some chemical weapon to check the paralytic virus which enters the body through the nose, Dr. Wm. W. Schultze, bacteriologist at Leland Stanford university in California, developed a nasal spray consisting of solution of zinc sulphate. The spray was tried out repeatedly on

monkeys and found to be 100 per cent effective.

The Michigan medical school arranged a local anesthetic—ponto-caine—to zinc sulphate. A close check is being kept on the human "test tubes." Medical history may be in the making, right at home.

**"Eliminated"**  
The recent illness of Governor Frank Murphy prompted the Lansing State Journal's legislative correspondent, J. H. Creighton, to suggest Murphy's retirement from Michigan public life. Creighton points to the "possibility" that Gov. Frank Murphy, strong, wiry, and tenacious as he has demonstrated himself to be, may have ruled himself out of the political picture by reason of the impression of physical exhaustion he has painted for himself in the minds of the public in the past few weeks.

The Lansing newspaper believes that Murphy "eliminated" himself as a possible candidate for the Democratic nomination for the admiral's job of president" and it comments that "the hint recently that he might not be able to succeed himself as governor was not a surprise" to many observers.

A recent nation-wide poll revealed that Murphy is the No. 1 presidential choice of Democrats for 1940. And there is no denying that Michigan's New Deal executive has evinced a keen personal interest in another presidential possibility, Gov. George Earle of Pennsylvania.

**Second Special Session**  
Now that the civility service issue has been sidetracked, temporarily at least, Murphy's No. 1 problem is to find a labor relations formula which will be acceptable to the senate's solid republican phalanx and the handful of democratic stalwarts.

Lawmakers are to be recalled probably in January for the chief purpose of passing an act. Labor trouble has persisted throughout the state. Because the law now prohibits picketing, injunctions have been issued by the courts in several cases which have not been to organized labor's liking.

The Pennsylvania legislature, prodded by Governor Earle, passed a "Little Wagner" labor relations act which is distinctly pro-labor. According to statehouse observers, Murphy wants a higher law as liberal as the one in Pennsylvania.

In Detroit the U. A. W. and A. P. of L. cannot agree on a candidate for mayor. The division is illustrative of the labor schism, nationwide in scope, which makes political unity of action very problematical. It is a touchy situation, one that complicates Murphy's problems.

Judge—But why do you wish to discuss this?

Fair Plaintiff—"Well I'm thinking of getting married."

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## PRIZE BOOKS ARE POPULAR

**Faith Baldwin Novel, Crime Club Selection Among 8 New Works**

Almost without exception, the new books at the Baldwin Public Library have attracted wide attention. They include "everything from a recent winner of the Prix Femina to the latest Crime Club selection, with a subject range widely diversified.

"Claude" published by MacMillan, is Genevieve Fauconner's prize book. In an admittedly idyllic childhood of six girls and three boys, whose rich and sensitive fancies were given rein in the sunny garden world of their little French town. Claude (or Genevieve) is the youngest of the six sisters, who join down in a blue notebook the casual episodes of family life. A large part of the book is no more than impressions, a shaft of childhood memories, warm, suggestive, fragmentary and some times incoherent. One realizes, 50 pages from the end, that these impressions have a purpose, and while this section is the most moving and dramatically the most effective, it is for the charming, disorganized, prismatic reflections of a remarkable child that "Claude" should be read.

Little, Brown publish "The Citadel," by A. J. Cronin, which has been called "A great novel about a doctor by a doctor who is a great novelist." The adventures of Andrew Manson, a young doctor showing great promise despite handicaps, picture a sincere and conscientious young man, almost broken by the smugness and arrogance of his superiors. Craving material success, he finds his honor the price. With all its fine restraint, Dr. Cronin in a scathing indictment of certain aspects of the medical profession. With all its excitement it emerges as a soul-searching account of a man who tried to be a good doctor but found that it didn't pay.

"The Langworthy Family," written by Elizabeth Cretzschmar and published by Appleton, is a detectable book. Built on the solid foundation of reality, it tells of a typical old American family in a typical town, about the turn of the century. The household is one of those old-fashioned combination arrangements. Colonel and Mrs. Langworthy had but one child, Beth, spoiled daughter of their middle age. But with them in their large house lived Mrs. Langworthy's brother, Artie Mills, a good natured loafer who had come to Mt. Royal to look for a business opening he never found; here two unmarried sisters, port, amusing Dora and quiet, exquisite Amy; and her orphan niece, who waited place cards and waited for the right man to come along. As head of the family, the Colonel was expected to provide material comforts as well as do the worrying for the entire household. Here is American, powerful, sensitive and dramatic; notable for its characterization, revealing in its study of small town home life.

Isabel Wilder, sister of Thornton, writes "Let Winter Go," published by Coward McCann. She knits together with expert narrative care this tale of tangled loves and lives, but the principal merit of her work still lies in taking a group of well-meaning, decent people, and involving them in complications that are difficult to plausible. She lets them work out their own problems in such a manner that the reader feels as though he had been an intimate spectator of his neighbors' lives.

"Sally Lunn," published by MacMillan, is the work of Leo Walmsley. Here is a novel, set in an English fishing village, that has all the elements for a good story: plot, suspense, characterization and novelty. He has written an unusual love story and set it against a background of the sea and its moods—boats rushing in to escape a sudden storm, the excitement and danger of grounding in a heavy sea, the thrill of heavy catches after drudgery.

"Twenty-four hours a Day," by Faith Baldwin and published by Farrar and Rinehart, "The String Game Mystery," written by E. G. Campbell and published by Knopf and "They Found Him Dead," a Crime Club selection by Georgette Heyer, complete the list of the latest acquisitions.

Why the Rush?

The building contractor on his rounds found a gang of men digging frantically in a trench near a new house. He walked up to one of the men.

"Does the foreman know that this trench has fallen in?"

"Not yet," replied the man. "We're just digging him out to tell him."

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