

HARRISBURG LETTER.

Ex-Congressman Kulp Denies a Charge of Attempted Bribery.

GOVERNOR'S PET PROJECT KILLED

The Bill Which Would Let the Committee Keep Only One-Third of the Personal Tax For Two Years Received Only Nine Affirmative Votes.

(Special Correspondence.) Harrisburg, April 4.—The examination of every member of the lower house of the legislature by the bribery investigation committee has been completed, and has resulted in some startling charges, but the persons charged have promptly denied the statements made against them, and up to the present time there have been no proofs presented to substantiate the charges. As an instance, last week Representative Brown, of Union, testified that ex-Congressman Monroe H. Kulp, of Shamokin, had offered him \$300 to remain away from the first joint legislative caucus. Today Mr. Kulp appeared before the committee on his own request and swore that the charge was wholly baseless, and made for political effect.

A big delegation of Philadelphia insurance men argued before Senator Grady's finance committee against the Cressy revenue bill's provision to double the 2 per cent tax on the premiums of foreign insurance companies. Chairman Grady expects that by tomorrow night the committee will be ready to report the Cressy bill and the foreign and domestic beer tax bills, all of which have passed the house. The committee, Mr. Grady says, will try to report other revenue bills by that time, when 15 days will remain before final adjournment. Representative Bliss, of Delaware, gave notice in the house that an issue would be made henceforth by the legislative elements demanding the enactment of such taxes as the beer bills against what seemed to be an effort to shield the brewers and certain corporate interests at the expense of the county treasuries and of such concerns as manufacturing corporations. Mr. Dixon, of Elk, also gave warning of possible clashing between the interests referred to by Mr. Bliss.

This discussion started over Ways and Means Chairman Hosack's appeal for passage of the bill, recommended by Governor Stone, which would let the counties keep only one-third of the personal tax for two years. The house had voted down a motion to postpone the bill for the present. It wanted to kill it right away. Mr. Hosack said that if the bill should be postponed he would not call it up unless revenue needs should compel him to do so. Appropriations Chairman Marshall sustained him.

The bill was denounced by Messrs. Cressy and Dixon, the latter asking: "What is the use of dillydallying with a measure that is universally condemned? I am informed that the general revenue bill (Cressy's) will raise all the necessary revenue, but there seems to be an attempt to shield corporate interests through the defeat of that measure."

The Governor's Pet Project Killed. By a vote of 100 to 63 Mr. Hosack's request for postponement was refused. Then the house killed the governor's pet project by a vote of 156 nays and 9 yeas on the question of final passage, when all those who had first voted in courtesy to Mr. Hosack joined in the stampede.

Mr. Hosack had better luck with a motion to reconsider the defeated bill taxing manufacturing corporations. He vehemently asked if the National Guard had to be called out occasionally, were to remain untaxed. Pennsylvania, he said, is the only state in the Union which does not tax corporations.

Mr. Bliss at this point threw down the gage of battle against the brewers. If the beer bills shall not be passed, he declared, there will be no money for the charities. Despite his arguments and those of Messrs. Fow and Stewart against taxing manufacturing corporations, Mr. Hosack gained reconsideration by a vote of 114 yeas to 36 nays, owing to the Democratic support.

A motion by Mr. Hosack to postpone final action for the present was adopted. A majority of the house will keep close watch on the senate to see that the several corporation tax bills, especially the one affecting foreign corporations doing most of their business in this state, shall pass with the beer bills. The senate is warned by house leaders that there can be no change from April 20 as final adjournment day, and if these bills are not passed by that time the people can decide where the responsibility rests.

The Henson bill appropriating \$2,000,000 to be expended on the capitol under a new commission and the two other new capitol bills were allowed to pass second reading in the house Thursday night, with other appropriation bills, without a fight, there being a general understanding to defer discussion until a third reading.

To Sue For a Junketing Trip. Mr. Yates, of Philadelphia, introduced a bill in the house authorizing J. H. Shaw, Robert Tagg, John T. Stauffer and the Hotel Lafayette, Philadelphia, to bring suit in the common pleas court of Dauphin county against the commonwealth, for claims on account of the legislators' junket to the Washington monument celebration two years ago.

In the senate Mr. Muehlbauer called up the bill permitting pool selling. This bill was placed on the postponed calendar ten days ago. The motion to proceed with the consideration of the measure was agreed to. Thereupon Mr. Henry, while opposing the proposition, said that if pool selling was a good thing three months in the year it was good all the year round. The bill passed finally by a vote of 28 to 10.

The bill making wholesale and retail liquor licenses personal property, and as such subject to pledge as security for debt and sale upon execution, also passed the senate finally.

A bill was introduced in the house by Mr. Cressy, of Columbia, "by request," to make women eligible to the office of judge in courts of record. The measure provides "that women learned in the law are and shall be eligible to the office of judge of all the courts of record in this commonwealth, and when elected

or appointed thereto shall be entitled to all rights, powers, privileges and emoluments pertaining to the office and subject to its duties and responsibilities."

Three political elements in the senate were successfully rallied by Mr. Wentz, Democrat: Mr. Flinn, anti-Quay, and W. M. Brown, Quayite, for a bill which vain efforts had been made to enact in every legislature since 1871 to extend the minimum school term to seven months. Governor Stone favors the bill. It was called up by Mr. Flinn. In a speech opposing the bill Mr. Hertzler declared that the farmer has burdens enough to carry without adding more. Mr. Cumings said he believed in legislating for brains. After further debate the bill passed finally by a vote of 30 to 10.

Proposed Free Library Commission. Senator Magee introduced a bill to provide for the appointment of a free library commission. The commission is to be composed of five persons, to be appointed by the governor, and the commissioners shall give advice and counsel to all free libraries and to all communities proposing to establish them. The commission, which is to receive no compensation, shall establish and maintain out of money appropriated for the work a system of traveling libraries as far as possible throughout the state.

Another bill introduced by Mr. Magee appropriates \$20,000 to the commission for the purpose of beginning its work, and a third bill also read in place by Mr. Magee extends to cities of the second and third classes and to towns and boroughs a right to levy a tax and make appropriations for the establishment and maintenance of free libraries.

Mr. Fow, of Philadelphia, presented "by request" a petition in the house signed by 500 citizens of Lackawanna county, asking for the impeachment of Judges Archibald, Gunster and Edwards, of Lackawanna county, for unlawful and unconstitutional acts and conduct in their judicial capacity in the trial of the famous Jennings case against the Lehigh Valley railroad. The petition is similar to one brought to the last legislature, and grows out of an old trouble between the judges and John G. Jennings with his counsel, Cornelius Smith, who ran as an independent candidate for judge against Judge Gunster last fall.

In the house discussion on prohibition Mr. Fow was called on, as a defender of liquor dealers' rights, to explain how he managed to be the prohibition candidate for representative in the Seventeenth ward last fall. This was in connection with the final passage of the bill fathered by Mr. McElhany, of Allegheny, to repeal as much of the special law as prohibits liquor traffic in Rankin borough, that county.

In support of the bill Mr. Fow referred to "spook cases" as proof of the impossibility of legislating with entire success against men's appetites. Mr. Larzere, of Montgomery, disagreed with him and pointed to the general success of Willow Grove Park, wherein prohibition is rigidly enforced.

Mr. Fow said the park's prosperity was easily understood, as a member of the house, "Mac" Hersh, was its manager. Mr. Fow as a Prohibitionist. Mr. Adams, of Philadelphia, the recently unsuccessful advocate of Memorial day prohibition, put the ticket endorsement to Mr. Fow, who gravely asserted that his running as a cold water man, in addition to his candidacy on all the other tickets, was to prove the inconsistencies of a ballot law under which a candidate could easily appropriate party headings to his own use.

The house burst into an incredulous "oh-oh" but Mr. Fow stuck to it, adding: "The brewers and other liquor dealers helped to get me on the prohibition ticket. I ran on another ticket that the gentleman from the Twenty-fourth ward was not on—the Honest Government ticket."

This reference to the scare which the Honest Government candidates for the legislature in the Twenty-fourth district had given to Representatives Adams and Noblit brought down the house. The repeal bill was passed finally by 104 yeas to 34 nays, the only Philadelphia voters against it being Messrs. Adams and Woodruff.

Another bill which passed finally had been introduced by Mr. Hersh, of Philadelphia, as a result of Willow Grove Park experiences. It gives the authorities of such a park the right to take charge of, keep in repair and place under their police regulations within the park limits any public road. The bill got 152 yeas, with no opposition.

Almost as many supporters were won for final passage of the Grady-Hersh bill, which had passed the senate, permitting the president of the Philadelphia board of education to make his signatures to salary warrants with a rubber stamp.

Inheritance Tax Bill Reconsidered. In consequence of pleas by Ways and Means Chairman Hosack and Appropriations Chairman Marshall the house reconsidered the defeat of the Baldwin bill taxing direct inheritances by a vote of 93 yeas to 43 nays. This was done, however, with the understanding that the bill, should not be pushed for final passage in its present shape unless the supreme court decision, expected within the next few days, shall knock out the retroactive and other features of the collateral inheritance tax law. Messrs. Hosack and Marshall argued that if the collateral inheritance amount depending upon the litigation shall be lost by the state the legislature cannot reasonably avoid enacting the direct inheritance bill.

The house passed on second reading the bill for a tax in license form of three-fourths of a cent per gallon on malt liquors from other states or countries sold in Pennsylvania.

Chairman Hosack, of the ways and means committee, introduced a bill in the house providing for the payment of a bonus of one-third of 1 per cent upon the capital stock now actually employed in Pennsylvania of certain foreign corporations, limited partnerships and joint stock associations now registered in this commonwealth.

Additional opposition to the proposed doubling of the 2 per cent tax on the premiums of foreign insurance companies arises from friends of the Firemen's pension fund, which gets income from that tax. It is asserted that unless the pension fund law were amended the pending tax bill could not be so worded as to spare the allowance to aged and disabled firemen.

The governor notified the senate that he has signed the bill validating the acts of justices of the peace.

WILKINS.

Good Roads.

The construction of good roads has received wide attention in this country, but as yet no practical system has been devised by which any considerable portion of our roads can be improved. The construction of good roads on any except a gravel soil is a costly business, so expensive that the farmers cannot bear the burden. It would amount to the confiscation of the farms if the burden were placed upon them, for in the black prairie soil, for instance, there must be a deep solid foundation laid. Gravel on such a soil will not stand. It will go down out of sight during the spring thaws.

Where such roads exist wide tires would go a long way toward preserving them, but it would be long time before everybody adopted wide tires. But bad roads are expensive. The wear and tear of wagons, harness and horses which they entail, amounts to millions of dollars in a year, and the farmer is shut out from the market and from all social intercourse with neighbors frequently for long periods. All this is a loss and a serious one, so serious that in many sections where the conditions are altogether favorable to road improvement there should be no negligence in the matter. No one should object to the small outlay necessary to make a good, serviceable road when only a small outlay is needed. Every road should be made as good as it is possible to make it at reasonable expense, for money thus expended will pay a large dividend.

Why?—We are constantly asked "Why do you advertise? Everybody knows of Dr. Humphreys, everybody knows '77'." We answer by asking do you use "Seventy-Seven"? No! then you haven't a saving knowledge of it, that's why. Knowing about "77" for Colds and grip does not benefit you, and incidentally us, until you try it "77" Dr. Humphreys' famous specific "breaks up" colds that "hang on." Knocks out the grip; stops lingering coughs; soothes the throat, chest and lungs. Cures all kinds of colds; at all druggists or sent prepaid, 25c and \$1.00. Dr. Humphreys' medicine book sent free. Humphreys' Medicine Co., Cor. William and John Sts., N. Y.

Here are some weather proverbs referring to song birds and storms: "When birds cease to sing rain and thunder will follow. If birds in general pick their feathers, wash themselves and fly to their nests, expect rain. Parrots and canaries dress their feathers and are wakened the evening before a storm. If the peacock cries when he goes to roost, and, indeed, much at a time, it is a sign of rain. Long and loud singing of robins in the morning denotes rain. Robins will perch on the topmost branches of trees and whistle when a storm is coming on.

MOTHER GRAY'S SWEET POWDERS FOR CHILDREN.—Successfully used by Mother Gray, nurse in the Children's Home, in New York, cure Feverishness, Bad Stomach, Teething Disorders, Break up Colds, move and regulate the Bowels and destroy the worms. Over 10,000 testimonials. At all druggists 25c. Sample mailed FREE. Address, Allen S. Olmstead, LeRoy New York. 3-16-4-d

According to reports a man and his wife, who have been living in Ward township, Tioga county, have eked out a miserable existence on horse meat for some time. A few days ago they applied to the county commissioners for relief, and upon making an investigation of the premises a quarter of horse meat and a barrel of salted horse were found in the house. The wife has secured a temporary home with relatives and the husband was taken to the county poor house.

Don't Tobacco Spit and Smoke Your Life Away. To quit tobacco easily and forever, be magnetic, full of life, nerve and vigor, take No-To-Bac, the wonder-worker, that makes weak men strong. All druggists, 50c or \$1.00. Guaranteed. Booklet and sample free. Address: Sterling Remedy Co., Chicago or New York.

The new spring bonnet is said to be a stunner. It will have a cow-catcher in front, a tail-board behind, a flower garden on top, with a bunch of grass on either side. The whole will be elaborately banded together with crushed ribbons and topped off with a very abundant millinery bill.

Grain-O Brings Relief to the coffee drinker. Coffee drinking is a habit that is universally indulged in and almost universally injurious. Have you tried Grain-O? It is almost like coffee but the effects are just the opposite. Coffee upsets the stomach, ruins the digestion, effects the heart and disturbs the whole nervous system. Grain-O tones up the stomach, aids digestion and strengthens the nerves. 15 and 25c. a package. 3-30-4-d

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What is CASTORIA Castoria is a substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is Harmless and Pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. Its age is its guarantee. It destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. It cures Diarrhoea and Wind Colic. It relieves Teething Troubles, cures Constipation and Flatulency. It assimilates the Food, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep. The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

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Notes For Gardeners.

From one "bean and corn" locality nearly 50 per cent of the pigs received by one of the packers were reported as producing soft, oily, undesirable pork; and another packer is equally pronounced against them.

When eighteen inches high nip off the ends of the canes of blackberries and black raspberries. This will cause new laterals to grow, and these should be trimmed in the spring also. By this means the bearing surface is increased, and the bush is kept low and strong.

If a fruit orchard of any kind needs fertilizing, and you do not know what food constituents the soil most needs, you can venture to spread raw bone meal and potash liberally; whether you want the carbonate, sulphate or muriate, you will find it is unleached wood ashes.

One can grow more strawberries on a given area of ground, bushel for bushel, than he can of corn; and while he can buy his corn from twenty to forty cents a bushel, he can sell his strawberries for from \$2.50 to \$4 a bushel. Why does not every farmer grow at least what he can consume at home?

APT QUOTATIONS.—Proverbs, axioms and wise sayings have been uttered by Confucius and other wise men from time immemorial, but few people realize how many there are of them. C. I. Hood & Co., of Sarsaparilla fame, have over two thousand and they have originated the ingenious plan of serving them up in delectable shape in thousands of newspapers, with each one neatly turning a point as to the merit of their well known medicine. The extensive use of these proverbs is original and creditable to Hood & Co.

"Whether I am in active service or not," said the street sprinkler, "my business seems to be falling behind.

ONE SHORT PUFF CLEARS THE HEAD.—Does your head ache? Have you pains over your eyes? Is there a constant dropping in the throat? Is the breath offensive? These are certain symptoms of Catarrh. Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder will cure most stubborn cases in a marvelously short time. If you've had catarrh for a week it's a sure cure. If its of fifty years standing it's just as effective.—52. Sold by C. A. Kleim.

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INSOMNIA. "I have been using CASCARETS for insomnia, with which I have been afflicted for over twenty years, and I can say that Cascarets have given me more relief than any other remedy I have ever tried. I shall certainly recommend them to my friends as being all they are represented." THOS. GILLARD, Egin, Ill.

For Catarrh May-Fever Cold in Head. ELY'S CREAM BALM is a positive cure. Apply into the nostrils. It is quickly absorbed. 50 cents at Druggists or by mail; samples 10c. by mail. ELY BROTHERS, 54 Warren St., New York City.

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