

45 LEGISLATIVE MILLS TO START

Lawmaking Bodies Open Sessions Today or Later This Month

MANY IMPORTANT PROJECTS

By the Associated Press. New York, Jan. 3.—Legislatures of forty-five states and territories, most of which open their sessions today or later this month, have before them formidable programs of law reform, dry-law enforcement, election reorganization in accordance with the 1920 census, soldier bonuses, public improvements, revision of constitutions, laws for husband and wife, industrial and suffrage legislation, state aid for farmers, housing commissions, new financing, re-employment by consolidation or abolition of state departments, anti-railroadism, automobile regulation, reorganization of state militias, relief for public utilities, amendment or repeal of primary laws, commission or "manager" plans for cities and counties, and anti-blue law enactments.

California, with its ambitious \$750,000,000 state-wide irrigation project, leads in the matter of proposed public improvements. Legislation of the legislature to authorize a survey of the contemplated enterprise, Colorado also has a big mountain tunnel in contemplation. In Virginia, a bill for a bond issue at the recent election, Missouri also must provide \$80,000,000 road-building legislation.

Other Important Projects

Establishment of a state constabulary, urged largely by farmers, and enactment of a bill legalizing boxing, in addition to a proposed law to set state primary law, held unconstitutional by the State Supreme Court, will be taken up by the Legislature of Illinois some time after that body meets for its opening session next Wednesday. Fighting against primary laws are to be made also in Indiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont and Wyoming. Vermont "liberals" plan an attack on the blue laws of the state in so far as they relate to observance of the Sabbath. An effort will be made, it is said, to modify the present statutes so as to permit amateur sports, particularly baseball, on a regular basis. Some time after that body meets for its opening session next Wednesday, fighting against primary laws are to be made also in Indiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont and Wyoming.

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Reorganization of the state judiciary system and a constitutional amendment proposing that none but "American citizens, native or fully naturalized, and allowed the right of suffrage in Texas" will be before the law-making body at Austin, Tex., beginning January 11. Another Texas bill, which would abolish Orientalers from acquiring land within the state. Kansas representatives will have bills before them providing state aid for highway construction and financial assistance to farmers in purchasing homes.

Capital punishment, as a result of legal discussion over the Colorado murder case, will confront the Nebraska Legislature, and West Virginia will act on proposals to abolish private detective agencies. The last-named state also will consider amendments to laws relating to marriage, and will make nonpayment an extraditable offense. California legislators once again will be called upon to consider the act of 1919 which was designed to place a wife on equality with her husband, and which was defeated last fall.

Many states will be confronted with the problem of raising funds to buy soldiers' bonuses voted at the last session. South Dakota is expected to obtain \$1,000,000; Montana legislators will vote on the question of a bonus for 40,000 ex-servicemen. Delaware lawmakers will take a similar vote. Connecticut must raise \$2,500,000 for the soldier relief; New Hampshire, in addition to a bonus, may exempt "veteran" property from taxation up to \$500 value, and Iowa seeks at the legislative session beginning January 10 also will consider a soldiers' bonus bill.

Interesting Situations Confront Legislators

The Vane contingent, which fought desperately to keep the Philadelphia charter bill from seeing the light of day, has done a right-about turn and now stands for it intact and opposed to proposed changes. A fight is seen on the proposed bill to lengthen the public school term throughout the state from nine to ten months. Farmers will fight it. They need their winter for as many months as possible. Educators will fight it. They have just ended a long battle for increased pay and don't want their working hours increased. Women, in view of their suffrage franchise, are expected to wield an increased influence in the matter. "Big" fellows are expected to adopt "hands off" policy.

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LEGISLATOR SAYS WOMEN WILL SIT IN NEXT SESSION

One Harrisburg Lawmaker Says Coming of Sex to Capital Is Foreshadowed by Closing of Saloons—Much Drinking on Quiet

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 3.—Well, the hare has gone and the next thing we'll have women members of the state Legislature.

In that way a veteran member of the House summed up today one phase of the "situation" which confronts the commonwealth with the formal opening tomorrow of the General Assembly. In other days the preliminaries, nominating and trials of a legislative session were marked by frequent and voluminous liquid conferences with one foot on the bench seat.

All this having been stimulated—first by the hours and stiff-muzzed legislators are inclined to consider philosophical and consider that the closing of the bars was only the necessary and first step toward dropping the bars to women legislators and a development of a more wholesome atmosphere in the halls of legislation.

Vare Legislators Weakened on Charter

Continued from Page One. term is scheduled. It will be fought hard. The farmers are dead set against it. It has taken twenty-five years to get a decent salary for the school teachers. It is doubtful if a nine-month rural term law can be put through in one legislative session.

There has been an unresponsible amount of gossip and chatter about what Senator Penrose is going to do, and what Governor Spangler's proposed live course will be. How Mayor Moore will defy Senator Penrose and as he went the senator and the governor he will steer a middle course.

Governor Spangler is in the same position as the Philadelphia model. It is a case of heads-off all round by the big fellows.

Moore Confident of Aid on Phila. Bills

Continued from Page One. last night, they were State Representative James A. Walker, of the Forty-sixth ward, and State Senator William J. McNichol. When Senator McNichol was asked if he had a thought he replied:

"No; can't think in our town; you might be wrong."

This was taken as a subtle comment on the Philadelphia political situation.

Legislators Get Pay Rise They Voted Themselves

Members of the state Legislature are to experience that "gran" or glorious feeling that comes with "getting a rise."

When they take up their legislative duties tomorrow at Harrisburg they will start on a new pay schedule, which they voted themselves before the 1919 session dissolved.

A state legislator used to get \$1500 a year; the new rate will be \$2500.

Employees who were turned into "lame ducks" by Mayor Moore's loyalty drive, Thomas W. Cunningham, of the Vane-Brown-Cunningham combination, will be in charge of the distribution of Philadelphia's share of the patronage.

This session the Penrose and Vane forces start out in harmonious accord, and the chairman of the committee, backed by a membership of Philadelphia friends, will be a power to be reckoned with in the consideration of municipal legislation.

So far Philadelphia Independents have made no move to demand the appointment of a chairman of the important committee who would be in sympathy with Mayor Moore's municipal program. Legislative leaders in the House and Senate probably will be retained without opposition to his re-appointment develops it is pointed out by Senator George Woodward, sponsor of the charter legislation, would be the likely one to lead the fight.

In the House, Representative W. W. Stidlander, of Pittsburgh, a lieutenant of Senator Max Leslie, is looked for reappointment as head of the House Municipal committee. Stidlander, it is said reliably, will face no opposition from the Oliver faction in Pittsburgh.

Chester W. Hill, ally of Joseph H. Grundy, president of the Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association, was one of the early arrivals. He was about the hotel corridors shaking hands with such leaders as were here. It was not observed that he shook hands with Chairman Crow, who is at odds with Mr. Grundy.

The presence of Mr. Hill seemed to give point to the reports that the Grundy forces will fight any move of the Spangler leaders to lay a tax on manufacturing corporations. Other subjects which will be uppermost throughout the session and which may lead to "fireworks" will be congressional state senatorial and legislative reapportionment bills; and the proposal of the state administration to repeal the Brooks high license law and to enact a state law for the enforcement of the Volstead act. Representative John W. Vickerman, of Allegheny, will be in charge of the Governor's "dry" legislation.

It is believed that one of the most spectacular fights of the session will be over the question of revision of the constitution. Senator Penrose is opposed to this, which is the Governor's plan. Along this line there is a suggestion that the municipal side-tracked in some way which would delay action at this time and yet satisfy the Governor. The Governor, however, is

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"LIGHTNING ROD" SLEUTHS

City Detectives, on 8th Hunt, Philadelphia, Jersey Brand

The home of George W. Parker, 131 Taylor avenue, Camden, was raided last night by City Detectives Smith and Kates, who found a whisky still in operation turning out "applejack."

"Jersey lightning" About two gallons of the liquor was confiscated. Parker and two witnesses, Thomas Ross, twenty-two years, 1816 Harwood street, Philadelphia, and Elwood Williams, twenty-two years, 407 Belmont street, Haddonfield, were arrested.

hearty interested in the revision and thinks that now is the time for it. Up to this time the Legislature has dodged reappointment bills on the ground that that was the easiest way to avoid getting involved with county leaders who did not want the status quo disturbed. Old-line leaders say they don't like changes in anything. Plans for the ensuing month also call for the selection of Thomas H. Garvin, of Delaware county, for re-election as chief clerk of the House, with M. K. Bergner, of Chambersburg, as resident clerk. The Senate caucus will select W. Harry Baker for secretary of the Senate and William P. Gallagher, of Wilkes-Barre, will again be chief clerk of that body.

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