

SHORT-TERM LOAN BILL PUSHED AHEAD

Senate Committee Quickly Reports Measure to Finance Repaving Work Here

AMENDS NEW CHARTER

By a Staff Correspondent
 Harrisburg, Jan. 25.—With what Richard Wieglin, president of Philadelphia Council, described as a "pop team" the Senate committee on municipal corporations today reported favorably to the upper chamber the Dax bill providing for the floating of short-term loans for repaving of Philadelphia streets and for the purchase of fire apparatus.

In an address before the Senate committee, of which Senator Vare is chairman, Mr. Wieglin urged speedy action on the bill so that repaving of streets could be pushed extensively. He said if the bill is quickly passed and signed by the Governor, Philadelphia will be able to float a \$5,000,000 loan for street repaving immediately and put the work under contract in the early spring. This, he said, will help to relieve the pressure of the unemployed, especially in the textile district.

"Altogether," said Mr. Wieglin, "the city would put \$6,000,000 of street repaving under contract, all of which would be completed by the end of next year, and the city would have a new, modern city government."

The total would be made up by a \$5,000,000 short-term loan and \$1,000,000 included in the \$33,000,000 authorized, Mr. Wieglin told members of the committee the bill had the approval of framers of the city charter, which the Dax bill would amend, and of Mayor Moore, City Solicitor Smyth, members of Council and Governor Spruill.

The bill was sent out of the committee on motion of Senator Patton, of Philadelphia. It is expected to be reported upon by the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, which was held in session here today.

It also would like the honor of seconding the bill.

Senator Vare, in putting the motion which was carried unanimously, said Mr. Wieglin was heard first on the bill, "and I am sure some one else but in and tries to get credit for the work done by President Wieglin."

This sort aroused considerable interest on the part of those who follow the differences between the Mayor and the Vare-Drown-Cunningham combination.

Mr. Wieglin, in expressing his appreciation for the prompt action of the committee, said:

"We have had a year of great conversation. Now we want a year of construction."

He did not say whom he was shooting at when he referred to a "year of great conversation."

Senator Vare, when the Senate convened this morning, reported the bill out. He said he was working for speed in the handling of the bill, so that it could get an early place on the calendar. If further hearings are desired later on, he said, they could be held without showing up the progress of the measure through the Senate and House.

Philadelphia just missed the honor of winning first attention in a committee hearing.

Fifteen minutes before the committee meeting on the Dax bill, Senator Eyre had a meeting of his appropriations committee. The new chairman shocked his colleagues when he announced that the appropriations committee would not be a "one man" committee; that he

RENT PROFITEERING HIT IN HOUSE BILL

Would Limit Increase to 10 Per Cent and Provide Redress in Courts

MEASURES ARE PILING UP

By a Staff Correspondent
 Harrisburg, Jan. 25.—The first bill to curb profiteering landlords was introduced in the House today by Representative W. H. Martin, of Pittsburgh. It specifies that a landlord cannot raise the rent of a tenant more than 10 per cent over the previous term except in cases of unusual alterations or repairs.

When a landlord wants to make an increase of more than 10 per cent in rent he must go before the Common Pleas Court with a petition. The court fixes a date for a hearing. The landlord must set forth the amount of the repairs, his annual fixed charges and his net income.

If the jury decides the rent increase to be unreasonable, the court is to instruct the amount of damages to be levied against the landlord for the period during which the unreasonable rent was collected.

Among bills before the House when it convened today was one of Representative James A. Dunn, who represents farmers in the northeast section of the state, which would require the Legislature to make a report on the state of agriculture in each county by townships.

Maps have been ordered showing the population and the population. These will be supplied to members for the purpose of hastening an agreement on the re-appointment of congressional, legislative and judicial districts in accordance with the latest census.

As for the State Legislature, one member of the House would be required for each 43,000 of population and one state senator for each 174,000.

N. J. HOUSE O. K.'S 18TH AMENDMENT

Ratification and Fate of 350 P. C. Beer Law Now Hinge on Senate Action

WOMEN PUSH DRY BILLS

Special Dispatch to Evening Public Ledger
 Trenton, Jan. 25.—Favorable action by the state Senate is all that is required now to place New Jersey among the states ratifying the national prohibition amendment. By a vote of fifty-one to four, the House of Assembly last night adopted the Roberts resolution approving the eighteenth amendment.

Four Passaic assemblers—Tattersall, Evans, Meloney and Roegner—cast the negative votes.

A concurrent resolution in form meeting with favorable action by the Senate would rescind New Jersey's former opinion of the law of the land, because the measure does not receive executive consideration. Whatever hostility Governor Edwards might express to such a measure is removed by the nature of the resolution.

On top of approval of the ratification resolution came repeal of the Edwards 3.50 beer law of 1920.

Mrs. Laird's Maiden Speech
 Mrs. Margaret R. Laird, of the Essex delegation, introduced the repeal and her maiden speech was made in advocacy of this part of the dry program. She declared the beer law to be unconstitutional, worthless at the time of its passage and ineffective now because the Supreme Court of the United States has upheld the Volstead act.

The Rev. A. Lincoln Moore, of Hunterdon, also spoke in favor of the repeal.

Opposition to the ratification resolution was voiced by Assemblyman Evans, of Passaic, on the theory that although the eighteenth amendment is now part of the law of the land, constitutional amendments should not be ratified without recourse to popular vote.

Before the prohibition legislation was considered, the House, under suspended rules, took up the bill by Mrs. Van Ness to permit women to be appointed overseers of the poor in all municipalities, removing a restriction confining women overseers to municipalities having less than 25,000 population.

Mrs. Van Ness is No "Greenhorn"
 Grasping details that some legislators acquire only after considerable experience, Mrs. Van Ness promptly arose and requested Speaker Hobart to direct the House clerk, Upton S. Jeffrey, of Camden, to sign the measure at once and immediately dispatch it to the Senate. Mrs. Van Ness went over to the Senate later in the evening to make sure the bill had been brought to the attention of Senate President Allen.

Republican senators in caucus decided to keep Governor Edwards' nomination to a new utility board in committee, awaiting a decision by the Court of Errors and Appeals on the governor's authority to dismiss the old Republican board.

Would Reorganize Utility Board
 Senator Walworth, of Camden, offered a bill for reorganization of the Utility Board. He proposes a commission of three appointments by the governor for six-year terms and the compensation of \$12,000 a year. The bill also proposes to repeal the section of the utility law for the dismissal of commissioners. Walworth's bill bears the earmarks of a Republican party measure.

Creation of a state constabulary would be authorized under a bill introduced by Senator Case, of Somerset. It would give Governor Edwards the appointment of a state superintendent of police at a salary of \$5000 for five years, with headquarters at Trenton. A deputy at \$3500 yearly is provided for.

Straight party voting, by the insertion of a single "X" at the top of the party column on official ballots for state elections, is proposed in a bill introduced by Senator Sturgess, of Gloucester. Independent voting would be retained through marking of an "X" before the name of a candidate.

To Consider Maternity Legislation
 Aimed primarily at Hudson county and the Democratic machine headed by Mayor Frank Hague and Governor Edwards, the Mackay resolution for a survey of public questions and the conduct

PAIRING SIDEWALKS: WALKER, PHILADELPHIA, PROVIDING THAT VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS MAY BE SUED OR SUE IN THE NAME OF THE ASSOCIATION.

Almost 160 bills, a new day's record, were presented in the two houses of the General Assembly last night, 150 being introduced in the House alone.

ENGLI CLOCK INVENTOR DIES

Hazleton, Pa., Jan. 25.—(By A. P.)
 Stephen D. Engle, aged eighty-three, inventor and builder of the famous Engle astronomical, musical and apostolic clock, famous a generation ago as a theatrical attraction, died at his home here last night. He was also the inventor of a device for fastening porcelain teeth to silver and gold plate and numerous other devices, including a dustproof watch case.

ASKS SPECIAL RATES FOR PREACHERS

Representative James J. Heffernan, Philadelphia, presented a bill giving railroaders authority to make special, reduced or lower rates to clergymen, provided no discrimination is made against any sect.

LIQUOR SEIZED ABOARD SHIP

Customs Men Seeking Drugs, Take "Bottled Goods" Off the Corson
 Sixty-two quarts of liquor, including champagne and French wines, which came up on second reading was, on motion of Mr. McCaig, Allegheny, re-committed to the appropriations committee for amendment. Among other bills introduced were the following:

Hess, Lancaster: The administration "blue sky" bill providing penalties for deceit or fraud in the sale of securities; McKnight, appropriating \$35,000 to the Western Pennsylvania Institution for the Blind at Pittsburgh; Smink, Philadelphia, imposing upon the first class, liability for the expense of reconstructing and repairing sidewalks; Walker, Philadelphia, providing that voluntary associations may be sued or sue in the name of the association.

At about 10 o'clock, the Corson steamer, carrying a large quantity of liquor, was seized by the Coast Guard cutter, *USCGC* *Albatross*, at Fort Richmond yesterday. Captain Fauster, commander of the ship, professed ignorance of any liquor aboard his vessel other than that on the manifest.

CONGRESSMAN BUTLER ILL

Suffering From Ptomaine Poisoning—Perishing's Testimony Postponed

Washington, Jan. 25.—Representative Thomas S. Butler, of West Chester, is ill of ptomaine poisoning at his room in a Washington hotel.

The hearing on disbarment before the naval affairs committee, of which Mr. Butler is chairman, was postponed today on account of his illness. General Pershing appeared to tell the committee his opinion as to the manner disbarment proposals would be received abroad. He learned of the chairman's illness after arrival at the House office building.

Mr. Butler spent Saturday night and Sunday with his son at Quantico, Va., and his illness was caused by food he ate there.

At his office it was stated he hoped to be out in a day or two.

NEW APPOINTMENTS CONFIRMED

Governor Edwards nominated and the Senate immediately confirmed Joseph E. Stricker, of Perth Amboy, as prosecutor of Middlesex county. His new term starts today.

SENATOR BARBER, OF ESSEX, INTRODUCED A BILL MAKING OPEN SPECIFICATIONS ON STATE ROAD CONTRACTS MANDATORY.

Spurred on by the fatalities at grade crossings in South Jersey, Senator Sturgess introduced a bill requiring railroad crossing watchmen to signal travelers at all grade crossings and making compulsory day and night service at such grades.

Senator Barber, of Warren, introduced a bill to appropriate \$500,000 or \$100,000 yearly, for purchase of toll bridges spanning the Delaware river and connecting New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Two bills designed to check the crime wave in New Jersey were introduced by Assemblyman Tattersall, of Passaic. Life imprisonment would be the penalty for highwaymen and burglars using weapons.

Measure to Aid Women Voters
 Assemblyman Pierson also introduced a bill to harmonize the present election laws with participation of women in elections. One of the main provisions is that the size of an election district be increased from 400 to 500 voters. Another section makes clear the right of women to serve as presidential electors, and there is also a provision that in voting for electors a cross placed in the square at the head of the party list shall be a vote for the entire list.

Initiative of the trend to curtail state expenses, Senator Whitney, of Morris, chairman of the joint appropriations committee, announced that no salary increases for state employees would be granted without careful investigation of the merits of each case. He declared that salary raises granted should be based on service and only to cover the increased cost of living.

The Legislature approved an extensive building program for institutions, limited only by the state's finances, in order to absorb the unemployment.

"The Richest Cake I Ever Tasted— and Made Without Butter"

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