

GRUNDYTES DROP FIGHT ON CHARTER

Manufacturers' Head Centering Influence to Oppose Sprout Revenue Program

MAIN ATTACK ON COAL BILL

Harrisburg, Feb. 17.—Governor Sprout and administration leaders are not at all pleased over the activities of the so-called Grundy group in the House and the personal presence here of Joseph R. Grundy, president of the Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association.

State administration leaders, in this connection, pointed today to the conference Mr. Grundy and his chief of staff, Chester W. Hill, had among others with John M. Flynn, Democrat of Elk county, and Representative Hoss, Republican, of Lancaster county, the members who have been conspicuous in insisting upon an investigation of deficiency bills.

There was nothing secret about the Grundy conferences; there was nothing of the star chamber atmosphere. As a matter of fact, Mr. Grundy held his conferences with his friends on the floor of the so-called "third house"—the session used by speakers behind the brass rail in the lower chamber. It is believed that Mr. Grundy's appearance of feeling "quite at home" did not make much of a "bit" with the state administration.

Only Discordant Note
The leaders representing the Governor regard Mr. Grundy and his allies as representing the only discord in the Republican state organization.

The Governor and others are satisfied with the attitude of Senator Penrose, but it is understood there was a lot of gossip following the Grundy conferences. It is pointed out that the Spangler speech in the House, in rather unprecedented fashion, appeared before the House appropriations committee and personally urged its members to exercise the greatest care in scrutinizing all appropriation bills. He urged economy, and, where deemed advisable, investigations into requests for appropriations. As the speaker is a friend of Mr. Grundy it was said that he was reflecting the Grundy idea. However, the speaker has been making similar suggestions since he took office. The Spangler speech to the appropriations committee was delivered unexpectedly late yesterday afternoon, following the appearance of Mr. Grundy, has nevertheless stirred up a wealth of gossip. It is pointed out that the Spangler speech fits in very well with the Grundy plan of insisting upon economy so that a tax on manufacturing corporations will not be forced by the state administration.

One definite thing has emerged from the Grundy conferences and that is that the coal operators and the manufacturing corporations, were vigorously denied. It looks as if in the last twenty hours a hard and fast alliance has been formed between the coal and manufacturing leaders with the object of battling the revenue raisers.

Lines Drawn Sharply
Both sides, the interests and the administration, expect there will be a sharp fight over the tax measures, when the real strength of the interests will be shown in the House. However, administration leaders predict their whole program, or so much of it as is desired in the last analysis, will pass both the House and Senate.

For example, word was passed out today that the state administration would surely push the bill for the constitutional convention. It was declared by high administration leaders that the bill would certainly pass. Add to this the statement by friends of Mr. Grundy that "no one was enough interested in the constitutional convention bill to lead a fight against it," and it will be seen that the people of the question of calling a convention was as much of a "given" as the certainty as anything can be said. It is finally achieved.

Crew of Burning Ship Rescued
New York, Feb. 17.—(By A. P.)—The crew of the British tank steamer *Deimira*, reported last night as being twenty miles north of Havana, has been rescued by the American ship *J. E. O'Neil*, said a radio message to the naval communications service today. The message gave no information as to the fate of the tanker.

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"WETS" SPRING SURPRISE

Results of Local-Option Election in Allegheny Amaze "Drys"
Pittsburgh, Feb. 17.—Prohibitionists are surprised over the set-back received in seven out of seventeen boroughs and townships in Allegheny county at the local option election Tuesday. The election was under an old law, and is a yearly occurrence. Expectations of the prohibitionists that they would easily win all the contests as they have done in the last twenty years, were shattered when returns came in. Some of the districts, where the anti-saloon vote has always been overwhelming, reversed the usual order and cast a heavy "wet" vote completely overwhelming the "dry." Ten districts voted "drys" and seven "wet."

While the election only authorizes the sale of beverages of one-half of 1 per cent or under, citizens of the boroughs and townships that voted "wet" can now apply for saloon licenses under the Brooks law and if granted such license by the court they will be permitted to conduct a saloon business that conforms with the eighteenth amendment and the Volstead enforcement act.

PLANS STATE JOB RISE

Senator Murdock Seeks to Increase Salary of Factory Inspectors
Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 17.—A salary raise, which would cost the state \$35,000, is represented in the bill offered by Senator Murdock, of Allegheny, increasing the pay of factory inspectors. About thirty Philadelphia are included in the list of 100 factory inspectors under the State Department of Labor and Industry.

The salaries of the twenty-five men in the first class would be increased from \$2000 to \$2500; the fifty in the second class would be raised from \$1800 to \$2100. The twenty-five in the third class would be increased from \$1500 to \$1800.

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CRAIG BILL GIVES P. R. T. BUS RIGHTS

Erie Legislator Says "Trackless Trolley" Measure May Be Localized by Change

PUTS CONSENT ON COUNCIL

Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 17.—Special interest attaches to the Craig bill permitting electric street railway companies to operate trackless trolleys because under its terms the P. R. T. could operate such a line on the Roosevelt boulevard or elsewhere in Philadelphia. The only proviso is that consent of local authorities would be required. The question would then arise: "Who are the local authorities?" Council or the mayor, or both, or the transit department alone?

Undoubtedly this question would have to be passed on by the Public Service Commission as well as the general proposition of allowing trackless trolleys in Philadelphia or at any other point. The bill sets forth that street railway companies are "hereby authorized to operate vehicles, without the use of rails or tracks, by electricity distributed by overhead wires, in addition to existing facilities of said companies, provided that the consent of local authorities shall be obtained prior to the operation of said vehicles within the limits of any city, borough or township."

Representative Craig, of Erie, the author of the bill, explained today that he intended the measure to meet a condition purely local to the city of Erie. In that city, he said, it is desired to run cross-town bus lines for the pur-

GUARD 'LOST' FLIER RESTING IN HOTEL

Lieut. Pearson, Lost Three Days in Texas Desert, Kept From Intruders by Soldiers

RANCHERS GAVE HIM HORSE

By the Associated Press
Sanderson, Tex., Feb. 17.—A guard of soldiers kept intruders away from the hotel room today where Lieutenant Alexander Pearson, Jr., obtained his first real rest since he left El Paso last Thursday on a flight in an army airplane to San Antonio.

Uniform in rags, face unshaven, worn out from privations suffered in Texas' most desolate waste lands, the twenty-

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WOMEN'S PARTY FUTURE

Executive Committee's Recommendations to Be Heard Today

WEALTH IN OLD IRON TRUNK

Hungarian Official Finds Relief for Overtrained Treasury

Budapest, Feb. 17.—Finance Minister Hegedus has discovered vast quantities of precious stones in an old iron trunk deposited unknown years ago in the treasury building.

The minister was searching the treasury in the hope of finding relief for the treasury's embarrassed state and saw the trunk, which he had believed to contain papers. When it was broken open thousands of opals and other precious stones appeared, the value of which is estimated at 200,000,000 crowns.

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