

SECOND VICE BILL BACKED BY SOWERS

Representative From Lane's Ward Again Tries to Increase Magistrates' Power

SEEN AS POLICE SHACKLE

Harrisburg, March 2.—Supporters of the Moore administration are prepared to put the vice bill under the hammer, it is gathered by Representative Sowers, of the Twentieth ward, requiring policemen and constables to take prisoners arrested on the streets of Philadelphia to the office of the nearest magistrate.

The measure is placed in a class with the other bill to give magistrates jurisdiction in the preliminary stages of prisoners arrested within their own districts without warrants. The first bill is slumbering on the postponed calendar of the House, and efforts will be made to send the new bill to the same resting place.

Postponement of the first bill is believed to have prompted the introduction of the second by Sowers. It is pointed out this bill, like the other, might severely hamper the activities of the police in districts where the magistrate was unfriendly to the administration.

Another so-called underworld bill has appeared in the shape of a proposal that magistrates be authorized to issue cash bail. It is offered by Representative Blumberg, of the Fifth ward.

Critics of the bill point out that crooks are always glad of an opportunity to offer cash bail as they are at once free to "jump" the town. It is explained that in all large cities there are vice rings and bands of pickpockets and other thieves who have plenty of cash on hand. Crooks find it difficult to get real estate security. However, if cash bail is acceptable, the central organization of the crooks will put up with the "profession" by Sowers.

It is said these central organizations are maintained by contributions or assessments offered by the members of the "profession."

Combine leaders insisted today they would make the passage of the Brady trust bill, increasing salaries of these officials, a part of the combine's first step in the campaign for Philadelphia. They declared placing of the bill on the postponed calendar was not to be taken as a move to kill the measure.

The only thing to be feared is the veto of the Governor, it is said. President Judge Brown wants the bill amended so as to leave the salaries, in the case of Courts of Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions, up to the discretion of the Board of Judges and in the case of the Municipal Court up to the president judge.

Representative Brady said that if the Governor objected to a bill which did not set a maximum salary he would offer an amendment.

Mr. Brady says the Board of Judges will not "necessarily" increase the salaries if the bill passes. He explains that the judges want to be in position to make an increase if conditions warrant or demand.

Combine leaders announced that so far as they are concerned, Senator Woodward's bill extending civil service to county officers should find a chance of passing.

The combine does not believe in civil service anywhere unless, as in the case of city officers, the Moore administration is thereby hampered. One of the leaders said Senator Woodward's bill was a "crazy proposition."

PENROSE WILL NOT OPPOSE REVISION OF CONSTITUTION

Meeting in Washington With Sproul Puts Quiet on Coal Tax Legislation—Assembly Decides to End Sessions April 28

By GEORGE SOX McCAIN

Harrisburg, Pa., March 2.—There has been a vast amount of talk, to say nothing of surmise and speculation, over the "get-together" meeting of Governor Sproul, State Chairman Crow and Secretary Harry Baker with Senator Penrose in Washington on Saturday last.

Today the first concrete evidence of results will be given in the presentation of a resolution, agreed upon at Washington, fixing the final adjournment of the General Assembly on April 28.

This is in accord with Governor Sproul's declaration in his message to the Legislature in January, when he said: "Everything can be disposed of in three active months, and we should like to adjourn in the month of April."

The rest of the plan decided upon at that conference is further emphasized by the positive declaration that there will be no individual measures, no tax upon manufacturing corporations or coal production.

If any such bills are introduced they will be no individual measures, and not as administrative measures.

Not Governor's Hobby

There has been an attempt to make it appear that these measures, in particular, were per hobbies of the Governor, and had been scheduled to be favored through wily allies, in spite of all objections. This is not the fact. This way of increasing the state's revenue was merely a suggestion, tentatively put forth by the Governor in his inaugural message. It appears under the lead of "suggestions as to revenue."

Other similar suggestions were submitted, but none were in his message or in any of his subsequent messages. He insisted upon these measures as means of increasing the state's revenue, and was not committed to them as he is to the constitutional revision plan. Governor Sproul is emphatically in favor of a revision of the constitution. It is an administrative measure, and upon this the Governor received the assurance of Senator Penrose that his program would not be opposed by him.

Agreement Is Made

This does not mean that there will not be a certain amount of opposition to revision. Already there are heard suggestions of double-crossing, knifing and similar Bolshevik tactics. But this cannot alter the fact of the agreement. Bills for congressional and legislative apportionment will be presented. The fundamental law has already been violated by past legislators for ten years, and there is imperative necessity that something be done at the present session.

There is no secret about the fact that the urging that the proposed tax on coal and manufacturing corporations be abandoned was the result of pressure brought to bear on Senator Penrose by the "interest" of the state.

There is already manifest a feeling of relief among the hobby and money centers of mining and manufacturing concerns that this danger has been averted.

There is already a very evident disposition since the Washington conference on the part of members of the Legislature to assume a hollowness attitude toward questions of taxation and progress.

It is a dangerous tendency. Its effects, if continued, will be poisonous.

ROAD BIDS TOO HIGH

Commissioner Sadler Rejects Nine-teen Proposals for Construction

Harrisburg, March 2.

Harrisburg, March 2.—(By A. T. Y.) Bills on ninety of the twenty-six road construction projects on which bids were received February 18 were rejected as too high by Highway Commissioner Sadler today and new bids will be asked. The commissioner said: "I feel that the prices submitted on a great majority of projects for which bids were opened February 18 are not representative of the downward trend of prices for labor and materials."

"While it is urged that the Pennsylvania State Highway Department make every effort to complete the projects which will give Pennsylvania a continuous system of durable highways, it is important that the resources of the state be conserved. There is no reason why this state should pay any more for its work than private individuals or corporations."

The two councilmen and the burgess would each receive an annual salary of \$500.

TO OUST BOROUGH RULERS

Bill Substitutes Commission Form of Government in Towns

Harrisburg, March 2.

Harrisburg, March 2.—A bill by Representative Jones, Lackawanna, establishing the commission form of government in boroughs of the state, has made its appearance in the House. In each borough next November two councilmen would be elected at large, one for a term of two years and the second for a term of four years. With the present burgess they would comprise the official governing body. Every year a councilman would be named for a four-year term. There is a ripper feature which provides that on the first Monday of next January "the terms of all councilmen then in office shall expire."

The two councilmen and the burgess would each receive an annual salary of \$500.

SCHOOL RIPPER HEARING

Public Discussion Here on Bill to Oust Education Board

Harrisburg, March 2.

Harrisburg, March 2.—Definite arrangements were made today by Representative Sterling for a public hearing in Philadelphia, March 11, on the bill to replace the present Board of Education with a small, unpaid, elective board. Mr. Sterling made the arrangements in a conference with Richard Wiegman, president of City Council, who gave permission for the use of the finance committee chamber in City Hall.

"I like," remarked Mr. Wiegman, "to encourage the use of City Hall as a branch capitol."

BLUE LAWS TO BE AIRED

Public Hearings Here Arranged for Sunday Sports Bill

Harrisburg, March 2.

Harrisburg, March 2.—Hearings on the blue law repealer bill to allow communities to decide whether they will permit Sunday sports, will be held in Philadelphia and Harrisburg on dates to be announced later.

The Rev. T. T. Mutchler, of the Lord's Day Alliance, and Representative Glass, chairman of the House Judiciary special committee, decided today to arrange the hearings.

The bill was introduced by Representative Smith, of Philadelphia, colleague of Representative McCarthy, who put in the Sunday fishing bill. Smith and McCarthy represent the Thirteenth and Fourteenth wards, Philadelphia.

DAYLIGHT BILL MOVES

Edmonds Measure to Turn Clocks Goes on Calendar

Harrisburg, March 2.—The daylight saving bill introduced in the House by Representative Edmonds, Philadelphia, providing clocks be turned forward an hour at 2 o'clock a. m. on the second Sunday of April, and back an hour at the second Sunday of September, was reported to the House from the committee on retirement and reform at the second session today.

Albans, March 2.—At a conference of the members of the Senate tomorrow there will be a discussion of a resolution were found to discontinue the passage of the Hawman Bill, which would suspend the bill, which passed the Assembly last week. This measure also deals with daylight saving in New York state as a whole.



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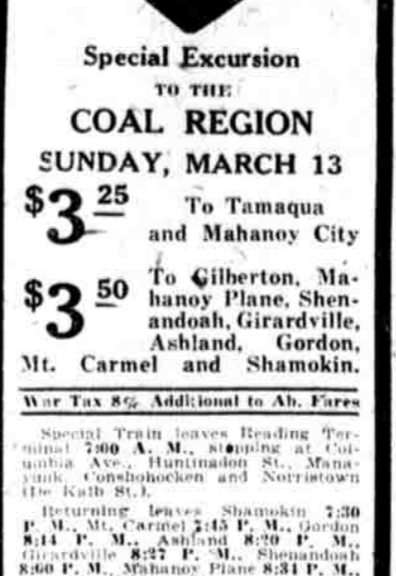
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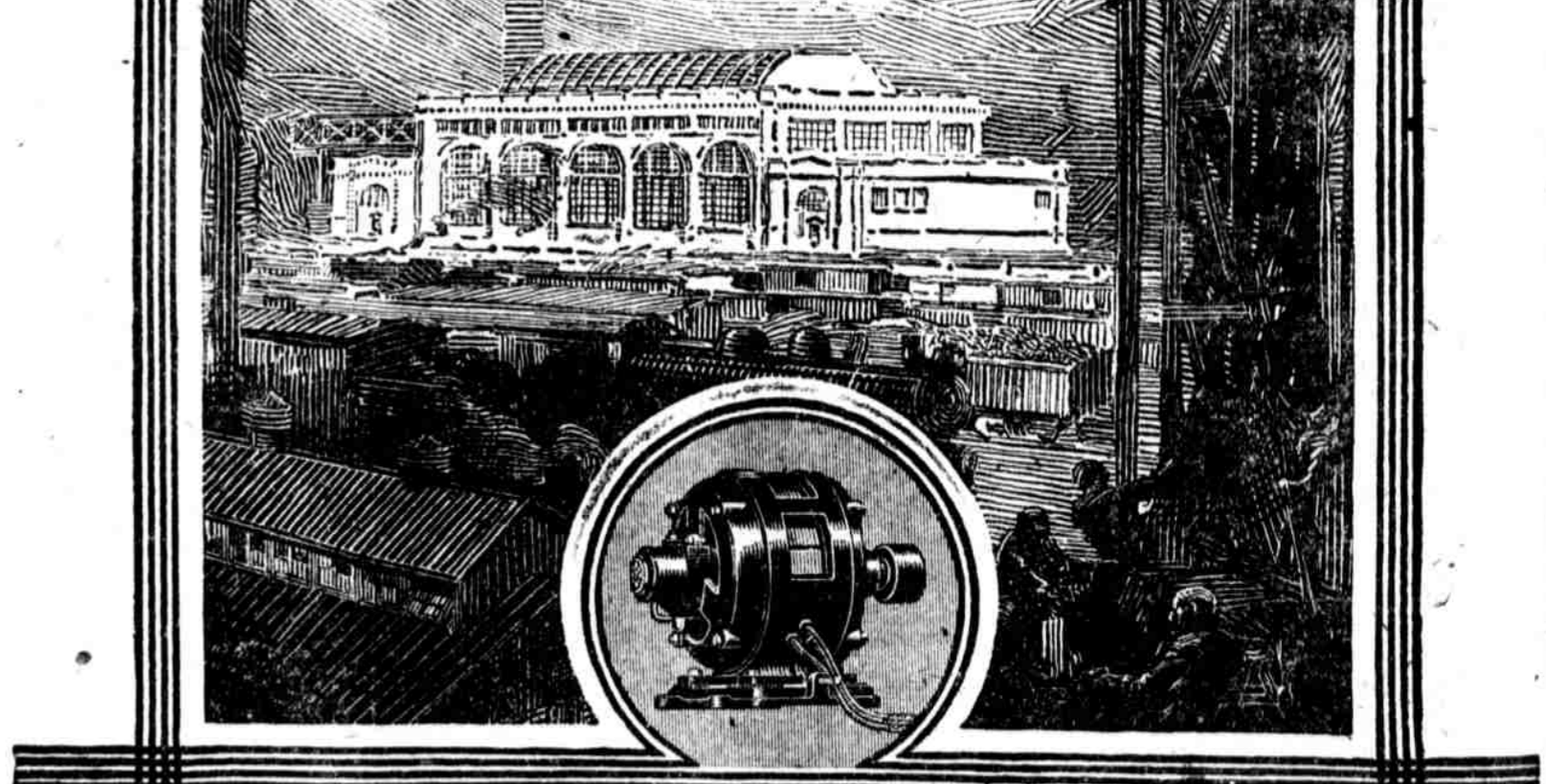
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