STATE GAINS HONOR IN NEW CONGRESS

Two Chairmanships of Leading Committees Coming to Penna. House Members

SENATORS MAY ADVANCE

By a Staff Correspondent

Washington, Nov. 22. — Pennsylvania's position with respect to legislation in the House will be improved after next March through the acquisition of two new chairmanships of major committees.

While these are offset by the loss of four other chairmanships, the latter are of minor consequence.

Through the defeat of Representative Andrew J. Volstead, of Minnesota, author of the Volstead act, and Halvor D. Steenerson, of Nebraska, in the recent elections, the chairmanships of the Judiciary and Postoffice Committees, respectively, will go to Representative George S. Graham, of Philadelphia, and William W. Griest, of Lancaster. The Judiciary Committee has charge of all prohibition legislation. The Postoffice Committee has jurisdiction over all matters relating to the postal service.

With these additional chairmanships a total of seven will be held by Pennsylvanians in the next Congress.

Losses are suffered through the retirement of Republicans Benjamin K. Focht, chairman of the District of Columbia Committee; Aaron S. Kreider, chairman of the Committee on Expenditures in the Interior Department; Anderson H. Walters, as chairman of the Committee on Expenditures in the Labor Department, and John H. Reber as chairman on mileage. None rank as major committees.

In the New Congress

With the organization of the new Congress, the remaining Pennsylvania members will occupy House committee chairmanships as follows:

Louis T. McFadden, Canton, remains chairman of Banking and Currency.

George W. Edmonds, Philadelphia, remains chairman of Claims.

Stephen G. Porter, Pittsburgh, remains chairman of Foreign Affairs.

Thomas S. Butler, West Chester, remains chairman of Naval Affairs.

Edgar R. Kiess, Williamsport, remains chairman of printing.

It is regarded as probable that a Pennsylvanian will be named to the Appropriations Committe to succeed Representative William S. Vare, of Philadelphia, when he retires to take up his duties in the Pennsylvania State Senate, although the State is represented on this important committee by another member—Milton W. Shreve, of Erie.

Representative Guy E. Campbell, of Allegheny County, would like a place either on appropriations or ways and means. Representative Henry W. Watson, of Langhorne, at present is the only Pennsylvanian on the latter committee, which initiates all tariff and revenue legislation.

Representative Clyde Kelly, of Allegheny County, is a candidate for assignment to the Rules Committee, of which he was formerly a member. It was said today that Representative John M. Morin, of Pittsburgh, had been offered a place on this committee, which exercises autocratic control over certain classes of legislation in the House. He is now one of the active members of the Military Affairs Committee.

Retirement of many members at the close of the present Congress and advancement of others under the seniority rule also will bring other changes in committee memberships affecting Pennsylvania Representatives.

It is also probable that the committee assignments of Senators Pepper and Reed may be rearranged after March. Each hopes to get on at least one of the major committees of the Senate and there is a fair prospect that their ambitions will be gratified, at least in part.

Senators May Be Advanced

They have no hope of winning chairmanships, however, except through the operation of the seniority system, under which only legislative veterans attain positions of power.

Senator Pepper, who is now a member of the Naval Affairs and Banking and Currency Committees, would prefer service on Foreign Relations or the Judiciary Committee, for which he is better equipped by training, taste and temperament. There will be three vacancies on the Foreign Relations Committee, due to the retirement of Senators McCumber, New and Kellogg. All Republican members of the Judiciary Committee were re-elected, though some of them may be shifted about in the rearrangement of committee assignments for the next Congress, leaving vacancies there also. That Senator Pepper will be offered a place on one or the other appears almost assured.

Senator Reed's preference is for the same committees, although he would like to retain his present membership on the Military Affairs Committee. He may also seek a place on the Finance Committee which the late Senator Penrose dominated as chairman in the closing years of his life. With three vacancies in sight on the Foreign Relations Committee, and three on the Finance Committee—due to the retirement of Senators McCumber, Sutherland and Frelinghuysen—the prospect of his appointment to one or to the other is excellent. Senator Reed is willing to drop his membership on the Immigration Committee for assignment to one of the major committees of the Senate.

PLUNGES TO DEATH INTO PIT OF FIRE

Watchman Burned to Ashes in Allentown Flames—$350,000 Damage

KLUX QUARTERS REVEALED

Special Dispatch to Evening Public Ledger

Allentown, Pa., Nov. 22.—Theodore Schaeffer, seventy-three years old, was burned to death in a fire here which destroyed the Crockery Building, on South Seventh street, yesterday afternoon. Owners of the building placed the total loss at $350,000.

At the height of the fire the aged man's face appeared at a window on the third floor of the building, livid with terror at the thought of death confronting him. He looked appealingly into the crowd below in the hope that some one would come to his rescue, and he struggled to open the window that he might jump.

Edward H. Schlechter, Recorder of Deeds and Democratic chairman of Lehigh County, a brother-in-law of Schaeffer, recognized the face, and with Ammon Lattimore, a policeman, rushed toward the entrance to the building. As they did so the walls collapsed, plunging the aged man into flames. His charred body was recovered six hours later.

The fire disclosed the presence in Allentown of the Ku Klux Klan and revealed that they had occupied one of the several lodge rooms in the building as headquarters. Partially burned robes of the klansmen were found among the ruins of the building.

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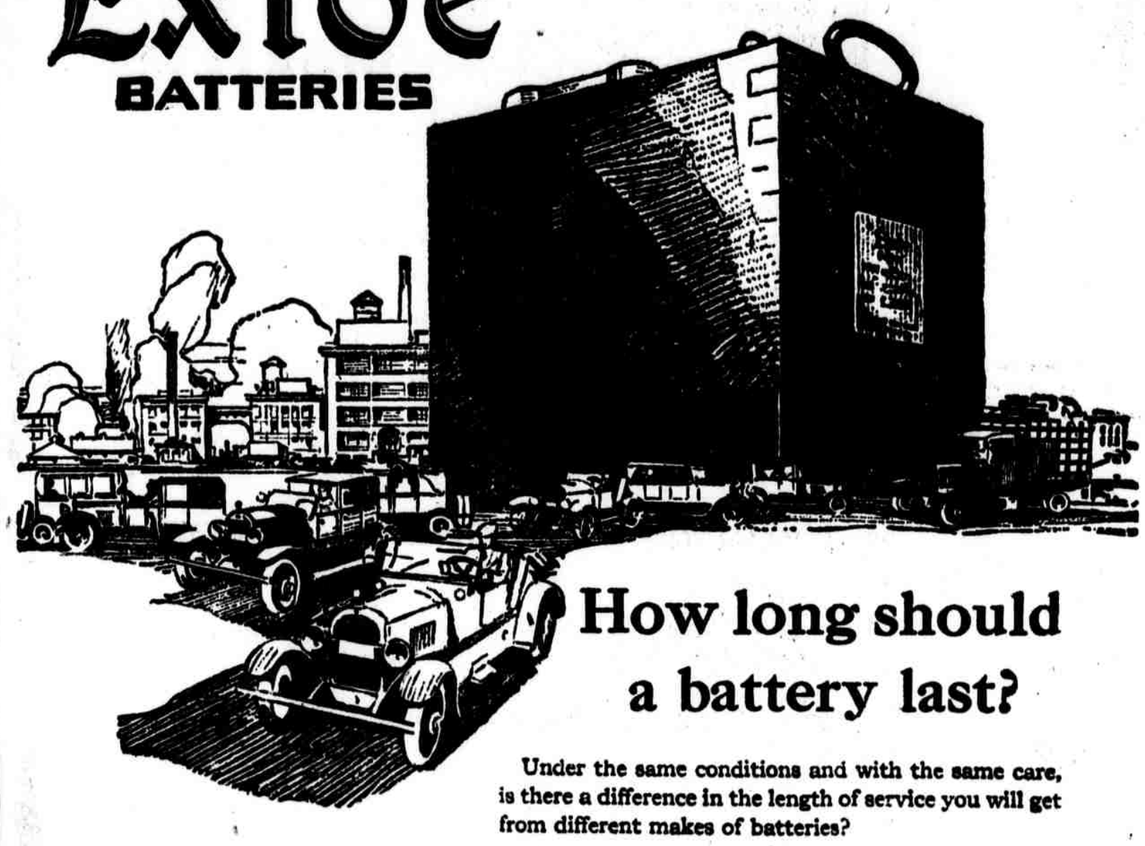

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