

# NEWS OF THE LEGISLATURE

## THIRD CLASS CITY BILL IS AIAED

Nonpartisan Feature Assailed and "Home Rule" Is Urged

The Wilson bill to take the non-partisan elective feature out of the Clark third class city act and return to the old party system of selecting city officials, was given its final hearing by the House committee on municipalities and returned to the lower branch of the Legislature to resume its place on the third reading calendar. No votes against the bill were recorded in committee, but Duncan Sinclair, Fayette, gave notice that he contemplated a motion to cut out the provision that the city treasurer should be elected by the people instead of being chosen by council. A week ago representatives of a dozen third class cities opposed the bill and one man spoke for it. Altoona had the strongest all to itself yesterday and the interchanges on the city which has the city manager plan became so stirring that an executive session was ordered and the room cleared.

E. J. Clark, former chief of police of Altoona, was the high card of the meeting and insisted on a return to the party system because as he put it "Bolshevism is the next step from nonpartisanism as sure as two and two make four." Altoonians disagreed with him. The Altoona delegation consisted of Representative Fred Bell, James Craig, deputy executive of the Chamber of Commerce, James F. Fout, Dairy and Food Commissioner; Dr. J. D. Findley, F. Woods Beck, city solicitor; T. C. Hare, representative; D. Lloyd Claycomb, H. J. Seeds, J. Emory Shute, Matthew M. Morrow, Charles Kutz and Mr. Clark. Mr. Kutz, speaking for the Central Labor Union, opposed repeal of the present nonpartisan feature on behalf of organized labor. Dr. Findley said he thought the present system best to retain until "all can get together on a measure that will permit us to run our own affairs. Representative W. T. Ramsey, of Chester, and the doctor had some discussions on the way the law has worked and the Chester man said "Well, we have had some glaring mixups under the Clark act."

Mr. Hare said that from a strict party standpoint, the bill is a mistake because parties get shouldered with responsibility for local squabbles which sometimes have wide effects. "The Clark act needs reformation, I admit," said he, "but the only feasible plan is for each city to be allowed to conduct its own affairs as demanded by local conditions with a few simple prohibitions." He favored studying the matter and getting a plan which would give more chance for local self government rather than a return to the old system. The subject of getting a workable plan should be taken up soon. Mr. Hare elaborated his idea that parties were often encumbered by local fights and said that fundamental local matters should not be taken into politics along party lines. "We never had factionalism in the Republican party in any city until the Clark act came along and now we have nothing but contention," remarked Mr. Ramsey as Mr. Hare finished.

Mr. Clark modestly announced that he represented the sentiment of taxpayers of Altoona and third class cities. "Altoona has been built out of the mud by party government. The tax rate was ten mills for a long time. When we got nonpartisan government we went up to 12," said he. Mr. Clark then said that advocates of repeal of the nonpartisan act always got abused. "An Altoona paper is abusing Lieutenant Governor Edward B. Eidleman for his attitude on this matter. He's the best friend labor ever had in Pennsylvania," said he. "Take the two weeks pay bill and the full city bill. To do he's called a politician because he believes in doing what will do the most people the most good."

In assailing the nonpartisan system Mr. Clark said the State Legislature went to the highest bidder who can pay for advertising and he knows the persuasion every time." He said that the first nonpartisan action put Altoona into hands of men influenced by contractors and then Dr. Findley, whom he called "the nonpartisan boss" got in a council of businessmen who "are saving the most expensive government we ever had." They men beyond reproach, but they selected a dictator, a manager," said he. "A more categorical form of government Mr. Clark charged that Mr. Kutz lived in Logan township, outside of Altoona and yet assumed to represent Altoona laboring men. Mr. Kutz protested and Mr. Clark said, "You know you live outside and you got

## SMITH BILL IS BEFORE HOUSE

Joint City and County Office Building Measure Reported Favorably to House

The Smith bill to authorize Harrisburg city and Dauphin county to unite in the construction of a joint city-county office building fronting on Capitol Park, as suggested by Governor Sproul at the Chamber of Commerce legislative reception, was favorably reported to the House last night. It passed first reading to-day and will reach the Governor soon after the legislative recess. There is no opposition to it and the purpose of the measure is generally commended.

Among the bills reported out in the House just before the close of the day's session, were the bills to transfer to the State Police Department the duties of the State fire marshal and reorganizing the Police Force and adding one troop to be located in or near Harrisburg and creating the bureau of fire protection and records.

The Vickerman and Hickernell mothers' pension bills were both reported out, together with the bill for elective school boards in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh; Wilson bill repealing the third-class city nonpartisan law; Vane first-class city building bill; minimum salary bill; teachers' minimum salary bill; physical education measure and Palmer building inspection bill for third-class cities. The bill to require licenses for public dance halls also appeared, as did the Helt bill fixing salaries of county treasurers in counties having under 150,000 population; Delaware, Chester and Montgomery counties fox hunting bill; making four years separation ground for divorce; for civil service in boroughs and regulating constables' reports to courts.

Another bill reported was that of Mr. Curran providing that assessors shall make lists of men who served in the war against Germany for county records. These bills were all on the first reading calendar in the House to-day.

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## NO FISHING ON THE SABBATH

House Votes Down the Ringler Bill; Long Afternoon Session to Clear Decks

The Ringler bill to permit Sunday fishing, a biennial visitor to the Legislature and put in this year by a Reading member, was defeated yesterday afternoon in the House by 150 to 35. The Rev. Dr. T. T. Mutchler, secretary of the Sabbath organization, who defeated the Ringler bill, was the man who caused the rout of the Sunday fishers when the bill was reached.

Mr. Williams, Tioga, declared that the law against Sunday fishing had been long on the books and should not be changed. No one spoke for the bill, which was sponsored by Mr. Ringler, Berks. This bill has appeared biennially for many sessions. Immediately afterwards the fisherman's license bill, defeated Monday, was reconsidered and then placed on the postponed calendar.

The Wallace bill providing for a system of auxiliary game preserves, was passed in the House without opposition at the afternoon session. The House also passed the bill declaring a closed season on sturgeon in the Delaware river until March 1, 1924, the bill being contingent on legislation passed by neighboring States. Other game and fish bills passed were: Regulating advertising for closing lands and prohibiting means of taking carp by nets and seines.

Administration Bills The administration bill designed to relieve the Governor of the duties of auditing accounts and settlements of various departments of the State government, was passed finally just before the House adjourned for the night session. Under the terms of this bill, the Governor would pass only upon contracts and other important papers.

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## MANY HEARINGS OF LIVELY KIND

Liquor Bills Are Debated and Third Class City Legislation Much in Evidence

Half a dozen hearings, more big affairs than held in legislative halls on any day this year, enlivened the Capitol yesterday and some were very diverting. They brought many people here for the sessions.

The House Law and Order Committee heard Wayne Wheeler, counsel of the Anti-Saloon League, discuss the prohibition bills and he referred to the billion dollar fund of the brewers. This hearing was a good bit of a cross fire with Representative W. T. Ramsey.

The House Education Committee had a strenuous session on various education bills and furnished plenty of thrills for men interested in changing conditions in the larger cities. Members of the House Health and Sanitation Committee were told by Colonel Edward Martin, State Commissioner of Health, that they could save the State of Pennsylvania a lot of money and make the Department of health well nigh useless if they passed the various anti-vaccination measures. The committee had a field day for vaccination measures, speakers from Erie and Waynesboro being heard. The opponents of the

establishing military training in the public and normal schools of the State, including those colleges receiving State aid.

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vacination laws were sharp in their discussion of them, one saying that vaccination was the property of the "allopathic trust" and another calling it "the tyranny of medical autocracy." Colonel Martin replied that he spoke of vaccination only from a standpoint of one assured of its value. He deems it necessary, in fact, is a general protection and, that as a health officer, he maintained that no single individual had a right to jeopardize a community.

Objections from Senators and building and loan association met and bankers enlivened the hearing held by the Senate Banking Committee on the proposed banking code and the committee received suggestions of numerous amendments. Senator W. D. Craig, of Beaver, said it made the commissioner of banking an autocrat, especially in liquidation when he deems it necessary. Banking Commissioner John S. Fisher replied that he was surprised at the Beaver man's remarks, as most of the provisions he referred to were such alarming tones, had been in the State laws for twenty-four years. Several speakers said that they had no fears as regards Mr. Fisher and Senator Morris Einstein, of Pittsburgh, said that he did think the powers were extraordinary. Mr. Fisher rejoined that he had voted for the creation of the State Department of Health with some misgivings, as he thought the powers too great. He had not been abused, however, he considered.

"How about Dr. Royer during the influenza epidemic? Did he not abuse his powers?" asked the Pittsburgh Senator.

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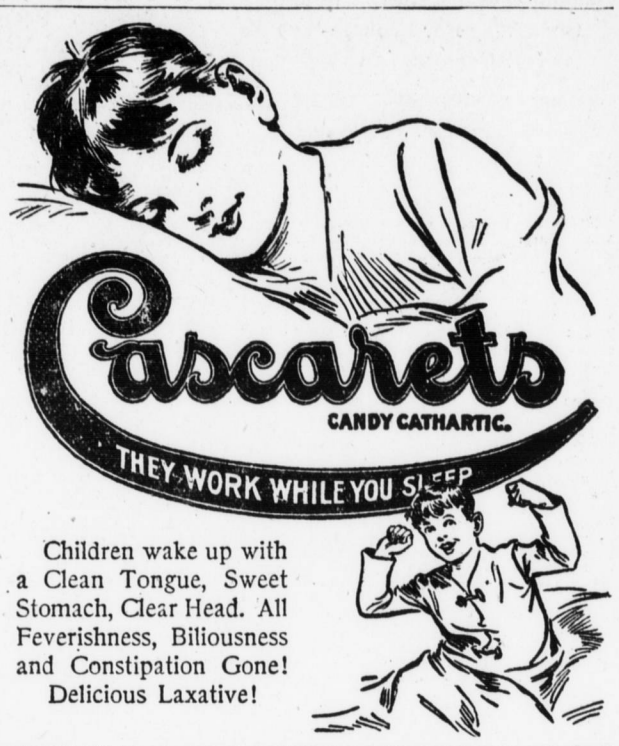
Probably he did, but he did not last long," replied the Commissioner. "The best way to make military training un-militaristic, is to associate with our democratic public school system," declared Prof. R. T. Shaw, of the West Philadelphia High School, at a hearing before the Senate Committee on Appropriations, concerning the Daix bill.

When the bill increasing the salary of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to \$10,000 was called up, Mr. Benchoff, Franklin, asked the reason. "The bill was drafted at the suggestion of the Governor, who wants to get the best man available," said Mr. Ramsey, Delaware. No one voted against the bill.

The Senate bill authorizing churches and cemeteries to sell or lease coal under lands was sent to the Mines Committee at suggestion of Mr. Fowler, Lackawanna.

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I. O. O. F. ANNIVERSARY. Mount Wolf, Pa., April 9.—Mount Wolf Lodge No. 1196, I. O. O. F., is arranging to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the order, with special and fitting exercises, on the evening of April 25. The anniversary of the Institution of the Old Fellows' Lodge occurs, however, one day later. A committee composed of E. A. Greiman, J. F. Buser, William M. Hoover, Harvey Rohrbaugh and C. T. Kinports, has been appointed to perfect the arrangements.



Children wake up with a Clean Tongue, Sweet Stomach, Clear Head. All Feverishness, Biliousness and Constipation Gone! Delicious Laxative!

## 47,862 Yank Patients in British Hospitals in 1918; Most Were Ill

London April 9.—The total number of American soldiers in British hospitals during 1918 was 47,862. About one-fifth of them were wounded or injured, the remainder ill. When the armistice was signed 9,219 American ill and wounded were being cared for in American hospitals here, says an American Red Cross report.

When the United States entered the war the only hospital beds available for American soldiers were in two or three American Red Cross hospitals which were then being used for British troops. So rapidly were provisions made by the Red Cross that by the time American troops began to pour into France and England the supply of American hospital beds was ample. It was only after the influenza epidemic last fall that the demand exceeded the supply. In October and November many cases had to be sent to British hospitals, where at one time the number of Americans cared for reached 5,584.

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## Military Tourists Are Filling Paris

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... and with the everyday man on the job

A fact: At the Capitol Building in Washington, at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York and at scores of other such places—where you would naturally expect only high-priced cigarettes to sell—Fatimas lead in sales. But important as these sales are, they're but a "drop in the bucket" compared with the MILLIONS of Fatimas smoked every day by the big, plain, "you-and-me" public.

Leggett & Myers Tobacco Co.

# FATIMA

A Sensible Cigarette

NOTE—It is this fact, more than any other, that shows how well Fatima's quality and moderate price "size up" with the common-sense man who doesn't want a fancy box or gold tips, but wants full, honest value.

**Bobby says** —

When the world asked for more delightfully flavored and more substantial corn flakes, it got —

# POST TOASTIES

Your grocer sells them.

## Execute Bolsheviks For Plotting to Seize the City of Warsaw

Warsaw, April 9.—Thirty-three Bolsheviks were executed at Pinsk, on the eastern frontier of Poland, Saturday. They were charged with plotting an uprising for the purpose of overpowering the weakened garrison and seizing the city.

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