

BUSY DAYS FOR MAKERS OF LAWS

Important Bills Are Appearing on Calendar.

MAY WORK EVERY EVENING

In Endeavoring to Keep Up House Is Likely to Labor Overtime—Capital Punishment, State Police Increase, Civil Service for City Firemen and Other Measures Being Considered.

Harrisburg, Pa., April 10.—Bills of vital importance are now out on the calendars to be voted on by members of the two branches of the legislature in a short time. It is expected that the next ten days will bring forth additional measures of general interest and signs point to every legislator having his hands full until the close of the session. Many anticipate plenty of night work in trying to keep up with the output of the committees.

The general appropriation bill made its appearance last week, but has since been returned to committee for necessary changes. In regard to departmental appropriations a subcommittee is at work looking into various items and as soon as this investigation is gotten through with the two chairmen, Buckman and Woodward, will be ready to whip appropriations into shape.

In addition to the bill to increase the state police force, this week's house calendar contained the Tompkins bill to abolish capital punishment which passed the senate a few weeks ago, as well as the kindred bill giving a jury the power to decide whether the punishment in a first degree case should be death or life imprisonment.

Township Code.

The township code is also on the calendar. This is of great concern to the townships of the commonwealth. It codifies into one general law the hundreds of acts that have been passed affecting townships of the two classes. This code was prepared by the legislative reference bureau and the object is to simplify township laws, as was done in the matter of borough laws two years ago. The borough code is proving a great convenience to lawyers and officials of such municipalities and it is believed the general law covering all township acts will likewise be of inestimable benefit to persons interested in townships. Representative Sigrist has introduced the township code.

Callin's bill giving firemen in third class cities the benefit of civil service went through this week and is now up to the governor for his approval. Another Callin bill regulating boxing contests has passed the senate and is in the house committee.

The equal suffrage amendment has been reported out of committee with an affirmative recommendation and is now on the calendar.

Health Insurance Here.

Considerable attention has been attracted among the members by the bill presented by Representative J. J. Dean, of Lawrence, to establish a system of health insurance in Pennsylvania. It contemplates state participation and was prepared after four years of investigation and study under the direction of the American Association for Labor Legislation co-operating with the American Medical Association and representatives of labor and industry. This bill is being introduced in legislatures this year.

The bill provides compensation for losses due to sickness to all manual workers and all others earning less than \$100 per month. It covers any sickness or accident not within the scope of the workmen's compensation act. Benefits include medical, surgical and nursing attendance; medical and surgical supplies; maternity benefits for childbirth; cash benefits for a maximum of twenty-six weeks in a year, and a limited funeral benefit. The state is to assume one-fifth of the cost of insurance; two-fifths is to be paid by employers and the remaining two-fifths by employees. Local mutual health funds are created for the administration of these benefits and are to be under the joint control of the employers and the insured employees.

Compensation Amendments.

The house committee on labor and industry has reported favorably the Woodward bill making a series of amendments to the workmen's compensation act. They were prepared by the labor organizations of the state. The most important amendment is increasing the compensation from fifty to sixty-six and two-thirds per cent of the wages for disability. Another amendment would start the payments for disability at the end of the first seven days instead of fourteen as at present.

Another bill reported by the same committee provides that the payment for medical and hospital services shall not exceed the prevailing rates. This also was introduced by Representative Woodward.

Under the terms of a bill offered in the house by Representative Black, of Harrisburg, efforts will be made in the future to reconcile the contending parties in divorce suits. The measure provides for the appointment of a proctor by the courts of common pleas to act as an intermediary in marital troubles. The proctor may be a man or a woman, who shall be paid \$2000 a year. Assistant may be appointed also.

THIS STATE IS LOYAL TO CORE

Legislature Moves to Give Millions For Defense.

BIG WAR FUND SUGGESTED

Besides Contributing Financially to State Defense and, Thereby, Upholding National Government, Measures For Military Training and Other Matters Pertaining to Crisis Under Way.

Harrisburg, Pa., April 10.—That Pennsylvania will be no laggard in the matter of assisting the national government in the war with Germany was shown by the introduction of a bill in the senate and house calling for an appropriation of \$2,000,000 for state defense. Senator Buckman sponsored the measure in the senate and Representative Woodward in the house.



SENATOR CLARENCE J. BUCKMAN
Senate Chairman of Appropriation Committee.

It is known that the amount specified in this bill does not represent the exact financial contribution from Pennsylvania. Within a few weeks bills aggregating as high as \$5,000,000 will be presented for the same purpose and probably passed without any difficulty.

The bill as originally drawn gave the governor discretionary power in expending the war fund, but the plan now is to create a board consisting of the governor, auditor general, state treasurer and, probably, representatives from the two branches of the legislature. They will supervise the fund and take executive charge of the work of placing Pennsylvania in the front as an auxiliary to the government at Washington.

Military Training in Schools.

Coincident with the offering of the fund bills, committees were named to investigate the question of military training in the public schools. A bill to bring this about will shortly be presented and there is but little question of its passage.

There are several bills before the legislature on physical training in the schools. The advocates of these measures believe that military training is too revolutionary a step and feel that the same object can be met by physical training. Indications are, however, that at this critical period military training will be given the right of way and a bill calling for it sent to the governor for his approval.

In view of the probable necessity of using the highways of Pennsylvania for the transportation of troops and war vehicles bills for certain road appropriations are being vigorously pushed.

Last week a bill appeared giving insurance companies the right to do insurance business in this state against bombardment during a war. Certain large munition plants desire to take out this kind of insurance and on account of restrictions in the law are unable to do so.

So Soldiers May Vote.

Senator William S. McKee, of Allegheny, who is colonel of the First field artillery of Pennsylvania, presented a bill which will provide a better means for soldiers to vote at elections, while in service. The bill provides that the commanding officer of each company, battery and troop unit, shall furnish to the adjutant general the names, addresses and voting precincts of all soldiers in his command. The adjutant general in turn is to transmit this information to the commissioners of the respective counties. The commissioners must then prepare the ballots for each election precinct in which soldiers reside and forward them to the secretary of the commonwealth, who is to forward them to the regimental commanders. The ballots must include the names of all officers to be voted for at such elections.

Many legislators participated in the big patriotic meeting here on Thursday evening and at which James W. Gerard, former ambassador to Germany, was the principal speaker. He beseeched the American people to exert every effort in upholding the government and said in that way only can the present trouble be brought to a speedy and successful end.

The United States must enter the war, Gerard declared, in order that the door of hope may not be swung in the face of awakened Russia, in order that the might of militarism and despotism may not blight a movement so wide and so potent in its possibilities that it is one of the most significant and dramatic events in all human history since Cavalry.

SENATE ADOPTS CLOTURE RULE

Gronna, Sherman and La Follette Only Voted Against

ACTION PLEASES PRESIDENT

Two-thirds of the Senate Can Now Limit Debate on Any Subject to One Hour For Each Senator.

The senate of the United States has overthrown the traditions of more than a century and voted to adopt a limitation on senate debate. By a vote of 76 to 23 the senate adopted a rule imposing a modified form of cloture on the upper house.

The rule will clear the way for action on President Wilson's demand for legislation authorizing him to institute armed neutrality if the president calls an extra session of congress. Recently the president declared that unlimited debate rule in the senate would make the calling of an extra session on the question of armed neutrality futile.

The three senators who voted against the cloture rule were La Follette of Wisconsin, Gronna of North Dakota and Sherman of Illinois, all Republicans. The rule as adopted will enable two-thirds of the senate to limit debate on any measure to one hour for each senator.

The result of the vote was communicated to President Wilson at the White House. He expressed his gratification, but no immediate announcement as to the calling of an extraordinary session was made.

Senator La Follette declared that when the power to free debate in the senate is taken away "you let loose forces that will be heard elsewhere if not here." He said congress in the last three years had become a rubber stamp for the executive.

"With this sort of rule and an iron hand laid on this body from outside," he said, "with congress reduced in the last three years to little less than a rubber stamp, do you not think this sort of cloture would be pretty effective? Believing that I stand for democracy, for the liberty of the people of this country, I shall stand while I am a member of this body against any cloture that imposes a limitation on debate in this body."

Senator Martin, majority leader, in asking unanimous consent said that by so doing he had no desire to shut off full debate. Senator Lodge, ranking Republican of the foreign relations committee, said he hoped there would be no objection.

Senator Sherman said he opposed the cloture rule because it would be only a question of time, if the one proposed is adopted, until the power of two-thirds to force cloture would be so changed so it may be forced by a majority vote. He read extracts from President Wilson's writings declaring that the unlimited debate in the senate was of great importance to its usefulness as a legislative body.

Senator Owen, an advocate of absolute cloture, said he would support the change although he felt the majority should be able to pass legislation when it desired. The change proposed, he said, is desired to pass the armed neutrality bill and provide for the existing "national emergency."

MILLION DOLLARS BAIL

That Sum Demanded For Release of Cuban General Gomez.

Bail for General Gomez, captured Cuban rebel leader, was set at a round million dollars.

No one has yet come forward with this staggering amount of money to permit release of the rebel chieftain, and the prospect is he will remain in Principe penitentiary pending trial.

Carlos Miguel Cespedes, a prominent lawyer of Havana, who was reported to have been killed in battle at Placetas when ex-President Gomez, the rebel leader, was captured, arrived in Havana a prisoner. He was wounded in the head. He has been placed in the Dragones prison.

Easter Fires.

The early Saxons used to light Easter fires on the hills in expression of their joy. This custom only died out in the early part of the nineteenth century. It is only observed up to this day in the "Woods of Teutoburgum," where on the eve of Easter Sunday the fires are lit as of old.

Making Home Comfortable.

An eastern woman lecturer on interior decoration says that imitation lace curtains are in bad taste and rocking chairs should be done away with. She sounds like a woman who'd throw her husband's carpet slippers away and make him smoke his pipe on the kitchen porch.—Detroit Free Press.

An Honest Label.

A cynical minded gentleman was standing in front of an exhibition of local art. He announced to the attendant in charge, "I should think Art would object, and I can't say that I blame her."—Harper's Magazine.

An Exchange of Courtesies.

"You farmers buy a good many gold bricks, eh?"
"Yes, and you city fellows buy a good deal of swamp land. I guess things are about even."—Kansas City Journal.

WORLDS IN THE MAKING.

What Is Taking Place in the Great Nebula in Andromeda.

We look today on the things of a century, a millennium, ago. Light traveling at the rate of 186,300 miles a second requires more than four years to come from the nearest star, perhaps thousands and tens of thousands of years from the farthest; hence in every case they are not what is, but what was.

Thousands of nebulae have been discovered in the heavens. The spiral pattern of some few nebulae has long been confirmation of the theory that they are the real beginnings of a solar system. But there has recently come in much evidence of the spiral character of other nebulae that the conclusion seems forced upon us that practically all are in a state of rotation and are hence supplying the centrifugal force to throw off the rings which roll themselves up into planets revolving about central suns.

When opportunity is given to look directly down upon a nebula there is something startling evidence of its being in rotation. There is no other way of explaining its remarkable details of structure. Some look like the propeller blades of a motorboat; some are actually caught in the act of throwing off rings which are seen condensing at certain centers, rolling themselves into planets, henceforth to travel around their suns. The great nebula in Andromeda gives striking evidence that it is working out another and a greater solar system than our own.

In short, it seems that in studying the nebulae we are being admitted to the very workshop of the universe and of turning out worlds. Nothing in the heavens is better fitted to fill the very soul with awe. As in the case of the "fixed stars," our lives are too brief, too feeble our eyes, to detect the actual motion.—Frederick Campbell's "Suns and Worlds in the Making."

WAR CORRESPONDENTS.

They Don't Have the Liberty Now They Had in Former Times.

In his book, "Over the Front in an Aeroplane," the author, Ralph Pulitzer, tells of the experiences and the treatment of the press representatives in the great European war. He says:

"The war correspondent does not buy himself a motor, because if he did he would not be allowed to use it. All he buys himself is a railway ticket. When it comes to motoring he is packed with an assortment of fellow correspondents into military autos specially assigned by the army authorities."

"He does not buy a shelter tent or a sleeping bag, because at a certain scheduled hour every evening the staff officer who has him and his colleagues in tow will lead him into an excellent hotel in some large town or other and assign him to a comfortable bedroom engaged ahead. He does not buy canned provisions, because before going to bed the officer buys him an appetizing dinner, follows it up with a good breakfast the next morning and at lunch time introduces him to a courteous general or at a pinch to another hotel keeper, by one or the other of whom he is supplied with a prearranged and excellent lunch."

"He does not buy a revolver, because it would be gently but firmly taken away from him if he did."

"If he is sensible he does not even buy himself binoculars, for the officers by whom he will find himself uninvitedly accompanied will be glad to let him use theirs, and though he may not look so picturesque without them, he will be much more comfortable if he has any hands and knees work to do. "Finally he will not have a word to say as to where he wants to go or what he wants to see, for that has all been settled in advance."

KEYSTONE PARAGRAPHS

Governor Martin G. Brumbaugh of Pennsylvania has wired President Wilson urging the enactment of prohibition for the duration of the war. The governor's office announced that the action was taken at the suggestion of Dr. Irving Fisher, a member of the National Council of Defense. The telegram was as follows: "I earnestly suggest the enactment of a law declaring prohibition during the war. Every consideration of health and economy warrant my making the suggestion."

A call for all high school authorities and colleges in the state to release all students who have attained an average of 70 in their studies for service in the state agricultural army, was issued in Philadelphia by the executive committee of the state committee on public safety. It is recommended that all students so released be given advanced standing when they return to the institutions at the opening of the fall term.

Two persons were killed and twenty others injured, when an engine pulling another engine and a flat car, got beyond control of the engineer at a top of a steep grade on the Kingsley branch of the Sheffield and Tionesta railway near Warren, Pa. The dead are: Harry Effer, aged thirty-three, of Hastings, fireman, and Burton Brink, aged eighteen, of Mayburg, a spectator.

A miners' strike in the district between Kiskiminetus Junction and Blairsville which had been in progress since April 1, 1916, and which is estimated to have resulted in a loss of at least \$300,000 to miners and operators, has been settled, according to announcement made by Louis Hicks, manager of the Hicks coal interests. More than 3,000 miners will return to work.

FORCE TO FRANCE UP TO PRESIDENT

Congressmen Enthused Over Sending Army at Once

WILSON SAID TO FAVOR PLAN

French Commissioners Want American Soldiers at Front at Once, Because of Moral Force.

The issue is now believed to be squarely before President Wilson as to whether he will heed the appeal from allied quarters that American troops be sent at once to France or whether, as members of the American general staff would prefer, he waits until an army of a million men has been organized.

Although the conference which took place at the White House between President Wilson and M. Viviani, head of the French mission, has been surrounded with safeguards of secrecy, it is believed that the matter was considered at some length.

Not only does there appear to be a present wide divergence of view between members of the army general staff and many of the visiting commissioners from abroad, but opinion is divided at the war department itself.

Officers of the line and younger officers generally are understood to urge that units be sent at once, if for no other practical reason than to impress upon the American people a realization of the fact that their country is at war and to inspire enthusiasm among recruits.

Older men of the general staff, it is said, believing that modern war is a matter of such tremendous complexity, feel that no more should be made until thorough preparation has been made in advance, even though these preparations may take a year.

That a demand in congress is likely to develop at any time for the early dispatch of an expeditionary force to France is forecast from conferences which members of the house and senate are known to have had with members of the French commission.

Most of these members of congress, it can be stated, were decidedly opposed at first to sending a force across in less than a year. When they left the conference practically all of them were enthusiastically in favor of such a course.

Marshal Joffre in an interview in Washington said that France cherishes the confident hope that the flag of the United States soon will fly on her battle lines.

Victories sure to be won by the soldiers of the two republics, once more fighting shoulder to shoulder for liberty, declared that hero of the Marne, will hasten the end of the war and tighten the lines of affection and esteem which have ever united France and the United States.

It was just before the marshal and other members of the French war mission started for a visit to the tomb of George Washington at Mount Vernon that the marshal gave the interview.

At the grave of George Washington at Mount Vernon the three great democracies of the world united in a pilgrimage of love and respect to the shrine of the man who made democracy possible.

Attended by ceremonies that were magnificent in their simplicity, the French and British war missions on behalf of their governments, placed memorial wreaths on the tomb of the great American, which forever will serve as a reminder to the American people of the deep respect and admiration which they hold for the father of America.

The French war mission has informed the American government that the things France needs most from the United States are money, food, fertilizers, coal, steel, oil and transportation equipment, especially ships in which to carry goods from the new to the old world.

One of the foremost purposes of the French mission, revealed authoritatively for the first time, is to impress upon the American government and people the serious food situation in Europe. Members of the economic section of the mission believe there is serious danger of a world famine.

MEN TRAPPED IN MINE

117 Colorado Coal Diggers Entombed in Fire-Swept Workings.

Fire in the Victor American Fuel company mine No. 2 at Hastings, near Trinidad, Col., trapped 117 coal miners. Twenty-one bodies have been recovered.

Reports were in circulation that the fire was the result of a war plot. A company of troops has been guarding the property for some weeks. A number of Austrian miners are employed in the district.

Mobbed For Advocating Peace.

Nicholas Lenine, leader of the group of Russian Socialists working for a separate peace with Germany, was mobbed while making a speech, says a dispatch from Petrograd. Rioting followed.

"Liberty Loan of 1917."

Secretary McAdoo announced that the loan which the United States soon will raise by its \$5,000,000,000 bond issue will be officially designated "the Liberty Loan of 1917."

A GLIMPSE OF THE WAR

Heavy fighting continues along the front in France, with the French and English taking turns in pounding the German lines. London and Paris report slow but steady gains for their men with the German resistance growing more and more determined. No gains of great strategic importance have been made, but it is known that only a few miles more of advance by the allies will make the Germans leave the country.

The extent of the German losses in the fighting along the Aisne is disclosed in the reference to 130 guns, of which a considerable number were of heavy caliber.

The German losses in men are estimated at more than 200,000, with the probability that the total reached 235,000. These figures include killed, wounded and prisoners, and constitute one of the most formidable totals of the present war. The number of German prisoners aggregates approximately 20,000.

It was announced by the ministry of munitions in London that the British expenditure of shells of the caliber of six inches and upwards during the first week of the offensive that opened on April 9, was nearly twice that of the first week of the Somme offensive last year, while the expenditure of such shells during the second week was six and one-half times that of the second week on the Somme.

German destroyers attacked Ramsgate, according to an official announcement by the London war office. A large number of shells were fired, but the destroyers were driven off by the fire from the land batteries. One man and one woman were killed during the bombardment and one man and two women were injured.

A further retirement of the Turks in Mesopotamia for a considerable distance north of Samarra, recently captured by the British, is reported by General Maude.

A mighty battle has developed on the western front south of Riga and along the Dvina river, the Petrograd war office announced.

The Germans have been reinforced in that sector and dispatches from headquarters indicate that the Teutons have either started a big offensive or are planning to do so immediately.

RAISE FOR MINERS

Central District Workers Reach Agreement With Operators.

A settlement has been reached in the wage scale differences between the operators and miners working in the central Pennsylvania coal fields.

Under the agreement the 10 per cent bonus granted at the first of the year will be annulled. The miners will be granted a 10 per cent increase on all dead work and a 5 per cent bonus on gross earnings. The drivers will get \$3.60 per day instead of \$2.77 as formerly. A sum slightly in excess of sixty cents per day has been added to the wages of all day men, making a uniform day wage scale, for which the miners have contended for years.

Great Loss of Vessels.

In the first two months of unrestricted submarine warfare shipping to the amount of more than 1,600,000 tons was sunk by the Germans. Dr. Karl Helfferich, German secretary of interior, told the reichstag main committee.

Robbers Secure \$14,000.

Fourteen thousand dollars was stolen from the private bank of Kowalewski brothers in Chicago when five robbers held up the cashier.

Complying with orders received from Washington, Adjutant General Stewart is again working out plans for the mobilization of the national guard. Officers are being selected for first-call service. Similar steps are being taken by the national guard executives in all the states.

Within full view of fifty pupils of the school he attended, Philip Hall, the fourteen-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Hall, residing one mile south of Sykesville, was struck by a trolley car of the United Traction company of Dubois and instantly killed.

"Grandmother" Hannah Dial, aged 102, Westmoreland county's oldest woman, is dead at the home of John Dial, a son, at Jacobs Creek, near Connellsville. Her birthday, last Jan. 3, was observed by a family dinner. Mrs. Dial was born near Scottsdale, Jan. 3, 1815.

Dorsey S. Mullen, aged thirty-five, of Pitsburgh, was killed at Sang Hollow, near Johnstown, when he was struck by the New York express on the Pennsylvania railroad. Mullen alighted from a freight train and stepped in the path of the express.

Three persons were killed and four seriously injured when two Pennsylvania railroad freight trains collided near Norristown. The dead are Brake-man Halvig, Fireman Gross and an unidentified railroad worker. The injured are all railroad men.

Announcement was made by Congressman O. D. Bleakley of Franklin that if nothing prevents and the weather conditions are good he expects to make another flight from Philadelphia to Washington within the next two weeks.