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Cocoa Nut	lb. 45c		
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Fresh Salted Peanuts	lb. 80c		
Fresh Salted Cashews	lb. \$1.20		
Christmas Candles	10c to \$1.50		

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The Pennsylvania Story

By Mason Dennison, Editor Pennsylvania News Service

Harrisburg - In the never-never land of political hassle-fassing here in Harrisburg few things are ever certain, although at the moment one thing seems dead certain - lawmakers are not going to get out of here by Christmas this year.

By that it is not meant to

imply that the lawmaking brethren in the House and Senate will not be able to spend the yuletide holidays at home basking in the warmth of a non-legislative Santa Claus far from it.

The point is that even though a solution to the Commonwealth's aging tax ills should be reached this week there still remains considerable leavening of legislative bread before the show has been pulled off the road.

There is a tremendous pile-up of legislation that must be disposed of - much of it too important to be carelessly dumped in the legislative ash-

can in haste.

And it is entirely possible that many of these tidbits may prove to be almost as controversial as the budget and tax program itself. Almost any way you look at it the 1955 session promises to go down in history as a record breaker - far more than the year-long 1951 session.

Interestingly though, bleak though the picture has been for Democratic Governor Geo. M. Leader his woes are by no means precedent-shaking in many respects.

In several respects in fact he has faced many of the same problems faced by Governor Robert E. Pattison during his first term from 1882 to 1886 - the second of only four Democratic Governors Pennsylvania has had since 1860.

When elected in those days shortly after the Indians had been cleared out, Pattison had a Democratic House of Representatives and a Republican Senate - the very same split facing Mr. Leader today.

However Governor Pattison, also somewhat set in his ways and a rather bull-headed lad in certain respects, did not even have the support of many of the gent's in the Senate - often called the "Brilliant State Senate of 1883", during his first term.

The interesting point is that in those days the Legislature - politically split as it is now - wound up in a hectic haste not over budget and taxes as in the current session - but over the question of re-apportionment.

Things reached the point where the Legislature in June of that year just up and quit - without settling the re-apportionment question.

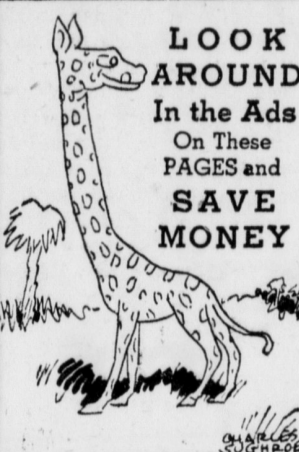
That amounted to the equivalent of a pound of gun powder in water, for the venerable Mr. Pattison immediately called the boys back in special session which lasted until December 11 of that year - but still the legislators refused to bow to the Governor's wishes.

The only reason we mention this cops-and-robber era before the turn of the century is to il-

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illustrate the point that even in those days the Governor could not bull-doze the legislature. Whether the contemporary counterpart in this respect will be successful in budget and tax matters remains to be seen.

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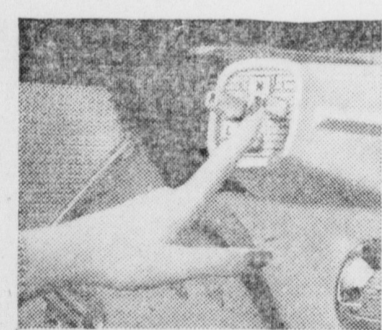
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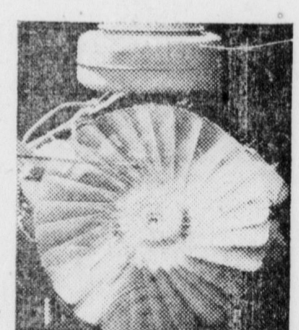


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