

# Read These Pages — Big Sales Days Values

## HARRISBURG ROUND-UP

Harrisburg — A split, fumbling Legislature and a boiling mad Governor faced each other this week as the House of Representatives prepared for the

long awaited showdown on the controversial sales tax issue.

As members of the lower chamber headed for their seats they were up against an issue that could dump turmoil and even greater utter confusion on the Commonwealth as the vote neared in the House on the 3%

sales tax introduced by Republicans as a two per cent levy but reported out of committee for floor action at the three per cent level.

Republicans contended bitterly they would not support the higher levy—and Democrats although in control of the lower chamber by a majority membership of 111, could not muster sufficient votes to carry over the GOP step-out.

Should the sales tax be defeated it would wipe out virtually the last remaining tax avenue of a major nature for exploration as a means to meet Pennsylvania's hungry fiscal needs.

Three major levies have already been killed—and once a bill is killed it cannot be brought up again in the same session—with the possibility strong that in the butting together of Democratic and Republican heads this week in the House, that another one would go the same way.

When Republican in control of the Senate let it be known last week that they would have no parts of Governor Leader's 50-50 or meet-me-half-way tax compromise proposal, the Chief Executive literally hit the ceiling at his press conference a few days later.

There was no question in any reporter's mind as to how Mr. Leader viewed this latest GOP slap-down as he literally roared his defiance at passage of a sales tax alone on one hand and waved the veto stick in the other.

Meanwhile on other quieter fronts of the legislative scene, the number of bills introduced

in this record-breaking 1955-56 session reached the record-breaking total of roughly 2300—to top the near 2700 introduced in the previous record-long 1951 session.

Among new bills putting in a spluttering appearance are those which would:

Regulate the sale and distribution of mixed fertilizers and fertilizer materials;

Prohibit political activity by members of third class city police and fire departments that are paid;

Make the offices of constable and justice of the peace or alderman incompatible;

Require that milk and packaged meat sold at retail be dated;

Make certain mine inspectors eligible for reappointment without examination.

### FRENCH STUDENT TO SPEAK AT METHODIST CHURCH JANUARY 29th

The Rev. Roger Matter of Strasburg, France, will bring the message in the regular Worship Services in the Salunga and Mt. Joy Methodist churches, Sunday Jan. 29. Rev. Matter was born in Dr. Albert Schweitzer's hospital in Africa where his parents are missionaries. At the age of six he went to his native France to begin formal education.

During World War II Hitler controlled France, and Roger was forced into the Hitler Youth Movement. He returned to France after the war and began studies for the Christian Ministry. At present he is a student at the Lancaster Theological Seminary.

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