

THE LAW MAKERS GET STRENUOUS

REPORT ON THE WATER POWERS OF THE STATE A VALUABLE DOCUMENT.

HEED WARNING SOUNDED There Were Some Strenuous Moments Last Week and May Be More Before The Ruling Tangle Ends.

(Special Correspondence.)
Lansing, Mich., April 14, 1909.
The final sessions of last week marked the most strenuous moments of the present legislative session. From the ruling of the chair were taken several times, but not sustained. The result was a division of the house, the creation of two factions known as the "Speaker" crowd and the "Insurgents," the latter in the minority. The speaker, John Campbell, of Crampton, of Lapeer, declares their intention of appealing the bad manners of the last congress, by filibustering a resolution which would be passed. This the house finds itself at the opening of the present week in rather bad shape. It has declared its intention to adjourn May 6, but the senate has not concurred and is holding the matter in abeyance. The purpose of obtaining preference for its own bills. The present uncertain condition of affairs makes it seem improbable that the adjournment will be made May 6, unless some understanding is reached among the warring factions to bury the hatchet.

Primary School Funds.

Rep. J. L. Sanborn, of Alpena, has introduced a bill relating to public instruction which would give the board of tax commissioners to review assessments, and advises that this will be of great value in counties where property values are for taxation purposes. In the opinion of the committee, this will be the sole method of increasing the value of the state land taxes. The report discusses the various implications to rapid development, especially in the case of land owned by individuals. The report discusses the various implications to rapid development, especially in the case of land owned by individuals. The report discusses the various implications to rapid development, especially in the case of land owned by individuals.

The Running of Prisons.

Rep. Ogg and Warden Fuller of the Iowa prison are fighting each other without regard to the public interest. It is determined that the prisons shall be run according to law and not by the whims of the warden. The idea is a good one. On the other hand, warden Fuller has been a preme monarch of the fate of the prisoners in their charge. He has used "dark ages" methods that have prevailed in the United States. He has broken the Arizona plank at Seneca by seizing a bunch of the enemy's spears and thrusting them into his own breast, letting the Swiss through the line and winning the victory. When the world wins the badge of heroism on a man's breast, it pays a tribute to that duty which one knows one ought to do, but in which it fears that one might fail.

Mr. Hally's Bill.

At last the long-looked-for Hally bill has been introduced and a start on one of the biggest jobs of the session has been made. The bill is looked upon much more favorably than that of Senator Monroe. The chairman Monroe will not commit himself on its virtues until it has been tried at its own trial in the municipalities. The bill is not a very long one and started out by defining everything covered by the bill and then telling what it does and what it will not do. It is evident from the reading of the bill that Mr. Hally lives in Detroit.

A Veteran's Work.

Representative Robert V. Ogg, of Detroit, has introduced a bill which will require his characteristic nerve and energy to bring to a successful conclusion. As a member of the committee on the Marquette prison, he has become cognizant of certain methods and practices which he deems to be inhumane and should be eradicated forthwith. He has secured a showing of the subject matter of the bill and the reaction very strong, and the indications are that there will be a violent shaking up before he has finished. He was also the latest speaker at the investigation of the school book grant and it is understood that the committee having that matter in charge will soon ready report on the bill.

A Constitutional Hammer.

The legislature is being somewhat hampered by the provision of the new constitution which provides that the subject matter of a bill shall not be changed on its passage through the two houses. A case in point is presented in the bill to amend the laws with reference to pawnbrokers and chattel mortgage sharks. A bill was passed in the senate to make certain amendments, but the house refused to pass it. The senate is now ready to make changes which will require the introduction of a new bill, but the committee is reconsideration of the matter.

Matrimony may be a failure in some ways, but statistics show that it is a great aid to good behavior and consequently of saving to the state, for it in the Bureau of Prisons. In the past, many of the worst sort of criminals are unmarried, and this despite the fact that crime there is largely on the increase.

An English preacher declares that London is "blackened" by its earth. This news will be a sad blow to Chicago, says the Cleveland Leader.

THE SPEAKER AND THE MAJORITY

SPEAKER CAMPBELL'S RULING IS CAUSING ALL SORTS OF TROUBLE.

A RULE AMENDMENT NOW There Seems To Be A Warm Time In The Fire Just Now With Odds In Favor of Speaker's Forces.

Since Speaker Campbell's ruling last week which it is claimed is in violation of the new constitution's provision to enable a majority to do things independent of committee reports, there has arisen a lively struggle which will go to a finish with the speaker holding the whip hand, though Rep. Cranston is making some compromise by blocking votes. On Friday when resolutions were reached on the order, Rep. Dusenbury took advantage of a constitutional privilege and offered a protest against the ruling of the speaker for insertion in the journal. The same action was later taken by Rep. Bryant and both were scorching in their tone.

Grampton brought on the battle again by offering an amendment to the rule specifying Cushing's manual as the authority for the rules, by making the speaker's manual come ahead of the manual. He endeavored to speak on his motion, but was completely interrupted by a constitutional order. The resolution was finally sent to the rules committee by a vote of 17 to 37.

Suspect Foul Play.

The body of John Smith, a well known Buchanan painter, was found one mile north of the village by the Marquette railroad. It was found lying across the track. The neck was broken and the head in one of the sandwiches had been sprinkled with arsenic to poison rats, and the services of a physician and a stomach pump were required to save Lafala's life.

Believed Boy Was Murdered.

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MICHIGAN ITEMS.

The proposition to bond Cheboygan county for a sum sufficient to build a new county jail was lost by a large majority.

Shilawasse county has but six towns now in which liquor is sold. The local optionists are gaining ground almost daily.

After illness of two weeks, Mrs. Edward Weber, of Menominee, is dead of tuberculosis. This is the fifth death from tuberculosis in the last five days.

It is believed that Florence Smith, the Niles girl who is said to have taken morphine over disappointment in the love affair, cannot recover. She is at the home of a sister in South Bend.

Ross Musson, 18, son of an Irving township farmer, has been convicted of shoving the barrel of a shotgun through the door of the district school, thereby causing a panic among the pupils.

James Kelley, aged 19, whose home is in Detroit, was instantly killed when he fell from the train at Battle Creek on which he was stealing a ride, and the wheels cut his body in two.

The body of George Menton was found in the cottage in Ingham county, where he lived alone. A post mortem examination was ordered and showed death was from starvation.

After a search which lasted 5 years, Charles P. Bruen, of Denver, Colo., has located the other members of his family who were scattered all over the world. Charles left home 11 years ago, and soon after lost track of his kin.

Hubert Stein, 30, and for over 50 years a resident of Muskegon county, has sold his 500-acre farm and will go west to start life anew. He says that for a "young man, like himself, the west offers great opportunities for making a fortune.

Noah Goodman, 17, fell from an electric car in the Whiteoak coal mine, where he was employed, and was crushed in the accident. His leg was so weak from loss of blood doctors could not operate.

Because they fear that the coal mine operators in the southern part of Saginaw are making their profits unsafe, the mayor will appoint a committee of citizens and ask them to investigate the matter and take steps to correct the alleged evil.

The girl arrested in Muskegon a few days ago, who by her continued silence prevented the officers, was taken to Grand Rapids Wednesday. She is believed to be Harriet Talbot, who disappeared a month ago from her school in Grand Rapids.

HOUSING THE SEATED AND WILL DO THINGS

THE TARIFF BILL HAS PASSED THE HOUSE AND GOES TO SENATE.

FORDNEY'S LAST HOPE.

Some of the Special Features of the Bill That Will Be of Interest to the People.

The house of representatives passed the Payne tariff bill, 371 to 181. Rep. Austin (Tex.) was the only Republican (to vote against it) all four Democrats — all from Louisiana — Broussard, Estoline, Pajo and Wickham, voted for it. Democratic Leader Champ Clark tried to obtain a nominal, with instructions, but failed.

The Republicans cheered lustily and danced up and down in the air. The bill now goes to the senate.

Rep. Fordney (Mich.) won a hard fought battle when he succeeded in securing enough liberty for the free list with a \$1 duty. The vote on this schedule was 200 to 181 and the only Michigan member to vote against it was Rep. Hamilton.

Fordney started his fight March 11 with only six supporters. The principal reason for members supporting him was that \$2,000,000 revenue would be lost and the Canadian lumber men be the only gainers. A fight which was made in the senate to raise the duty to \$1.50 or 2.

The members seemed to counter the putting of oil on the free list by the Standard Oil. The bill only 46 opposed it. Speaker Cannon was one and Rep. Young (Mich.) another.

Tea is left on the free list, and the countervailing duty taken off coffee. To the free list were added woollen stockings, clover and nut which is used in making varnish. The so-called "joker" in the cotton high schedule which it was claimed would increase the duty of the Dingley bill several hundred per cent was rejected, the proviso for the method of counting breaks in the cloth law made the same as in the present act.

The internal revenue law was amended so that collectors of taxes will not have to pay a manufacturer's license in order to dispose of their stock tobacco. There were six or seven other changes in the schedule, principally downward, and two curtain and netting machines were in the proviso which prohibits the entry free of duty of machinery chinery prior to May 1, 1910.

WHEAT UP

High Record Breaking in the Chicago Pit Continued.

Breaking of high record in the Chicago wheat pit for nearly two weeks was again broken by trading Tuesday, all deliveries advancing considerably beyond the previous high point recorded on the session. The price of the May contract a minute or two after the opening, sold at \$1.17 1/2, while September of the same contract sold at \$1.05 1/2.

A flurry in the May delivery trade in which is now very high, carried the price of that option up to \$1.15 1/2, a gain of 1/4 compared with the previous high point. The advance in May was said to have been largely due to the closing out of contracts of the New York house, which was said to be in financial difficulties.

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