

**Cpl. Hall Wins Award In Rawinsonde Work**

Cpl. Wendell G. Hall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hall of 20730 Robinson, Farmington, has been awarded a skilled rating in his work in

weather observation at his station in Japan. Cpl. Hall is a Rawinsonde operator for the occupation forces in Japan and southern Korea, assigned to the 20-20 AWS Detachment, Northern Honshu, Japan. Cpl. Hall is a graduate of Clarenceville High School.

**NEWS LETTER**

By Rep. Howard R. Estes

As the session advances we find the tempo of the House greatly accelerated with more bills being introduced and more committees work and the first bed-sheet calendar of the session making its appearance.

Following a lengthy debate on a proposal to increase intangible tax exemptions to persons over 65 years, the bill was referred back to committee, where presumably it is dead for this session. The opponents claimed it would not help needy old people, but rather it would aid people who could afford to and should pay the tax.

Though an amendment, tacked onto this bill, changing the distribution of the intangibles tax revenues, was stricken out during its consideration on the floor, this portion is still very much alive. The bill in question would recapture half of the revenue for the badly depleted state general fund. It is expected the committee will report out the bill, but a tough fight looms ahead for it when it reaches the floor for consideration.

Under a suspension of the rules eleven bills affecting the divorce laws were quickly passed and transmitted to the Senate. Sponsors of the measures explained the Legislature has control of only about two-thirds of the state budget, but a tough fight looms ahead for it when it reaches the floor for consideration.

An important change in the divorce laws met favorable action by the House when it passed a bill which would give to a man a share of his wife's property which he had helped to acquire. Calling it an "equal rights for men's" bill, its introducer claimed that for various reasons, tax purposes, etc., many times a man would place property in his wife's name, and then later a divorce suit, was bilked out of it.

Among the bills introduced is one to abolish the secret primary ballot, and three Grand Jury bills. Two bills would amend the present law, although retaining its main points as a weapon against crime. The third bill would create an offense known as "aggravated obstruction of justice", to permit punishment of Grand Jury witnesses who refuse to repeat in court their secret testimony upon which indictment had been issued.

One of the bills calls for a 3-man Grand Jury, and to prevent using the Grand Jury as a spring board to political office, it would eliminate grand jurors from being appointed to any office, other than the one he held at the time of the inquiry, for two years following termination of the Grand Jury. It would also bar the publishing of facts about an indictment before the accused is in custody.

The other bill would retain the 3-man Grand Jury, but greatly modified to remove the objections to the present system.

Another bill would give a worker four hours off on election day to vote providing he or she gave the employer 48 hours notice of intent to take the time. The law would give the employer the right to fix the time to be taken. Any interference with or reprimand against the worker would be a misdemeanor, and upon conviction, punishable by a fine of not to exceed \$500, or 6 months in jail, or both fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court.

A bill to outlaw "lonely hearts clubs", by outlawing publications in which matrimonial opportunities are printed or listed, made its appearance in the House as a result of the recent murder in Kent County.

A tax measure introduced recently would provide a 10 per cent tax on gross sales of all admission tickets to professional hockey, baseball and football games.

Michigan is not alone in squawking about the overloaded trucks which are damaging our highways. Other states are experiencing similar trouble. A move to gain an interstate agreement on motor freight loads to safeguard highways was launched through the introduction of a concurrent resolution, providing for a committee of 3 Representatives and 3 Senators to make a state-wide investigation of highways damaged by heavy loads. The committee would cooperate with similar committees from neighboring states. This move bears a relationship to the feud existing between the American Trucking Association and the A. A. A.

**WOMEN'S CLUB TOLD OF BIRMINGHAM'S THEATRE PROJECT**

The Farmington Women's Club held their regular monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. Lucilia Dickerson. Mrs. Anna Cook was in charge of the program.

Guest speaker for the occasion was Mrs. Teresa Way Merrill, whose topic was "Will-O-Way" — the little theatre project in Birmingham.

Mrs. Merrill recounted the old story of how young people, determined to become actors and actresses, wait for long periods of time for their chances in plays in large cities, but that in contrast the little theatres offer opportunity and advancement for the actors in their chosen fields. Besides the enjoyment it offers to audiences, in regular productions, the theatre groups also provide entertainment programs for veterans in hospitals.

All of these productions help to make the actors' dreams come true. Mrs. Merrill told of the history of starting "Will-O-Way" theatre, which has a seating capacity of 300. The theatre was made over from an old barn, and at first only her son was capable of seeing the possibility of converting it into a theatre. She also spoke of the difficulties encountered, and the financial tribulations the group experienced before achieving success. Although the war slowed up the project, last season was a very successful one, the speaker said, and another successful season is

expected this year.

The theatre is expected to open in June and present full-length plays throughout the summer period.

Besides discussing the theatre project, Mrs. Merrill gave two readings, "The Corn Stalk Fiddle" and "Miss Angelina Johnson". Tea and cookies were served by the hostesses.

**WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND**

(Continued from Page Two)  
di Salle of Toledo and Tom D'Alesandro of Baltimore — gave the French one of their finest welcomes. (It was only a short time ago that Italy and France were locked in mortal combat.)

**DOG FAMILY GET-TOGETHER**

Our famous dog family again. Madam Hezel and son, Jasper II, were taken by their family, the W. C. Carpenters, to call on Madam Hezel's son Hans, who makes his home with the Fred Lenz'. When they met, Jasper II at once decided to show the other dog who was tougher by putting forth the worst growl he could muster, but at the same time drawing closer until he discovered it was brother Hans. Then mother and sons enjoyed a lovely visit together. (Moral: sometimes we growl but if we take time to get closer to the object or problem, it may turn out to be a real pleasure instead of a disappointment.)

**JESSE BYBEE ATTENDING NAVAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL**

Jesse Earl Bybee, airman apprentice, USN, son of Mrs. Ovun Fulton of 1852 Irving Road, is attending the Aviation Electronics Tech-

**nical School at the Naval Air Technical Training Center in Memphis, Tennessee.**

Bybee, who entered the Naval service October 26, 1948, received his recruit training at Great Lakes Naval Training Center.

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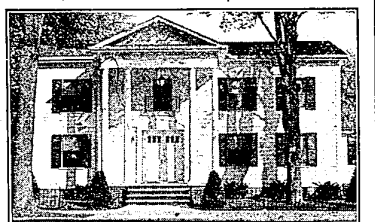
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