

# LETTER FROM STATE CAPITOL

THE PRIMARY BALLOT WILL BE LONG ON NAMES OF MEN FOR THE GOVERNORSHIP.

## FERRIS DECLINES FINALLY

All the Candidates Express Opinions Favorable to Themselves—Matters of Fact and Gossip.

[Gurd M. Hayes.]

Lansing—Although Governor Ferris has positively declined to accept the nomination for a third term and has informed Chairman Stevenson of the democratic state central committee of this fact in most emphatic terms, there are many republicans and not a few democrats who believe that under certain conditions the governor might be induced to change his mind and a few of the democratic leaders are still hopeful that something may be accomplished at the democratic state convention which will probably be held in Detroit the latter part of September.

The withdrawal of Loren D. Dickinson as a candidate for the Republican ticket was announced on Friday only twenty-four hours before the time expired for filing petitions. He will be a candidate for lieutenant governor and will explain later why he withdrew from the contest for first place. The strict neutrality of the dry organization which had insisted from the beginning that it would not in any way deviate from the single purpose of putting an amendment over in November leads to some speculation as to the cause which possesses small value just now. It is time that Mr. Dickinson's move aids in clearing the Republican gubernatorial situation while it complicates it for the candidates—the lieutenant-governorship fight. The retirement of the "dry" candidate is generally regarded as an injury to the Sleeper campaign, and correspondingly beneficial to Leland and Dickema. Charges that "wet" interests were for Sleeper are held to be responsible for this.

At one stage of the proceedings Mr. Hudson announced that officials of his league had been approached by Representative Oge, candidate for lieutenant-governor, and he had promised that he would appoint a senate liquor committee approved by the league, in case he got its backing in the primaries and was subsequently elected.

This statement caused considerable discussion afterward and was flatly denied by Mr. Oge who came to Lansing late Friday to file his petitions for lieutenant-governor.

When this denial of Oge was put up to Hudson later he said they had not all of the candidates for lieutenant-governor on record as willing to appoint a liquor committee which would be satisfactory to the league.

"Mr. Helmsman and all the other candidates for lieutenant-governor have made such statements to us," said Hudson.

Accompanied by Senator Fred L. Woodworth of Caseville, Albert M. Sleeper, a candidate for the republican nomination for governor, visited the capitol recently and assured his friends in the state house that he would be nominated at the August primary. "I have been through the upper peninsula and have covered a large part of the territory below the straits and I am more than pleased with the outlook," said Sleeper, when asked for a statement concerning his prospects.

Petitions to place the name of Frank B. Leland of Detroit, on the primary ballot as a candidate for the republican nomination for governor, have been filed with the secretary of state. Charles S. Pierce, clerk of the house of representatives, who filed the Leland petitions, announced the Detroit candidate had more than the required number of names.

Sybrant Wessulius of Grand Rapids qualified for a place on the primary ballot as a candidate for the republican nomination for governor by filing the required number of petitions with the secretary of state.

The petitions of W. D. Gordon of Bay City have been checked over and he is assured of a place on the ballot for the republican nomination for lieutenant-governor.

Washington Gardner of Albion has filed sufficient petitions to assure him a place on the primary ballot as a republican candidate for governor.

### Other Office Seekers.

Word has reached Lansing that Representative Charles Smith of Lapeer, who is a candidate for a fourth term may be defeated for re-nomination. Representative Smith was speaker of the house during the last session and wants to wield the gavel again. If he fails to return it is believed that Wayne county will have a candidate in Representative Jerome who has served several terms in the house and is popular with the upstate members. If Representative Smith is re-elected, it is believed Jerome will be chairman of the ways and means committee of the house.

### Asking Questions.

Through its Attorney Edmund Rawden, the Michigan Anti-Saloon League is sending a letter to each of the candidates for governor and lieutenant-governor containing the following questions:

"Do you favor the adoption of the constitutional amendment prohibiting the liquor traffic on and after May 31, 1918?"

"If this amendment is adopted would you favor the passage of legislation adequate to insure its enforcement?"

"Do you favor the adoption of the constitutional amendment providing for reducing the unit of voting on the liquor question, from the county to the township, village, and city?"

The candidates have been informed that their answers will be published.

### Tax the Cats.

In all probability the next legislature will be asked to pass a law providing for the licensing of cats in the same manner in which dogs are now licensed. Under the terms of the proposed cat license law it has been suggested that fifty per cent of the tax be paid to the township, city or village and the remainder be turned over to the state and placed to the credit of the state board of health to be used in the campaign against tuberculosis and other diseases. "A cat is one of the greatest carriers of disease and if such a law would result in the extermination of a considerable number of the cats now roaming at large, the result could not help but be beneficial," declared Dr. De Eloin. "If a state law should be passed providing for the licensing of cats and the money received be turned into the state fund, the anti-tuberculosis campaign would have plenty of money if the money could be collected as easily as dog taxes are gathered."

### Educate the Alien.

At a meeting of the state board of education in this city a resolution was adopted commending the resolution passed by the school superintendents in Detroit last winter, calling upon congress to appropriate \$50,000 to be administered through the United States bureau of education for the purpose of disseminating information as to methods, standards and practices in the education of immigrants and of taking any other action which may seem advisable in encouraging and stimulating the extension of educational facilities looking to the Americanization of the foreign born alien residents of this country.

### Teachers at School.

According to Superintendent of Public Instruction Keeler the bill passed at the last legislature requiring applicants for county teachers' certificates to have at least six weeks' work in a state or county normal, has greatly increased the attendance at the summer classes in the state normal schools. The summer enrollment at Ypsilanti normal is 1,000, while the Kalamazoo normal has 1,217 summer students. Eight hundred are registered at Mt. Pleasant and 620 at the Northern State Normal at Marquette.

### A New Clerk.

Jay Mertz has been appointed clerk of the supreme court to succeed Chas. C. Hopkins, deceased. Paul Buckley of Potoski, succeeds Mertz as deputy clerk. The appointments were announced by Chief Justice Stone. The new clerk of the supreme court has been deputy clerk for past eight years and is thoroughly familiar with the duties of the office. He was admitted to the bar in Wayne county and practiced in Detroit a number of years before coming to Lansing. Deputy Clerk Buckley was assistant secretary of the republican state central committee under former state chairman, Gilman Dane.

### Fined the Fisher.

The decision of the Kent circuit court wherein Alfred Giddings was awarded six cents damages against Theodore Rogalewski for alleged trespass of his property, was affirmed by the supreme court. Rogalewski crossed Giddings' land in order to fish in Giddings lake, Solon township, and declined to leave the lake at the request of Giddings' wife.

### Railroad Taxes Paid.

State Treasurer Hester received \$25,114.00 from the Detroit, Grand Haven and Milwaukee railroad in taxes. This branch of the Grand Trunk system is operating under an old charter which permits a tax of one per cent on the capital stock.

### Infantile Paralysis.

Secretary Burkart of the state board of health, received a report from St. Johns that a child in that city had died from infantile paralysis. Although reports of deaths are not made directly to the state board of health, Secretary Burkart has unofficially received reports of four deaths from infantile paralysis in Michigan this month. Four cases have been reported from Kent county, two from Monroe, two from Montcalm, one from Arenac, one from Branch, one from Genesee and one from Clinton.

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