

DOINGS AT THE STATE CAPITOL

THOMAS READ, OF SHELBY, WAS ELECTED SPEAKER BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

SPEAKER PRAISES NEWBERRY

Joint Session of the Senate and House Adopted Resolution Praising State Troops.

(By Staff Correspondent.)

Lansing.—The organization of the senate and the house brought few contests for official places. In the house Thomas Read of Shelby was elected speaker by unanimous vote. He had been the unanimous choice of the Republican caucus and the two joint Democratic caucuses.

In the senate Charles B. Scully, of Lapeer county, was chosen president pro tem after he had been elected in the Republican caucus, over George M. Condon, of Detroit, on a 15-15 vote. Dennis Alward was re-elected secretary of the senate.

The senate reduced the number of its committees from 63 to 32, the same number as there are senators. Each senator hereafter will get one chairmanship. The reduction in number was made by abolishing several minor committees, to which bills seldom if ever were referred in previous sessions, and by amalgamating others of a similar nature.

Military legislation of varied character seems likely to be one of the big factors in the coming session. The legislature in its first two days' sessions heard addresses by Capt. Thomas E. Swan, of Saginaw, chaplain of the 125th infantry, American Expeditionary forces, home on leave of absence, and by Adj. Gen. John S. Bersey, of Lansing, on Michigan's part in the world war.

The joint session of the senate and house adopted a resolution praising the splendid work of Michigan troops in France and assuring the soldiers there that the legislature is anxious to do everything it can for their welfare while they are in France and after their return to their homes. It was ordered that this resolution be cable to the commanding officer of the Michigan troops abroad, so that it could be read to them. A similar resolution was adopted for the state's naval forces.

The joint session also adopted a resolution calling upon the senate of the United States to pass the women's suffrage amendment to the federal constitution, already passed by the house, so that it may be submitted to the states for ratification.

Michigan's war bureau in New York city, the only one of its kind in the country, which has done much for Michigan men returning from the war zone, especially the wounded and the sick, came in for high commendation by Chaplain Swan and other speakers and both the senate and the house adopted resolutions commending Gov. Sleeper personally for his work in getting this bureau started and running in its efficient way.

Way back in 1891 the legislature passed a law under which men who had served in the German army and emigrated here were allowed to organize an association which was empowered to operate land companies. Not knowing but that Germans who fought in the war just ending might start coming over here and find it easy to get into the land company business in Michigan because of the old 1891 law, Senator Arthur Wood, of Detroit, has introduced a bill to repeal the old statute entirely.

Another bill recognizes the entry of women into the political arena by proposing to amend existing laws so that women may incorporate political clubs under the laws of the state, the same as men.

Lansing—Politicians tired up what unexpectedly during the organization day sessions of the legislature. Lieutenant Governor Dickinson, in his opening address as presiding officer of the senate, assailed the recent campaign for the nomination of Truman H. Newberry for United States senator and suggested changes in the primary laws which would prevent the expenditure of large sums in political campaigns for primary nominations. He did not refer specifically to Commander Newberry by name, but referred to the nomination given to the commander as a case in which the most money ever spent for any nomination for office in the history of the world had been spent. He denounced the use of money in campaigns as "polluting."

Most of Dickinson's remarks were in line with his famous letter to Newberry last August asking him to withdraw from the senatorial race. Before the November election Dickinson, running on the same ticket with Newberry, had induced him, on his return to the attack in the senate was a complete surprise to Newberry men in Lansing. Among those was Thomas Read, of Shelby, just elected speaker of the house. Read had campaigned for Newberry. When he addressed the house after assuming office he came back at the lieutenant governor in a short address in which he declared that he was proud of the part he had taken in aiding the Newberry candidacy.

The state, said Read, had elected an "honest-to-God American" as against a man ranked as a pacifist and supported by pacifist elements, and the country was proud of Dickinson for its choice. The mention of Newberry's name by Speaker Read was the signal for a big outburst of cheering and applause, joined in by members and galleries. Newberry men gleefully compared this to the silent reception of the lieutenant governor's talk in the senate.

Speaker Read, on taking office in the house, was presented with a new gavel, made in Benzie county, by Rep. Case, of that county.

Pending the announcement of the committee of the house, to which the bills of the session will be referred, no bills were introduced by house members in the first days of the session.

The first joint resolution in the senate was offered by Senator Conolly, of Van Buren county. It aims to submit to the voters of the state at the April election a constitutional amendment under which the state would be authorized to issue bonds up to fifty million dollars for the building of good roads.

Bills also were introduced in the senate to extend homestead rights to veterans of the present war and to furnish tax exemption up to \$1,500 on land acquired by returning soldiers. Another bill adds veterans of the present war to those to be placed on the preferred lists for public positions.

All Italians living in America, whether citizens, "first paper" men, or straight aliens, will be relieved from military duty and the military laws of Italy upon a showing that they have complied with American military laws.

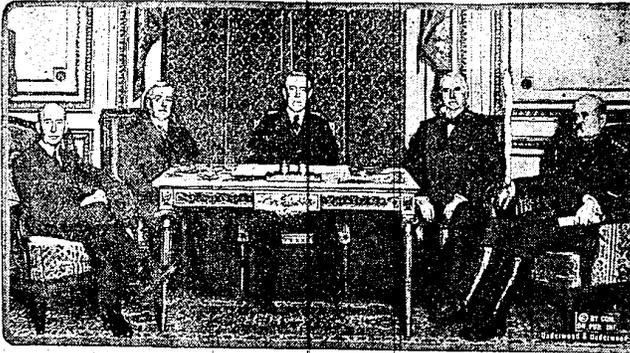
This arrangement, made between the United States and Italian governments, is the result of work started five years ago by Representative DePrato, of Dickinson county, and when a short time ago he received a letter from Congressman V. Crank James, enclosing copies of his correspondence between the Italian embassy and the American department of state, announcing the conclusion of a military convention between the two countries on this subject, the Italians in DePrato's district took a day off. The agreement means considerable to many Italians in this country. All who came here before serving their "time" in the Italian army have delinquent records against them and are subject to punishment if they ever return to Italian territory.

Now American-Italians who went into the draft or volunteered are recognized by the Italian government as having evaded the score of their home country against them. Rejection for service because of disability is not a bar—they complied with the American law and served for service and their status is thus unimpaired.

Murmurings of discontent are already being heard in the senate. Several of the old timers in that body were not overly pleased with a few of the committee assignments that Lieutenant Governor Dickinson had handed out, and his direct slips at United States Senator-elect Newberry in his inaugural address haven't mitigated the discontent.

While all the committee assignments are generally supposed to be made after the requests of the members themselves have been taken into consideration, there were one or two chairmanships that still surprised in the senate list this time that made many of the wisecrackers grasp. Frank Vandenberg, of Marquette, comes to the senate as the successor to Allen T. Roberts. Vandenberg is a farmer and as such was given a place on the committee on agriculture. This place is a natural one, for the new senator is a well known man in farming circles and at one time was in the upper political circles for a membership on the state board of agriculture.

FIRST PHOTOGRAPH OF AMERICAN PEACE MISSION



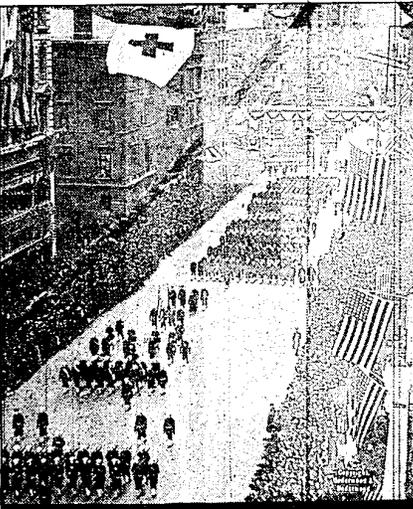
This is the first photograph of the American peace mission, taken at the Hotel Clifton, Paris, where the delegates, except President Wilson, are stopping. Left to right, they are: Col. E. M. House, Secretary Lansing, President Wilson, Henry White and Gen. Tasker H. Bliss.

END OF THE WAR CELEBRATED IN VLADIVOSTOK



One of the first photographs to reach this country showing the celebration of the signing of the armistice at Vladivostok, Siberia. All the soldiers from the allied armies that were in Vladivostok participated in the parade. This photograph shows the American forces headed by their own band.

PARADE OF THE BLUEJACKETS IN NEW YORK



Part of the welcome extended the returning navy at New York was the grand parade of the bluejackets. The sailors are here seen moving down Fifth avenue.

YANK AMBULANCE UNIT DECORATED



General Fyvolet of the French army decorating the colors of the S. S. U. 941, United States ambulance service, attached to the French army, with the Croix de Guerre.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By REV. F. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. Copyright, 1915, Western Newspaper Union.

LESSON FOR JANUARY 12

MOSES THE DELIVERER OF ISRAEL.

LESSON TEXT—Exodus 2:1-12. GOLDEN TEXT—And Moses verily was faithful in all his house. Hebrews 11:23-25. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL—Exodus 2:10-11; Acts 7:17-35.

While the oppression of God's people was heading up, in the providence of God a deliverer was being prepared to take up the task at the opportune hour. Moses was first trained at his mother's knee, then in Pharaoh's court and finally under God's immediate hand in the desert. The latter was an indispensable part of his training.

It was while keeping the flock of his father-in-law in the desert that the Lord appeared to Moses. Had he remained in Pharaoh's palace he never could have had the vision of the burning bush. This bush enveloped in flames, yet unconsumed, symbolized the people of God ensnared in the very fire of God, or God dwelling in the midst of an elect people. Moses steps aside to behold this strange sight, but must be taught the essential lesson of the proper approach to God. We now can approach God with boldness through Jesus Christ (Hebrews 10:19). Our God is a consuming fire. No evil can be permitted in his presence (Joshua 7; Acts 5). The Lord did not leave him long in suspense. He told him he was the God of his fathers, the covenant God. As soon as he knew it was God who was speaking to him he hid his face. The sight of God always causes sinful men to hide (Isaiah 6:5).

II. Moses Commissioned as the Deliverer of His People (3:7-10).

In the preamble of this commission God said to Moses: "I have seen the affliction of my people." This is always true (Psalm 22:24; Isaiah 6; Isaiah 63). "I have heard their cry." Not a word ever goes up from a child of God to God but that "I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians." This shows that God is always interested in the cause of his people. He graciously obligates himself: (1) To deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians. Egypt may be considered a type of the world; the oppression, a type of sin's bondage; and Pharaoh, a type of the devil, who delivers his own from the hands of the devil (Colossians 1:13). (2) To bring them up out of the land. God does not deliver and leave his own in the enemy's land, but brings them out into a land "flowing with milk and honey." (3) To bring them into a good land and large. There is no loss in obeying God. When he brings us out of the enemy's land he brings us into a better land.

III. Moses' Objections Patiently Heard and Removed (3:11; 4:10).

1. Personal Unworthiness (v. 11). He realized his insufficiency for this task. His forty years in the school of God have wrought a great change in him. His hesitancy is a good sign. Men who are really qualified to do a great work are not forward to begin it; e. g., Jeremiah, Martin Luther, George Washington. Moses did not refuse to do, but pled his difficulty before the Lord. God answered this difficulty by assuring him that he would be with him. When God is with a man the impossible becomes possible.

2. The Difficulty of People to Understand Moses' Relationship to God (3:13, 14). Moses knew how unwilling they were to acknowledge him as their deliverer forty years before since God changes his name as he assumes a new relationship to his people. Moses inquired as to what that new relationship would be, and his corresponding name. The Lord promptly met this difficulty by showing him some offering in many respects from all others previously given. This new name is "I Am." This name is from the Hebrew verb "to be." It indicates (1) God's self-existence; (2) his self-sufficiency; (3) his unchangeableness. 3. Doubtful on the Part of the People (4:1). This difficulty the Lord met by supplying him with credentials which could not be gained. He was given the power to perform supernatural wonders (4:2).

4. Lack of Eloquence (4:10). This difficulty the Lord met by providing an assistant in his brother Aaron.

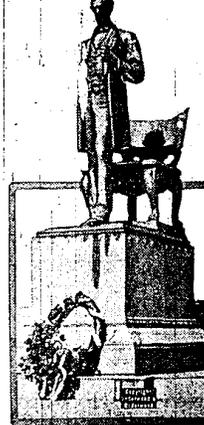
Our Sadness.

We ask God to forgive us for our evil thoughts and evil temper, but rarely, if ever, ask him to forgive us for our sadness. Joy is regarded as a happy accident of the Christian life, to be ornamented and a luxury rather than a duty.—R. W. Dale.

The Human Heart.

The human heart is so constituted that it is only filled by the richness which flows from it—not by the richness which flows into it.—Agnes Edwards.

LINCOLN STATUE FOR LONDON



This is the Saint Gaudens statue of Abraham Lincoln in Lincoln park, Chicago, a duplicate of which will be erected in the Canning enclosure in Westminster, London. It will mark a century of peace between the United States and Great Britain. This statue has been chosen for reproduction after a rather violent controversy over the comparative merits of a figure by George Gray Barnard.

Regular Hours Now.

"Judge, he hasn't worked for about six months," testified an elderly woman in city court recently. She was testifying against her son, age seventeen, who had been arrested on a charge of vagrancy. "How does he spend his leisure time?" asked the prosecutor. "Sleeping" was the reply. When the boy took the stand he denied that he had been out of employment for six months, and said his mother had erred as to the length of time, as the last work he did was "about four and one-half months ago." "How many hours a day do you sleep?" asked Judge Pritchard, to which the defendant replied that he didn't sleep all the time but just when he felt like it. "Ever been in jail?" said the judge. "No." "Well, they have regular hours over there and I believe regular hours plus a few days' work on the roads will do you good. I will fine you \$15 and costs, and you can lay it out in jail."—Indianapolis News.