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DOINGS AT THE STATE CAPITOL

SPECIAL SESSION DATE IS STILL UNDECIDED—MAY 20 LOOKS LIKE THE DATE NOW.

HOUSES CROWDED WITH WORK

Griggs Bill to Allow Township to Nominate Their Officials at Primary Election Passed.

(Staff Correspondent) Lansing, Mich.

The closing days of the 1913 regular session of the Michigan legislature find both houses grinding through the usual mass of bills accumulated by the process of each house holding back the bills of the other. The last six or seven days of the session have seen as many bills finally adopted as the entire previous portion of the session.

Drain bills came to the fore in the house in the closing days, after long delay in committee. They were measures that had been prepared on the recommendation of a commission which Gov. Sleeper had investigated the drain situation in the state. Farmer members of the house objected to the bills, principally because of a provision that drain could be ordered on petition of ten per cent of the property holders affected, instead of fifty per cent, as now.

Supporters of the drain bills contended that some such legislation should be enacted in order that hundreds of thousands of dollars of federal aid be had in the coming two years. They denied that the ten per cent petitioners practically wiped out the petition privilege, declaring that such petitions apply only to drainage districts that contain three or more counties.

Former members had no objection to acquiring federal aid for such drain work as is done but held out against the commission bills, deeming them to be in such manner as to distinctly favor drain and dredge men.

Following the defeat by a vote of 14 ayes to 58 noes of the second drain bill to come up in the house, conferences were held to see if there was any way in which satisfactory bills could be had to get needed drain work done and to get the federal aid. The expected result was that the governor would be asked to lay drainage laws before the coming special session, providing there is an agreement possible that will make it worth while to bring the matter up again.

Public utility bills remained the last interesting feature of the regular session.

Gov. Sleeper and Col. W. F. Anderson, attorney for the Wisconsin railroad commission, address the legislature on the Wisconsin law, which gives the state supreme authority, even over city-owned utilities. In a conference talk, however, Senator Bregman brought out the fact that the Wisconsin state constitution does not contain a "home rule" clause for cities as the Michigan constitution does. The same day the senate passed the Lemire-Bregman bill providing for a public-utilities commission of three members, with much the same powers as the present railroad commission and retaining for the cities the rights they now possess over certain utilities operating within their limits.

The special session date still is undecided, but a conference between Gov. Sleeper, most of the senators and several house leaders, agreed upon May 20 as the tentative date for the session. A date two weeks later had been considered previously. The final adjournment of the regular session will not come until May 15.

Counties may elect to abolish all fees in the office of county sheriff and put the sheriff on straight salary, under the terms of a bill submitted by Senator Connelly and adopted by the senate. The senate also has adopted the Harvey bill to define the crime of conspiracy, a bill aimed at the arson ringleaders uncovered in Detroit and other cities by the state fire marshals' office last year. Both these bills still have to go through the house in order to become law.

Another bill to fall in the house was the Griggs measure to have township officials nominated for office in primary elections, abolishing all caucuses in townships. This bill may be revived before the session ends, however, as many members are strongly in favor of it. The fact that it failed of passage was largely because of the small attendance when it came to a vote, the members on hand being evenly divided as to its merits.

A road bill by Senator Connelly, that may have to over to the special session, if it can be brought up, has stirred up considerable road discussion in advance of the bonding acts. Some Senators believe its real object is to change to whole state road system from a mileage basis to a cost basis and that such a move at this time would require the building up of a whole new road system for the state.

The Peasey bill to provide for the designation by numbers of section line roads has passed the senate.

The house passed the defore bill to create a Michigan state boxing commission, to be appointed and to regulate all boxing and wrestling matches in the state, except in colleges. The house also passed the Hartway bill to license wholesale dealers in eggs and to compel handling certificates, to be enclosed in all crates of eggs to show they are fit for food. Violations of the law would subject offenders to loss of their licenses to do business. The house bill of the Crawford bill for free textbooks in the public schools, preferring to retain the present system whereby it is optional with school districts to have free text books or not.

The house and senate have taken opposite courses in regard to the state prisons. The senate went on record for retaining the present boards of control of Jackson, Ionia and Marquette prisons. It also gave to Jackson prison an appropriation of \$1,700,000 for an industrial revolving fund, the first appropriation for this institution in eight years. The house, on the other hand, passed the Blinn bill to abolish the present boards of control of all the prisons and to substitute one board of four members at \$4,000 a year each to run all the prisons.

The Ladd bill, to allow the docking of horse's tails when horses are used for show or breeding purposes, was defeated in the house by a vote of 19 to 61 opposed. Rep. Hopkins, of Nanticoke, killed the bill by objection to having such matters brought up at the busiest time of the session. He declared that a horse would be compelled to suffer all his life because some one owned wanted to make him look like a show horse on some one or two occasions.

At the last moment when it was possible to put in a bill and still have any chance for it to be acted upon by both houses, Senator Penney, of Saginaw, came out with a time bill which would compel all towns and cities in the state to use the same time. This is aimed to stop Detroit from swinging an hour ahead of the rest of the state when central standard time is in force.

The James bill to require the registration of all persons who drive motor vehicles, the license to be issued by the secretary of state and to be permanent, passed the house. Licensees would cost 50 cents each and be revocable if holders are convicted of careless or reckless driving. No one under 16 years of age would be eligible to get such a license.

Two important house bills to go through the senate and thence to the governor for his signature are the Reaf agricultural seed bill and the Dufee fishing bill. The first sets severe penalties for any one who falsify advertises the merits of any seeds. The other puts all commercial fishing in Michigan waters under the supervision of the state game department.

The Aldrich bill to place gas companies under the supervision of the state railroad commission was out in the house on a second roll call, after filling by one vote on the first roll call. It got the 19-61 vote just as it passed it, when a reconsideration of the first vote gave the opportunity for the second.

The Copley bill relative to equal civil rights for all persons regardless of race, creed or color, met defeat in the house, the members regarding it as too drastic. It provided that no person could be excluded from any public place, or not given the same treatment as every other person, under penalty of \$100 fine or ninety days imprisonment.

The house also has adopted the Daprate bill for the issuance of a certificate by the state highway department in connection with the sale of every second hand motor vehicle, except farm tractors. The certificate is to show the number of the car, license, engine number and other figures by which a car may be identified. The certificate would cost fifty cents apiece.

The senate passed the Connelly bill to change the basis of state reward for road building from mileage to cost. The state reward will be 25 per cent of a road's cost. It is said that this system will yield more revenue to counties than the mileage system does. A reward of 35 per cent would be paid on Class "B" roads.

The Griggs bill to allow townships to nominate their officials at primary elections instead of in caucuses, provided the township so desire, was adopted in the house when it came to a vote a second time. Small attendance on the first vote on the bill caused its defeat. It went through 69 to 18 on a second vote.

While the members of each house were filled with bills in the last few days of the session the only measures of wide import remaining open down to the last were the public utilities and the railroad and interurban passenger fare bills.

The house passed the Byram bill to make it a state prison offense to drive away an automobile without permission of the owner, eliminating any fines. The offense is punishable under the Byram bill by one to five years in prison.

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The greatest five-cents worth of beneficial refreshment possible to get.



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In foal or foal at foot, having Distemper or Influenza, or any other form of Contagious Disease, may with absolute safety to Mare and Foal, be given SPOHN'S DISTEMPER COMPOUND. It is also the very best Remedy to prevent mares giving sickness of any kind among your horses. Sold by druggists. Write for booklet.

HE GOT THE GEORGES MIXED

Baseball Expert Evidently Had Something to Learn About Prominent Men of the World.

A former pitcher in the now defunct Northwestern league, who sought peace and quiet in a Seattle shipyard, was discussing the war and kindred topics during a breakfast spell one day. This hurler is well known for the speed and "grit" he gets on the ball, and is not credited with more gray matter than the law allows.

"This latter circumstance possibly accounts for his end of the following conversation: "This war here has changed things around some," opined the ballplayer. "How now?" queried his friend. "Well, you take England, for instance. England always had a king until a short time ago."

"What's the matter? Some one take a shot at King George?" "Why, no, not that. They just don't call him King George any more. Leastwise the only thing you see in the papers these days is Premier George."

its Kind. "Who would that child up to such a pitch of craziness?" "Nobody," it's a self-starter."

Superstitions. Saturn boy tried his rings. "What god's are they without a circus?" sneered Earth.

Belgian War Souvenirs

War souvenirs in the shape of watches made of steel from Belgian cannon which were in active service on the Belgian front from the beginning of the war in 1914 till October 29, 1917, are being manufactured in Switzerland by order of the king and queen of the Belgians. The watches, which bear inset in gold on the cases the monogram "A. E." of the Belgian sovereigns, are to be presented by King Albert and Queen Elizabeth to soldiers who have especially distinguished themselves and also to prize-winners of military competitions.

Long-Lost Ring Restored. A Goodstone (Surrey) lady has just recovered her wedding ring, which disappeared five or six years ago while she was feeding a calf.

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"This war here has changed things around some," opined the ballplayer. "How now?" queried his friend. "Well, you take England, for instance. England always had a king until a short time ago."

It was thought the animal had swallowed the ring, and as it could not be found the calf became known as "the golden cow."

A few days ago the cow was purchased and killed by an Oxford butcher, who, being informed of the lost ring, made a search and discovered the ring embedded in an internal organ. The ring has been restored to the owner.—London Mail.

Woman may be the weaker vessel, but she sometimes contains the stronger spirit.

We all like the man who "sticks through thick and thin."

Advertisement for Bayer Aspirin, featuring the Bayer cross logo and the text "DON'T BUY ASPIRIN IN A 'PILL' BOX".

Ask for "Bayer Tablets of Aspirin" in a Bayer package—marked with "Bayer Cross."

Amusing Reason Why Brother S— Was Made Known to the World as a Stinky Man. She worked at the minister's house for three days and then went to a neighbor and begged her to give her a piece for the remainder of the week, so she could get home.

Why is a Kitchen Cabinet? They had just passed the display window of a furniture store in which a nationally advertised kitchen cabinet was exhibited. In front of them walked a young woman attired in one of the latest style skirts.

Man is good; his enemies are bad; and the rest of the world is indifferent.

Means Family Comfort

when the boiling pot of Postum sings its song of health and satisfaction on the kitchen stove.

POSTUM CEREAL

led the way to comfort for many a family of coffee drinkers, for with the coming of Postum, away went the headaches, nervousness, sleeplessness and irritability that so often follow the use of coffee.

You can still buy that original Postum from your grocer—an invigorating drink of rare, delicious flavor—a beverage that is really part of the meal, not merely something to drink.

"There's a Reason"

Two sizes, usually sold at 15c and 25c.

All Food—No Waste

If you want an appetizing ready-to-eat cereal that you can serve with no fuss and with fullest satisfaction, try —

Grape-Nuts