

MIDDLE STATES PARE EXPENSES OF GOVERNMENT

Appropriations and Taxes Reduced in Financial Struggles.

Thriff was second nature to the mechanics to the Northwest Territory, ex road in one hand and squirrel gun in the other. Life was hard and thriffy.

The black team they farrowed, the titles they built, the vast hinterland paradise they created, now are the scene of a new strucze, again extravagance in government.

This story, second of a series, by the mechanics, depicts the people's fight for economy in the corn and wheat belt states. Wednesday's installment will deal with Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, West Virginia and Kentucky.

BY RAY BLACK
United Press Staff Correspondent
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CHICAGO, Jan. 26.—The mid-west, galled by a growing tax burden, is heeding the pioneer precept. "A penny saved is a penny earned."

In the case of midland states, it is a billion-dollar penny. Government—national, state, city, county, township and school district—has been pocketing that penny and doling it out in salaries, appropriations, and whatever other way lengthy budgets provided.

Now the people are shaking their heads and tightening their purse strings. The wheat farmer in the Red river valley of the north, the corn grower from Iowa, the Wisconsin lumberman, the Illinois manufacturer, the Nebraska stockman—every one who pays taxes—is on the defensive.

Use Economy Ax

Banks have failed. Several cities have declared "business moratoriums" to give excited populates a breathing spell and restore confidence. Chicago, metropolis of the region, virtually is bankrupt and can not pay its teachers, its firemen or its policemen.

Special sessions of the Illinois and Wisconsin legislatures have been tussling with the problems of relief and economy.

Their minds made up, the people are doing something about it. The economy ax is falling everywhere. Salaries have been slashed. Departments in municipalities have been abolished. Improvement programs have been abandoned. School terms have been shortened.

Perhaps the most significant action was that of the last Iowa legislature. It enacted a law which requires that all units of government below the state government proper must reduce the total amount of taxes collected during 1932 and 1933 by 5 per cent. Twenty-five counties have reduced salaries.

State by State Survey
The state by state survey by the United Press follows:

Illinois—Special legislative sessions is considering abolishing three hundred county offices, various commissions and merging of governmental departments. One bill eliminating county offices would save the state \$12,000,000 a year. Governor Emmerson allowed \$6,000,000 in appropriations to lapse.

Iowa—The average Iowan will pay 90 cents in taxes this year compared with \$1 last year. Citizens have banded together and halted bidding at delinquent tax sales, thereby allowing the taxpayer opportunity to raise together money to save their property. Assessment values of real estate and livestock have been reduced.

Minnesota—Tax adjustment leagues have been formed in many counties, demanding tax reductions. An estimated \$7,000,000 has been pared from 1932 budgets in county, township and school district economy measures. Mrs. Jean W. Clark, state budget commissioner, announced she had reduced the state highway budget approximately \$200,000.

Cuts Relief Fund
Nebraska—Governor Charles W. Bryan says he has saved taxpayers \$2,000,000 for the biennium by a low budget. He is campaigning for re-election on an economy platform. "The place to reduce is at home," is his slogan. Highway and bridge appropriations, and school teachers' salaries have been reduced.

Wisconsin—Governor Philip F. La Follette reduced his request for unemployment relief from \$17,000,000 to \$10,000,000 when legislators protested against a tax increase. A further reduction to \$7,000,000 seems likely. The Governor asked an "emergency measure" to empower him to reduce appropriations for any department or service 20 per cent, if necessary to prevent levying more taxes.

North and South Dakota—In North Dakota, economy measures have resulted in savings in many state departments. In South Dakota, the superintendent of schools and the state treasurer were limited to eight months for deputies' service, and the salary of the deputies was reduced 20 per cent. Salary of the state superintendent of highways was cut to 140.

Township Pays All Taxes
GREENFIELD, Ind., Jan. 26.—Brandywine is the only township among the nine comprising Hancock county which has no delinquent tax list. The county lists 40 pieces of property on which taxes are over-due and it is the longest list in the county's history.

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"If you suffer in a similar way this new prescription should quickly end your asthma tortures as it did mine. Write to me, with your name and address, and I will send you my special FREE Write to O. W. Dean, 301-B Dean Bldg., Benton Harbor, Mich." Please enclose to cover cost of postage and packing—Advertisement."

Job Insurance Bill Approved by Wisconsin Is First in U. S.



Measure Forces Employer to Build Reserve for Each Worker; Allows 10 Weeks' Compensation.

BY WALTER MONFRIED
NEA Service Correspondent

MADISON, Wis., Jan. 26.—Unemployment can be controlled by the state, Wisconsin lawmakers believe, and on this theory the state legislature has just passed the first unemployment insurance bill in the United States.

Advocated by Governor Philip F. La Follette, the bill, which becomes effective upon the Governor's signature, is an "unemployment reserve measure under state control, rather than straight unemployment insurance."

Its purpose is "to make certain that by July 1, 1933, at least a majority of the employees of Wisconsin will enjoy the protection of fair and adequate systems of unemployment reserves and compensation."

Burden on Employer

The measure is a strictly academic product, conceived by economics professors at the University of Wisconsin and the state industrial commission. It was introduced by Professor Harold M. Groves, a member both of the legislature and of the university faculty.

Unlike the unemployment insurance systems of Europe, the Wisconsin plan compels neither the state nor the workman to contribute to the reserves; the employers must shoulder the whole burden.

But each employer is responsible only for his own organization; there will be no pooling of the reserve funds among the state's firms. The workings of the statute be-

THE WISCONSIN PLAN IN A NUTSHELL

1. Employers must contribute a portion of their payroll each week until an unemployment reserve of \$75 per worker has been set up. No employer will contribute to any fund but his own.

2. Employes may contribute to this fund to increase its benefits if they desire.

3. Benefits shall be paid to unemployed for periods of not more than ten weeks in any year, unless employees have contributed to fund.

4. Benefits shall not be more than half of the employee's regular wage, and shall not exceed \$18 week.

5. Persons earning more than \$1,500 a year are not affected.

come compulsory on July 1, 1933, unless Wisconsin employers "then employing in the aggregate of 715,000 employees have established voluntary unemployment reserves approved by the state industrial commission."

In the next eighteen months, employers are instructed to establish such reserves voluntarily. After that time they will be compulsory. Each employer will contribute 2 per cent of his entire pay roll until the reserve for each eligible employee amounts to \$55; the employer then contributes 1 per cent of his pay roll until the reserve for each worker is \$75.

That ends the compulsion upon the employer's part; if the workmen desire, they may voluntarily pay any part of their wages into the fund to increase its benefits.

Worker Gets Half Pay

Each employee under the plan begins to share in it after two weeks on his job. His credits accumulate at the rate of one week's unemployment assistance for each four weeks he is at work.

If the employee loses his job he will be paid 50 per cent of his weekly wage, but will not receive more than \$10 a week for more than ten weeks.

After that period the employer's obligation is ended, and the workman collects further benefits only if the company's reserve has been increased by employees' voluntary contributions. A worker who attends school during unemployment receives \$1 a week extra.

The reserve of a company, after it is once set up, can not be changed for five years.

Aids Low Paid Men

Recognizing that the workers in the lower wage divisions are most affected by hard times, the legislators included in the plan only employees receiving less than \$1,500 a year.

Exempted from the law's scope are railroad men, farm laborers, domestic servants, persons working as substitutes, persons receiving any fair salary (whose incomes are thus fairly assured), teachers, part-time workers, persons engaged on unemployment relief projects, and logging employees whose jobs are seasonal business.

They have the assistance of a good woman eccentric comic who blossoms out very modern and prettily before the act is over. Lane brings on a colored lad who is a mighty good hoofer. A good act and Lane is getting more sure of his showmanship each time I see him.

There is some mighty nifty dancing done by Edith Karren and her four boy friends. Nice act. Has class. Togo does his slide for life or something like that over the heads of the audience on a rope. Good act.

I did not care for the Les Klicks or Masters and Grayce. The later act needs material and needs it badly.

The movie is "Charlie Chan's Chance," with Warner Oland. Now, at the Lyric.

Now at the Lyric.

Mildred Adams and Otis Skinner open tonight in a two-day engagement at English's in "The Merchant of Venice."

Other theaters today offer "Tonight or Never" at the Palace, "Three Wise Girls" at the Circle, "Dance Team" at the Apollo, "Union Depot" at the Indiana, and burlesque at the Mutual.

Then in the third act, Milne permits one to study the effect of Mary's and Michael's sin upon their only son, David, played with beautiful strokes by William Pollard.

The effect upon David is really beautiful because he knows that love is always love.

The cast is so satisfactory that I give you the cast as follows:

Mary Margaret Williams
Michael Michael O'Keefe
David William Pollard
Violet Beatrice Liebke
Mrs. Tulliver Mildred Hastings
Miss Rosalie Shirley Ross
Mary's Uncle Jack King Davis
Inspector Enderby Milton Byron
"P. C." Cuff Bob Fay
Miss Weby William Pollard
Romo Virginia Stevens

On the opening night there were long delays between scenes and acts, but this of course has been corrected by this time.

You are going to find "Michael and Mary" to be one of the better things of the Berkell season.

At Keith's all week.

CONCERNING A SINGER AND A GOOD COMEDY ACT

There is no doubt that Miss Lee Morse has a singing way about her.

I was able this week at the Lyric to study the strange power of this woman over her audiences. She gives me the impression of being so far away from her audience and yet the minute she starts singing quietly and without any fireworks, a certain unmistakable charm is present.

She has made a pleasant business of allowing her strange voice shape and color the mood and meanings of her songs. She is what I might call a sort of a continued Fannie Brice dramatic mood.

Miss Morse relies entirely upon the strange quality of her voice to put her across. And it always has.

Have always been interested in

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LEGISLATURE IS SLOW TO AGREE ON TAX SCHEME

IN A NUTSHELL

Special Session Remote as House, Senate Fail to Come to Terms.

Agreement on a special legislative program appeared remote today.

But the special committee appointed by John R. Kinghan and William H. Settle will meet Thursday anyway.

And Governor Harry G. Leslie still sticks to his demand that entire agreement on tax reform be reached before the special session is called.

Meanwhile, Speaker Walter Myers' poll of house members show that they want something to say about tax reform, and will agree to no rubber stamp session. They are willing, generally, to stick to taxation if a special session is called.

Of fifty-five replies, only twenty-six agreed to adhere to a program pledged in advance of the session. Nineteen refused flatly, three were noncommittal, and seven said they wanted to see the program first.

Central labor union Monday night went on record as opposing the session on the grounds it would only mean taxing the worker and "little fellow."

The committee of nine meeting here Thursday hope to bring some semblance of order out of this chaos, Settle said.

RULING LIMITS POWER OF LESLIE APPOINTEE

Only Governor Has Executive Option in Fee Cases, Ogden Says.

Edward Courtney, Danville, appointed by Governor Harry G. Leslie to collect fees from state institutions inmates who are able to pay, has no executive powers, Attorney-General James M. Ogden ruled Monday.

Ogden has been asked as to Courtney's power in making compromise settlements of claims. These must be made by the chief executive, with advice of the attorney-general, Ogden ruled. Courtney can investigate.

Courtney has been making investigations and effecting settlements for the last year. His wife, Mrs. Mabel Y. Courtney, is a trustee of the Ft. Wayne state school and the Muscatatuck colony.

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