

PENSIONING OF AGED FAVORED BY LARRABEE

Representative of Indiana Backs Dill-Connelly Bill for Federal Aid.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Indiana and other states that herd their aged poor into almshouses might be persuaded to discontinue the barbarous practice and provide old-age pensions if assistance is offered by the federal treasury.

Such is the belief and hope of Representative William H. Larrabee (Dem.) New Palestine, Ind., who has joined with other liberals in an attempt to force a showdown in this session of congress on the Dill-Connelly bill.

The Dill-Connelly measure, recently approved by the house labor committee, would appropriate \$10,000,000 annually for federal aid to be apportioned among the states that provide pensions to aged and indigent citizens.

Poorhouses Assailed

"This bill," said Larrabee today, "will provide federal aid for old age pensions up to one-third of the cost, and I believe will bring states like our own into line. I hope it will help to banish disgraceful poorhouses from the land."

Citing the Marion county poorhouse as a "horrible example," Larrabee said:

"In the county in which our state Capitol is located, conditions have prevailed in years past that would not be permitted in institutions for the punishment of criminals. Crowded into quarters that would not be considered fit institutions of correction and punishment, the poverty-stricken aged of this county have lived among conditions that are an utter disgrace to a civilized state. I have no doubt that there are conditions equally as bad, or worse, in the homes for poor in many other states and many other communities."

"It is foolish to talk of waiting for prosperity to banish the poorhouse. There is only one way in which it can be abolished, and that is to provide in a humanitarian way for the aged and indigent."

"We must remember, 'The poor, we shall always have among us.' It is the purpose of government to protect and provide for the weak."

Refers to Leslie Veto

"If congress can find it within its power to vote a \$2,000,000,000 debt to gigantic financiers and corporations who have wrecked themselves with their gambling in Wall Street and in foreign loans and foreign stocks and securities, it will have a hard time explaining to the people 'back home' if it votes down the federal old age pension aid bill."

The last paragraph was directed at the reconstruction finance bill, recently enacted over the opposition of Larrabee and a handful of others in the senate and house.

Larrabee's interest in old age pensions dates from the time he was a member of the lower house of the Indiana legislature many years ago. He thinks that if the Dill-Connelly bill had been in effect, the Governor of Indiana would not have dared veto the old age pension measure passed by the Indiana legislature in its last session.

TRANSFER RIOT WARDEN

Leavenworth Chief to Take Over Narcotics Penal Farm.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Feb. 8.—Sanford Bates, superintendent of federal prisons, who has been investigating the Leavenworth prison break of Dec. 11, in which seven convicts kidnapped and wounded Warden Thomas B. White in their break for freedom, announced F. G. Zerbst will succeed White as warden.

White will become warden of the government's new penal farm for narcotic addicts at El Paso, Tex., March 1.

Bates said two guards who committed suicide have not been "definitely connected by the agents with the smuggling in of the weapons."

NAMED ON EYE BOARD

Evansville Optometrist Appointed by Governor Leslie.

Dr. B. L. Kruckmeyer of Evansville today was appointed by Governor Harry G. Leslie as a member of the Indiana state board of registration and examination in optometry, succeeding Dr. James H. Royson of Evansville, who resigned because of ill health.

Leslie also announced that Mrs. Davidson, recently appointed a member of the library and historical board, has been named a member of the library commission, in place of the resignation of Mrs. Royson.

SALARY SUIT IS FILED

Weights, Measures Inspector Seeks \$1,800 From County.

Court fight to obtain salary stricken from county pay rolls during the economy campaign of the council last September was opened today in circuit court by Robert Hathaway, weights and measure inspector.

He seeks an appropriation of \$1,800 to pay his 1932 salary. The council cut the amount from the budget, but Hathaway worked throughout January, the first month the slice was effective.

His suit stated the post was necessary in the community. He was named to the job in April, 1929.

JAPAN SEEKS GOLD IN CONQUEST

Sixty Million Persons Crowded in Island Empire

BY ROBERT TALLEY
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BEHIND Japan's vast war machine is a tiny cluster of islands, constituting Old Japan, whose area in square miles is slightly smaller than that of the state of Nevada.

There are 91,000 people in Nevada. There are approximately 60,000,000 people in overcrowded Old Japan, or just about half the population of the United States by comparison.

These principal islands of Old Japan are three in number, plus their fringes of small adjacent islands. There is another large island to the north, but it is cold and sparsely inhabited.

ON the average each Japanese owns about one-third as much as an American owns, owes about one-third as much in national debt, pays taxes of about one-fourth as much.

The figures tell the fiscal story:

United States
National Debt—\$16,500,000,000.
Per Capita Debt—\$125.
Per Capita Tax—\$26.25.
Nat'l Wealth—\$300,000,000,000.
Per Capita Wealth—\$2,160.
1932 Budget—\$3,950,000,000.

Japan
National Debt—\$3,000,000,000.
Per Capita Debt—\$46.
Per Capita Tax—\$13.50.
Nat'l Wealth—\$50,000,000,000.
Per Capita Wealth—\$360.
1932 Budget—\$1,000,000,000.

But while figures are statistically correct, they hardly present the whole picture, for Japan proper—meaning Old Japan—enjoys a rich commercial return from its profitable domains in Manchuria, Korea and Formosa. In Korea, for example, Japanese merchants control 85 per cent of the business and Japanese farmers own one-half of the cultivated land. In Formosa, the Japanese government has a monopoly on the world's chief source of camphor.

This is the fifth of six stories on "Japan's Skyrocketed Rise."

of camphor. All three domains were acquired by war.

The Japanese have their own way of doing things. From a tax collecting standpoint, Korea has been a drain on the Japanese treasury for many years. But the commercial profits pay handsomely.

THE population of Japan proper, according to the latest census, was 64,450,000, but more than 90,000,000 persons are Japanese or live under the Japanese flag.

Here is what the latest population records show:

Japan proper 64,450,000
Korea 12,000,000
Formosa 4,594,161
Jan. Sakhalin 231,213
Total for empire 81,235,474

Leased Kwantung territory in Manchuria 883,788
Mandated territory (Islands in North Pacific) 38,816
Total under flag 82,158,078

Japanese residing abroad: 299,091
In Europe 2,992
In America 267,696
In Oceania 141,131
In Africa 86

Grand total 82,457,169

The total area of Japan and all its possessions is 261,567 square miles. The total area of continental United States is a little more than 3,000,000 miles.

The nation's population approximately 120,000,000.

ASIDE from its army and navy, Japan has built up in recent years great industrial plants with equipment as modern as any found in Pittsburgh, Chicago or Cincinnati.

That these quickly can be converted from the making of such things as sewing machines, enamels, locomotives, cotton cloth, etc., was demonstrated during the World war, when a new crop of millionaires rose in Japan from profits of munitions making for the allies.

Though the nature of Japan's economic system limits great wealth to a few men, the number of incomes in excess of \$50,000 jumped from 22 in 1914 to 336 in 1918.

THE Rockefeller of Japan are the Mitsubushis. They employ nearly 100,000 persons in their vast chain of mills, mines, ocean shipping and banking, which has agencies on every continent and big offices on Broadway in New York.

The house of Mitsui has run things financially in Japan for 200 years, and often financially aided the government. It is composed of eleven related wealthy families, who function co-operatively under their own written family constitution and share in vast profits.

The nation's chief industrial city is Osaka, "the Pittsburgh of Japan," where thousands toil in the steel mills and kindred industries.

Nearby Kobe might be likened to New York, being the most important port in Japan, and equally famous for its shipbuilding yards. Yokohama is the cotton and silk mill center.

JAPAN'S powerful navy is no accident. These industrial islands do not, and can not, grow enough food to support themselves, and therefore the seas of Korea, Manchuria and Formosa must be kept open at all costs.

They are the granaries of Japan and the source of raw materials for her factories.

The nation's production of steel now reaches 1,500,000 tons a year, but there is not much hope for the future of her industry unless the supplies of raw material are assured. Japan's imports of iron amount to about 7 per cent of her total imports.

Official estimates show five billion metric tons of coal in Japan's mines, though about half of this is below workable depths.

Iron deposits are found in Japan, Korea and Formosa, an optimistic estimate placing the total at 130 million metric tons. The nation's real iron resources, however, are along its railway in Manchuria.

THE soy bean of Manchuria becomes a principal item of her trade, amounting to nearly 8 per cent to 3 per cent of wheat.

In the last six months Japan has become the world's largest purchaser of raw cotton.

She has bought 1,069,000 bales, which is 579,000 more bales than

