

Senate May Combine Liquor Reform Bills; Hits Hour Bill Delay

Policy Committee Orders Study by Hardy And Jenner.

The Senate Public Policy Committee today ordered two of its members to combine most of the liquor reform measures pending before it, incorporating several amendments suggested by the committee.

Today's meeting followed a heated floor fight yesterday in which Senator William Hardy (D. Evansville), committee chairman, charged that a "powerful liquor lobby" had kept other members from attending a meeting Tuesday night. He said he had been unable to get a quorum at three previous sessions.

Meanwhile, the "local option" movement was progressing through the House with the measure to re-enact the old Nicholson Law ready for second reading and a second measure to provide for county elections on liquor questions scheduled to be reported out of committee in a few days.

The Nicholson law bill gave the lower chamber its first test of local sentiment yesterday when the House voted, 50 to 40, to accept the Public Morals Committee's favorable report. This bill, which would give the State the type of liquor control in effect now, was introduced in committees to provide for city and ward elections.

Senator Hardy and Senator William Jenner (R. Shoals) were named to the subcommittee to combine the liquor measures. However, the bill introduced by 24 Senators designed to eliminate gambling from taverns and limit credit between wholesalers and retailers is to be reported out favorably by the committee.

Most controversial measure before the Committee is the one sponsored by the Republican State Committee passed by the House last week following a floor fight. At present it calls for flat midnight closing hours, but it was indicated that the subcommittee might amend it to make the midnight deadline apply only to cities of the fourth and fifth class.

Following an established custom, members of the Legislature were introducing visiting school pupils, former members and local party officials, when Rep. Joseph E. Kien (D. Gary) rose and said:

"Mr. Speaker, gentlemen of the House—I wish to introduce to you a distinguished former member. I present the Hon. William H. English, Speaker of the House during the 1851 session."

Rep. Kien pointed to a marble bust set in a niche of the House chamber.

Everyone laughed except Mr. English.

Other liquor measures pending before it include the Republican State Committee's reform bill which was passed by the House last week. This proposal relaxes the importer system, lowers the restriction on wholesalers and sets midnight as closing time for liquor sellers.

Bills providing only for the repeal of the importer system, sponsored by the Administration, and for additional restrictions in the law to curb gambling in taverns also are awaiting action.

Approve Bill to Limit Township Relief

While Lake County Senators prepared for the public hearing tonight on the problem of relief administration in their district, the Senate County and Township Business Committee today recommended for passage the bill to limit township trustee relief expenditures.

The hearing tonight is on a resolution introduced by Senator Harvey Post (D. Hammond) asking for further State investigation into the Lake County relief setup which recently was charged with being "abounding in abuses."

The township bill introduced by Senator Walter Vermillion (D. Anderson), would limit township trustees' relief expenditures for poor relief to 50 cents a week with a sum equal to a 3-cent tax levy. The measure would also require a public hearing before the county council in the case of an emergency, requiring additional expenditures.

Post Urges Passage

Senator Harvey Post (D. Hammond), member of the committee which is to report on the bill, said that "our relief bill in Lake County looks like the State budget" and urged passage of the measure.

The Lake County resolution was prompted by the Governor's Commission on Unemployment Relief's report on relief conditions there.

The Commission also charged that "many families have been granted relief when possessed of more than sufficient resources to maintain themselves without relief."

Senator Elliott Conroy (D. Hammond), chairman of the Senate Committee on the Affairs of Lake

G.O.P. IN HOUSE QUILTS FIGHT FOR STATE JOB LIST

Speaker Halts Heated Floor Clash Over Demand on Townsend.

(Continued from Page One)

whether they have too many employees. If you limit this resolution, this information can be furnished.

Rep. Stein indicated that unless some limiting provision was made in the resolution it would have to be ignored.

Rep. Stein has made this thing too complicated," Rep. Harry M. Shull (R. Auburn) said. "He is trying to throw a smoke screen around this whole thing.

"What he would like to see we Republicans do is to stab in the dark on this budget bill and make a cut which would result in the halting of the operation of some function of State government. We don't want to do that and get in

Speaker Takes Hand

Rep. Stein's reference to Rep. Shull's "thick head" produced a heated exchange between the two which was shut off by the Speaker. Rep. Winfield K. Denton (D. Evansville) said that since the House had spent so much time on this patronage matters it could adjourn as to give the members of the 51 Club time to pursue the Speaker's records to your hearts content."

Rep. Harry R. Fawcett (R. Kokomo) charged that the Administration "could not stand an investigation." His reference to motives of the minority leaders was halted by Speaker Knapp, who said:

"This is a deliberative chamber. We will have to keep order and not indulge in rabble rousing. Members will refrain from questioning the motives of any other member."

Rep. Harold T. Batman (D. Terre Haute) said that there was enough important legislation pending that the "House could do better to consider."

Pointing out that there probably were very few members who had even studied the complete reports of such nonpartisan groups as the Indiana Taxpayers Association, he said:

"What good would this information do if we had it? Who would have time to study it and present legislation bearing on it?"

Claims Necessity

"This information asked for is sometimes going to have to be compiled," Rep. Roy J. Harrison (R. Atoka) said. "It may have to be compiled either for this session or for a special session which we may have to have."

This was the first public reference from G. O. P. representatives that a disagreement over the biennial budget might force a special session to consider the State's financial position.

Speaker Knapp, on a request for a rule interpretation from Rep. Stein, said:

"I think the House is butting its head against a stone wall. In the spirit of fairness the chair is of the opinion that if the resolution had been couched in proper terms it might have been possible for the Governor to have complied in a reasonable time."

"The House can't order the Governor to do anything and neither can the Governor order the House."

This statement definitely cooled off the enthusiasm of the Republican members since it sustained in a general way the claim of Rep. Stein.

The resolution was voted down on a voice vote.

However, House Republicans pushed through a resolution to require the Governor to furnish the Legislature with a list of all State automobiles and the amount of gasoline and oil expended. The vote was 48 to 46.

The two chief bills introduced in the House would prevent persons other than employees from picketing or示威 in front of establishments and would create a bureau of guard training in the State Public Welfare Department for training attendants at State penal institutions.

Also passed by the House yesterday was the gasoline tax rate 1 cent.

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JACKSON SAYS TAX SLASH WILL BRING PROBLEM

Counties Must Raise New Revenue or Economize, He Predicts.

With the bill to halve the retailers' gross income tax rate awaiting Senate action, Clarence A. Jackson, Gross Income Tax Division head, today charged that "any reduction in this revenue will present an immediate problem" to every local community.

Speaking at a committee hearing on this measure, Jackson said, "The measure would reduce the total revenue to the State by two and one-third million dollars and most of this would be offset by the lessening of delinquencies."

Retailer groups, however, have claimed that the bill before the Legislature would reduce the total revenue to the State by two and one-third million dollars and most of this would be offset by the lessening of delinquencies."

Rep. Guy W. Dausman (R. Goshen) introduced a bill in the House today to repeal the Gross Income Tax Law and substitute a new income tax, similar to the Federal Act. The measure would allow a \$1000 exemption for each taxpayer with a \$500 additional exemption for each dependent, including a wife.

Speaking at a committee hearing on this measure last night, Walter Greenough, Indiana Chain Store Council executive director, said that a fifth of Indiana's industry is dependent upon chain stores.

"This measure would drive 30 to 70 per cent of the chain stores from the State," he said.

In answer to Mr. Greenough's charge that "the bill is a punitive and not a revenue measure," Senator Walter Chambers (D. New Castle) estimated this bill would reduce the tax on each store about \$12.

Introduced by Senators Harvey J. Post (D. Hammond) and Claude E. McBride (D. Jeffersonville) the bill would increase chain store license fees by providing a new schedule of fees ranging from \$10 to \$500.

In his statement, Mr. Jackson said:

"Those who want reductions in their taxes should be fair enough to suggest to their Representatives in the Legislature what local costs should be reduced to equal the tax reduction suggested or on whose shoulders they want to transfer their taxes. Taxes will be less when people are content with less. The place to content with less is in our own communities."

"The gross income tax is not col-

ACTION DELAYED ON 'CHAIN STORE' BILL

Senate Committee Told It Would Cut Jobs.

Senate Finance Committee members today delayed final action on the "chain store" bill after opponents of the measure charged it would decrease employment in this State 20 per cent.

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lected on gifts to charitable institutions. Under the present law a gift to a charitable cause is exempt from taxation if the money is spent in Indiana. The amendment provides that if a nominal sum is spent in Indiana and the rest used for the benefit of mankind the gift is tax exempt.

Bobby Breen
Bobs b and y
To Get Bob

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 16 (U. P.).

Bobby Breen, child singing star, prevailed upon his movie bosses today to change his name—to Bob Breen.

Aged 11 and big for his age, the young actor complained it was embarrassing to be known as "Bobby" while his schoolmates call him "Bob."

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