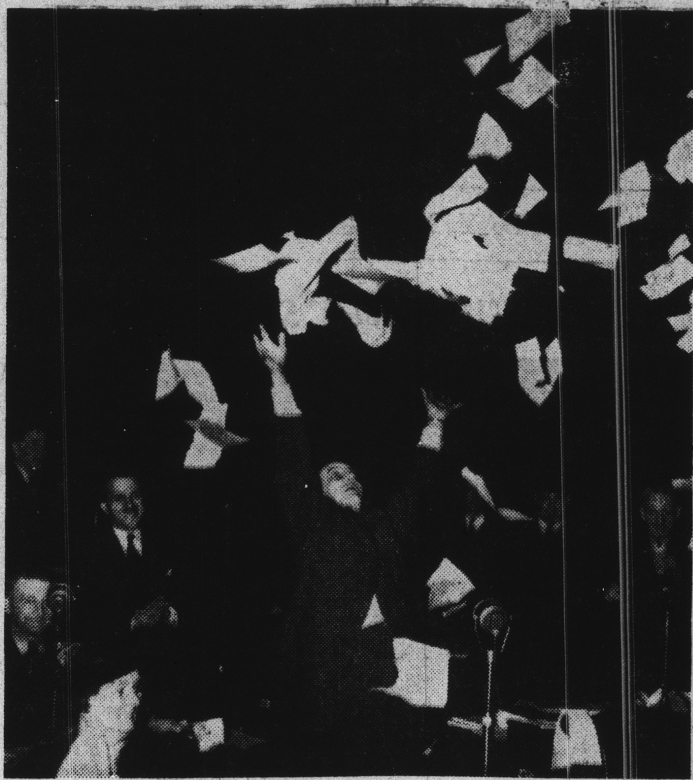




As the hours dragged out today—technically yesterday to the Indiana Legislature—members of the House amused themselves (but no one else) by singing, and sleeping and otherwise passing the time of day. They were to be in session until mid-afternoon when the budget bill would be ready for final formalities.



Casting all inhibitions aside, Harry Muller (D. Anderson), a theater owner, by the way, reached into his desk and tore up all the copies of bills he had toiled over for the long, long session. Whoops, my dear!



Barbershop harmony—more harmony than there has been all session before—came from the House as members tested out the new microphones for the first time for their musical quality. Left to right are C. Omer Free, Vincennes; Judson West, Indianapolis; Herbert B. Copeland, Madison; W. O. Hughes, Ft. Wayne; Herbert H. Evans, New Castle, and Walter S. Baker, Bourbon.

## Assembly Approves Record State Budget

Passes \$83,568,449 Bills To Break All-Night Deadline.

(Continued from Page One)

ed indebtedness at Indiana and Purdue Universities. The \$260,000 a year raised by the two-cent levy is to revert to the general fund under provisions of the bill.

Senate concurrence to both biennial appropriation bills came on a voice vote.

**Appropriation Slashed**

As originally introduced the smallest of these two measures—the bill to appropriate State funds to match various types of Federal grants—called for a total appropriation of \$19,603,900. This was slashed \$327,900 by the House Ways and Means Committee to bring the total to \$19,276,000.

While the conference committee on this measure rearranged some of the items in the amounts budgeted for welfare costs, the total slash of the Ways and Means Committee was maintained, and this conference committee report was accepted.

The second measure to appropriate funds to operate the State's departments, institutions and divisions for the next biennium produced the most heated fight and resulted in appointment of two House conference committees before agreement was reached.

As introduced this bill called for an appropriation of \$65,197,050, but it was slashed \$1,000,466 by the Ways and Means Committee, bringing the total to \$64,196,584.

Under terms of the conference committee report which finally was adopted, the Ways and Means Committee total of \$64,197,050 was increased by \$95,400, bringing the total approved bill to \$64,292,450. Final House vote on acceptance of this total was 71 to 28 with many Republicans voting for concurrence.

**Evans Files Protest**

This action was taken despite the protest of the G. O. P. floor leader, Rep. Herbert H. Evans (R. New Castle), who entered a protest in the House Journal which said in part:

"We are faced with the proposition that the revenue of the State under the present taxation setup for the next two years will be 73 million dollars, while these bills provide expenditures of more than 80 million dollars. Since this is more than seven million dollars more than we expect to take in, you can't expect sane businessmen, under oath of office, to vote for such a bill.

"I can not do it and go back home and look my neighbor or my constituency in the face and I don't expect to do it.

"In 1929 we had less than 30 boards and commissions in the State government. Now we have 113 such agencies of government and under a program of organized minorities every little group demands a new board or commission, not only to regiment and manage the affairs of some business. All this is to create some political job for some one to pay for by some form of taxation such as license fees."

The original House conferees, composed of Reps. Hobart Creighton (R. Warsaw) and Burt Summerland (R. Wabash), was dismissed after the House rejected the report of the first committee which would have made an appropriation approximately \$700,000 more than that approved by the House and Means Committee.

**Party Lines Broken**

Three Democrats joined Republicans in rolling up a 52 to 48 vote against concurrence in this first report. They were Reps. Charles H. Bartley (D. Jasper), Russell N. Gavitt (D. Hammond) and Ernest A. Gulley (D. Lawrenceburg).

Finally returned its report. Conference committee members and leaders of both parties held repeated conferences with Governor Townsend and Arch Bobbitt, G. O. P. State chairman, before they finally made their report.

In the interim the other House members amused themselves by making call calls in the loud speaker system until it was broken up by singing Irish ballads. Rep. Brady resigned from the conference committee, because he could not agree with Rep. Harry Schull (R. Auburn) was named in his place.

**Foster and Smith Lead**

Reps. C. Y. Foster (R. Carmel) and J. Frank Smith (R. Lafayette), who fought the first conference committee report on the grounds that it was a slap at the action of the House Ways and Means Committee, led the Republican members who voted for the second conference committee's report.

"This is a proposition of give and take," Rep. Foster said. "We have worked here all night, and while this bill isn't as low as I would like to see it, it probably is the best we can do now."

If the report of this second committee, which drew opposition from a few Democrats, had failed, the only alternative apparently would have been to continue to turn the clock back and continue the arguments or adjourn this session and call a special session. The Governor had threatened to operate the State for the next four years under terms of the old biennial appropriation bill if no final action had been taken. It is doubtful, however, whether this procedure would have been legal.

Following passage of the biennial budget, both houses recessed to allow members to eat and take naps. It was explained that the session would have to continue until the appropriation bills were engrossed, a procedure that was not expected to be completed before noon.

**Pay Boost Is Voted For House Employees**

By a 40 to 30 vote the House today passed a resolution introduced by Rep. Howard T. Bateman (D. Terre Haute) to increase the salaries of 17 minor House employees by \$2 a day.

Angered by this action, which was put over largely on vote of the Democrats although the employees affected are Republicans, Rep. Herbert E. Evans (R. New Castle) declared:

"The budget bill which the House passed today is unconstitutional, because a provision of the Constitution adjourned this Legislature last night at midnight.

**Threatens To Enjoin**

"I am going to enjoin the budget bill if it costs me a thousand dollars."

Speaker James Knapp said: "The chair thinks there may be something in what the gentleman from Henry has said. Although, on the other hand, the courts never go behind the House record, and the clock was turned back.

"One reason I held up this roll call is because I wanted to be sure that a quorum was present. The reason I didn't hand down any important bills after the clock was turned back was because of this question of operating after midnight."

**Custom Is Recalled**

Neither Republicans nor Democrats seemed to take the Evans statement very seriously, and it was pointed out that passage of the budget bill after the clock had been turned back was an old legislative trick that had been used in many previous sessions.

When the clock is turned back the record in the House Journal actually shows that the legislative day, in this case yesterday, has not been concluded.

## 1939 ASSEMBLY FAILS TO REACH PARTIES' GOAL

Observers Agree Promised Programs Have Not Been Effectuated.

(Continued from Page One)

diphtheria serum for distribution to needy persons.

9. Advance the auto license deadline to March 1.

**These Await Action**

Among the subjects now listed as "unfinished business" are:

1. Clarification of the laws governing the recounting of primary elections.

2. Reduction of the gross income tax rate for retailers.

3. Repeal of the truck weight tax law.

4. Lowering of the auto registration fee.

5. Extend the direct primary to include the offices of Governor and U. S. Senator.

6. Establish a merit system for State Employees.

7. Bring the "Two Per Cent" Club, Democratic campaign fund collection agency under provisions of the Corrupt Practices Act and amend the 1933 Re-organization Act. (Republican Party proposals.)

"Last-minute" bills sent to the Governor after both houses adjusted differences either by compromise in amendments or by means of conference committees yesterday and last night would:

Provide for the appointment of a Negro member to the State Board of Education.

**Exempt Auto Dealers**

Exempt automobile dealers from paying gross income tax twice on automobiles taken in trade-in on which there are liens.

Require township trustees to make an estimate of the funds needed to provide poor relief for the next six months in cases where available funds are not sufficient. These estimates would be delivered to county commissioners.

Provide a method of remittance against the levying and collecting of a county library tax.

Grant free tuition to State universities or colleges for children of disabled World War veterans.

Prevent reduction of the size of a township to less than 24 square miles or having a valuation of less than \$200,000. This measure is designed to prevent dividing of existing townships into two or more new townships as a result of school fights.

**Concerns Guardianships**

Permit guardians to mortgage real estate of wards if advantageous to the estate and with the consent of the court for periods longer than one year beyond the minority of the ward.

Revise the method of distributing State aid to schools to make equivalent rather than through attendance basis for the distribution.

Appropriate \$25,000 for a non-political Publicity Council to be composed of persons chosen by various private organizations, such as the real estate board and State Chamber of Commerce.

## Legislature Goes on and on After Stopping All Clocks

Horseplay Livens Last Hours As Budget Business Prolongs Session.

(Continued from Page One)

the profits to old-age pensions in order to make "vice versa."

The mock measure then was signed by an imitation governor and declared passed by Rep. Evans who was playing Speaker.

**Sugar 'Runs Out'**

In the Senate things were more orderly, except when Senator Johnson, an orchardist, stood in front and threw apples to each of the members. Senator McBride's apple bounced off his head but all other members fielded theirs, after a fashion.

The lunch stand ran out of sugar. Senate Democrats voted to "table Senator Jenner," Republican leader. Early this morning, after the entire night was spent in work on the budget bill, someone in the Senate moved its adoption.

A Senator got up: "What's in it," he said. Then the whole merry-go-round started again.

A few Democrats appeared early today that adjournment could not be voted until at least 1 p. m. and maybe not that soon, which makes yesterday a pretty full day. At 7

a. m. both houses recessed to eat another breakfast.

The State House looked and smelled like a soggy cigarette stub.

**YOU WOULDN'T WANT JOB SLEEPING, EH?**

WASHINGTON, March 7 (U. P.).—The Civil Service Commission has received a letter from a man who asked:

"How can I get a job watching the fish in Alaska during the run of salmon?"

The Civil Service referred the letter to the Bureau of Fisheries, which explained that men were hired to prevent illegal salmon fishing during the run. The Bureau added that Alaskans usually were hired for the work.

**HITCH-HIKER IS HELD; HOLDUPS ARE PROBED**

PAW PAW, Mich., March 7 (U. P.).—Police today held a youthful hitch-hiker of Craig, Ill., while they checked a series of holdups he allegedly made during a wild flight through southwestern Michigan.

William Young 23, was trapped in Kalamazoo in a car which he had forced a Paw Paw deputy sheriff to help him commandeer. Police said he admitted robbing two motorists who had given him rides. One of his victims was Arthur Gau, of South Bend, Ind.

## GROSS TAX BILL DIES AS DEADLOCK HOLDS

'Sliding Scale' Plan Is Lost In Conference Battle.

(Continued from Page One)

incomes to 1 1/2 per cent on very large ones.

The retailers immediately opposed this on the grounds it would "be ruinous" to many large retail establishments. Despite their protests, the Finance Committee's Democratic

majority returned a report recommending adoption of the sliding scale. The Republicans, meanwhile, returned a minority report recommending a 1/4 of 1 per cent rate and a \$2000 exemption for retailers.

The sliding scale report was adopted by the Senate and the amended measure pushed through third reading by the top-heavy Democratic majority. The House then refused to concur in the Senate's amendment and a conference committee was appointed.

After several meetings yesterday, members of the committee announced that they were deadlocked, thereby killing both the sliding scale and the flat slash proposal.

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