

HOUSE RECEIVES WELFARE BILL

Reforms Proposed. Introduced as Legislature Studies Merit System.

The legislature today focused attention on state merit system problems and changes proposed in the welfare department operations.

A bill to set up new rules for the welfare department, eliminating the parole board from its jurisdiction and forcing the proposed new state board to operate more by law than by edict, was introduced in the house.

The measure was submitted by Rep. Earl B. Teckemeyer (R., Indianapolis) head of the welfare legislative investigating committee and W. O. Hughes (R., Ft. Wayne).

The bill embraces all the recommendations made by the Teckemeyer committee in a two-year probe of welfare department operations.

It would:

ONE: Require the proposed new three-member, full-time state welfare board to hear personally all cases of recipients who appeal from decisions of the county welfare boards.

TWO: Require the board to first show its legal authority before issuing a new regulation and file copies of the new regulations with county clerks.

THREE: Require the state welfare board to determine the qualifications for applicants for jobs in the department, receiving from the state personnel board only suggestions on the examinations.

FOUR: Raise the age limit for children receiving child benefits from 16 to 18 years.

FIVE: Remove from the state board the right to tell county welfare departments how many employees they shall have.

SIX: Fix limits on travel expenses of welfare employees.

SEVEN: Restore the property recovery clause in the old age assistance law, giving the state the right to recover from a deceased recipient's estate the amount of benefits paid.

EIGHT: Easing of the secrecy surrounding the welfare files, permitting state and county officials and township trustees to get information from them.

Meanwhile, Senator John A. Kendall (R., Danville), chairman of the legislative committee created by the last legislature to probe the state merit system, said his group would issue recommendations this afternoon.

Most members of the committee were understood to feel that the state's present merit system is not working properly and may recommend some new legislation to correct the conditions.

V-MAIL CONTEST WINNERS LISTED

Gladys Settle, freshman, today had been named first-place winner in the V-mail contest at Technical high school.

This Week magazine and the Columbia Scholastic Press association are sponsoring a contest. The theme of the letters, to men overseas, is "What I Am Doing to Bring You Home More Quickly."

Other winners at Technical were Phyllis Peacock and Edgar Posner.

The three winning letters will be printed in the Arsenal Cannon, and the first-place letter forwarded to the national contest.

Technical seniors will be honored at a "winter party" Jan. 11 at the boys' gym.

Walter Enoch will be master of ceremonies. Others on the committee in charge are Carol Holman, L. Rex Cook, Charles Branson, Barbara Wood, Donald Mason and Carol J. Singleton.

SEVERE ALUMINUM CRISIS IS FEARED

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 8 (U.P.).—A war production board official has disclosed that aluminum sheet has joined the new list of critical metals. He warned that, unless additional manpower is obtained, the most serious aluminum crisis of the whole war would result.

T. E. Covel, deputy director of WPB's aluminum and magnesium division, told the chamber of commerce that WPB was forced to instruct the Aluminum Co. of America to close its order books for the first four months of 1945 to clear the way for most essential output.

U. S. S. DAYTON COMMISSIONED

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 8 (U.P.).—The 10,000-ton cruiser, U. S. S. Dayton, was the latest addition to the fighting fleet today following its commissioning at the Philadelphia navy yard yesterday. It was placed in command of Capt. Paul W. Steinbagen, Milwaukee.

Teachers to Put 7 Proposals Before Assembly Tomorrow

The legislative program of the Indiana council of teachers' unions, probably, will be proposed to the legislature tomorrow, it was learned today.

M. Dale Williams, lobbyist for the organization, declared the program would follow the recommendations made recently by the group's legislative committee.

He said the program would support that of the Indiana state federation of labor, but would work independently of other teacher groups.

Among teachers' council proposals are:

ONE: Increase retirement fund benefits from \$960 to \$1200.

TWO: Place pre-school and kindergarten teachers in the same

Joins Red Cross Staff in England

MISS HARRIET M. ZEIGLER, daughter of Mrs. Lena Pritchard, 2609 Boulevard pl., has arrived in England to serve as an American Red Cross staff assistant. She is one of the 200 Negroes now serving overseas with the Red Cross.

Until her recent appointment, she was employed by P. R. Mallory and the national youth administration. She was graduated from Shortridge high school and attended Y.W.C.A. college, Kimbrough, Mo., and Butler university.

DRAFT OF 4-FS SEEMS CERTAIN

Legislators Balk, However, On Complete National Labor Service.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (U.P.).—Congress appeared today to be ready to follow White House leadership for drafting 4-F's and nurses.

It balked for the time being, however, on the idea of complete national service legislation.

In response to President Roosevelt's request for "total mobilization of all human resources for the prosecution of the war," congressional leaders were prepared to put the tightening of manpower controls at the top of the legislative calendar.

A sampling of congressional reaction, however, indicated a desire to try so-called stop-gap measures, such as the 4-F draft and a check on job-jumping by occupationally-deferred men, before embarking on more drastic courses of action. Organized labor expressed strong hostility to a labor draft.

Barkley Is Typical

Typical of the feeling in congress was the attitude of Senate Democratic Leader Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky.

"The question of what should be done about getting 4-F's into essential jobs is wholly independent of the question of national service legislation," Barkley said. "It should be taken up promptly and not have to wait on national service legislation."

Thus, it appeared that the first legislation on the subject would be along these lines:

ONE: A requirement that 4-F's get into essential jobs or face induction into non-combat service or labor battalions.

TWO: A similar draft for men who leave jobs on which they are occupationally-deferred to enter less essential employment.

THREE: A draft of nurses unless the present program of voluntary enlistment gets the 20,000 which the armed forces still need.

Many members of congress felt that the selective service system and the armed forces already have authority to invoke the 4-F draft and prevention of job-jumping.

First Step Is Taken

They pointed to the fact that selective service over the week-end took one step in that direction by ordering induction of all occupationally-deferred men, regardless of physical defects, who change jobs without draft board approval.

Bills introduced in both houses within a few hours after the President's message was received appeared likely to be the vehicles through which the congress would close such gaps. Designed to stop labor turnover, the measures would make subject to induction any 18-45-year registrant, including 4-Fs, who refuses to take an essential job.

There was no such speed to put forth national service legislation, however, Senator Warren R. Austin (R., Vt.) and Rep. James M. Wadsworth (R., N. Y.), who have sponsored it in the past, adopted a "wait-and-see" attitude. Both wanted to measure congressional temper and see whether it had prospects of a better reception this time.

Overshadows All Else

The urgency of the manpower situation completely overshadowed other legislative requests which President Roosevelt addressed to the congress in his state of the union message.

Shunted into the background for the time being were his requests for peacetime compulsory military training, expansion of social security, development of great river basins along the lines of the Tennessee valley authority, and post-war jobs stimulating through public works and government financial aid for expansion of private enterprise.

THREE: Prohibit state school funds from being diverted by local school units.

FOUR: Establish a permanent minimum salary law commensurate with increased costs for teachers and those preparing for the profession.

FIVE: Reduce size of grade school classes from about 35 to 25.

SIX: Support a resolution seeking legislation to authorize municipalities to negotiate with city employees who are members of labor unions.

SEVEN: Support a resolution providing for a pay and pension system for non-teaching public employees.

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G. I. KILLED IN FRENCH BLACK MARKET WAR

HEADQUARTERS, 9TH AIR SERVICE COMMAND, France, Jan. 6 (Delayed) (U.P.).—Military police broke up a black market gang of American soldiers and French civilians dealing in stolen U. S. rations after a gun battle in which one soldier was killed and three wounded, it was disclosed today.

The gunfight began when military police raided a hotel in a northern French town where the group had been selling rations separately or by the meal.

Pvt. Frank J. Woods of New York, a military policeman, was killed when the driver of a truck used by the thieves opened fire as it drove into the courtyard. The driver was wounded.

Five American deserters and nine French civilians were included in the gang. Several thousand dollars worth of rations, a jeep and two trucks were recovered at gang headquarters.

PENSION GROUP TO DINE

Old age pension group 15, will have a bean soup and cornbread supper at 7:30 p. m. Wednesday at 2809 W. Michigan st.

'Job Skippers' Face Draft Board Calls

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (U.P.).—Draft boards throughout the country swung into action today to carry out the government's new directive for induction of all occupationally-deferred men, even those below army physical standards, who quit essential jobs without authorization.

The new order, applicable to the 18-37 year brackets, was issued by selective service national headquarters over the week-end in the wake of President Roosevelt's recommendations for tighter job controls.

It was designed to halt an alarming rate of turnover in vital industries and covered all men classified as 2-A and 2-B and those whose 2-A and 2-B classifications are followed by the letters F or L. The F and L listings are given to 4-F's and limited service men (1-A-Ls) who have additional deferments for occupational reasons.

All men with 2-A and 2-B classifications of any type, the announcement said, will be subject to immediate reclassification and induction if they leave their present jobs without local board approval. The army will use "drastically lower" standards to induct those who previously were rejected on physical grounds.

Farm Workers Exempt

The order did not apply to men listed only as 4-F's but legislation already has been introduced in congress to give them the choice of getting into essential work or facing induction.

Men deferred for agricultural work also were not affected by the new order, but the Tydings amendment, on farm deferments, carries the threat of induction for those who leave their jobs without authority. Deferments of younger farm workers already are under review with a view to tightening them up.

The new order was primarily an effort to relieve the manpower crisis by persuading more men to go into essential work and to stick to the job once they are there. The army's most pressing need still is for young men physically and mentally fit for combat, but it has agreed to draft job-skippers up to 37, including some with physical defects, to help stabilize the wartime labor force.

The 2-A and 2-B classifications now include about 4,256,000 registrants. The 2-A's and 2-B's with L or F listings number 857,000.

BRISBANE'S ESTATE GIVEN TO NEW-JERSEY

RED BANK, N. J., Jan. 8 (U.P.).—The estate of the late Arthur Brisbane at Allaire, N. J., including a 50-room mansion, a 100-foot tower overlooking the Atlantic and 400 acres of wooded grounds, has been given to the state of New Jersey by Brisbane's heirs.

It will be used for a soldier convalescent hospital.

BROAD RIPPLE HIGH ACTIVITIES LISTED

Broad Ripple high school activities for the coming week have been announced.

Officers will be elected at a meeting of Quill and Scroll, journalism honorary society. The group will meet for dinner in the home of Mrs. Barbara Priest, sponsor. The date of the meeting has not been announced.

The Cozy Hour, a girls' organization, will meet Wednesday. Possible projects for the Red Cross will be discussed. Mary Ann Schaefer will be entertained with several readings. A trio composed of Rose Ann Hill, Le Carda Johnson and Carolyn McCullough will sing modern musical selections. The accompanist will be Dolores Daugall.

Graduating class exercises will be held Jan. 18-19. Seniors will be graduated Jan. 22. Floyd Chafee, senior class vice president, will have charge of entertainment.

The class prophecy was written by Dorothy Wallace, Betty Rickert and Margaret St. Clair. Marjorie Baker and Marjorie Hawkins wrote the class will. The class history is in the charge of Curtis Jordan.

G. O. P. NEWSMEN TO MEET IN FEBRUARY

Tentative plans to hold the 66th annual mid-winter meeting of the Indiana Republican Editorial association here Feb. 19 were announced today by Leo Kinman, president.

Should hotel accommodations be unavailable at that time, alternate dates have been scheduled for Feb. 12 or Feb. 26, he said.

G. O. P. editorialists will begin to prime the pump for a Republican victory in 1946 at the meeting. Claude Billings of Akron, is the association's secretary.

Great Lakes Link Remains Unfrozen

SAULT ST. MARIE, Ont., Jan. 8 (U.P.).—The winter hasn't been so bad. For the first time in history, the locks on the Sault St. Marie river have been open in the month of January for movement of ships from Lake Superior to Lake Michigan.

Four cargo ships bound from Duluth, Minn., to Chicago moved through the ice-free locks this week-end.

The latest the locks have ever been open was Dec. 26, 1904.

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