

# Bonus Is Top Issue As Legislators Close Full Week's Session

Direct Primary, Time Change Among Other Measures Proposed So Far

By LOUIS ARMSTRONG

Most Indiana legislators were home today learning effects of the first full week of the 86th General Assembly session upon the "grass roots."

These were questions the lawmakers wanted to ask their neighbors about soldiers bonus, taxation, time change and many other proposed bills introduced in the two houses since Jan. 6.

Most burning question of them all was the bonus. Democratic House members tossed in the administration bill calling for financing by doubling gross income tax. Two Republicans in the House countered with a bill to be financed by the proceeds from the state cigarette tax.

A third bill, merely to finance a bonus, proposed a 1 cent tax on each bottle of soft drinks. Yet to come was the GOP policy bonus bill in the Senate. Republican backers propose a sales-tax to finance it.

Time Change  
Legislators worried greatly about the time of day—introduced three bills to juggle the clocks. One by Rep. Robert S. Webb (R. Arcadia) and Alpha Hoese (R. Kewanna) and another by Senators O. Bruce Lane (R. Bainbridge) and Dale E. Beck (D. Young America) would make Central Standard Time the only time in the state.

Reps. Earl Utterback (D. Kokomo) and Louis F. Churchill (D. East Chicago), countered with the administration measure to put the time question before the people in a 1950 referendum.

Four bills calling for nomination of state officers by direct primary are in the mill. Two are Senate bills and two are House bills.

Per cent of Votes  
Sen. Lucius Somers (R. Hoagland) proposes to nominate all state officers by primary if they can receive 35 per cent of vote. Sen. Wesley Malone (R. Clinton) would nominate Governor, Lieutenant Governor and U. S. Senator by primary with winner required to get 51 per cent of votes.

The administration's direct primary bill in the House would nominate only Governor and Senator, 35 per cent of vote required. The other House bill, a Republican measure, would include all state officers and Senator, 35 per cent required.

Among the repeals introduced were two House bills to abolish 3 cent state cigarette tax and another the office of public defender.

Pari-mutuel betting could be established in the state by a bill introduced in the House. It would pay the bonus, the author said. A Senator seeks to restrict the President to 2 four-year terms.

Re-apportionment  
Five separate attempts are being made to reseat the legislators. One Senator would give every county one representative and distribute the present Senators according to population. Another Senator thinks there should be only 46 members of his chamber, one to each two counties. He would leave the House arrangement alone.

Two other legislators would re-apportion the seats each 10 years according to U. S. census figures, and a fifth would combine the houses and apportion the legislators according to population.

Workers' Benefits  
A total of eight bills would increase the workers' benefits in existing labor legislation while another would require the state to pay 100 per cent of teachers' minimum salaries instead of the present 80 per cent.

Two measures would repeal the old-age assistance lien law and another would make it more strict. And just to make certain the session doesn't become too serious one Representative proposes to take all the freedom away from billy goats. He would have them included in the 1927 law which prohibits horses, mules, cattle, sheep and pigs from running at large.

## Senate Dissolves Special Committee

Capehart Approves Democrat Action

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—Senate Democrats have abolished a Republican-created special committee of which Sen. Capehart (R. Ind.) was a member and the Hoosier Senator approves.

The leadership in the upper chamber decided to close-up the Senate Small Business Committee and transfer its functions to the regular Senate Banking and Currency Committee.

"That will be just fine," Sen. Capehart commented. "A subcommittee of the Banking and Currency Committee can obtain a \$50,000 appropriation and carry on the work which the special committee was doing. In some ways they may be able to do a better job."

As a member of the Banking and Currency Committee, Sen. Capehart will be ranking minority member of the Small Business Subcommittee.

## 'Y' Will Hold Parley At Indiana Central

The second annual "Christian Callings" conference sponsored by the YMCA will be held at Indiana Central College from 3:30 p. m. to 9 p. m., Feb. 23.

Frank Liddle, executive secretary of the Indiana YMCA, will make the opening address and Prof. L. Lynd, each, president of Indiana Central, will speak at a dinner meeting.

Purpose of the conference is to interest high school and college age youth in Christian work and help them decide the type of work for which they are best qualified.

# Rep. Jacobs Opposes FBI 'Wire-Tapping'

Hoosier Lashes Clark's Proposal

By DAN KIDNEY

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—Atty. Gen. Tom Clark's proposal to permit the FBI to use wire-tapping in espionage cases drew a deep frown today from Rep. Andrew Jacobs, Indianapolis Democrat.

The freshman Congressman, who is expected to be assigned to the House Education and Labor Committee on Monday, is greatly opposed to "the police state" and has repeatedly expressed himself on the side of civil liberties.

"I haven't seen Attorney General Clark's bill," Rep. Jacobs said. "But I am sure that he will have to have a whole battery of Philadelphia lawyers to sell me on that wire-tapping idea."

Rep. Jacobs does favor a fair employment practices act, however. He made that plain in a 3-page letter to Marion Curtis, Philadelphia, author of a pamphlet against FEPC which was full of racist doctrine.

Quotes Letter  
In closing his letter to the Philadelphia, Mr. Jacobs wrote: "I am, a new Congressman. I have been impressed by the stately buildings that house the departments of my government. The beauty of this city of Washington, its immensity, is something of a wonder to me as I see it for the first time from inside the government rather than as a country lawyer coming here to get something done."

"But as I see the ornateness of the furnishings and trappings of government, I can but be mindful of one thing, which I trust I shall never forget, and that is that this government, this city and the men that live in it and who are charged with the operation of the government are not and end unto themselves."

"They are but the means to an end and to me that end means to contribute to the welfare and happiness of the Negro that may be picking cotton in Mississippi and particularly his children and the happiness of the people who live in the 3300 block North 16th St., in Philadelphia as well as my neighbors who roam on the banks of Fall Creek in Indiana."

"That the country does not exist for the city of Washington, nor the government that has its seat there, but rather this government and this city exist for the people throughout the width and breadth of this land. But it is not our duty to accept the static philosophy you express when you say that improvement in employment practices 'comes slowly and in the manner that all growth has come as man has bettered himself; i. e. by education and individual development,' when I know of men of minority races who are denied the opportunity to use the skill that they have individually developed by education."

"It makes me believe that all the educating needed should not be applied to the black man and the minority races; that quite a bit of education is needed, and I am convinced compulsory education, for my own kind and kin."

Modular Co-ordination Urged in Building  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—Adoption of modular co-ordination to lower construction costs was advocated again today by James M. Ashley, president of Producers Council.

Advantages of designing homes and other buildings on the modular basis, and using materials with co-ordinated dimensions have been demonstrated beyond all question, he said. In 1949 modular co-ordination should become a standard accepted practice in the building industry, he added.

Europe Coming Back, Says Marshall Plan Aid  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 15 (UP)—Western Europe's recovery drive is beginning to roll, the economic co-operation administration reported today.

The recovery agency said that factory and mine output is up in the Marshall Plan countries. Farm crop yields are better, and cement, steel and electric power production is greater in many areas than it was before the war, said Nathaniel Knowles, chief of ECA's Division of Statistics and Reports.

Good for Ducks  
As for the ducks, this wintering place is one of the best in the country. The migratory birds blacken the skies when disturbed in their feeding. Bring in the ground-wrecking, clanking oil rigs, conservationists say, and the ducks may leave never to return.

But if and when oil ever is struck, the worst has happened. If no oil is found, the defenders of the refuge contend, what's the use of exploring in the first place? If it's going to be an oil property, we might as well forget conservation," Mr. Jensen said.

"The late Otto Klein originally sold it to the state for \$20,000 so private interests couldn't get it. If he had known this was going to happen, I am sure he could just as well have received a higher price and sold it for private purposes to begin with."

Today the crisis was over. But these sportsmen said nothing of the kind would slip up on them again. It's got to be oil or ducks, and as far as they're concerned, the ducks are here to stay.

Heller to Speak  
Ott Heller, coach of the Capitols, Indianapolis hockey team, and Ross (Lefty) Wilson, trainer, will speak during the noon meeting of the Lions Club Wednesday in the Claypool Hotel.

# Dry Oil Hole Saves Duck Reserve at Hovey



Mr. Vernon sportsmen and conservationists fought oil explorations in the Hovey Lake region lest rigs like this one follow and ruin the game preserve. Temporarily, at least, they appear to have stopped the oil development.

## Lease to Murden Aroused Hunters

Kunkel Slams Door on Deal

By ROBERT BLOEM

MT. VERNON, Ind., Jan. 15.—A "dry hole" is an oil man's term for an oil-less oil well. For oil men it means bad medicine, but a dry hole has saved the duck hunters' paradise at Hovey Lake.

The latest Hovey Lake crisis made headlines last week when sportsmen learned the state had leased the 900-acre lake tract for oil exploration.

It was leased to Jess Murden, Republican railroad lobbyist and politician from Peru, in the dying hours of the late departed Republican state administration. Democrats screamed "shenanigans." Conservationists screamed that oil and ducks wouldn't mix.

Now a dry hole between the leased state property and the nearest producing oil well a mile away has dampened the enthusiasm of oil men. Mr. Murden's enthusiasm also appeared to be dampened and he said today he was spending no sleepless nights over the matter—the state may return his \$900 check without fear of a fuss.

Slammed the Door  
Added to this was the fact that Kenneth Kunkel, newly appointed conservation director, has slammed the door on the Murden lease or any other lease. He said he never would sign it and the conservation commission appeared unlikely to press the matter. Like any other state government officials, its members are allergic to political heat.

Although the lease action was taken initially because of a feeling in some circles that the state should get a cut of any oil that's lying around under its property, loss will be small. At best, the state's participation in the oil business has brought a relatively piddling return—not more than \$40,000 a year, reliable sources say, from about three dozen producing wells.

On the other hand, the fight here will go on to see that nobody gets such ideas in the future and that Hovey Lake stays what it is.

Leaders in Fight  
Leading the fight here are such men as Ira Smith, president of the Hovey Lake Hunting Club; David R. Benthall, Elmer J. Stephan, Paul Jensen and R. C. Beyer, business men with more than a passing interest in conservation and outdoor sport.

The point out that hunters come from all over the state during the duck season to hunt in the part of the lake area not closed as a preserve. Fishermen, too, come from several southern Indiana counties to fish in this stretch of the Ohio River. It is stocked with fish automatically year after year by the river overflow.

Contamination of the water by oil or salt water would bring a repetition, these men claim, of last summer's holocaust when thousands of fish died. Cause of that episode remains an official mystery, but there seems to be no mystery about what oil drilling would do to the fishing.

Good for Ducks  
As for the ducks, this wintering place is one of the best in the country. The migratory birds blacken the skies when disturbed in their feeding. Bring in the ground-wrecking, clanking oil rigs, conservationists say, and the ducks may leave never to return.

But if and when oil ever is struck, the worst has happened. If no oil is found, the defenders of the refuge contend, what's the use of exploring in the first place? If it's going to be an oil property, we might as well forget conservation," Mr. Jensen said.

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"Don't let this happen again" was the battle cry to save Hovey Lake from the oil interests. Oil or salt water contamination might have killed thousands of fish like these which died with tons of others last summer.



Ralph Curtis (left), lake custodian, is shown with Paul Jensen, Ira Smith and David Benthall, who were among the leaders of a civic uprising to save Hovey Lake from the ravages of the machine age.

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