

FARMERS BENEFIT BY WARM WEATHER IN SPRING PLOWING

(By Associated Press)

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 28.—Farmers generally have taken advantage of the high temperature to advance their plowing and to open their maple sugar camps, according to the semi-monthly report of George C. Bryant, agricultural statistician, announced today.

The report follows:

But little snow or rain during the month with generally very high temperature for the season of the year. Much plowing has been done and some maple sugar camps have been opened. The run of sap is very good, although there is hardly enough freezing and thawing weather. Butchering has practically been completed.

Corn is Held.

Because of the low price of corn and the poor condition of roads, little is going to market at this time. Considerable would be fed but there seems to be shortage of stock hogs.

AX SWINGING

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a week and a provision that in factories women shall not be employed between the hours of 10 p. m. and 6 a. m. has the support of the Legislative Council of Indiana women.

Has Been Amended.

The bill has been amended considerably since it was started on its way and as it stands now provides several exceptions. Telephone and telegraph operators and others are excepted from the provisions.

While the measure has had the support of the legislative council of women, it is understood that it has not been looked on favorably by all of the women's organizations affiliated with the council. It has had opposition from a number of women and girls employed as stenographers and clerks in Indianapolis offices, most of whom are connected with what is known as the Indiana Business Women's Club. It has also been opposed by women who are employment directors in some of the largest establishments in Indianapolis.

Attitude Changes.

The best analysis that can be made of this situation reveals that the granting of the franchise to women has re-

sulted in a changed attitude on the part of a good many of them. They feel that now that they are full citizens no special legislation should be enacted in their favor. Possibly one of the senators when the working hour bill was up in that body thought he was making a decided hit when in a burst of oratory he spoke of women being of the weaker sex and told how they must be protected. As a matter of fact, some of the women made a good many sneering remarks about this speech. This is one particular phase of the woman vote to which the politician must open his eyes.

The attitude of the women has resulted in the many amendments to the working hour bill and it will be mildly surprising if the measure gets through at all, though in its present form it does not seem to be harmful and might be of some benefit.

Memorial Pending.

There is considerable interest at this stage of the legislature in the so-called soldier memorial bill. One of these measures has been killed and two others were on the program for consideration this week in the house. The bill that has been killed would enable Marion county to issue bonds for paying half of the expense in the purchase of land in North Meridian street, Indianapolis, as a site for a state soldiers' memorial. One of the bills that is pending would enable the city of Indianapolis to take care of the other half of the expense and the other bill would authorize the state to accept the site as a memorial site.

The belief was expressed today that the bill that has failed to get through might be brought up again for consideration with a referendum section attached. It would thus enable the people of Marion county to vote on the question of whether the county would pay the proposed expense and the city people also would according to this plan vote on their half of the expense. Some expressed the opinion that the bills in this form might get through. American legion men were hard at work yesterday in an effort to save the measure.

Amendments Linger.

With most of the resolutions for constitutional amendments through both houses there is much interest in two of them that are lingering by the wayside. One of these is the amendment that would enable the legislature to establish a system of taxation and the other is one that would authorize the levying of an income tax. But the first one is the important one because if it becomes a part of the constitution the other one will not be needed. If the legislature has the power to establish a tax system it will also have the power to authorize an income tax.

The bill giving the legislature power to establish a system of taxation went through the senate but was reported for indefinite postponement in

the house. However the report was not adopted by the house and the resolution was recommitted to the committee. It is understood that the governor is greatly interested in this amendment and that Senator Ratts and other administration leaders of the senate will devote considerable time this week to an effort to get favorable action in the house.

Gives Free Rein.

Under the constitution now the legislature may establish a just and equal system of taxation but the proposed amendment would leave out the qualifying words and give the legislature free rein. A good many of the friends of the proposed amendment believe the legislature under the constitution as it exists now would have the power to classify property for taxation or to levy an income tax but they say that such action under the present constitution would always be subject to controversy in the courts. It was this part of the constitution that killed off the exception that was proposed for intangibles in the present tax law.

Friends of the administration are hopeful that this amendment will get through and has been stated are hopeful that the bill for a special election to consider all of the proposed amendments will be made a law. Their main argument is that action of this bill is pending would enable the city of Indianapolis to take care of the other half of the expense and the other bill would authorize the state to accept the site as a memorial site.

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Point Out Mistake.

Senator Ratts and others who before the session of the legislature began went into other states studying budget systems and other features for the governor, ran into two or three constitutional conventions and they say that in every case such conventions had developed a great deal of log rolling and wrangling, and had resulted in some very unwise enactments. The chief mistake they said was the inclination of the constitutional convention delegates to take care of details in the constitution instead of making the constitution a broad enactment and leaving the details to the legislature. Illinois, they point out, has suffered greatly from a long drawn out session of a constitutional convention and Ohio they say has not fully recovered from its constitutional convention.

It was said before the sessions of the legislature began today that the question of aid for a number of schools of the state that are about to close their doors after short terms would be settled satisfactorily before the end of the week.

Advance Plans.

Several plans had been discussed and one that was in favor would be authorization of the school authorities in the poorer counties to take money in advance from the June draw of

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taxes to keep the schools going. It was said that they could keep making advance draws until the common school levy bill goes into effect, when it is believed the poor counties will have no trouble with their schools. The new common school levy bill provides that a large percentage of the school levy income shall go to the deficiency fund. It is a house bill and is ready for action in the senate. It is almost certain to go through.

Legislators who were discussing the school question around the hotels last night said the governor had at first opposed the Bonner bill which carried an appropriation to keep the schools in the poorer counties going because he was against a bill that carried such a large appropriation. They said, however, that a number of senators whose schools were suffering had gone to the governor and told him that they were facing a grave emergency.

Night Sessions Probable.

While the appropriation bills and most of the other important bills are well advanced it is probable that night sessions will be held in both houses the greater part of this week. It is said to be the feeling of members on both sides that it is up to the legislature to take some kind of action on all measures that have been introduced even though most of them be killed. It was said today that in all probability the omnibus system of action on bills will be adopted in the state treasury.

Under this system by which a number of bills are bunched and action taken on all at one roll call there is great danger of bad bills getting through. But it is said that a number of Republican leaders of both houses have conferred with Speaker McClure and have impressed on him the importance of appointing the very best and liveliest men on the house steering committee. The steering committee is the one that lists the measures on which omnibus action shall be taken. It is known that some of the Republican leaders of the senate are a little anxious about the adoption of the system in the house but they believe it may be operated without damage if

the proper kind of men are at the helm. The omnibus system has been widely used in both branches in previous sessions.

Comparison Interesting.

Legislative leaders said today that when this session has ended a comparison of it with the Democratic session of 1913 would be interesting. The two sessions were alike in that one political party had large majorities in both houses. In this session the Republicans have large majorities. In 1913 the Democratic legislature made so many expenses that figuratively speaking it almost ran away with the state treasury. There were doorkeepers, stenographers, clerks and other employees galore. It was a common saying that you could not go into the statehouse during that session without stepping on a doorkeeper.

But the Republicans said that the session will be widely different from that of 1913. Some of the leaders were saying today that they believed the total expense of the session would run under that of last session was only \$102,000. The expense of the 1913 session ran many thousands of dollars above this figure. A comparison of the legislation of the two sessions may be interesting at a later time.

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