

State Capitol News—

Solon Breaks Up Meeting of Unicameral's Government Committee with Walkout

By MELVIN PAUL, Statehouse Correspondent. The Nebraska Press Association Lincoln—The week started out quietly enough in the legislature. The labor committee, by a 6-3 vote, killed Sen. George Syras's bill to close the Milford trade school. Dr. Frank D. Ryder, state health director, said he was thinking of taking a VA job amid reports of legislative pressure for his resignation. Sen. Arthur Carmody failed to get enough votes on the floor to raise his partisan legislature bill. And the lawmakers wrestled with the perennial problem of school land leases.

It was just a routine legislative week—until Friday afternoon, when most of the senators had their cars pointed homeward.

Then, as a crowded hearing room sat shocked, Sen. W. J. ("Lefty") Williams, not the most predictable legislator, broke up a meeting of the government committee which was considering two of Williams's bills, both dealing with the reorganization of the state administrative department.

Gov. Val Peterson had ignited the outburst when, answering a question asked by Sen. Sam Klaver, he admitted that he was "not too enthusiastic" about the Williams bills. The governor questioned the value of the research that it was inadequate and he urged the committee to make a much more careful study of administrative departments before approving the bills.

The measure—LB 315 and 316—are the result of a report by the legislative council committee on reorganization of state government, of which Williams was a member. They propose, among other things, setting up a department of taxation and finance which would, for instance, collect the cigarette and gasoline taxes now handled by the department of agriculture.

The governor said the legislative council committee talked with Agriculture Director Rufus Howard only 15 minutes before

arriving at its conclusions. Instead of a legislative committee making such a study, the governor suggested, the job might better be done by a "little Hoover commission" as proposed in the 1949 legislature by Sen. Tom Davies, of Lincoln. At any rate, he said, the task should be handled by "qualified personnel" and not senators who "are not trained and are not able to spend their full time at the job."

That's what got William's goat. He jumped to his feet and moved that the bills be killed.

Bitterly he said, "When we've done everything possible and then to have the governor of this state stand before this committee and say that members of the legislature are not trained and not qualified . . ."

When Chairman Karl Vogel ruled him out of order, Williams asked to be excused then stomped across the statehouse rotunda, through the senate chamber and into the cloakroom where he jammed on his hat and left the building, a bitter man, indeed.

Reject \$50,000 Investigation

Earlier the same day, "Lefty" had done better. He was named chairman of a seven-man committee to study the operation of the state assistance department to see if something could be done about red tape which Williams said was doubling the cost of the aid program in some counties.

"Lefty's" colleagues had rejected a proposal by Sen. Charles Tvrdik, of Omaha, that \$50,000 be appropriated to hire a private management consultant firm to make the study.

Tvrdik's argument was much like that to be made in the afternoon by the governor. Legislators aren't experts in assistance matters, he said. Why not have some real, professional efficiency experts handle the job.

And another thing, "Where on God's green earth would a legislative committee find the time?" he demanded.

But the senators liked better the proposal of Speaker Ed Hoyt, of McCook, who suggested that

Ticklers By George



"The hot stove league disbanded when I added an insurance agency to my business!"

the legislative council reference bureau, a research agency, be called upon to help.

The vote was 25-11 and as soon as it was announced, Lt.-Gov. Charles Warner pulled a scrap of paper from his pocket and named Williams as the committee chairman with these members:

John Beaver, of Beemer; Robert McNutt, of Lincoln; Dwight Burney, of Hartington; Sam Klaver, of Omaha; Otto Prohs, of Gering and C. E. Metzger, of Cedar Creek.

Williams said the group's first meeting would be this Saturday with public hearings set for following Saturdays until the probe is finished.

LB 1 Is Having Rough Going

The first bill to be introduced this session—not surprisingly labeled LB 1—is having some pretty rough going. Sen. Arthur Carmody, of Trenton, is sponsor

of the measure which would set up under the department of agriculture a division of wheat utilization. It would be financed by a levy on each bushel of wheat grown in the state. This levy, 5 mills at first, was later cut to 2 and the bill was amended to make make participation voluntary instead of compulsory.

Sen. William Hern, of Chadron, a chairman of the agriculture committee which kept the bill bottled up for a couple of weeks after its hearing, is one of its staunchest foes. So is Sen. Chris Metzger, of Cedar Creek. They badgered Carmody with questions as the bill came up for its first floor test.

But Carmody managed to get 27 votes to have the bill advanced against only eight dissents.

This week, as it came up for second reading, the enemies were plotting more amendments.

No More Fireworks On Independence Day

No big blowout this Fourth of July. That was assured when Sen. Sam Klaver's hotly-contested fireworks ban bill cleared final reading with 38-4 vote and its emergency clause still intact. That's the clause which makes a bill law as soon as it's signed by the governor.

There had been reports of an attempt to knock off the emergency clause—making the bill effective somewhere around the middle of August—so that there could be one last glorious pyrotechnical binge this Independence day.

Tired of Trying To Save World

Defeat is something you have to learn to live with in the legislature, as any veteran who has seen his pet bill voted down can tell you.

This week, Senator Earl J. Lee, of Fremont, knew defeat and he was a little weary of it. For the third straight session, the legislature has refused to place the calling of a constitutional convention on the ballot. This has been one of Senators Lee's fondest hopes.

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When he was told the government committee by an 8-1 vote had killed this year's bill and was asked whether he'd try to resurrect it on the floor, he sighed and said, "No, I'm tired of trying to save the world. Let somebody else do it for awhile."

9 Enlistments Are Reported

Sgt. James R. Lyons, of the army and air force recruiting station at O'Neill, has announced the following enlistments from the area:

For regular army: Sidney J. Frahm, of Page; Charles L. Bergstrom, of Ewing; John L. Bohm, of Inman; Clement J. Cerney, of Naper; Carl B. Schrad, of Ewing; Thomas K. Ressel, of O'Neill; Edward A. Hynes, of O'Neill.

These men went to Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., for further processing, training and assignment.

Air force enlistees include: Julian F. Thorell, of Bristow, and Clyde K. McCormick, of Valentine.

The last two men were sent to Lackland air force base, San Antonio, Tex.

Garry Wilson Is Named President

The Lucky Clover 4-H club met at Pat Osborn's Wednesday, March 7, at 8 p.m., to organize their club for 1951.

New officers for the club are: Garry Wilson, president; Alvin Leudtke, vice-president; Betty Osborn, secretary and treasurer; Lorell Pickering, news reporter; Lila Hull, leader; Pat Osborn, assistant leader.

The next meeting will be at Albert Carson's on April 6 at

8 p.m., unless other arrangements are made.

After the meeting a lunch was served. Boys and girls in Holt county are welcome to join.—Lorell Pickering, news reporter.

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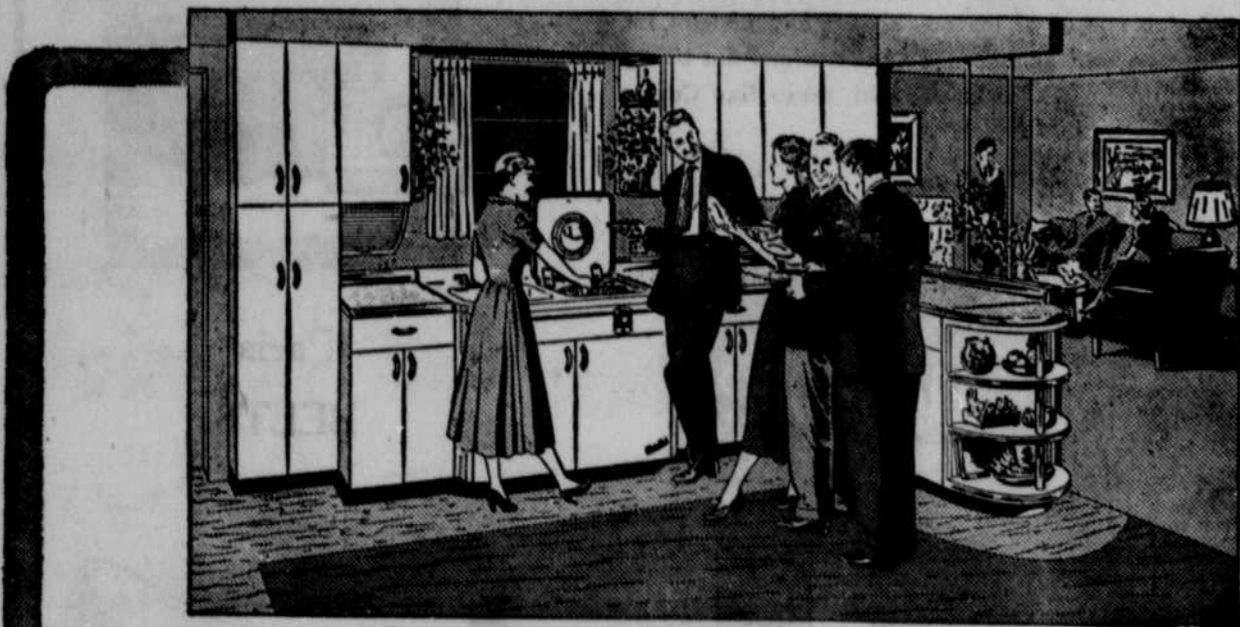
HERE IS THE ACTUAL RECORD

Table with columns: Customer Name and Address, No. Pigs, Weight, Ave. Wt. Lists records for Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and Wisconsin.

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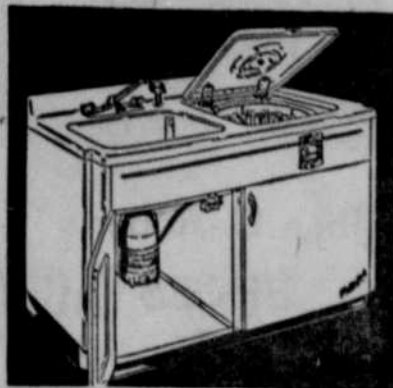
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