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LOCAL OPTION FIGHT OPENS IN INDIANA

Indianapolis, Sept. 18.—Hoosier lawmakers gathered in the capital today, at the call of Governor Hanley, to begin what will probably be the most important special session of the legislature ever held in Indiana. Although other vital matters are up for consideration, the fight for and against enacting a county local option law will likely be the feature of the session. Governor Hanley is a pronounced temperance advocate and his highest ambition is to place Indiana in the ranks of the "dry" states. Under the Moore remonstrance law, a large part of the state is already free of saloons. A county local option law, such as proposed by Governor Hanley, would likely drive the liquor dealers from all but a few large cities, and would serve as an entering wedge for state-wide prohibition.

That the governor's attempt to force the local option measure may have grave results on the national election is admitted. Many politicians believe that the acceptance or rejection by the legislature of a county local option bill is likely to change the entire political complexion of the campaign now in progress. The brewers and liquor dealers realize the gravity of the situation and will do their utmost to prevent the passage of the local option act.

If the special session is harmonious it will likely add the republicans in carrying the state. If a factional fight results, the democrats will have their opportunity, and will not hesitate to take advantage of it. The republicans will make the local option bill a party measure and seek to whip into line enough votes to make it a law, but doubt exists as to the ability of the party leaders to control the assembly. The house, of course, will be the scene of the struggle if there is one. The republicans have 55 members to 47 democrats. This is a safe margin if caucus action can be taken. But it is recalled that some five or six republicans refused at the regular session to go into any temperance caucus and it is feared that these may cause trouble.

The republicans will depend upon temperance democracy to make up for the members of their own party that they cannot control. Several democrats voted with the republicans two years ago for high license. These may play politics, however, this season and withhold support, in which event county local option will be far off.

Under the workings of the Moore remonstrance act, at the present time there are in all 754 "dry" townships in the state out of 1014. There are 21 counties in the state which have saloons in only one place; 18 with saloons in only two places, and 13 more in which the majority of the population live in "dry" territory.

An understanding of the Moore remonstrance law may throw some light upon the remarkable advance of prohibition in Indiana. Under it, the majority of voters in any township or in any city ward, by remonstrating in writing against the granting of licenses are enabled to close the saloons in that township for two years.

Remonstrance campaigns take place regularly. It may be begun any day, and two days later the saloons of the district are closed. Two "dry" years are apt to make that particular township undesirable to the saloon-keeper, who moves, never to return.

If the plans of the anti-saloon workers are carried out, the passage of a county local option measure will be but a step toward the submission of a constitutional amendment providing state-wide prohibition in 1911. A vote on this question, the "drys" believe, would result in banishing liquor from Indiana forever.

As the situation is now, Indiana has

13 counties which are wholly without the saloon. The passage of a local option law, the anti-saloon workers believe, will mean at least 50 "dry" counties out of the 92 within two years. The constitutional amendment they rely upon to settle the matter for all time.

Another matter, and the chief object of the special session, will be that of extending the appropriation act of the last general assembly so as to prevent unexpended balances of specific appropriations from reverting at the end of the fiscal year, September 30, to the general fund. As the law now stands, these unexpended balances would revert and consequently hinder the work of constructing several new institutions.

Another consideration will have to do with providing protection against the night riders of southern Indiana. There have been no recent depredations, but the tobacco crop is not yet harvested, so raids are expected. The experience of Kentucky and Ohio has demonstrated that a state militia is unable to cope with masked marauders who ride and burn and murder at unexpected hours in unexpected places, so it is thought desirable that the governor be given wide powers to deal with any situation that may develop.

GRIDIRON SEASON IS OPENED IN FAR EAST.

New York, Sept. 18.—With the first important game, that between the Carlisle Indians and Albright college, scheduled for tomorrow the 1908 football season in the east will be formally opened. According to reports, the redskin eleven is this year unusually strong and will likely make a good showing.

Not until a week from tomorrow, September 25, will any of the other big college elevens be seen on the gridiron. On that date, Pennsylvania will play its first game of the season at Philadelphia, with West Virginia as its opponent. Brown will play New Hampshire and Syracuse will meet Hamilton.

Wednesday, September 24, will be the big football inaugural day. Yale will get into the game by playing Wesleyan at New Haven. Harvard will have its initial game at Cambridge, with Bowdoin, and Dartmouth will play Vermont at Hanover.

Princeton, Cornell, West Point and Annapolis will play their first games on Saturday, October 3, and from that date until November 28, when the season ends with the annual struggle between the elevens of the army and navy academies, every Saturday and Wednesday will be marked by important contests between the football gladiators.

From present appearances, Yale has the best chances of carrying off the premier football honors of the country. Harvard looks weak, and neither Princeton, Cornell, West Point, Annapolis or Pennsylvania can produce elevens that, according to the dope of the wise ones, will be able to take the measure of the strong team of Old Eli.

Church Paper Banned.
Washington, Sept. 18.—Because it contained articles by Rev. Edward J.

Hanna, who formerly refused the position of coadjutor bishop to the San Francisco diocese two years ago, the Catholic Review of New York, official organ of St. Joseph's seminary at Dunwoodie, is reported placed under the ban by Pope Pius as a part of his crusade against modernism. The Review suspended today.

HARRINGTON SUFFERS GREAT EXCITEMENT

Harrington, Wash., Sept. 18.—The news spread with startling rapidity, women forgot their shopping and hurried out to see if it were actually true, men leaped from the barber chairs and rushed pell-mell through the streets, their faces in all stages of the shaving process, the school boys and girls stared in open mouthed wonderment and utter unbelief, M. A. Mathews' chickens flew screaming and squaking to the shelter of their house, two bulldogs, a greyhound and 59 mongrel curs raised a cloud of dust in the effort to get there first, an expressman fainted dead away, somebody turned in a fire alarm, the bell turned over and clapped four times at a time to add to the pandemonium and in the hubbub the Citizen got out an extra issue—for No. 1, westbound passenger, today came in on time at 9:10 a. m.

HAYES IS ENTERED IN MARATHON RACE

Chicago, Sept. 18.—A twenty-five mile Marathon race, which the management declares will be the greatest ever held in the United States, will be held here tomorrow. John J. Hayes, who won the Olympic Marathon in London, is expected to be one of the runners, and nearly a hundred others will take part in the grueling grind. Handsome trophies will be presented to the winners and to all those who finish the 25 mile course.

Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

Charleston, Ill., Sept. 18.—With a patriotic program of addresses and music the people of Charleston and vicinity today celebrated the semi-centennial of the famous debate of Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas in this city on September 18, 1858.

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