

UNION SAYS VETOES SAVED THIS CITY

Citizens Legislation Committee Criticises Recent Session of Legislature:

RECORDS OF THE MEMBERS

Regards the Work Accomplished as the Least Important of the Last Ten Years.

The Committee on Legislation of the Citizens Union made public yesterday its summaries of the personal records of Manhattan and Bronx Assemblymen for the regular session of the 1918 Legislature.

In its complete report, which will soon be ready for distribution, the committee refers to the recent session as the least important of the last ten years, and cites the results as proof of the desirability of biennial sessions. In forming its judgments, the committee explained, it considered primarily the attitude of legislators toward measures especially affecting New York City. The summaries of the personal records of the Manhattan and Bronx Assemblymen are as follows:

Manhattan.

- AMOS, WILLIAM C.**, (Rep., Eleventh District.)—A new member of ability. Diligent and serious minded, but not thus far effective on city legislation. Deserves credit for efforts to remove restrictions on use of Harlem River Speedway.
- BARRA, CAESAR B. F.**, (Dem., Second District.)—Inconspicuous except for reintroduction of criminal law amendments.
- BATES, ELLIS A.**, (Rep., Twenty-third District.)—New member. His one bill of importance was to establish a municipal monopoly in milk supply. Voting record approximates low average of session.
- BLOCH, MAURICE**, (Dem., Sixteenth District.)—Introduced two of the most objectionable bills of the session, although his record as a whole shows some improvement.
- BOURKE, MARTIN**, (Rep., Ninth District.)—Continued to give intelligent and attentive service, but failed to do what he might in the city's interest on city bills.
- CLAESSENS, AUGUST**, (Soc., Seventeenth District.)—A new member, who followed the proceedings closely and made a high average of votes in the city's interests.
- DONOHUE, CHARLES D.**, (Dem., Fifth District.)—First year as Democratic minority floor leader. Probably the most experienced and competent member of his party in the Assembly. Did some good work, but record suffered from the prevalent political dickerings.
- ELLENBOGEN, ABRAM**, (Rep., Seventh District.)—Continued to render service of a high order. Did especially good work in committee. The sort of representative the city needs, but seldom sends to Albany.
- GOLDBERG, MARK**, (Dem., Fourteenth District.)—Has served twelve years. Possesses some ability and at times is useful, but made a poor showing this year.
- HAMILL, PETER J.**, (Dem., First District.)—Was rather more active than previously, but without public benefit.
- HAVICAN, CHARLES M.**, (Dem., Thirteenth District.)—New member with mediocre record.
- JOHNSON, EDWARD A.**, (Rep., Nineteenth District.)—New member. Promoted measures of importance to his constituency, but his attitude toward general city legislation was disappointing. Might develop with experience.
- KARLIN, WILLIAM**, (Soc., Fourth District.)—New member. While two of his bills which received attention were distinctly against the public interest, gave intelligent attention to his work and made a good voting record.
- KIERNAN, OWEN M.**, (Dem., Eighteenth District.)—Has continued utterly useless during his six terms.
- MCCUE, MARTIN G.**, (Dem., Twelfth District.)—Continues one of the most striking figures in the lower house. Could his viewpoint be corrected, the vigorous tactics he employs might become beneficial instead of seriously detrimental.
- McMELLIGOTT, PETER P.**, (Dem., Third District.)—Took a rather more lively interest in the proceedings than in previous years, but without corresponding benefit to the city.
- MEYER, SCHUYLER M.**, (Rep., Fifteenth District.)—Has become one of the most valuable city members. Did admirable work on Cities Committee. Was constantly alert and made an exceptionally good record.
- MITCHELL, HAROLD C.**, (Rep., Twenty-first District.)—An experienced and useful member. Failure to vote on a few important roll calls mars a record otherwise above the average.
- ROSENBERG, ELMER**, (Soc., Sixth District.)—New member. Sponsored labor legislation exclusively. Invariably re-

corded on roll calls and made an exceptionally high average on city measures.

SMITH, EARL A., (Dem., Twenty-second District.)—Developed appreciably in his second year. Not all his bills were sound, but he took an intelligent interest in his work and made a very creditable record.

TUCKERMAN, ELIOT, (Rep., Tenth District.)—A new member of ability. Although displaying reactionary tendencies, was often independent and his record was far above the average.

WALDMAN, LOUIS, (Soc., Eighth District.)—A new member who presented some of the most radical proposals of the session. A tireless, but not always tiresome, debater. Excellent voting record on city bills.

WINTER, CHARLES A., (Dem., Twentieth District.)—A new member who did little upon which to base conclusions.

Bronx.

FLYNN, EDWARD J., (Dem., Second District.)—A new member who failed to equal the relatively high average of the Bronx representatives.

GARFINKEL, CHARLES B., (Soc., Fifth District.)—New member. Very attentive and made an excellent voting record on city bills.

GITLOW, BENJAMIN, (Soc., Third District.)—New member. Good record of attendance and in votes on city matters.

McDONALD, THOMAS J., (Dem., Sixth District.)—New member. Has some good work to his credit. Was attentive and should develop.

McKEE, JOSEPH V., (Dem., Seventh District.)—An alert recruit who did himself and his constituency credit. Introduced well-considered legislation and voted intelligently. Should become a useful public servant.

McLAUGHLIN, J. FAIRFAX, (Dem., Eighth District.)—A new member who was active and attentive and introduced bills of varying merit but, on the whole, made a poor showing.

MILLER, EARL H., (Dem., First District.)—A mature and experienced member. Not very active this year, but his record has good features.

ORR, SAMUEL, (Soc., Fourth District.)—New member. While two of his bills were fundamentally unsound, gave close attention and made an excellent voting record.

Referring to the work of the New York City members generally, the committee said:

"It was necessary again this year for the Mayor and the Governor to protect the city from its own representatives. Mayor Hylan deserves credit for having vetoed a number of bills which would have benefited individuals or groups in the community at the expense of the taxpayers. Some of these bills were sent to him in the expectation by New York City members that he would veto them and assume the responsibility they wished to shirk; others he vetoed contrary to expectation. The result of the session was negligible from a New York City viewpoint. It might have been very serious for the city had the acts of the legislators not been subject to veto."

Regarding the work of the Socialist delegation, the committee said protracted discussion and long roll calls on many measures were in large measure due "to the close application to work and untiring energy of the Socialist minority." The committee said that it became generally recognized that the new Socialist members acted intelligently and contributed substantially to the work of the House.