

STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

February 9, 1967

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, with all members present except Messrs. Buchele, Bunten and Woodworth. He stated that he had urged everyone to be present and had asked that Committee notices emphasize this; and then he asked for action on HB 1055. He announced that a secret ballot had been requested, and pointed out that if members vote yes they are voting to retain central time; that if they vote no they are voting for daylight time. The ballots were marked, collected and tallied, and the bill was recommended for passage by a vote of ten to six.

Former representative, Tex Shrewder was introduced to discuss HB 1137. He in turn introduced Gus Wood, Chief of Police of Atchison; Karl Dissley, FBI of Kansas City; Keith Sanborn, County Attorney of Sedgwick County; Mr. Lee of the FBI, Clyde Bevis of the Wichita Police Department; Major Charles Prouse of the Wichita Police Department; Alan Rush of the Highway Patrol and Major Hannon, President of the Kansas Peace Officers Association.

Mr. Shrewder stated that this bill is not a spur of the moment idea but that he personally has been working on it for sometime; that there is a real need for training in law enforcement; that the work is becoming more complex daily. Rep. Shelby Smith of Wichita, stated that the crime problem has reached a crisis; that Kansas could step forward and meet the problem. He states that the rising crime rate is five times the population growth. Mr. Doyen inquired why KU was selected; that KU didn't want certain technical students because they said they "wouldn't fit in", and wondered why they thought the police officers would. Mr. Smith stated that the location isn't so important-- that they just want an academy; however, that they had made an extensive survey of Schilling, Norton and other places, and that KU had the space and that staff would be easy to acquire there since they will need training in law, psychology, and other fields. Mr. McGill stated that he isn't opposed to the idea but believes they should start on a smaller scale; that the talk of \$862,000 for a building and \$100,000 for a budget and maybe other expenses, is really a big thing. Mr. Shrewder proposed that \$1.00 from every fine would be more than adequate to finance the budget and within probably four years would take care of the cost of the original building as well; that after that some of the fees could go into the general fund and the state would benefit financially as well as the entire group of individual communities. Upon questioning, Mr. Kline, Supt. of the KPOA training school at Lawrence, stated that they worked at training urban officers and that what they did would be of little value to the rural law enforcement people. There was some discussion about a change of politics in case of election, and Major Hannon pointed out that these officers are not lost because law enforcement "gets in the blood" and these sheriffs and deputies simply go on into some other field of law enforcement. Mr. Bunten stated that he thinks this proposal needs quite a bit additional work, and urged that no action be taken until some other people can be heard. He also pointed out that the local police training schools could be used, and again Mr.

Shrewder stated that these are geared for the local community needs and do not necessarily have any relation to the rural communities; that they have been established for their own needs. Rep. McCray inquired what subjects would be covered in the proposed 52 hour course, and it was pointed out that there would be riot control, physical training and defense, arrest procedures, court testimony, juvenile treatment, law, behavioral studies, abnormal persons, deviates, etc.

Mr. Dissley of the FBI stated that Mr. Hoover for many years has felt that training programs are urgently needed; that there is a school in Washington for agents and police executives; that a new 14 million dollar facility is being built for this purpose. He stated that crime has increased greatly in the past 15 years but that the number of law enforcement officers has not; that it is vital to provide this kind of service in order to attract qualified young men to the profession.

The Chairman stated that later on another hearing would be held on this matter and other people would be heard to be absolutely certain that everyone is in complete agreement about this proposal. Mr. Shrewder stated that the Governor touched on better law enforcement, and believed that he would react favorably to this legislation, especially since it would be self-sustaining.

Mr. Slocombe appeared to discuss HB 1113 and 1114, stating that he proposed to require a 60% majority instead of a simple majority for the purpose of deciding local school sites, swimming pools, etc; that he felt in the past, bond companies had feathered their nests whether the community needed what they were trying to sell or not; that this would give the people more adequate protection. He also pointed out that sometimes when an issue is decided by say a one vote margin, sometimes it tears a community apart for years to come, whereas with a 60% majority, the decision would really be decisive.

The Chairman stated that there would be no meeting on Friday, but that on the 17th we would have a joint meeting with the Senate Committee on the Fair Housing matter; that the meeting was set for 8:30 A.M. in Room 529.

The meeting was adjourned.

MARGARET GENTRY, Secretary