

# Legislative Probe of Campuses Set

By JAMES D. SELK  
(Of The State Journal Staff)

The State Senate Thursday gave final approval to formation of a special committee to investigate the recent turmoil on Wisconsin university campuses and appointed arch-conservative Sen. Milo Knutson (R-La-Crosse) to head it.

The senators also approved an advisory referendum Apr. 1 on whether the state should borrow \$200 million for water pollution abatement facilities and an expanded outdoor resources program.

The referendum will be one of three on the April ballot. Others will ask the voters if they want the state to take over control and financing of vocational schools and if they want to amend the constitution to allow direct borrowing by the state.

AS THE SENATORS approved the student investigation, the student strike resumed on the University of Wisconsin campus here and a committee member, Sen. Gordon Roseleip (R-Darlington) was blocked by students as he was leaving North Hall after speaking to a political science class.

"They came running down the aisles shouting 'Strike,'" Roseleip said. "The language they used to a senator wasn't fit to be used. I had to push my way out."

The committee will be made

up of four senators and five assemblymen, a point of dispute among many senators who wanted an equal voice on the joint committee.

THE FIVE-FOUR Assembly dominance was written into the measure by Assembly Speaker Harold Froehlich (R-Appleton), after the Senate proposed a membership of six senators and six assemblymen.

"Chief Froehlich is going to run this whole thing," said Sen. Martin Schreiber (D-Milwaukee). "Chief Froehlich appoints those who think like Chief Froehlich thinks."

The senators approved the Assembly version on a voice vote.

Senate members, in addition to Knutson and Roseleip are Sens. Walter Terry (R-Baraboo) and Carl Thompson (D-Stoughton).

Froehlich named Republicans John C. Shabaz, New Berlin; Jack Steinhilber, Oshkosh; and Stanley York, River Falls, to the committee, along with Democrats, Herbert Grover, Shawano; and Robert Jackson, Milwaukee.

THE COMMITTEE will have full investigative powers, including power to subpoena witnesses and take testimony under oath. It is ordered to report its findings to the Legislature by June 15.

Knutson, a radio newsman

and former La Crosse mayor, has not yet scheduled the first committee meeting.

The investigation was prompted by a student strike two weeks ago in support of demands by black students for more control over University curricula. Gov. Warren P. Knowles activated units of the National Guard to help police keep order.

THE BONDING referendum came on a 27-2 vote after lengthy objections by Democrats, who said they wanted to begin legislation now on the outdoor recreation and pollution abatement program rather than wait for a referendum.

Both Democrats and Republicans said they expected voters to approve the bonding proposal overwhelmingly.

"Why go through the expense of a referendum when we know the people will vote overwhelmingly for it?" Risser asked. "The referendum is meaningless and expensive."

"You just don't want water pollution programs to go through during a Republican administration," Sen. Reuben LaFave (R-Oconto) replied.

In other action, the Senate:

ONE. Received a bill which would permit 65-foot long double-bottom trucks on Wisconsin four-lane highways. Truck lengths are now limited to 55 feet.

TWO. Received a bill which would require approval by the Legislature of legislative pay increases. The lawmakers pay can now be raised by the Joint Committee on Finance.

THREE. Approved the appointments of Chester J. Harrison, Wisconsin Dells, and Michael P. Komar, Milwaukee, to the Public Service Commission.

FOUR. Blocked a proposal by Minority Leader Fred A. Risser (D-Madison) to record in the Senate Journal the amount of time the Republican senators spend in secret caucuses.