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Today's News  
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## DR. WITHCOMBE IS INAUGURATED AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE

## Chief Justice Moore Admin- isters Oath This Afternoon at State House

## INAUGURAL ADDRESS IS DELIVERED TO HOUSE

## Governor's Reception Will Take Place at State House This Evening

Promptly at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon, Governor West, who has served the people of Oregon for the past four years stepped down from the dais, removed his crown and regalia, and presented the incoming executive with the official scepter, so to speak. The inaugural ceremonies in keeping with the rule which has governed the activities of the present legislative assembly, were brief, but nevertheless were featured with due pomp and ritual. President W. Lair Thompson of the senate, presided and the eighteen piece orchestra brought in from the State hospital for the insane dispensed appropriate music. Governor West in retiring made a short speech.

The committee to escort the governor-elect to the hall of representatives was Senator Langguth and Representative Olson. To escort Governor West, Senator Garland and Representative Marjorie Towne. To escort the members of the supreme bench, Senators Moser and Strayer and Representatives Huston, Fishbe, and Thomas Brown.

Chief Justice Moore administered the oath of office to the State's new chief executive. Following the administering of the oath the governor delivered his inaugural message. (Message is printed on page 5 of this issue.) The hall was crowded with spectators who enthusiastically greeted the new governor, and also gave Governor West a cordial reception.

## School Funds Left In Treasurer's Hands

Holding that in the absence of statutory authority the state treasurer cannot be relieved of his official responsibility as custodian of the notes, mortgages and records described in the writ by delivering the same into the custody of either the clerk of the state land board or any other officer, the supreme court this morning reversed the decision of Judge Galloway, of the circuit court for Marion county, in the case of the State Land Board vs. State Treasurer Kay, and dismissed the

## Dr. Withycombe Pictured With Favorite Driving Horse



A horse show featuring classy farm horses will be held during Farmers' week at the agricultural college probably on the evening of February 5. Farmers and other livestock men in the vicinity of Salem are invited to make entries in one or more of the following classes: Single drivers, double drivers, carriage horses, draft team under 2500 pounds, draft team over 2500 pounds, ponies, saddle horses and draft stallions. Liberal cash prizes will be awarded for the winners in each of these classes in to all of which entry is free. It is

temporary writ of mandamus requiring the treasurer to turn over to the clerk of the state land board notes, mortgages and other securities for the state school fund, amounting approximately to \$6,000,000. If any change is desired transferring the custodianship of the securities from the treasurer to the clerk of the board, the supreme court states that it is up to the legislature to provide for it, or remove any doubt that may exist. The opinion was written by Justice Bean.

### Other Opinions.

Other opinions handed down by the supreme court today follows: Northern Pacific Railroad company vs. Clatsop County, respondent; appeal from Clatsop county; Judge Fakin, affirmed; opinion by Justice Bean. Key Fisher, a minor, by Andrew Crafton, guardian, respondent, vs. Portland Railway, Light & Power Co., appellant, and Portland Waterpower and Electric Transmission company, defendant; appeal from Multnomah county; Judge McGinn reversed and cause remanded; opinion by Justice Benson. Frank Goldstein, respondent, vs. Pacific Home Mutual Fire Insurance company; appeal from Washington county; Judge Fakin, affirmed; opinion by Justice Burnett.

Bessie Kemp, respondent, vs. P. R. L. & P. Co., appellant; appeal from Multnomah county; Judge Kavanaugh affirmed; opinion by Justice Moore. Ella Pearce, respondent, vs. John Kirkland, et al. appellants; appeal from Linn county; Judge Galloway reversed and cause remanded; opinion by Justice Burnett. G. E. Sherman, respondent, vs. Clear View Orchard company, appellant; appeal from Multnomah county; Judge Davis reversed and cause remanded; opinion by Justice McBride.

## Congress Debating Woman Suffrage

Washington, Jan. 12.—The house will debate for six hours the Mondell resolution proposing a constitutional amendment providing national woman suffrage, before a final vote is taken. By a vote of 209 to 31 a rule presented by the committee on rules providing for such debate was adopted this afternoon. At the request of Representative Underwood, democratic floor leader, no roll call was asked on the rule.

The debate began immediately. The galleries were packed, mostly with suffragettes who flocked here in behalf of the measure. Nearly every member of the house was in his seat when the speaking began. At the outset there was considerable noise in the galleries, but the speaker's warning that applause would not be tolerated was generally heeded.

Nearly 200 representatives have expressed their intention of discussing the issue. Mondell led the debate in favor of the resolution, Taylor, of Colorado, and Volstead, of Minnesota, being his principal supporters. Henry, of Texas, chairman of the rules committee, and Webb, of North Carolina, are scheduled to make the principal speeches in opposition.

The adoption of the debate rule, house leaders declared, was no indication of suffrage strength. The large vote was due, it was said, to Representative Underwood's efforts to finally dispose of the measure by a record vote.

Representative Mann surprised his colleagues in the house by voicing a strong plea in favor of suffrage. The democratic party's attitude on the suffrage question was explained by Representative Underwood.

"The democratic party," he said, "has been silent regarding suffrage. It has not said that the women of any state shall not vote but it has held that their right to the ballot must be settled by individual states."

Mrs. Cooper, of Newberg, is in the city for a few days on business at the state house.

## HOUSE HAVING ITS REGULAR SQUABBLE OVER CLERK HIRE

## Eaton Faction Holds Out For Trying Contract Hiring System

## MANY RESOLUTIONS AND BILLS ARE INTRODUCED

## Majority of Bills Relate To Repealing Sections of Pres- ent Code

The second day's session of the legislature opened in keeping with the keynote of the session, "Business and Economy," with the introduction of 25 new bills in the senate and 26 in the house, covering all kinds of proposed legislation from the innocent amendment of the code to taxation, registration and amendment of election laws, all of which passed to second reading.

The most important action up for consideration of a reformatory nature is the question of the amendment of the rule pertaining to the hiring of clerical help during the session, which will break in the house this afternoon and promises some sensational features. The committee on rules of the house, composed of Forbes, of Crook county; Lewis, of Multnomah; Hinkle, of Umatilla; Eaton, of Lane, and Jeffries, of Clatsop, will submit a majority report this afternoon recommending the adoption of the system of last session, providing that each member be authorized to employ a stenographer or clerk, with salaries of \$5 and \$3 per day, respectively. This report is signed by Forbes, Jeffries, Hinkle and Lewis, but Eaton objects to the adoption of the old system and will submit a minority report.

Other members of the house, led by Representatives Huston and Littlefield, of Multnomah, will submit a substitute recommendation, if their proposition is not included in the Eaton minority report, on the floor of the house that the clerical help be provided by contract, and will submit a proposition offered by Charles E. Rynyon, of Portland, in which he guarantees to furnish all of the clerical help necessary for the house for \$10,000 for the session of 40 days, and \$6,500 for the last session of clerical help for the last session was \$19,408 for the house and \$13,527 for the senate, an aggregate of nearly \$33,000 for the session. Representative Eaton, who is leading the opposition to the adoption of the old and extravagant system, has not definitely decided upon a plan to offer as a substitute, but is known to have preference to the contract system over that recommended by the majority of the committee. It is also understood that Speaker Selling is inclined to favor the contract system, although the committee on rules is composed of the "organization" members.

Among the other important amendments to the rules of the house, which have been agreed upon and which Eaton states are in conformity with his recommendations, are: That a bill must be before the house at least three days before a vote can be taken upon it; that all appropriations be introduced and reported out of the committees on or before the 20th day of the session, and requiring that all appropriations be segregated into separate bills, when covering separate subjects, which is in line with the single veto movement; all proposed amendments to existing laws shall be printed in italics, and an increase in the personnel of the committee on alcoholic beverages, etc., be increased from 3 to 5 members in view of prospective legislation for the enforcement of the prohibition amendment to the constitution.

The proposition offered by Mr. Rynyon for the contract of clerical help during the session, stipulates that a bond be given for faithful performance of the contract; that the contract is subject to cancellation when the house sees fit; that all recommendations for stenographers and clerks from the members of the house will be given preference; that there will be no reduction over previous prices paid for clerical help, and that the contract also includes the private correspondence of the members.

In giving out an advance statement to the press regarding his attitude upon the clerkship question when it comes before the house, Mr. Eaton said: "Four of the committee of five on rules have decided to recommend to the house that the same method of selecting clerical help be employed this session as was employed last session. I am unreservedly opposed to this, and will oppose it in the committee and on the floor of the house until the vote is taken. 'I want every member of the house to have all of the clerical help which he needs and no more, but I must insist that every person employed shall be

competent to do the work for which he is paid. Therefore, my first position on this will be against the system employed in 1913, which resulted in the most extravagant session in the history of the state. I am not at this time committed to any plan, but I am committed to stand against a plan which, if adopted, will prove as inefficient as it is extravagant. This is my position and will be until the vote is taken."

Both branches of the legislature adjourned this morning until 2 o'clock this afternoon, which is the time set for canvassing the vote for governor, the inauguration of Governor-elect Withycombe and the reading of his first message to the legislature.

Morning in the House.  
Called to order at 10 a. m.  
Several messages from the governor constituted first order of business. Asking for ratification of action of state land board in awarding contract for development of mineral resources of Lakes Sumner and Abert to Jason C. Moore. Report on investigation of the senate concurrent resolution referring to the forfeiture of franchise of Portland gas company. Presenting reports of rural credit commission and of child welfare commission. Asking that copies be printed. Laid on table for further reference.

### Resolutions.

H. R. 1, Olson.—That sets of Oregon laws, journals of last session, 200 two-cent stamps and five daily newspapers be furnished to members. Referred to resolutions committee.  
H. R. 2, Olson.—Courtesy of house be restricted to members of senate, members of former legislatures, state officials and representatives of the press.  
H. R. 3, Ritter.—Courtesies of the house be extended to the press.  
H. R. 4, Olson.—That chief clerk be provided with a stenographer.

### New Bills Introduced.

H. B. No. 1, by Anderson (Wasco).—Providing means for enforcing prohibition amendment enacted by people at last election.  
H. B. No. 2, by Schuebel.—Repealing all standing and continuous appropriations.  
H. B. No. 3, by Schuebel.—Enabling cities to construct and maintain joint waterworks systems. Referred to special committee composed of Allen, Huston, Littlefield, Childs and Wagner.  
H. B. No. 4, by Schuebel.—Requiring lobbyists to register and eliminating their activities.  
H. B. No. 5, by Schuebel.—Abolishing state immigration commission.  
H. B. No. 6, by Schuebel.—Abolishing state land board, desert land board, state water board and state board of forestry be continued under a board to be known as the board of land, water and forests. It urges the abolishment of the state tax commission, turning its work over to the railroad commission.  
The creation of a department of labor is suggested, continuing the work of the labor commissioner, industrial welfare commission, the industrial accident commission and the board of inspectors of child labor all under this department.

The first call for introduction of bills called forth 17 bills, seven of which were by Senator Dimick and four by Senator Smith, of Coos and Curry.  
Senator Smith, of Coos and Curry, had the distinction of introducing the first bill—senate bill No. 1—a bill relating to the manner of serving summons. Senate bill No. 2 was also by Senator Smith and relates to changing the time of holding primary elections, nominating representatives to national conventions and expressing popular choice for presidential electors and for candidates for president.

Senate bill No. 3, introduced by Senator Barrett, makes the much-desired change in the system of collecting and apportioning taxes.  
Under the provisions of the bill, taxes are collected in two payments, the first being payable on May 1st, the second on November 1st. Taxes unpaid on May 1st bear eight per cent interest until paid on November 2nd, one day after second payment is due the entire tax becomes delinquent and 1 per cent per month is added until paid. As soon as taxes have been delinquent certificates are offered for sale drawing 15 per cent interest. The bill also makes tax on personal property a lien on real estate.  
Senate bill No. 4, also by Senator Barrett, creates a department of labor.  
Senate bill No. 5, introduced by Senator Hawley, of Benton and Polk, relates to the term of court in the second judicial district.  
Senate bill No. 6, introduced by Senator Dimick, relates to the time of holding circuit court in the judicial district.  
Senate bill No. 7, introduced by Senator Dimick, repeals the public account act.  
Senate bill No. 8, introduced by Senator Dimick, repeals the act creating the Oregon Bureau of Mines and Geology.  
Senate bill No. 9, introduced by Senator Dimick, abolishes the office of state immigration agent.  
Senate bill No. 10, introduced by Senator Dimick, repeals the naval militia act.  
Senate bill No. 11, introduced by Senator Dimick, repeals the act not providing for the county educational board.  
Senate bill No. 12, introduced by Senator Dimick, repeals the weights and measures law.  
Senate bill No. 13, introduced by the Marion county delegation, repeals the uniform accounting system as carried on by the state insurance commissioner.  
Senate bill No. 14, introduced by Senator Farrell, amends section 4617 of Lord's Oregon Laws.  
Senate bill No. 15, introduced by

## MANY IMPORTANT BILLS INTRODUCED IN SENATE TODAY

## Barrett Resolution Asks That Many Offices Be Merged and Others Abolished

## SENATE COMMITTEES ARE ANNOUNCED THIS MORNING

## Twenty Bills Proposed When First Call Is Made Dur- ing Procedure

Declaring that with a state having a population of 750,000 we are aping states having a population of 7,500,000 we must come back to business principles and no longer despise the day of small things, a joint resolution introduced in the upper house by Senator Barrett this morning asks that a special committee be appointed consisting of the president of the senate, together with two other members of that body, and the speaker of the house, together with three other members of that body, whose duty it shall be to prepare and submit legislation looking to the abolishment of certain offices and commissions and merging the remainder with the offices of state treasurer, secretary of state, state labor commissioner and food and dairy commission, and to effect a reduction of the salaries of public officials.

The resolution suggests the combining of the offices of superintendent of banks, corporation commissioner and insurance commissioner with that of state treasurer. It further suggests that the state land board, desert land board, state water board and state board of forestry be continued under a board to be known as the board of land, water and forests. It urges the abolishment of the state tax commission, turning its work over to the railroad commission.

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Senator Farrell, amends section 4617 of Lord's Oregon Laws, relating to insurance companies loaning money to directors, officers or employees.  
Senate bill No. 16, introduced by Senator Saugguth, amends section 6693 of Lord's Oregon Laws, relating to the annual election of directors of corporations. This bill was introduced six years ago in the house and passed that body, dying in a senate committee. Four years ago it again passed the house, failing to receive the approval of the upper body.

Senate bill No. 17, introduced by Smith, of Coos and Curry, amends section 2804 of the code relating to the terms of court in the second judicial district.

Senate bill No. 18, introduced by the Marion county delegation, repeals the act creating the state board of accountancy.  
Senate bill No. 19, introduced by Senator Vinton, of Yamhill, amends the sections of the code pertaining to the licensing of embalmers.  
Senate bill No. 20, introduced by Senator Vinton, provides amendments to several sections of the code.

The most important matter that came before the upper house this morning was the announcement of the committee appointments, President Thompson making his selections known just before the noon hour.

### Senate Committees.

Alcoholic traffic—Farrell, Bishop, Dimmick, J. C. Smith, Strayer.  
Agriculture and forestry—Stewart, Hawley, LaFollette, Ragsdale, Von der Hellen.  
Assessment and taxation—Perkins, I. S. Smith, Barrett, Bingham, McBride.  
Banking—Cusick, Kiddle, Hollis, Leinenweber, Von der Hellen.  
Claims—Dimmick, Kellaher, Moser.  
Commerce and navigation—Hollis, Bishop, Leinenweber, Vinton, Moser.  
State and county officers—Barrett, Bishop, Cusick, Garland, Kellaher.  
Counties—Kellaher, McBride, Strayer.

Education—Hawley, Garland, Farrell, Vinton, I. S. Smith.  
Elections and privileges—Butler, McBride, I. S. Smith.

Engrossed bills—Cusick, Leinenweber, Moser.  
Enrolled bills—J. C. Smith, Perkins, Bishop.

Federal Relations—Ragsdale, Burgess, Day.  
Fishing industry—Farrell, Leinenweber, J. C. Smith, Von der Hellen, Butler.

Game—LaFollette, Bingham, Hawley, Perkins, Wood.  
Horticultural—Von der Hellen, LaFollette, Farrell.

Industries—Bishop, Burgess, Dimmick, Kiddle, Stewart.  
Insurance—Kiddle, Barrett, Day, Hollis, McBride.

Irrigation—Burgess, Butler, Hagedale, Stewart, Strayer.

Judiciary—Moser, Butler, Dimmick, Garland, Hollis, Vinton, Langguth.

Medicine, pharmacy and dentistry—J. C. Smith, Langguth, Vinton, Von der Hellen, Wood.

Military affairs—Vinton, Farrell, Burgess.

Mining—Strayer, J. C. Smith, I. S. Smith.

Municipal affairs—Garland, Bingham, Bishop, Langguth, Wood.

Penal institutions—Langguth, LaFollette, Garland.

Printing—Leinenweber, Butler, Cusick, Dimmick, Perkins.

Public buildings and institutions—Wood, McBride, Kellaher.

Public lands—Bingham, Barrett, Day, Kiddle, Stewart.

Railroads—I. S. Smith, Moser, Kiddle, Kellaher, Bingham.

Resolutions—Bingham, Cusick, Hawley, Hollis, Perkins.

Revision of laws—McBride, Ragsdale, Strayer, Stewart.

Roads and highways—Von der Hellen, Langguth, Kiddle, Day, Barrett.

Weights and measures—Day, Burgess, Hawley, LaFollette, Ragsdale, J. C. Smith, Wood.

## President Wilson Not Yet Candidate

Washington, Jan. 12.—President Wilson was informed today that some misapprehension had arisen as a result of his remarks in his recent speech at the Jackson Day celebration at Indianapolis. The remarks, he was told, were interpreted as an announcement of his candidacy for re-election in 1916.

The president said he knew that the impression had gone forth that his remarks were intended as an announcement of his candidacy, but he reiterated his recent declaration that he did not mean to "start anything." It was regarded as significant, however, that the president still made no effort today to correct the impression.

"Questioned as to his position on the one-term plank adopted by the Baltimore convention, the president asked to be excused from expressing his views.

The president explained that his intention in his Indianapolis speech was merely to declare that future generations shall judge whether his party's achievements were right or wrong. He frankly told callers that his statement was not intended as a declaration of his candidacy for re-election. He laughingly admitted, however, that his statement had been so interpreted.

## BOTH GERMANS AND FRENCH CLAIM THE SAME VICTORIES

## Reports Coincide As to Places Where Heavy Fighting Is In Progress

## POSSESSION OF SOISSONS GIVE FRENCH ADVANTAGE

## Report That Brussels Has Been Set On Fire Finally Discredited

Berlin, via wireless to Sayville, Jan. 12.—Confirmation of the French announcement of severe fighting at various points along the western battle front, but claims of success at the same points where the French claimed victory were contained in the official statement issued by the war office this afternoon.

The statement declares an engagement of minor importance has occurred along the La Bassée canal. In Alsace, south of Cernay, the French are declared to have been repulsed, with tremendous losses, in a series of night assaults. Not content to accept defeat, the statement says, the French have returned to the assault in that region.

"In the vicinity of Perthes," says the statement, "the French attacks have withered under our fire."

It is declared that since Friday one French major, three captains, three lieutenants and 1,600 soldiers have been captured by the Germans in the Argonne. The total French losses in this vicinity since Friday are placed at 3,500.

South of St. Mihiel the French essayed an assault in force but were repulsed with heavy losses.

The attempts of the Russians to advance in northern Poland have failed. Simultaneously the German advance west of the Vistula river is progressing satisfactorily.

By William Philip Sims  
(United Press staff correspondent.)

Paris, Jan. 12.—Fighting equaling in intensity any of the present war continues at Soissons, where the Germans are redoubting their efforts to recapture positions recently lost to the French. This announcement was the feature of the official statement issued by the war office this afternoon.

Possession of the Soissons positions has given the French a strong advantage. If they continue to be held, they may be used to cover the operations of mine throwers to demolish the main line of German defenses extending around the base of the hills north of Soissons.

As the result of the fighting in this region, the ground before the German positions is covered with German dead and wounded. The French losses have been fewer than the enemy's, but they are admittedly considerable.

The statement reports violent fighting north of Bessines, where the Germans have attempted a general advance. In the face of fierce assaults, the French are maintaining their positions there, however. There has been heavy intermittent shelling from the Oise to the sea, the statement announces.

No word regarding the operations in Alsace is contained in the statement, and this has served to increase the uncertainty in unofficial circles regarding General Pau's offensive there.

Brussels Burning.  
London, Jan. 12.—Stories that Brussels has been set afire and is burning, brought to Amsterdam by refugees, are discredited by the Belgian legation here and the Belgian relief organization. It was stated at both of these places that there was no confirmation from any source and that the reports were generally believed untrue.

German Cruiser Damaged.  
London, Jan. 12.—That the German cruiser Bremen has put into Wilhelmshaven badly damaged, having struck a floating mine in the North sea, was the report carried in a Petrograd dispatch to the Star today.

## The Weather

Oregon: Tonight and Wednesday occasional rain west portion; south to west winds.



I FEEL SORRY FOR THE POOR BELGIANS