

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

General News of the Industrial and Educational Development and Progress of Rural Communities, Public Institutions, Etc.

MANY NEW LAWS IN FORCE

More Power Given Governor as Result of New Measures.

Salem — All the laws passed at the recent session of the legislature, except those having emergency clauses or those to be referred to the people, became operative June 3.

Chief among the new measures are those relating to highways, irrigation, wages of women and children, pensions for mothers, fixing number of hours of workmen in factories, mills, etc., giving the governor more power to enforce laws locally, revising fish and game laws, appropriation for Pacific Panama exposition, regulation of brokers, regulation of pawnbrokers, uniform system of accounting in state and counties, teachers of Portland on civil service basis, pensions for Portland police, abolishing district fairs and creating county fairs.

Summaries of the most important measures are as follows:

Highway commission bill—Creates highway commissioner and provides for a highway engineer at a salary of \$3000 a year. Under the measure about \$360,000 will be provided for road work annually. The work will be done by the counties, and the engineer will give all assistance possible to the county courts.

County bonding act—Gives counties the right to issue bonds to build roads. This and the highway commission bill are important, for they constitute virtually the first practical highway legislation enacted in the state.

Columbia Southern bill—Appropriates \$450,000 for irrigation of 23,000 acres of land in Eastern Oregon, work to be started at once. The United States department of interior has offered to give a similar sum for the work, but it has not been accepted by the desert land board. Another bill provides for an appropriation of \$50,000 to investigate feasible irrigation projects, the Federal government to co-operate by giving a similar amount. Still another measure appropriates \$15,000 for the investigation of a proposed power plant on the Columbia at The Dalles. It is declared that the project contemplates the creation of one of the greatest water power systems in the United States.

Minimum wage bill — Creates commission to be named by the governor to investigate wages of women and children and the conditions under which they work. It gives the commission power to enforce decrees, fix wages and regulate sanitary conditions.

Mothers' pension bill—Provides for assistance of mothers whose husbands are dead, in state institutions or physically or mentally unable to work. The counties are to provide the pensions.

Ten-hour law — Provides that 10 hours a day or 60 hours a week constitute the working schedules in factories, mills, etc., but that employees may work 13 hours a day, but no longer. They are to receive time and one-half pay for all time more than 10 hours a day.

Bill increasing power of governor—Gives governor power to appoint special district attorneys, sheriffs, constables, when regularly elected officials do not attend to duties. Another measure, urged by the governor, classes immoral resorts as nuisances so they may be closed more easily than at present.

Shipping of liquor act—Provides that intoxicating liquor shipped from "wet" to "dry" territory must be labeled and bear the names of the consignee and consignor. The package must describe the liquor it contains. Another measure provides that saloon keepers who sell liquor to intoxicated persons, minors or blacklisted persons shall be liable for all damages that accrue.

Game and fish laws—Completely revises game and fish laws of state. It is probably one of the most comprehensive measures ever passed by a legislature.

Election revision measures—Uncertainties existing in many laws cleared and laws which proved unsatisfactory repealed.

Bill creating board of control—Board to have jurisdiction over all state institutions excepting those for higher education. To be composed of governor, secretary of state and state treasurer.

Investigate Handling of Prunes.

As a result of a recent conference at the Portland Commercial club between prune growers of the state and Profs. C. I. Lewis, H. S. Jackson and Herman Tartar of the Oregon Agricultural college, this fall probably will see the beginning of an important series of investigations on the handling of the Italian prune. These will cover all phases of the subject, from the time the prune leaves the tree until it is put into the box ready to sell.

FARMING COURSE FOR NOVICE

O. A. C. Summer School to Teach Rudiments to Beginners.

A course in basic agronomy to be given by Dr. M. M. McCool at the Oregon Agricultural college summer session is planned to introduce the novice to farm science through an intimate first knowledge of the fields, the crops, and the mechanics of the farm. A part of the instruction, also, will give an introduction to agriculture as a science through a wide range of scientific study and investigation in fields still unexplored, or to interest the beginner in the business profits and practice and the professional opportunities of farming.

The work includes instruction in the origin and formation of soils; soil moisture, heat and air; common soil processes; plant foods and soil fertility; tillage, crop rotation and manuring; soil bacteria; drainage and irrigation benefits; and the use and care of common farm machines. A brief survey of the agriculture of the state will close the course.

Another important agronomy course for the summer is that in crop production by Prof. George Hyslop. In it the chief field crop seeds of Oregon will be studied, such as wheat, barley, oats, corn, vetch, clover, alfalfa and grasses, as to their vitality, germination, preservation, growth and reproduction. Some work in seed judging will be done, and seed beds and seedling will be studied. The relation of climate and soil to crops, culture and rotation, the prevention and eradication of weeds, and the harvesting, marketing and profits of crops will be given some consideration. Two other subjects of immediate importance will be discussed: The distribution and value to the state of various crops, and the methods of improving them.

RAISING OF FLAX IS URGED

Speaker Tells Threshermen of Profitable Industry.

Portland—Thousands of dollars may be added to the annual earnings of the threshermen of Oregon by the development of the flax industry in the state, according to H. A. Brewer, manager of the Portland Linseed Oil company, who was one of the speakers at the banquet of the State Threshermen's association at the Commercial club recently.

"The linseed factories of the state are prepared to handle the product of 25,000 acres of flax in this state, if the people will only plant it," he said. "Taking the prices paid for threshing in other states, the threshermen should be able to get from 20 to 25 cents a bushel for the threshing of it, and they would be able to handle the flax crops without in the least being interfered with in their work on the regular grain crops."

Forestry Builds Station.

Prairie City—The forestry service has ordered a telephone line to be installed connecting Prairie City with the summit of Strawberry Peak, 12 miles distant from this place. A station will be erected on the extreme summit of the peak at a height of over 10,000 feet, which overlooks the entire forestry district of Eastern Oregon.

The purpose of the government in establishing this station is to enable a lookout stationed there to notify all points of the reserve in the event of fires.

Work on the telephone line and station has been commenced. From Prairie City there is telephone connection with all points in this reserve.

Tri-County Fair Dates Set.

Condon—The Tri-County Fair will be held in Condon this fall on October 1, 2 and 3, according to the decision of the executive committee in a special meeting held Tuesday night. Tri-County fair is to be a permanent yearly event in Condon henceforth, and the directors have decided to purchase the large grand stand, chicken coops, etc., from the Mayville Fair association, which disbanded recently to join Condon in making the Tri-County fair a big success.

The local fair grounds, which were improved last year for the first Tri-County fair, will be still better improved since the purchase.

First Pension Is Granted.

Hood River—The County court has just granted the first pension under the widows' pension bill enacted at the last session of the legislature. The recipient, however, is not a widow, but her husband is a permanent invalid, being afflicted with paralysis. The woman and her three children will receive \$17.50 a month. The court has received applications for relief from more than a dozen widows.

TARIFF HITS TOBACCO TRUST

Attorney General Approves Tax According to Output.

Washington, D. C.—In accord with suggestions of Attorney-General McReynolds, Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, introduced an anti-trust amendment to the Underwood tariff bill which would levy a special additional excise tax on a sliding or graduated scale on manufactures of cigars, tobacco, cigarettes and snuff. The amendment, coming from a Democratic member, will receive thorough consideration from the finance committee.

The progressive excise tax proposed would not reach a manufacturer until he controlled about 25 per cent of the total production of the articles. Over that amount he would be taxed in a sliding scale on tobacco 1 cent a pound for the 1,000,000 pounds per quarter; 2 cents a pound for the second 1,000,000 pounds and so on up to 6 cents a pound.

These graduated taxes would be in addition to the regular 8 cents a pound tax that all manufacturers pay on tobacco. The same is true of the progressive tax on cigars, cigarettes and snuff.

Companies of ordinary size would not be subject to this because it does not apply to a production below 8,000,000 pounds of tobacco or 4,000,000 pounds of snuff a year, so that of the 2700 tobacco companies in the country, probably only three would be affected, and of the 73 snuff companies, only three would be taxed. In the matter of cigarettes the tax would fall only on two or three companies out of 478, and of the 20,000 cigar companies only two have a production large enough to be taxed.

Seventy million dollars was the amount of the total excise last year on tobacco products and Senator Hitchcock has estimated that if the proposed tax had been levied on last year's business, "the former trust concerns" would have paid the additional tax as follows: American Tobacco company, \$7,500,000; Leggett & Myers, \$3,100,000; Lorillard & Co., \$144,000; American Snuff company, \$77,000; George W. Helm company, \$69,000; Weyman & Burton company, \$51,000.

SUFFRAGETTE IS PRISONER

Militant Who Leaped at Horses Regains Consciousness.

Epsom, England — Emily Wilding Davison, the militant suffragette who recently caused a sensation by leaping at the king's horse and seizing his reins while he was galloping at full speed in the race for the Derby, recovered consciousness at noon Saturday. She took slight nourishment but was unable to reply to questions.

Miss Davison is one of the best-known English suffragettes. She is a young woman of high education, an honor graduate of London university and of the final honor school at Oxford.

The police have notified the authorities of the Epsom hospital that Miss Davison must be regarded as a prisoner. The surgeon in charge said that it would be several weeks before she is able to leave the hospital.

Anti-Trust Suits Forecast.

Washington, D. C.—Neither the Standard Oil nor the tobacco trust has been actually dissolved to meet the requirements of the Sherman law, according to the views of Attorney-General McReynolds.

When this became known it was taken as a forecast of further action against the oil as well as the tobacco trusts, if the results of the investigation just completed by the department of Justice of the workings of the oil dissolution decrees indicate that there is a problem which can still be dealt with under the Sherman law. The attorney-general's complaint is not against the Sherman law, but against the decrees of dissolution interpreting the decisions of the United States Supreme court.

Indian System Assailed.

Washington, D. C.—Mrs. Laura Kellogg, a student of the American Indian, told the senate Indian affairs committee that only when the bureau was abolished and the Indian allowed to fight his own problem of existence would the red man return to the proud place he once occupied. She suggested the establishment of model villages to be conducted by the Indians themselves. Mrs. Kellogg condemned the Indian education system.

Blue Will Get Vaccine.

Washington, D. C.—Dr. M. A. Strum, of New York City, formerly associated with Dr. Friedmann, came here to give Surgeon-General Blue, of the Public Health service, a quantity of the Friedmann vaccine with a view to demonstrating its efficacy. Dr. Friedmann refused to add to the small quantity of his cultures originally furnished the service or to give any details of the use of his treatment.

FORESEE BIG CROP INCREASE

Survey of Northwest Spells Prosperity for Everyone.

Seattle, Wash.—Reports from nearly 500 bankers in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana insure an era of great prosperity for the Pacific Northwest, according to information in the Trade and Crop Bulletin of the Seattle National Bank.

The bank has issued a review of this kind every summer for some years, and the publications have been accepted universally as standard and authoritative.

The most important reports contained in the review, as affecting conditions in Washington, are summarized as follows:

"Forward again is the ringing note in the reports just gathered from the Pacific Northwest. We have received from nearly 500 banks reports covering every county in the states of Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon, a territory running over 1000 miles east and west, and 700 miles north and south. The products of this great domain cover almost everything which is grown in the temperate zone, and, with few exceptions, the reports indicate a great increase in productiveness throughout.

"In the analysis of replies lumber leads with regard to the proportion of increase, as compared with decreases indicated. There are 75 predictions for increase to every prediction for decrease. In logs there are 20 predictions of increase to one of decrease. In hay, 15 to 1; livestock, 10 to 1; dairying, 6 to 1; oats, 5 to 1; wheat, 3 to 1; small fruit and vegetables, 3 to 1, and fruit 1½ to 1. In the case of wool, the percentage of increase predicted is slightly in excess of the percentage of decreases predicted.

"From Northwestern Washington logs and lumber production are predicted to be 25 per cent higher; from Skagit county, 25 per cent; from Lewis county, 40 per cent; from King county, predictions ranging from 20 per cent to 50 per cent; from Stevens county, 75 per cent on lumber.

"Hay production is predicted to be in Okanogan county 25 per cent greater; King county, 25 per cent; Benton county, 25 per cent; Cowlitz county, 25 per cent; Lewis county, 25 per cent; Yakima county, 10 per cent; Whitman county, 10 per cent.

"As to livestock, Cowlitz county predicts 25 per cent increase; Yakima county, 15 per cent; Lincoln county, 10 per cent; one section of Benton county, 100 per cent; Stevens county, 50 per cent; Spokane county, 10 per cent.

"We have abundant evidence of the fact that the raising of livestock is on the increase, this being part of the tendency to diversify farm products.

"From Lincoln county: 'The prospects for a large crop of wheat and other small grains in the Big Bend country to this date, May 20, are the most promising they have been for the last ten years; the average of winter wheat is fully 50 per cent greater than was ever sown before in this section of the country.'

"From a report from a highly valued source, which has covered the entire Palouse country, we have the following:

"The condition of winter wheat in the Palouse country, a district comprising the greater part of Whitman county, Washington, and Latah county, Idaho, as a whole is reported as average, ranging from 5 per cent above in western part to 5 per cent below in the eastern. The acreage is slightly increased.

"Spring wheat on about 75 per cent of the usual acreage is nicely up and of healthy growth, except in the eastern part of the Palouse, where seeding and growth have been retarded by late rains. There is a material increase in the barley acreage.

"Oats occupy about half the acreage of former years. Timothy, alfalfa and clover show rank growth on an increased acreage.

"Oregon reports by counties indicate a big increase in dairying, in hog and cattle raising. In the wheat-raising counties of that state the gain in grain yield this year is estimated in some quarters as high as 50 per cent.

"Idaho reports indicate prosperity in both wheat and fruit raising. The Snake river country seems to be especially prosperous, due to big yields of wool, grain, hay and fruits."

Small Cities Affected.

Harrisburg, Pa. — A senate bill which, if enacted, will establish the commission form of government in third-class cities of Pennsylvania, was passed finally in the house of representatives by a vote of 147 to 14. The bill was sent to the senate for concurrence in amendments. The bill abolishes the present form of government and vests municipal affairs in the hands of a mayor, and four commissioners.

Daniels to Visit Pacific Coast.

Washington, D. C.—Secretary Daniels, who returned Wednesday from a trip which included the dedication of the Maine memorial in New York, plans to leave in June for a tour of inspection on the Pacific Coast.

SUFFRAGETTES

SPOIL RACES

Reins of Horses Seized While Going Full Speed.

King's Horse Loses Race—Rider Injured and Suffragette Badly Trampled—Outsider Wins.

Epsom, England—Wednesday's race for the derby, the "blue ribbon" of the British turf, was one of the most sensational on record.

It was made memorable by a daring militant suffragette outrage in which Emily Wilding Davison was terribly injured while trying to stop King George's horse, Anmer, when he was running at full speed around Tattenham Corner, by the disqualification for bumping of Craganour, the favorite, after he had finished first; and by the award of the race with its stakes of \$32,500 to a rank outsider, Aboyer, a 100-to-1 shot.

King George, Queen Mary and a large assembly of royalties were witnesses of these exciting incidents, which caused something like consternation among the immense crowds.

While interest in the classic was at its most tense point, just as the 15 horses were turning the Tattenham corner into the stretch, a woman rushed out of the dense crowd and threw herself in front of Anmer and another horse, Agadir. She apparently hoped to interfere with the progress of the race by seizing Anmer's reins and placing not only herself but the two jockeys in danger.

Fortunately the horses were at the end of the string or the consequences might have been more serious. Agadir, ridden by Jockey Earl, passed in safety, but the woman managed to cling to Anmer's rein and brought down both horse and rider.

Jones, the king's jockey, received injuries necessitating his removal in an ambulance, while the woman was thrown under Anmer's hoofs and terribly kicked. She was taken unconscious to a hospital suffering from severe injuries to her head. Suffragette papers are said to have been found in her possession, and a suffragette flag bound round her body.

GIRL URGES USE OF LABEL

Daughter of Secretary of Labor Speaks on Social Conditions.

St. Louis—Miss Agnes Hart Wilson, daughter of the secretary of labor in President Wilson's cabinet, addressed the National Women's Trade Union League convention here and urged that the women purchasers of clothing be educated to demand the union label.

"I don't favor the boycott," said Miss Wilson, "but I do urge that we start a movement to bring out the garment makers' label on women's clothing. The names of all union makers of women's clothing should be mentioned prominently in the official bulletin of this league. That will advertise the goods and will advertise us."

Miss Wilson told of her personal investigations of social conditions in Washington, D. C., where she found women and children working long hours, under unsanitary conditions and for poor pay.

Miss Wilson said that the work under unsatisfactory conditions to which she referred was in tenement districts and usually was sewing, artificial flower making or other form of piece work.

China Studies Aeroplanes.

San Francisco — Tom Gunn, the young Chinese aviator, left Wednesday on the liner Wilhelmina, his destination being Shanghai, where he will establish a military flying school for the new republic. Gunn, who recently received his commission from the Chinese government, had to choose between love and duty. Accomplishing the latter, he hopes to return here within a few months to wed Miss Lilly Tong, daughter of a prominent Chinese merchant, who like himself is a native of California.

Nightriders Again Busy.

Henderson, Ky.—A reign of terror more serious than similar depredations of recent years is threatened by "night riders" against the tobacco growers of this district. In the last week there have been minor depredations by organized bands, and threatening communications from the "riders" were received by William Elliott, president of the Stemming District Tobacco association, and Leigh Harris, editor of the Henderson Daily Journal.

Mexico Objects to Law.

Mexico City—The minister of foreign affairs has sent a note of protest to Washington against the anti-alien law recently passed by the state of Arizona.