LITTLE ACCOMPLISHED BY OREGON SOLONS

Apportionment Bill Causes Dissatisfaction; Referendum on Salary Bills.

Salem, Ore. It is conceded that the fewer laws passed the better for the state, then the present legislature if it accomplishes as little during the remaining days of the session as it has during the first four weeks, may be regarded as a bright and shining example of a successful legislative body. No important legislation has been passed up to the governor for signature. One very apparent reason why nothing is accomplished is the in clination to indulge in useless talk. If some method could be devised to apply a strong dose of gag rule and atop the flow of purposeless oratory. business might be expedited.

By far, however, the greatest loss of time has been in political debates. These have been numerous and their end is not yet. They have accomplished nothing other than to stir up dissension and bring on vituperation and personalities, which have been and will be indulged in at great

There have been 577 bil's introduced, of which 60 have been wiped off the calendar by indefinite postponement or failure to pass; approximately 30 have pased both Houses and have either been filed by the gov ernor or are on the way to the executive office, and there are 487 bills to be disposed of. To date, the session has not introduced as many bills as in 1909 and 1907. Those sessions registered 700 bills each, but with 577 bills on the list now, there is time for the legislators to make up the deficiency. The bills which will come later, with the exception of the appropriation bill, will have small chance of getting through.

In order to accomplish anything at all night sessions will have to be held practically every night this week in order to catch up and wade through the bills ahead.

Apportionment Bill Unsatisfactory. General dissatisfaction from repre sentatives and senators from all parts of the state is expressed over the bill of Senator Joseph reapportioning the legislative districts. While Joseph increases Multnomah's representation in the Senate by one and adds four to the House, there is already complaint among the outside members. Even Multnomah does not gain a

great deal, for now it has six senstors and a joint with Clackamas and Columbia and the Joseph bill costs it the foint but adds two straight senators, making seven. In the House bill awarding 16 representatives.

Not many changes are made in the senatorial districts, but the representative districts are considerably disarranged. Josephine, which has had a single senator, loses this and is coupled with Curry and Jackson while Coos, which has been joined with Curry for several years, has in the Joseph bill a senator of its own, and Curry is shifted over to Joseph ine and Jackson

Most astonishing, however, is the absence of Columbia from the new list. Senator Joseph appears to have obliterated that county from the map or treated it as though foreign territory, for he does not take care of it in his bill. Gilliam, Sherman and Wheeler, which have had a joint senator, must share him with Morrow. according to Joseph, and Morrow has heretofore been with Crook and Umatilla. The joint senator Umatilla has had with Union and Morrow is lost to Umatilia

Marion County will complain about the representatives. Now it has five and Joseph allows four, with a joint representative with Ciackamas, the latter county being a gainer of a joint representative, but losing its joint senator, Linn has three representatives and Joseph lops one off. Douglas and Jackson lose a joint representative. Grant and Morrow are hifehed for a joint representative, while Crook, which has a joint with Klamath and Lake, gets a representative of its own and Klamath and Lake continue together. Umatilla not only loses a joint senator, but also a joint representative. Baker, which had one representative, is given another, and Sherman, Gilliam and Wheeler, which had two representatives, now

Other reapportionment bills, at least two others, are now being drafted and will be presented this week. Senate Division Kept.

One of the bills in course of preparation will propose that the membership of the state Senate remain substantially as it is, both as to number of senators and the composition of the 23 senatorial districts. In determining the representation in the

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House, it is proposed to give each county a representative. The total membership will be limited to 60 as provided in the constitution and the other 26 members will be apportioned over the state on the basis of popula-

Still another measure being considered is one in which the membership of both houses will be apportioned among the 34 counties strictly on the basis fixed by the constitution. Under this plan, however, the authors will take care that Multnoman does not receive her proper share elteof the senators or representatives.

May Have Congressman at Large.

Oregon's third congressman, provi sion f r whom will be made by Con gress under the recent census, wil probably be elected by the state at large, for the first term at least. It is unlikely that the legislature in its present session will take any action upon a congressional redistrictment as only a provisional bill could be en-

There has been some talk of wheth er it would be advisable to hold a special session in order to take up this subject, but Governor West does not see any such necessity. He declares that Oregon can get along very well by chocsing a congressman from the state as a whole until the next

Referendum on Salary Bills

Various county officials throughout the state, who are seeking an increase in sa aty by legislative enactment, will have to go before the peo ple if they are to get more pay.

That is the sentiment of the House committee on salaries of state and county officers, to which all salary bills are referred. This committee, in the consideration of these measures. has established an inviolable rule to attach a referendum clause to every bill, giving to the voters of the county affected the right to invoke the referendum if a petition signed by 15 per cent of the legal voters is filed with the proper authorities within 90-days after the bill becomes a law.

Label Convict Made Goods.

Oregon manufacturers will be bene fited by the bill which passed the legislature during the week compelling the use of the convict label on prison made goods. Wholesalers and retailers agree that the public will no buy merchandise which it knows has been made by convicts. Thus they argue the competition of this cheap labor will be removed from the field Removal of Dairy Commissioner

Declaring that the charge of incompetency against Dairy and Food Com missioner Balley cannot be disproved and that the charge of misappropriat ing state funds has not, Governor West sent an urgent message to the legislature this afternoon, recommending the abolishment of the office or removal of its incumbent.

A bill designed to expedite ballot counting has been introduced in the House. It provides that the first election board, provided for by law, shall report at the respective polling places at 8 o'clock in the morning on the day of election. The second election board, instead of reporting for duty at 7 p. m., is to report to the polling place to which it was assigned at 9 o'clock in the morning on election day in a convenient room or building in the vicinity of the polling place and

begin counting the ballots. Exemption Fixed at \$300.

The House passed McKinney's bill re-enacting the \$300 personal tax exemption clause and providing a uniform method of assessment and taxation, after an attempt had been made to increase the exemption to \$500. This bill is to be submitted to vote of the people in November, 1912. If adopted it will have the effect of annulling the single-tax measure passed by the people last November.

Judiclary Not to Be Revised. Oregon's legislature apparently satisfied with the judicial system of the state as it exists. At any rate, both the House and the Senate killed by indefinite postponement bills providing for a commission to revise the present system.

There is a well-defined aversion on the part of both branches of the legislature against interfering in any

way with the popular laws. Would Advertise State.

By the provisions of a bill intro duced by Representative Abbott the office of state immigration agent is created and \$25,000 appropriated for carrying on immigration advertising by the state for the next two years. The measure contemplates the appointment by the governor of an incumbent for the office within 30 days of the passing of the act, whose term shall be four years and who shall

serve without compensation. West Signs First Veto. Governor West exercised his right of veto for the first time when he returned to the Senate with his disapproval Senator Nottingham's bill, providing for the enforcement of mechanics' liens against bomes oads.

Steeplejack's Story

He Became Convinced That His Wife Was a Remarkable

By F. A. MITCHEL Copyright by American Press Asso-ciation, 1911.

I am a steeplejack.

Now, I'll admit that a steenlejack is a very unique individual. We have doctor, lawyer, merchant, chief," ad libitum, but how many steeplelacks? Probably not one in a million citizens And I am aware that while a steenlejack is very attractive to a crowd be is a constant source of worry to his own family, who don't know when his mangled body may be brought to his home on a stretcher or in a wagon. If his wife sees him at the work hy

which he earns their daily bread she

must be one of a crowd watching him,

one half dreading that he will fall



fall. Taking him altogether, a steeple tack is not a desirable member of a That was the reason why Mr. Davis.

when I asked him for his daughter, Molly, turned, faced me squarely and said impressively: "Yes, you may have Molly when she will marry you, each one of you swing-

ing from an arm of the gilt cross on the top of St. Thomas' church." "You mean by that, I suppose, Mr. Davis," I replied. "that I can't have Molly at all and because I am a steeplejack. Do you deny, sir, that a steeplejack has a heart the same as

any man? "I'm not interested in steenlelack's hearts. I don't propose that my daughter shall marry a man out of whom she can never get more than a have living except by insuring his life. "H'm!" I replied to this thoughtfully.

Not a bad scheme. Now, suppose"-"You get out of here. I have some thing else to attend to than listening to airy schemes for my daughter's

etterment. Good morning, sir. Being thus cruelly choked off, I left him creatfailen. I thought it very hard that he wouldn't even permit me to propose my plan, though 1'll admit that the only way to make it a success was to die. I went to Molly and told ber what had occurred between her father and me. I was very lug-thrious about it and expected a lot of sympathy. What did she do but burst out laughing. This made me look more disconsolate than ever, whereupon she threw her arms about my neck, exclaiming:

"Stupid, get that woeful look off your

"That reminds me," I replied, "of when I was a kid. When my mether used her slipper on me she would say after she had finished, "Now be good and look pleasant."

Molly laughed again, "Seriously, she said, "did father say you could have me when I was willing to marry you swinging from the cross of St Thomas'? "Yes, be did."

"Then that's the way we must be married. Grandma left me \$20,000, but I'm not to have it without father's con sent when I marry. Were there any witnesses present when he said this?" "There was some one in the next

room, but I don't know who?" "I'll find out. I've got to become steeplejack like you. That is to say I've got to learn to climb steeples. must get such control of myself that can go up to the cross of St. Thomas and hang there long enough to be married."

"Nonsense!" I exclaimed "No nonsense about it if I'm to marry you. I know father well enough to be sure that if he says a thing he'll stick to it. He has said, or implied. that he will only give his consent to our marriage under certain conditions. which he meant for a refusal. But in

"How do you know that?"
"I don't, but I can ask a lawyer

law, if the conditions are fulfilled, his

consent has been given."

"But, good gracious, you can't learn to climb steeples. One must be born with a head for that; they say a stee plejack has absolutely perfect eyes." "Well, can't you holst me up there at

the end of a rope with a bag over my I thought for some time before an

swering this question. At last I said "Come in tomorrow. Meanwhile I'i find out if we have a witness to fa ther's conditional consent."

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"That does not matter. Father knows that I do as I please. He is

aware that his only hold on me is that his consent to my marriage is neces sary to my getting my legacy. And be's pretty sure I won't give up \$20. 000 for a steeplejack, and a very simple one at that."

Her last words cut me to the heart. but she put her arms around my neck and gave me a bug, which made me feel better. I left her feeling that she and a more level head on her shoulder than I, even if she couldn't climb steeples as I could. The next day I went to see her, and she said she had discovered who was in the other room when her father had been talking to me a wasterer who had brought him an estimate for some work. She had found the man and asked him if he could repeat what was said. He gave the matrimonial condition word for word. Molly took it down in writing. and he signed it. Molly is a mighty practical girl and a very energetic

"There," she said, concluding her account of what she had done, "we've got father just where we want him." "It seems to me," I replied dolefully. "that he's got us just where we don't want to be.

She laughed, and because I wouldn't laugh with her she boxed my ears and said "Look pleasant." This made me look worse than ever, bur she kept boxing my ears till I had to smile to stop ber. She's a great woman, Molly te-that is, in a certain kind of way

A few days later I received a note from her saying that she had made ar arrangement to visit a consin in N. . neighboring rown where there were several churches, all with steeples. She told me to meet her there with climbing tackle and she would take her first lesson. I put my ropes and pulleys in a baggage car and went with them to N. I found Molly in gymnasium costume. She had taken prizes in gvmpastics, and she said she would go right out to take a lesson. I sent my tackle to the church with the lowest steeple, climbed to the roof, fixed a beam from which I hong a pulley. then sang out to Molly to put the loop on the end of the rope under her arms and haul herself up. She did it without any trouble. Then I went to a window midway up to the steeple, fixed another beam, and this time pulled her up from below, and she got in at the window. I was surprised that she didn't wince. But, as I've said, there's a lot of "sand" in Molly.

Before we had finished the first lesson Molly was sitting on the base of the ball capping the steeple, a hundred feet from the ground. A number of people had collected below, watching her, and she kissed her hand to them. I saw from this that she had a steeple jack's bend as well as I.

I remained in N. a week, and every day we did some climbing, the last day I was there going to the top of the most difficult steeple of all to climb. It was not very high, but there was a long pull with no rests from the base to the top of the spire. On the apex were a ball and a cross, and Molly hung from one side of the cross. AsoI looked at her hanging there it struck me more than ever that for that kind of girl Molly beat any one I had ever tackled. This was valuable preparation, but

the height was only 140 feet, while St. Thomas' was 250. But Motly said that if she could hang 140 feet above ground with her eyes open she could hang 250 with them shut. She seemed very happy over it all, and I wondered whether she was glad because she was going to get me and her \$20,000, too. or on account of having demonstrated her ability to climb.

"Molly," I said, "It seems to me that you're mighty pleased at the prospect of getting a man who is nothing but a steeplejack."

"Well, I'll tell you why I'm so pleased.

"Why?"

"Ever since I was a little girl, father in speaking to me of marriage, has dinged it into me that I was to marry high up in the social scale." "Molly." I said, with difficulty con

trolling my trembling voice. "you've crushed me to earth." I was pulling out my handkerchief

to wipe away a tear when Molly kissed it away. "Never mind, Jim." she said. "Doubt-

less there'll be lots of couples just like us, but there'll be none more loving." That comforted me awfully.

We went back home. I told Molly that she must continue her climbing in order to keep her head at great heights. She said "All right." but didn't lay any plans for any more of it. One day she wrote me that she right round. I didn't see anything unasual in her appearance, which sur prised me when she told me why she suppose it was? Her father had heard of her climbing and, very much as-tonished and angered, asked her what it meant, whereupon she told him her scheme. He fumed and fretted for a whole day, then gave in. But he in-sisted on my leaving the steeplejack trade and going into business with

"Well, now," I said, overjoyed, "isn't it fine that you won't have to climb

St. Thomas'?" "Nonsense. I never intended to "You didn't?"

"No; I contrived that father should hear of what I was doing, and I knew it would bring him round without

We're been married five years now and I am getting to think semetimes in some things that my wife is my superior, although I'm more used going up in the sir" than she.

Receiving Attention at the Hands of the Dickens Club.
The Dickens Club, which is reading Dombey and Son," met at the home of Misses Vara and Nell Caufield on Sixih and John Adams streets Monday night, and a most enjoyable evening as event. Refreshments were served during the evening. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. W. S. U'Ren.

W. S. U'Ren.

Members attending Monday night's meeting were Mrs. Max Bollack, Mrs.
L. L. Pickens, Mrs. L. L. Porter, Mrs.
W. H. Godfrey, Mrs. Theodore Clark, Mrs. W. S. U'Ren, Miss Marjorie Caufield, Miss Vara Caufield, Miss Nell

Return Favors

By KATHLEEN J. MCURDY

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Lord Lyttleton came over to New York in search of a wife. He brought letters to me, and I put him up at those clubs to which I belonged. I didn't need to introduce him to our set because it was known he was coming, and all the women with marriageable daughters - I mean those who are looking for foreign titlesflooded him with invitations as soon as he arrived.

I had a matrimonial scheme on hand myself. I didn't need meney, you know, having a couple of hundred thousand income, but I liked Miss Auchincioss, who had as much more, There are those of us well to do people who don't wish to be bothered making more money. We usually marry among ourselves, so you see it was possible for Miss Auchincloss and me to consider love just like ordinary people. Well, I introduced the Englishman to her, and what did he do but make up to her and offer himself.

The first I knew of it Miss Auchincloss sent for me and told me-mind you, I hadn't proposed to her-that she was intending to accept my lordly

"Love match?" I asked, controlling my surprise.

"Title ?" "Of course. We all wish to get up in the social scale, and, say what you like, a title is always a step higher than no title."

"How about the man you have to take with it?"

"Lyttleton is passable." "Well?"

"What do you think of it?" "It'll be a good thing for me. I don't see how a man can put another more under obligations to himself than by introducing him to a girl he boped to get for his wife and giving her up to him. When I go to London I'll have some one to do a lot for me. Does he know of my pretensions?

"Not till I told him." "Well, goodby. You have accepted him, I suppose.

"Yes, but we're not to be married for a year. I'm to go over and have a look at the castle. He says 1100,000 for repairs will be required."

"Well, I wish you joy in your title." I bade her goodby, and, going to my club, I found Lyttleton.

"Hello, old chappie!" be said. "Glad to see you." "Accept my congratulations upon

your engagement." "She's told you, has she? Well, old fellow, she told me she has turned you down for me. Deuced poor taste, you know. Don't see how she could have done it. By the bye, you couldn't let me have a matter of £1,000 or so for a few weeks? I'm getting remittances of rents from my agents due a

month from today." "Certainly. Two thousand if you

about It." I-wrote him a check for \$10,000, and before he left the country I had lent him \$10,000 more. This giving up my girl to him and lending him these sums I think was, to say the least, magnanimous. I told him I should be over the water soon after his arrival. whereupon he said perhaps I wouldn't mind waiting payment till I reached there. I told him it wouldn't trouble

me at all. Of course the first thing I did on reaching London was to notify him of my arrival. He came right down to my hotel and shook both my hands heartily.

"There's one thing about it over here," he said, his exuberant welcome sobering down, "our clubs don't allow introducing strangers at all. It's awfully disappointing not to be able to put you up, old chappy, but I can't,

"Ob, it doesn't matter," I said. "I suppose I'll meet some nice people in other ways."

"So you will; so you will. But why didn't you come in the senson? Most of my friends are out of town." "You mean at their country places

Aren't they to be seen there?" "Certainly, on invitation. But, you know, their guests are all booked for this season. It's awfully awkward, you know."

"I see. Don't few bad about it." "I must be going now. I have an appointment with Colonel De Granville, one of the king's equerries. I'll telephone you as to my plans for you," That was the last I saw or heard of Lyttleton, and as for my loans they are loans yet.

was about to return to America when I received a note from Miss Auchincless asking me to come to see her. She was at a hotel, which surprised

"Having a pleasant visit?" she asked. "Fine."

"Seeing lots of the aristocracy?" "Loads of them." She broke into a laugh. Got the money you loaned Lyttle-

"How did you find out about that?" She laughed again. "A little bird

I sat tapping my foot with my cane. "It's all off between Lyttleton and me. I never intended to marry him without an investigation. I've made

Miss Auchincioss and I went home on the same steamer and when we arrived were engaged.

The ten-year-old son of George Pusey-also called George superintendent in the Hawley mills, is very sick with typhoid fever.

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