

WHAT EXPERT BOOKS

Washington Investigation to Commence Thursday.

LEGISLATURE AT BACK OF MOVE

Accounts in Five Leading Offices for Past Four Years Will Be Gone Over—Rogers Not Agreeable to Appropriation for Work.

OLYMPIA, Feb. 5.—The joint committee appointed to investigate the conduct of the state officers for the past four years met today and selected five accounts, who, Thursday, will begin the work of examining the books of the five leading departments, viz., Secretary of State, Auditor, Treasurer, Land Commissioner and State Printer.

The committee desired to have an appropriation of \$500 made for the work, and talked with Governor Rogers concerning the matter. It was stated to him that a portion of the money would be used for the purpose of hiring detectives to delve into the alleged pecuniary affairs of ex-State Land Commissioner Bridges. It is said that the Governor admitted that he had his own private reasons for wanting Bridges' office, but expressed himself as unwilling to approve the appropriation unless the investigation were made to include the books of the state administration, and that no appropriation bill will be passed.

B. D. Crocker, of Walla Walla, a close personal and political friend of Levi Ankeny, is in the city, and it is presumed that his presence in the city is due to the fight over the proposed public commission bill. Mr. Crocker has been in consultation with the opponents of the measure several times since his arrival.

Judge Godman, of Dayton, is one of the leading Democratic politicians who is here and who announces his undying hostility to the present measure. Mr. Godman says that the people of his section do not want a political railroad commission, but a reasonable reduction in freight rates instead.

Martin J. Maloney, of Spokane, who has been mentioned as a possible candidate for the wardenship of the Penitentiary, is in the city. Mr. Maloney denies that he has visited Olympia has any political significance, but it is believed that he comes here to view the prospects of the campaign for re-election he will probably manage.

A bill was introduced in the House today appropriating \$50,000 for a state road from near Elsie postoffice in Lewis County, to Tacoma. The appropriation is secured as follows: \$25,000 from the state, \$25,000 from Lewis County and \$25,000 from Pierce County. The bill creates a road commission, to be appointed by the Governor, and directs that the work of constructing the road be supervised by a Government engineer.

IN THE SENATE.

Everett Capital Bill Introduced—Site Will Be Visited.

OLYMPIA, Feb. 5.—Everett's capital bill was introduced in the Senate this morning by Senator. It is on the line of the Tacoma bill, and provides for the site of the question to the people, the contest being limited to Olympia and Everett. Senator Sumner extended an invitation to the Legislature to visit Everett a week from Saturday and on behalf of a week from Saturday, and on behalf of Baker of Klickitat introduced a bill providing for the annexation of three townships in the southwest corner of Yakima County to Klickitat County. It is asserted that the three townships are sparsely settled, and that their natural affiliation is with Klickitat, instead of Yakima County.

The committee on judiciary reported favorably on Rand's bill fixing the penalties as the price of execution for condemned convicts.

Senate bill No. 100, validating acknowledgments to deeds made before Congressional agents of the United States in foreign countries, was passed.

A bill by Rand, authorizing cities and towns to fund their outstanding indebtedness, was passed.

The report of the boundary commission appointed at the last session was presented. As the Senate had nothing else to do, a long discussion was had over the disposition of the bill, and it was referred to the committee on public morals, and several other motions were made. It was finally placed on file.

Sharp of Klickitat introduced a bill to segregate the judicial districts, consisting respectively of Chelan, Okanogan, Ferry, Adams, Douglas and Lincoln Counties, and Kittitas, Yakima and Franklin Counties into three districts, as follows:

First district—Ferry, Okanogan and Douglas, a new judge, to be appointed by the Governor to serve until the next election.

Second district—Kittitas, Chelan and Yakima Counties, to be presided over by Judge Runklin.

Third district—Lincoln, Adams and Franklin, to be presided over by Judge Neal.

This bill is a substitute for several bills pending in relation to the two districts.

IN THE HOUSE.

Lake Washington Canal Dam Bill Passed—Everett After Capital.

OLYMPIA, Feb. 5.—In the House this morning, the bill relating the United States to the construction of the Lake Washington Canal was passed. The bill had already passed the Senate. In the House, the Pierce County delegation went on record as opposed to the bill.

A bill was introduced by Jones of King creating a commission of three, to be appointed by the Governor, with power to examine land and water rights in the states based on the Torrens' law, with the object of having a bill providing a board for this state introduced at the next session of the Legislature.

When the bill creating the new County of Riverside came up, Merritt attempted to secure the adoption of a substitute section to the effect that the Governor should name the County Commissioners, instead of allowing them to be named in the bill. The House voted down the substitute, taking the position that the bill was similar to the law creating Chelan County, and which met with the Governor's approval.

The judiciary committee, to which was referred a bill by Rines of King County, prohibiting the employment in this state of Chinese or Japanese, recommended the indefinite postponement, for the reason that it is unconstitutional.

Everett's capital bill was introduced, and the members invited to visit Everett Saturday week, for the purpose of seeing what place has to offer in the matter of a capital site. The invitation was accepted.

A petition was read, signed by citizens

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Moore's arbitration bill passed the House today. There was a fight on it because it allows a satisfaction of the contrary to refuse to arbitrate. The Shoshone people wished, instead of this, an amendment to the legislation, compelling arbitration, but the passage of this bill will block anything of this kind, it is said.

A House bill relating to tax delinquencies was passed.

Sweetser's House bill, calling for a bond issue of \$100,000 for the improvement of the Albion Normal School, was sent to the engineering committee. It is expected to pass without opposition.

The House also passed a bill to be substituted by a local option measure, to be presented Thursday.

The committee on mines and mining, which was holding a hearing on the bill, was today compelled to turn in a bill providing that two-thirds of the voters of a precinct must sign a petition before an act of a license. They were holding this measure.

In the Senate Jones' Sunday closing of saloons measure was considered by committee of the whole. The word "church" was eliminated, and the bill will be discussed, but was referred back to the committee on irrigation.

Proposed Lane-Linn Line Would Mean Much to Calapalapa Region.

BROWNVILLE, Feb. 5.—Word has just reached this place from the Lane County and Calapalapa region, that the action of the citizens of Lane and Calapalapa in agreeing upon a compromise county line in that district meets with the approval of the miners of the mineowners of the district. They hope that the measure will pass the House without delay, thus allowing Lane County to be organized, and the miners to be settled on the road to these mines as early next summer as practicable.

The miners desire to see the Lane County road reach the mine without delay, and as well as to the convenience to them as well as to the many settlers who reside in the Upper Calapalapa River basin, which has hitherto been a part of Lane County, although tributary to Lane County.

On the Calapalapa side of this district there are at present in the neighborhood of 200 miners, and the road would be almost impossible to build, and the famous Foreman mine, which a road up the Calapalapa will benefit very much. This mine has been well-developed and made a good showing.

Almost everything on anything on account of there being no road leading to it from the Calapalapa side, and consequently heavy machinery could not be taken in. When the Calapalapa road is built, mining machinery will be put in, the mine operated and made a source of revenue to the proprietors. The same can be said of the other promising properties on the north side of the divide.

The people here are well pleased with the new county line. It means much for the development of the Upper Calapalapa country, which is a rich timber section. This territory could not be reached with a road from Lane County, and the road to build a road into Lane County people to have the Legislature return to Lane County the territory embraced in the Upper Calapalapa basin.

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