

FACE ONE OBSTACLE

Referendum Would Impede Lewis and Clark Fair.

PUBLIC SPIRIT THE SAFEGUARD

Directors Decide to Send Delegates to Farmers' Congress-Commissioner Knapp's Contract Approved-Contracts for Site Are Signed.

"Our only obstacle is the possibility of a referendum. To meet this we shall have to rely upon the public spirit of the state."

These words came yesterday from A. L. Mills in a meeting of the Lewis and Clark Fair board. Mr. Mills is chairman of the legislative committee. He continued:

"The ruling sentiment in the towns is in favor of a \$500,000 appropriation. Most of the opposition comes from rural districts. But there is no doubt that the fair is winning approval among farmers. It appeals to the spirit of progress, and in this is our reliance."

Fewer than 500 voters in Oregon could require a referendum, and the expression of the people there would not be available until the election in June, 1904, unless the Legislature should convene in extra session to appoint an earlier date for a special election. One of the arguments for the recently proposed special session was that if the appropriation should be made before the regular session, which begins next month, and if a referendum should be demanded, the Legislature in the regular session could order a special election. Petition for referendum would have to be filed within 90 days after adjournment of the Legislature. The bill for the appropriation bill was passed. The whole number of votes cast for Justice of the Supreme Court at the regular election last preceding the filing of any petition for a referendum for the referendum shall be the basis on which the number of legal voters necessary to sign such petition shall be counted."

To Interest the Farmers. The chairman of the committee on agriculture, announced that his committee would send representatives to the Farmers' Congress at Hillsboro next Tuesday and Wednesday. This information met with the hearty approval of the board. These representatives will discuss the aims and plans of the fair with delegates to the Congress and will no doubt be welcomed. "A good idea," said the directors. "Farmers will appreciate the recognition."

The committee on agriculture is composed of P. L. Willis and John F. O'Shea, of Portland; A. Bush, of Salem; J. C. Cooper, of McMinnville, and George W. Riddle, of Hillsboro.

Knapp's Contract Approved. The committee on legislation, through its chairman, A. L. Mills, made an oral report. He asked that the contract with John F. Knapp, who has been engaged by the Government of neighboring states, be approved by the board. This was done unanimously and the sum of \$500 was voted for the use of the committee. Mr. Knapp is to receive \$100 for every 10 days of service. This money is for both salary and traveling expenses. The success of Mr. Knapp's mission in California and Utah was a source of gratification to the directors.

President Corbett has not attended the last two meetings of the board, so that the normally meeting has been deferred. In point of committee work, the committee on agriculture, the appointment of this body was approved yesterday. The directors agreed that the committee on legislation was too large for active work, but thought that its work need not be hampered by the number of its members. The directors agreed that members in Portland and six in other cities of the state. They are:

A. L. Mills, J. C. Alsworth, A. H. Deyers, W. D. Fenlon, Leo F. Van Dusen, H. W. Scott, Paul Wessinger and P. L. Willis, of Portland; A. Bush, of Salem; J. M. Church, of La Grande; O. L. Miller, of Baker City; J. H. Bailey, of Pendleton, and J. C. Cooper, of McMinnville.

Legislative Committee to Meet. This committee will hold a general meeting January 12, the day the Legislature convenes. A subcommittee, W. D. Fenlon, A. L. Willis, Leo F. Van Dusen, will draw up an appropriation bill. Mr. Fenlon is in San Francisco and will not be back until next week and the framing of the measure will not begin until his return.

Contracts Signed for Site. Mr. Wessinger, chairman of the site committee, reported that nearly all the contracts giving the board the use of grounds at Gullis Lake had been signed. "It has been a big job," said he. "It was not difficult to get the property, but many details required attention. To dispose of them has taken a long time."

"No, I haven't found any opposition to the fair in Clatsop county," said Leo F. Van Dusen, after the meeting. "I believe that the appropriation is winning more and more favor."

"So do I," spoke up O. L. Miller, of Baker City.

Directors passed yesterday were: Adolph Wolfe, George W. Bates, A. H. Deyers, C. E. Ladd, J. F. O'Shea, P. L. Willis, C. Alsworth, Leo F. Van Dusen, Paul Wessinger, Samuel Connell and F. Dresser, of Portland; B. Van Dusen, of Astoria; O. L. Miller, of Baker City, and J. C. Cooper, of McMinnville.

BUTCHERS SIGN SCALE. Employers Reach an Agreement With the Union.

The members of the Amalgamated Meat-Cutters and Butcher Workmen's Union, Local No. 143, have been slowly but surely gaining concessions from their employers, until now 45 out of the 45 butcher shops in the city have signed the union agreement. At first the shops objected to accepting the union terms. The union members were determined that the agreement should stand, and for a while there was talk among them of calling a strike. The more conservative element prevailed, however, and it was decided to try to win the employers over to their side in a peaceful way. Forty-eight of the shops have already come into line, and it is thought that the rest will sign during the coming week. The agreement, which is to run one year, applies to meat-cutters, delivery men, back shop men, sausage-makers and helpers, and are as follows:

"First—That the party of the first part agree to employ none but members of the aforesaid union in good standing, when members of said union are available, persons not members of said union may be employed for a period of time not exceeding ten (10) days.

"Second—It is further agreed that ten (10) hours shall constitute a day's work, Saturday and nights preceding holidays excepted, when men agree to work up to 9 P. M.; all overtime, double pay. That men will not be compelled to work on legal holidays.

"Third—It is further agreed that men shall not be compelled to work on Sunday, Thanksgiving day, Christmas, New Year's, Washington's birthday, Decoration day, Fourth of July, Labor day, only when such holidays come on Saturday or

CONVICTED OF ROBBERY

CHARLES HOUGHTON IS FOUND GUILTY BY A JURY.

Defendant Alleges That Detective Day Arrested Him to Vent a Personal Spite.

Charles, alias Chick, Houghton, a Portland boy, was tried and convicted before Judge Frazer and a jury yesterday of robbing Steve Balch, a young man from Prineville, on the night of November 7 last. Balch testified that he was drinking in the Mint saloon, where he met Houghton. When he left the saloon he said Houghton held him while another man took \$15 from him. He stated that he did not know who the other man was.

Houghton denied the charge, and testified that Detective Day and a partner had arrested him to vent a personal spite. He said that Detective Day stated that Houghton promised to get him a letter written by Henry Eaton to Fred Love, a saloon-keeper, which would disclose the whereabouts of Bacon, who is wanted on a charge of murdering a Chinese in company with James Aiken. Houghton said he never heard of nor saw any such letter. Charles Smith, a switchman,

Threatened to Kill Her. Mamie McVena was granted a divorce from Thomas M. McVena, to whom she was united in marriage in Minnesota in 1882, by Judge Sears yesterday. Mrs. McVena testified that her husband was a very bad and spiteful man, and that she was very badly and spitefully treated. She said she drew a revolver and threatened to kill her in this city in March last. He provided nothing for her support since that time, and deserted her.

Has Not Got License Yet. The application of H. J. Miller for a license to sell liquor at the Twelve-Mile House was before the County Court again yesterday. The case was continued one week for further hearing. The demonstrators now assert that there are 205 legal votes in the precinct, and that Miller has only 130 signatures on his petition, and therefore that a majority.

Spending Money for Lawyers. Ed Mendenhall yesterday filed a petition in the County Court for the removal of Estelle Louie Mendenhall, deceased. The petition recites that the will has

DEATH OF PROMINENT BUSINESS MAN. Frederick DeGrasse Franklin, who died December 11, at his late residence, 259 Seventh street, Portland, Or., was born in Canada, Allegheny County, N. Y., where his ancestors had settled before the Revolutionary War. In early life he devoted his talents to business, and later became an operator in the Pennsylvania oil region. About 1883 he accepted a position with the (now) Buffalo Pitts Company, of Buffalo, N. Y., and for nearly 15 years remained in its employ in various capacities, mostly as manager for branch houses. His abilities as an organizer and manager were of such high order that he was selected to take up an extensive territory to build up trade for his company. After serving in Indiana, Maryland, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, he was in 1900 sent to the Pacific Northwest, with headquarters at Portland, Ore., as manager for the states of Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana, which position he held until the Spring of 1901, when ill health forced him to resign.

His keen business sense soon forecasted a possible expansion; he was heartily in favor of the erection of the large warehouse on the East Side, which proved a pioneer in the extensive warehouse district in East Portland. He was a leader in farm machinery and implement circles, well known in Portland and all over the Pacific Northwest. In 1877 he married Miss Ella Hollenbeck, of Corvallis, N. Y., who, with two children, Harry and Genevieve, survives him.

Mr. Franklin, whose health had been failing for some time, suffered a stroke of paralysis Monday morning, December 1, and lay for nearly two weeks in an unconscious condition until Thursday night, December 11, when death relieved his suffering. He was a prominent Mason and Woodman, and a most estimable citizen, and many will miss his familiar figure and mourn his loss. The funeral will take place from his late residence Sunday.

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On the proposal to tax the owner of every shooting place, there was a diversity of opinion, although a majority is opposed to the tax. Farmers say they would be willing to pay a tax of \$1 on their gun, provided that the tax would be applied to the fund for the enforcement of the state game laws, and that there should be no increase in the tax. Yet the tax is considered impracticable by many people here, because they fear it would lead to a much more burdensome tax.

However, the opinion is expressed by all the sportsmen here that some provision should be made to procure funds for the better enforcement of the game laws. An increased legislative appropriation for the purpose is generally favored. In recent years local sportsmen have made up a purse to assist in enforcing the game laws in Linn County.

Although many think it would be well to make sportsmen from abroad pay a license for the privilege of hunting over the fields of this county, they have given the matter serious consideration and are inclined to think such a license would prove burdensome. All are willing to tax the man who comes from San Francisco to hunt a wild game bird in Oregon, but few will be willing to pay a license for the privilege of taking a friend from abroad out for a day's sport. But in general sportsmen here think there should be some restrictions placed upon the foreign hunter; that he should assist in providing a fund for the protection of the game birds which he hunts with the same privileges as the native Oregonian.

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LEWIS RIVER BRIDGE. Work on It is Resumed—Soon to Be Completed.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 12.—The Northern Pacific Railroad Company commenced work today putting in the draw span of its bridge across Lewis River on its new line between this city and Kalama. The bridge was practically completed last week, and is now being finished over the new road, and is expected to be completed about the first of the new year, shortly after which passenger traffic will be commenced over the road.

COMPETITIVE RATES CANCELLED. Orders in Evidence in the Anti-Mercer Hearing.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 12.—In the hearing today of the suit against the Northern Securities Company, the state introduced testimony in support of its claim that not only is the rate established by the consolidation of two parallel and competing lines, but that competition is stifled, contrary to public policy and the policy of Minnesota, as expressed in its laws. Last evening and today station agents of both lines and shippers at competitive points were put upon the stand to show that since the merger had gone into effect competition has ceased, and competitive rates had been cancelled. Station agents produced their written orders to cancel these rates, and whether the orders were issued by the Great Northern or Northern Pacific, they were identical.

INCORPORATED IN CONNECTICUT. But Not to Do Railroad Business in That State.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—Articles of incorporation of the Netherlands Tramway Company, with a capital of \$5,000,000 have been filed in the state clerk's office at Bridgeport, Conn., since a dispatch from that city to the Times. According to the articles, the new company is empowered to construct, equip, lease, maintain and operate by steam, electric or other power, railroads and tramways for transportation of passengers, mail, express, merchandise or other freight in any foreign country or any state or territory of the United States, except that the corporation shall not construct, maintain or operate a railroad in the State of Connecticut.

The capital stock is divided into 50,000 \$100 shares; \$1,500,000 to be preferred and the remainder common stock.

The Four-Track News. The December number of the New York Central's Four-Track News is much more than merely a railroad magazine. It contains 50 pages of an interesting matter as will be found in any periodical, and it contains more over 100 articles for subscribers. Women were urged to use their influence in remedying this unfortunate condition.

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Although many think it would be well to make sportsmen from abroad pay a license for the privilege of hunting over the fields of this county, they have given the matter serious consideration and are inclined to think such a license would prove burdensome. All are willing to tax the man who comes from San Francisco to hunt a wild game bird in Oregon, but few will be willing to pay a license for the privilege of taking a friend from abroad out for a day's sport. But in general sportsmen here think there should be some restrictions placed upon the foreign hunter; that he should assist in providing a fund for the protection of the game birds which he hunts with the same privileges as the native Oregonian.

Opinions differ as to changing the open season. Farmers insist that it should remain October 1, while many sportsmen residing in Albany think the open season should be extended to the end of the year. One of the most prominent sportsmen in Albany, who has been identified with many movements for the protection of Oregon's game birds, said he thought the best reason for extending the open season to the end of the year, and placed that date at September 1. "Then," he said, "any man who is roaming over the fields with a gun on a Sunday could be arrested and fined. As it is now, a hunter can maintain that he is after a bird for which the season is open."

"Feed the lakes and swamps for the ducks," is the opinion expressed on all sides. "This winter," said a prominent farmer, "there have been more ducks flying southward than in years before, but they do not stop because there is no feed. There are a few swamps in this county where the ducks are fed, and a large number are killed there. If a man is enterprising enough to feed them, let him do it."

LEWIS RIVER BRIDGE. Work on It is Resumed—Soon to Be Completed.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 12.—The Northern Pacific Railroad Company commenced work today putting in the draw span of its bridge across Lewis River on its new line between this city and Kalama. The bridge was practically completed last week, and is now being finished over the new road, and is expected to be completed about the first of the new year, shortly after which passenger traffic will be commenced over the road.

COMPETITIVE RATES CANCELLED. Orders in Evidence in the Anti-Mercer Hearing.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 12.—In the hearing today of the suit against the Northern Securities Company, the state introduced testimony in support of its claim that not only is the rate established by the consolidation of two parallel and competing lines, but that competition is stifled, contrary to public policy and the policy of Minnesota, as expressed in its laws.