SIGNS CHARTER BILL

Governor Chamberlain Affixes His Signature.

MADE CAREFUL EXAMINATION

Believes Measure Will Prove Satisfactory, but Regards It in Many Respects as an Experiment.

SALEM, Jan. 23.—(Staff correspondence.)—Governor Chamberlain this morning affixed his signature to the Portland charter act, which passed both houses of the Legislature a few days ago. Before signing it the Governor examined it thoroughly to see that no omissions had been made and that no errors had crept in, as often happens with important measures. The bill signed by the Governor was a typewritten copy of the printed bill as it has been circulated in Portland. The law requires that a bill be enrolled after it is passed, and as many different clerks are employed at this work, errors very easily occur. After checking up all the sections of the charter bill, Governor Chamberlain was satisfied that the enrolled bill was an exact copy of the bill adopted by the people of Portland last June.

In speaking of the bill this afternoon Governor Chamberlain said:

"I regard the new Portland charter as an experiment which may and may not prove satisfactory. The charter is in a measure a revolution in the city government, and quite a sudden one. Under the new charter power is centralized in the hands of the Mayor, and though this has much to commend it, the people may not take well to the new order of things at the start.

"I am a believer in centralization of power and often think that not only should Mayors have the power to remove members of the police and fire departments, but that Governors should have the power to remove Sheriffs, District Attorneys and other officers, for cause. Yet this is a very great power to place in one man's hands. As long as Portland has a good man for Mayor, the new charter will probably be satisfactory, but if that city ever elects a Mayor who is incapable or dishonest, the people will find that the charter gives him too much power.

"In some respects the charter is not just as I should have had it if I had drawn it, but it was framed by a commission of careful and considerate business men, who have the welfare of the city at heart, and their opinion of what the city government should be is quite likely to be better than that of one man.

"The charter was drawn by a commission of good business men, was approved by the people of Portland, and passed by the Legislature at the request of the Multnomah delegation, so whatever my own opinion might be, I would sign it as chief executive of the state. I believe the charter will be found satisfactory, though as I said before it is in many respects an experiment."

The committee on judiciary of the House will report a substitue for Kramer's bill to punish bribery of any member of a political convention. The substitute retains the substance of Kramer's bill, but modifies the phraseology. The committee will also report against H. B. 67 (Burleigh), which was to repeal chapter 5, title 20, Bellinger and Cotton's Code, relating to the manner of drawing juries in Justice Courts. It will report favorably H. B. 64 (Burleigh), which prescribes time of holding County Court in Wallowa and Grant Counties. It will recommend passage of H. B. 80 (Phelps), which amends the law as to Supervisors permitting County Courts to fill vacancies whenever they occur.

A petition in behalf of the Indian War Veterans of 1855-56 for an appropriation of $300,000 in their benefit was presented in the House today. It cites the fact that the Territorial Government agreed to pay them $2 per day for military service, and that it did not carry out its promise. Two bills are now in the House to pay the veterans, one for an appropriation of $100,000, and another for a bond issue of $300,000.

Municipal incorporation bills were passed as follows: To amend charter of Rainier; to incorporate Adams, Umatilla County; to amend charter of Elgin; to incorporate Alamo, Grant County; to amend charter of Stayton.

A bill providing for the manner of taking depositions in Oregon and in other states and foreign countries has been introduced by Representative Simmons. It provides that the parties interested may agree upon the time, place and manner of taking such depositions. In case they cannot agree they may apply to a court for an order fixing the time and place.

Davey of Marion has introduced a bill to allow the assistant warden of the Penitentiary an annual salary of $1200. Under a law passed four years ago, deputy wardens were to receive that compensation, but Secretary of State Dunbar's interpretation of that law has allowed only $900 a year. The bill provides that the ex-assistant and the present assistant shall draw back pay of $25 per month.

A bill to require county officers to give bond was introduced in the House yesterday by Mr. Carnahan, of Clatsop. Mr. Carnahan also introduced a bill prescribing the method of drawing up assessment rolls. He is Assessor of Clatsop County.

An appropriation of $500 is carried by a bill introduced by Representative Gault. The money is to pay outstanding warrants of the provisional government of Oregon. Mr. Gault has also put forth a bill to regulate fees of clerks of County and Circuit Courts.

Representative Hines is urging a bill to prevent the sale of alcoholic liquors by the glass or drink by druggists.

A State Board of Charities and Correction is to be created by a bill introduced in the House by Gill of Multnomah. The Governor is to appoint six persons to the board, which is to investigate all charitable and correctional institutions in the state. The sum of $5000 is to be appropriated for the next two years. The Commissioners are to receive no compensation for their services.

Representative Hayden has introduced a bill to authorize County Courts to permit construction of flume ways on county roads.

A bill to provide for assessment of bank stock and personal property in the county where it is located has been introduced by Representative Murphy. Cashiers of banks are required to submit annual statements to County Assessors of shares of bank stock and the names of the persons owning them.

EDDY BILL PASSES.

Statute of Limitations Shall Not Hold Against the State.

SALEM, Jan. 23.—(Special.)—The House today passed the Eddy bill providing that the statute of limitations shall not run against the state. The measure amends section 13 of chapter 2 of title 1 of Bellinger and Cotton's code. The amendment reads as follows:

Sec. 13. The limitations prescribed in this title shall not apply to actions brought in the name of the state, or any county or other public corporation therein, or for its benefit, but causes of action that have heretofore become barred by virtue of any statutory provision are not intended to be revived hereby.

Mr. Eddy, in urging the passage of the measure, said:

"The present section 13 of the code provides that the limitations prescribed for actions at law shall apply to actions brought in the name of the state or any county or municipal corporation, or for its benefit. The amendment provides simply that the statute of limitations shall not so apply. The bill also provides that causes of action which have already become barred by virtue of any statutory provision are not to be revived. It seems bad policy to permit the statute of limitations to run against the state, because what is the public's business is often nobody's business. Persons who wish to set up adverse claims against the state are able to do so because there is no special motive or interest as in the case of a private person to interfere with them; besides, public officers are continually changing, and the acts of such adverse claimants are very likely to be overlooked until their claims have become vested by lapse of time. In the recent case of Schneider vs. Hutchinson, the Supreme Court of Oregon held that the state had lost a section of school land to private persons who had held adverse possession of the same for the statutory period of 10 years. The loss suffered by the state by reason of the statute of limitations having run, in the favor of the bondsmen of George W. Davis, clerk of the State Land Board, is fresh in the minds of everyone."

DEMOCRATS PRESENT GAVEL.

Speaker Harris Receives Neat Souvenir From Minority Party.

SALEM, Jan. 23.—(Special.)—Speaker Harris today received a testimonial from the "minority party" in the Legislature, in the form of a gavel. The presentation was made informally, so as not to delay the business of the House. Representative C. V. Galloway, of Yamhill, performed this function. Mr. Harris responded gratefully and intimated that he would wield the gavel in a way that would not be oppressive to Democrats. There are 17 Democrats in the Legislature, against 73 Republicans.

The gavel was made from the wood of a tree planted at Mount Vernon, in 1799, by Washington himself, a short time before his death. The tree is a large ash and stands within 100 feet of the mansion. The gavel is a piece of a large limb cut from this tree. Relics of the character of this one are sold at Mount Vernon and at no other place, and the proceeds go toward the keeping up of the home. Thirty thousand dollars' worth of these relics, made from trimmings of trees planted by Washington himself at Mount Vernon, have been sold.

New County of Stockman.

SALEM, Jan. 23.—(Special.)—The new County of Stockman, to be created by the bill of Representative Burgess, which passed the House today, will contain about 1700 people and about 487 voters. The county seat is to be at Antelope. The assessed valuation in the limits of the proposed county now amounts to $800,000. The county will lie between Deschutes and John Day Rivers, and between Crook and Sherman Counties. Its area will be taken from Wasco and Crook Counties. In the proposed county are about 200,000 sheep, 5000 horses and 1800 cattle.

The new county will be opposed by the Crook County delegation. Although it encountered little or no resistance in the House, it may not get through the Senate so easily.

Issues Requisition Papers.

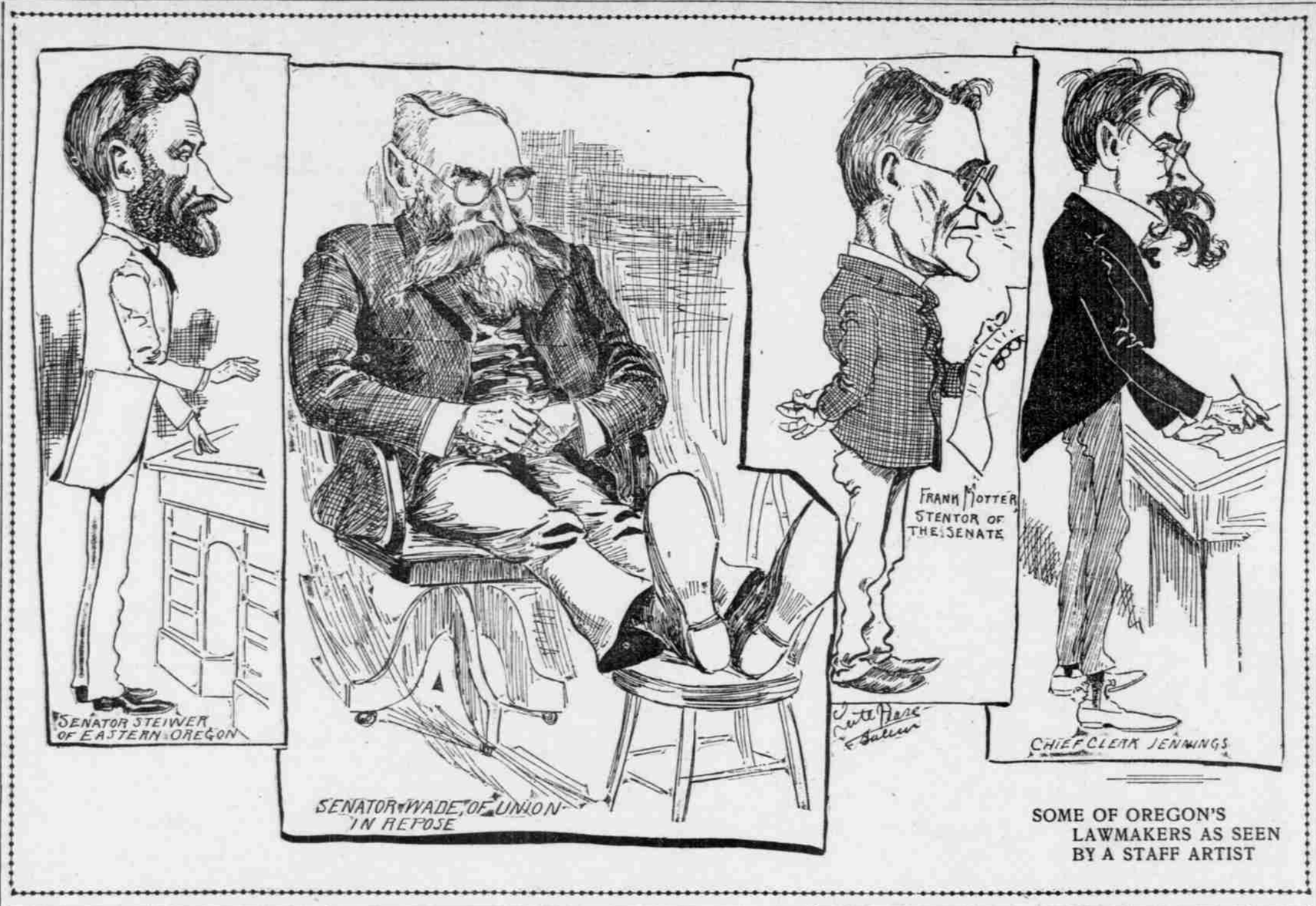
SALEM, Or., Jan. 23.—(Special.)—Governor Chamberlain today issued requisition papers on the Governor of Washington for the return to this state of Frank Ward and F. Miller, who are wanted in Portland for burglary. The men are under arrest at North Yakima, Wash. Ward and Miller were arrested for burglarizing the Portland Terminal Company, and afterward broke jail and escaped.

Sister of Senator Daly Very Ill.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 23.—(Special.)—Senator John D. Daly, of Benton County, received a dispatch this evening saying that his sister, Mrs. Mary Fee, is dangerously ill at Stockton, Cal., and is not expected to live. If Senator Daly can see his way clear to leave his seat in the Legislature for 10 days, he will go to see his sister.

Pioneer of 1852.

ALBANY, Or., Jan. 23.—(Special.)—B. A. Stafford, a prominent business man of Albany, today received word of the death of his mother, Mrs. Priscilla J. Stafford, at the home of her son, J. M. Stafford, on the Mohawk, in Lane County. Mrs. Stafford was a pioneer of 1852.



SOME OF OREGON'S LAWMAKERS AS SEEN BY A STAFF ARTIST

LAWMAKERS TAKE A REST

LEGISLATURE AT SALEM ADJOURNS UNTIL MONDAY.

Both Houses Well Under Way With Work—Renewed Interest in Senatorial Contest Next Week.

SALEM, Jan. 23.—(Special.)—The Oregon Legislature has adjourned until next Monday. Nearly all the lawmakers have gone to their homes or to Portland. The body is now fairly immersed in its work and next week it will have plenty to do. Over 200 bills have been introduced in the House and about 120 in the Senate. The committees are just beginning to get under way. The Senatorial question will come up with renewed interest Monday, for the Fulton people are preparing for renewed efforts.

Representative H. J. Fisher's bill for a fireboat at Portland passed both houses today and will be approved by Governor Chamberlain next week. The Portland charter was signed this morning by the Governor and is now a law. In the House several town incorporation acts were passed. The bill of Representative Burgess for the new County of Stockman, in Eastern Oregon, went through easily. Next week it will come up in the Senate. Cornett's bill to authorize a free county ferry at Harrisburg also passed. In the Senate, President Brownell's bill for a suspension bridge at Oregon City was introduced by Senator McGinn. The bridge is to be built by the Oregon City & Suburban Railway Company.

Among the legislators who went to Portland last night were: Senators W. Tyler Smith, C. W. Fulton, John L. Rand, W. W. Steiwer, Herbert Holman, Alex Sweek, H. E. McGinn, George T. Myers, Andrew C. Smith, F. P. Mays, James E. Hunt and Representatives Marion Hayden, Willis Kramer, John D. Olwell, T. N. Murphy, B. F. Jones, G. W. Phelps, W. N. Jones, S. B. Cobb, D. J. Malarkey, J. N. Burgess, G. M Orton, N. Whealdon, C. W. Carnahan, J. S. Hutchinson, A. A. Bailey, C. W. Hodson, W. W. Banks, R. J. Ginn.

IN THE SENATE.

House Bill Passes for Portland Fireboat.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 23.—(Special.)—The Senate was called to order at 11:45 and opened with prayer by Rev. T. F. Royal, of the Leslie M. E. Church, of Salem.

The courtesies of the Senate were extended to C. A. Cogswell, of Portland.

Senator McGinn introduced S. B. 119, to authorize the construction of a suspension bridge across the Willamette River at Oregon City by the Oregon City & Suburban Railway Company. The bill was read three times and passed.

House bill —, to authorize the City of Portland to purchase a fireboat was read three times and passed.

The Senate adjourned until 11:49 Monday.

IN THE HOUSE.

Passage of Several Town Incorporation Acts.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 23.—(Special.)—The House was called to order at 10 A. M. by Speaker Harris. Prayer was offered by T. B. Ford.

H. B. 152 (Both) to amend charter of Rainier, was passed.

The Speaker signed S. J. M. No. 1 (Mays), memorializing Congress to construct a canal and locks above The Dalles, also S. J. M. No. 3 (Mays), memorializing Congress to pass a bill for relief of settlers in Sherman County; also S. B. 64 (Marsters), to create an irreducible school fund in Douglas County. This bill has been passed by both houses.

The Multnomah delegation, Hodson chairman, reported in favor of H. B. 58 (Fisher), for a fireboat at Portland; report was adopted and bill passed.

H. B. 144 (Blakley), to incorporate town of Adams, Umatilla County, was passed.

H. B. 136 (Murphy), to amend charter of Elgin, Union County, was passed.

H. B. 77 (Cornett), authorizing County Court of Linn to establish free ferry across Willamette at Harrisburg, was passed.

H. B. 42 (Banks), to amend code relating to the exemption of judgment debtors, was referred back to judiciary committee.

H. B. 191 (Johnson), to incorporate the town of Alamo, Grant County, was passed.

H. B. 78 (Whealdon), to authorize City of The Dalles to issue additional water bonds, was passed.

H. B. 91 (Burgess), to create the County of Stockman, in Eastern Oregon, was passed.

H. B. 109, to change county seat of Columbia County, on motion of Shelley of Lane was reported back amended. An effort to re-refer it to the committee on counties was lost.

H. B. 75 (Eddy), to amend section 13 of chapter II of title 1 was passed.

H. B. 8 (Phelps), to prescribe method of constructing fences in Eastern Oregon, passed.

S. B. 28 (Hobson), to amend charter of Stayton, was passed.

S. C. R. 15, that a joint committee of seven members visit State University, was referred to the committee on resolutions.

S. C. R. 14 (Kuykendall), that a joint committee of five members investigate water supply of state institutions.

Adjourned till 11:30 Monday.

JONES WANTS STATISTICS.

Washington Congressman Anxious to Meet Figures of Engineer Langfitt.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Jan. 23.—(Special.)—Congressman Jones has written the Vancouver Commercial Club for information as to the amount of tonnage now given to the port at Vancouver. This information he desires so as to enable him to go before the War Department and controvert the report of Engineer Langfitt wherein he recommended that the improvement of the river between Vancouver and the mouth of the Willamette be deferred, as the commerce would not justify the expenditure of the amount necessary for the improvement. Secretary H. W. Arnold has called a meeting of the Commercial Club for next Tuesday evening for the consideration of the matter. He has taken steps to secure the information desired, and will present it to the club at Tuesday night's meeting.

YOUNG GIRL DISAPPEARS.

Seventeen-Year-Old Beatrice Boehmer, of Vancouver, Is Missing.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Jan. 23.—(Special.)—Beatrice Boehmer, the 17-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Boehmer, living about two miles north of this city, mysteriously disappeared Wednesday morning, and nothing has been heard or seen of her since. Her father and mother are now visiting at Mitchell, S. D., and Beatrice, with her 14-year-old brother, had been staying at home. The boy was not seriously alarmed at her disappearance until this morning, supposing she was visiting with friends in town. When this was found not to be true, search was instituted, but no trace of her can be found. None of her friends in this city can ascribe a cause for the disappearance, and many are inclined to believe she has been abducted.

Vancouver Barracks Notes.

VANCOUVER BARRACKS, Wash., Jan. 23.—(Special.)—Five prisoners sent to Vancouver Barracks from different posts in the department to await transportation to Alcatraz left this week in charge of Captain H. L. Hawthorne and several guards for San Francisco, where they will be turned over to the commanding officer of Alcatraz Prison to serve from one year to 20 months at hard labor.

Contract Surgeon Halsey L. Wood has been relieved from further duty on the transport Warren and ordered to Vancouver Barracks.

The order directing Major Herbert E. Sutherly, Inspector-General of this department, to proceed to Manila for duty has been temporarily suspended.

Lieutenant A. L. Conger, Eighteenth Infantry, aide-de-camp to General R. P. Hughes, brought 27 recruits this week for the Seventeenth Infantry from the recruit camp at the Presidio. After turning over the recruits to the commanding officer of the post for assignment to the different companies, Lieutenant Conger returned to San Francisco.

Horses Starving on the Range.

SUMPTER, Or., Jan. 23.—A mining man who has just made a visit on snowshoes to the headwaters of Trout Creek reports finding a band of about 20 horses in a starving condition. There is nothing for the animals to subsist on, as snow covers the ground to quite a depth. The unfortunate creatures have pawed the snow away in spots in their endeavor to find grass beneath, and the bark has been eaten from saplings and trees. There were several horses lying dead on the snow, and the others are almost past help.

Sugar Factory Is Assured.

BLACKFOOT, Idaho, Jan. 23.—The proposed $1,000,000 sugar factory at Blackfoot now seems assured. Mayor Watson received a letter from Cleveland, O., today asking about conditions as to living and climate. The letter says that 15 steelworkers who are coming out at once desire to know something about the country before leaving the East.

High Water at Albany.

ALBANY, Or., Jan. 23.—(Special.)—The Willamette River at Albany now registers 19 feet above low water mark, and is still rising. The prospects are for a rise of 2 or 3 feet this evening.

FIREBOAT BILL PASSES

WAS RUSHED THROUGH BOTH HOUSES YESTERDAY.

The Measure Will Be Signed in Time to Include Special Tax in This Year's Levy.

SALEM, Jan. 23.—(Staff correspondence.)—The bill to authorize Portland to secure a fireboat passed both houses today. It was introduced first in the House by Representative H. J. Fisher, of Multnomah County. It passed that chamber early in the morning session, and then went to the Senate, where it was rushed through by Senator H. E. McGinn, of Multnomah. The measure was approved by the Multnomah delegation. On the third reading of the bill Mr. Gill offered an amendment to convert "a public ferryboat into a fireboat and ferry." Mr. Gill moved that the House go into committee of the whole to consider the bill, but his motion was not seconded. The measure did not go to the executive office this afternoon. Next week Governor Chamberlain will affix his signature to it, and the special tax of 1½ mills provided by the act will therefore be included in this year's levy. The act is as follows:

Section 1. The Council of the City of Portland is hereby authorized and empowered, in its discretion, to assess, levy and collect a special tax of not to exceed 1½ mills on each dollar of valuation upon all property, both real and personal, within the City of Portland, and not exempt from taxation. Such special tax shall only be levied for the fiscal year of said city ending with December 31, 1903, and the proceeds of said tax shall be placed in a separate fund created therefor to be known as the fireboat fund, and so much thereof as may be necessary shall be expended for the purpose of constructing or purchasing a fireboat under the provisions of section 169 of the charter of said City of Portland, approved by the Governor on January 23, 1903. After such fireboat is so constructed or purchased any balance remaining in said fireboat fund shall be transferred by said Council to the regular fire department fund provided for in section 114 of said charter.

Sec. 2. Section 114 of the charter of said City of Portland shall apply as to said time and manner of the levy of such special tax.

Sec. 3. Inasmuch as the City of Portland has no authority to levy a sufficient tax to obtain a fireboat, and an urgent necessity now exists for a fireboat in said city, and inasmuch as the purchase or construction of a fireboat for said city is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public safety of the City of Portland, this act shall take effect and be and remain in full force from and after its approval by the Governor.

A PROTEST FROM CROOK.

An Old-Time Resident Opposes Burgess' Bill to Create New County.

PRINEVILLE, Or., Jan. 22.—(To the Editor.)—In the Oregonian of the 17th of this month I find an interview of Representative Burgess of Wasco, to which I, as an old-time resident of Crook, would like space in your paper to reply. Representative Burgess, of Wasco, has introduced a bill in the House of Representatives for the creation of a new county to be called Stockman County, and to create this county a large scope of the northern end of Crook is included. This bill has been, so I learn from this interview, referred to a committee of the House delegations from the 21st and 28th districts, and today's Oregonian states that all the members of this committee are in favor of the bill.

This measure is bitterly opposed by nine-tenths of the taxpayers of Crook County, not only the people who are left in the county, but more especially the taxpayers who Mr. Burgess proposes to put in the new county. Crook County is a large county so far as territory is concerned, but it is a small county when population and wealth are taken into consideration. We have an assessed wealth of $1,646,701, and by using the most strict economy the county is now out of debt. We pay our county officials the smallest salaries paid by any county in the state. We pay our Clerk $1800, our Sheriff $2500, our County Judge $600, Treasurer $400 and our School Superintendent $400, and neither the Clerk, Sheriff, nor any other county officer is allowed a clerk to be paid for by the county. All office aid they require they pay out of the sums above mentioned. This county has had the good fortune to at all times in the past have had an honest, economical County Court, and by reason of that fact and because we have been niggardly in the salaries we pay our county officials the county is out of debt, and yet our levy for this year is 22¼ mills.

The Burgess bill proposes to take one-third of the taxable property of the county and place it in this proposed new county, if this is done it will necessarily raise our taxes at least one-third more, making the future rate of taxation in this county at least 28 or 30 mills. We who Mr. Burgess proposes to leave in Crook object to this, and if he is correct in his estimate as to the amount of taxable property that there will be in Stockman County, if this bill of his should pass, every taxpayer that he proposes to take into Stockman County is more than justified in his opposition, for we will be ruined, and they will be taxed out of existence, or rather out of the county.

This bill has been referred to a special committee composed of the House members of the 21st and 28th districts. Crook County is not represented by a single person from either of these districts; she has not a friend on the committee. Burgess and Whealdon may answer to the claim that they represent Wasco, Crook, Lake and Klaath, but the claim is absolutely false. They represent only Wasco and Antelope. The Legislature gerrymander disfranchised Crook so far as representation is concerned. Crook's rights and wants and wishes will never be heard before this committee, the outrage that will be perpetrated both on those left in Crook and those dragged against their will into Stockman County if this bill passes will never be even whispered before this committee, not once. No, Burgess and Whealdon will tell the committee that the Taxpayers to be taken from Crook want to be taken, and there will be no friend or representative from Crook to dispute. She is to be tried by a jury composed of her would-be despoilers.

This cannot be made a political question. By the last Legislative apportionment the voters of Crook were disfranchised. It will make no difference whether or not she goes for any particular party, her voice will not be heard, and her votes will change no result; so it seems to me that I can appeal to the members of the Legislature regardless of party to deal right by us in this measure. This bill will work an irreparable injury to Crook if it becomes a law. It is desired by but few taxpayers. In the section proposed to be taken from us, almost to a man they oppose this move.

One word more. If Burgess and Whealdon had intimated before last June's election that they would father such a measure, neither would have received a Corporal's guard of a vote in Crook.

GEORGE W. BARNES.

The World Living Better.

Cleveland Leader.

The widespread movement in the direction of higher wages will have an important bearing on the foreign trade of the United States. If the adjustment within our own territory goes on evenly and reasonably, the wage-earners of America will be given more money, and all other classes will get more for their services, or for the use of their property. The standard will be raised throughout the country, and one man's position, relatively to that of another, will be about the same that it has been.

But if the scale of wages and prices is to be higher in the United States and not in other countries, then there will be increasing difficulty in making headway against foreign competition in neutral markets. The tendency of improved machinery and methods of production will be to make merchandise from other great industrial centers cheaper, whereas a marked upward change in the American price level will have the opposite effect in the United States. If this difference should go far enough it would have the effect of checking exports sharply and stimulating imports.

BOTH WINS A VICTORY

PUTS TO ROUT THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COUNTIES.

Motion to Rerefer His Bill Providing for Special Election in Columbia Is Defeated.

SALEM, Jan. 23.—(Staff correspondence.)—Representative Both, of Columbia County, who wants Rainier to be the county seat, put to rout the House committee on counties this morning, and is in a fair way to get the proposed enabling act for a special election to settle the question between Rainier and St. Helens submitted to the voters of his county. Mr. Both introduced his bill (H. B. 109) January 19, and with much suavity asked the House to refer the measure to the Columbia County delegation. Now, Mr. Both constitutes the entire Columbia County delegation, and under the circumstances it would seem that there would be small chance for majority and minority reports.

Today the Columbia County delegation, after four days and nights of careful and conscientious deliberation, made a unanimous report for the bill, with a few slight amendments. Then the delegation moved that the report be adopted. This brought Shelley of Lane to his feet with wrath in his eye and indignation in his voice.

"I move that this bill be rereferred to the committee on counties," he said. Mr. Shelley is a colleague of Mr. Edwards, who is chairman of that committee.

"I should like to ask if there is any opposition to this bill, or any reason why the House should interfere in the matter?" inquired Eddy.

"My action is inspired by a desire to see the House preserve a consistent course," replied Shelley. He went on to say that there were other county seat bills, and he understood an agreement had been reached by which the Union and Malheur County bills would be withdrawn and a general enabling act substituted, by which County Commissioners should submit county seat questions upon petition of a certain percentage of voters.

The Columbia County delegation arose to say that he had in his possession a petition signed by four-fifths of the legal voters of his county asking that the bill pass.

Gill of Multnomah put in a word for St. Helens. "I have no personal interest in this controversy," he declared, "but I have evidence that there is opposition to the change. Many citizens have come to me and stated their objections."

Murphy of Union corrected Shelley's statement that the Union County bill would be withdrawn. "I introduced that bill, and I know nothing about the withdrawal," said Murphy.

Edwards also said a few words, by which it was made to appear that the Columbia County delegation was opposing the interests of a part of his constituency.

On an aye and no vote, on the motion to rerefer, the Speaker was in doubt. On a rising vote the motion was defeated, 15 ayes, 18 noes; and so the Columbia County delegation had his way.

The Both bill as it now stands requires a special election to be held on the first Monday in July, 1903; a second election, in case of no result, shall be held on the first Monday in August, 1903, between the two towns having the highest number of votes at the July election.

No Pardon for Forger Neal.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 23.—The appeal for pardon made by ex-Captain of the United States Army John M. Neal, serving a two years' sentence at San Quentin for forgery, has been refused by President Roosevelt. Notice of the Executive's action has been received by Mr. Neal's attorneys.

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Indorsed by Members of W. C. T. U.
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