

CUT OFF GRAFTS

Sheriffs' Methods Too Costly With Insane.

STATE PAYS HEAVY BILLS

Asylum Attendants Could Accompany Patients.

REFORM ALWAYS SHUT OFF

If Each County Paid Transportation to Salem, County Courts Would Soon Reduce Present High Expenses of Officers.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 22.—(Special)—How to break up what is known as the "Sheriffs' graft" by providing better and more economical plan of transporting insane patients to the state insane asylum, is one of the problems with which some of the members of the Legislature are now grappling.

Many efforts with the same object have been made in the past, not so much as a measure of economy as for the establishment of a system that will insure better care for patients. In nearly each the effort has failed because Sheriffs have sent to Salem a strong lobby that has had influence enough to defeat the desired legislation.

In cost \$30,000 to transport patients to the state insane asylum in the past two years, and it is estimated that an appropriation of \$22,500 will be necessary for the next two years under the present system. There were about \$40 patients brought to the asylum, the average cost of transportation was about \$5.70 each. As the greater number of the patients came from Northwestern Oregon counties, where the population is most dense, and the distance to the capital is not great, the cost is considered unnecessarily large.

New Plan Advocated.

The plan of those who believe a change is needed is to enact a law providing that when a person has been committed to the insane asylum the committing officer shall at once telegraph the superintendent of the state insane asylum, who shall at once send a trained attendant to bring the patient to Salem. How much could be saved by this plan cannot be determined definitely until tried. Those favoring this in this particular do not base their arguments much upon the matter of economy as upon the advantage to be gained in placing the patients as early as possible in the care of persons who understand handling the insane and know what remedies to employ to quiet and control them without exciting them. It has been asserted by the advocates of the reform that patients in private places should not be given into the care of Sheriffs or other persons who have had no special training for such work and very little experience.

The cost of transporting the insane is made up of three items, the actual expenditures for railway, stage or carriage fare, the expenditures for meals and lodgings, and the per diem or diet of Sheriffs and guards. Sheriffs are not allowed stated mileage, but receive reimbursement for the sums actually paid by them. Sheriffs receive \$3 and guards \$2.50 for each day or fraction of a day spent on the trip to Salem and return. From midnight to midnight is counted a day, and a Sheriff loses his pay if he arrives after midnight receives \$2 for the day upon which he started. If his train on the return trip reaches his county seat at 1 o'clock in the morning, he receives \$3 for that day.

Under former administrations it was the practice for Sheriffs to file their claims for reimbursement without giving any account of the expenses. It is commonly reported that "graffit" were frequently worked through the Secretary of State's office in that way. Secretary of State Dunbar has required that all claims shall be fully itemized and the items are closely inspected for any irregularities. During the early part of his administration Mr. Dunbar rejected many of them, but they were modified, but the Sheriffs now understand what will be allowed and few charges are found improper.

Many Expendable Items.

What are the items of expense in transporting the insane? An item may be seen from the following itemized claim for bringing a patient from La Grande last month. The Sheriff and one guard performed the service:

Nov. 20.—To three fares from La Grande to Portland	\$27.30
To two meals in Portland, breakfast	1.50
To three fares Portland to Salem	1.50
To hire, Salem depot to Asylum	1.50
To two meals in Salem, dinner	1.00
To two fares Salem to Portland	2.25
To two meals in Portland, breakfast	1.50
To three fares Portland to La Grande	1.50
Total	\$78.75

The cost in this instance was less than usual, as the Secretary's biennial report shows that the usual cost of bringing a patient from Union County is \$85 to \$95.

The items of expense that could be saved by sending an attendant after the patient would vary according to conditions. In a great many cases one skilled attendant could manage a patient where two unskilled persons are required, but where the trip requires night travel the attendant would usually be needed. By sending an attendant a part of the per diem expense would be saved, for the attendant would be working for a salary of \$40 a month, whereas the Sheriff is paid \$3 per day.

Superintendent Calbreath says that patients were brought to the asylum by teams, and a regular carriage team now employed could be used in conveying the patients from the depot to the asylum, so that there would be no additional expense in that part of the service, and the present charge of \$1.50 for each patient would be saved.

Portland Patients Come High.

It is in the transportation of patients from Multnomah and other counties near the capital that the greatest saving could be made. The usual cost of transporting patients from Portland is \$3.85, if an additional guard is not employed, and \$3.75 if a guard is employed. The patient would bring up the evening train and the officer and guard returning to Portland the next morning. In nearly every instance one trained attendant could bring the patient from Portland and make the trip in one day, at a total cost of \$7.45. This would mean a saving of \$5 to \$18 on

each patient from Multnomah County, which county sends more patients than any other. Similar savings could be made in several other Western Oregon counties.

It has been suggested as a means of solving this problem that the several counties be required to pay the expenses of transporting their insane to the asylum. Under such a plan the Sheriff would be allowed a per diem expense and the County Courts would take care that all expenses be kept as low as possible. In many instances the traveling expenses could not be reduced, but in such cases as those mentioned in Multnomah County the officer could make the trip in one day instead of taking two.

DEEPEN THE WILLAMETTE.

Commercial Club Want More Open River During Entire Year.

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 22.—(Special)—The Albany Commercial Club at its session last night discussed the question of an open river between Albany and Portland the year round. Instead of a few months each year, as prevails at present, and decided to memorialize Congress for an open river. A committee was appointed to take charge of the work and impress upon the Oregon Congressional delegation the utility of an open river.

Captain A. B. Chapman of Portland, one of the managers of the Oregon City Transportation Company, which operates boats on the upper Willamette, addressed the meeting regarding the improvements that are necessary to make the Willamette navigable by good-sized boats all the year. He emphasized the necessity of dredging the upper river to remove some of the bars, and the creation of a safe entrance to navigation, of building embankments opposite Albany, Corvallis and Independence to keep the river in its channel and deepen the same, and in general endorse the accusation that some of the mem-

CUT SUGAR PRICES

Independents Will Fight Trust Refineries.

BIG CARGO FROM HONOLULU

Oxnard Is One of Seven Rich Refiners Who Compose the Coast Combine, Which Includes the La Grande, Or., Plant.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 22.—(Special)—Oregon and California have united to form the Coast sugar trust. This came out today as a result of further inquiry into the affairs of the Pacific Traffic and Commercial Association.

It now develops that Henry T. Oxnard is one of seven refiners who are in the combination. The others are said to be Clausen Brothers; the Western Sugar Refinery, of San Francisco; the Union Refinery, of Santa Maria; the Alamitos Refinery, of Los Angeles; the Amalgamated Refineries of La Grande, Or., and the Alameda Refinery, of Alvarado.

The real reason for the withdrawal of Haas Bros., Hussman, Johnson & Co., William & John Lewis and Lewis & Meyer is that a large cargo of refined sugar is expected in January from Honolulu.

The accusation that some of the mem-

bers produce only 200,000 tons of it, while we consume 2,700,000 tons.

The fact that speculators are in the market should not be permitted to obstruct a clear view of the basis upon which this advance is built. That those traders are in the market is due to their realization of the changed conditions. The price of sugar must be kept up upon their operations. Their dealers may cause temporary spurts or reactions, but the upward march is, nevertheless, borne onward only by the healthy status of the industry itself.

Almond prices have gone up, there is room for still greater improvement, and the sugar business will return profit to those who base their purchases upon world-wide conditions, and do not limit themselves to the narrow perspective presented by the United States. Prices here at all times go up or down as a result of war in the domestic or to active competition, but the United States exert only part of the influence upon the world's sugar markets, and until we shall have arrived at such a point that we can raise all, or nearly all, the sugar we consume, we cannot afford to be independent in changes in consumption, crop, etc., in other countries.

The Portland jobbers held a conference yesterday afternoon to discuss the situation, but what, if any, action was taken, they declined to say.

DATES SET FOR APPEALS.

Supreme Court Will Hear Number of Cases Pending.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 22.—(Special)—Having decided nearly all the cases heretofore tried and taken under advisement, the Supreme Court is ready to try new cases pending an appeal, and has set cases for trial as follows:

Tuesday, Jan. 3—Brockway vs. City of Roseburg and Sweetland vs. Grant's Pass New Water, Light & Power Company.

January 4—Gardner Brothers vs. Wiley and Multnomah County vs. Title Guarantee & Trust Company.

January 5—Hildebrand vs. United Artisans, and Singstakon vs. McCormac.

January 10—Thayer vs. Buchanan, and LaVie vs. Toote.

January 11—Groves vs. Osborn, and Young vs. Stickney.

January 12—David vs. Moore, and Nye vs. Bill Nye Gold Mining & Milling Company.

DISCUSS FISH LAWS.

Legislative Members Asked to Confer With Fishermen.

ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 22.—(Special)—A call was issued today inviting the legislative members from all the counties on both sides of the Columbia River, the cattlemen, cold-storage people, seiners, trappers, gillnetters, wheelmen and fishermen officials of the States of Oregon and Washington to attend a meeting to be held in this city on next Tuesday for the purpose of discussing the proposed changes in the fishing laws of the two states.

Those calling the meeting believe that if representatives of all the different interests can be brought together a definite plan can be agreed upon and the passage of a joint bill will be an easy matter.

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Address THE OREGONIAN, Portland, Or.

MANY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

The buildings, preparation of grounds and the 200 individual exhibits of the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition that will be opened in Portland on June 1, next, will represent the investment of many millions of dollars. The Government exhibit will be one of the most creditable ever made at any of the National Expositions. Every building at the great Fair will be shown by handsome illustration in the New Year's Oregonian that will be published on January 2, next. The engraving of the details of these buildings will be made especially attractive. The New Year's number will be sent to any address in the United States or Canada postage prepaid, for

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the recommendations of Major Langford, who recently examined the river on behalf of the Government and whose recommendations are now embodied in the river and harbor appropriation bill pending before Congress. It was further recommended that the War Department be encouraged to purchase the locks at Oregon City, thus removing that obstruction to upper-river traffic. These locks add 50 cents per ton to freight rates between lower and upper-river ports.

The directors of the Honolulu Plantation Company have called a committee consisting of F. J. Miller, Dr. W. H. Davis and E. D. Cusick to confer with like committees from the commercial clubs of Salem, Independence and Corvallis, and to draft resolutions favoring the immediate improvement of the river, according to the recommendations of Major Langford, and secure a visit to the upper river from Senator J. H. Mitchell and Congressman Binger Herman during their stay in Portland this month.

FAREWELL TO BATTERIES.

Two Mountain Batteries Now in Philippines Ordered to Post.

VANCOUVER BARRACKS, Wash., Dec. 22.—(Special)—The Officers' Club of Vancouver Barracks gave a ladies' evening last night at the clubrooms to the officers of the departing batteries. The evening was in conversation, music and supper.

The departure of the batteries is greeted by all the officers of this post, as it breaks up the Eleventh Battalion of field artillery, an organization which, as was expressed by a distinguished officer, "will always wear the heart of any soldier."

The Eleventh Battalion was organized at this post and composed the Eighteen and Twenty-sixth Light Field batteries. The Twenty-sixth Battery was organized from Battery F, of the Fourth Battalion of field artillery.

The batteries will be replaced by the Seventeenth and Eighteenth mountain batteries, now in the Philippines, and it is expected that they will subsequently work through the Secretary of State's office in that way.

Major Langford, commanding the Eleventh Battalion, will still remain at this post, and will command the Thirteenth Battalion when it arrives.

PRICE CHANGES NOT EXPECTED

Clark County's Exhibit.

VANCOUVER BARRACKS, Wash., Dec. 22.—(Special)—Arrangements are being made by the Vancouver Commercial Club to have Clark County represented at the Lewis and Clark Fair. A committee has been appointed to act in the interest of Commercial Club for the first time.

It is believed that in consequence of the fact that Clark County is so closely associated with Portland, that every citizen of the county will be unanimously in favor of the very best exhibit that can be secured.

The sentiment seems to be so strong in favor of this action that the county will probably arrange for an exhibit whether help is secured from the state or not.

Light Artillery on Road.

VANCOUVER BARRACKS, Wash., Dec. 22.—(Special)—The order for the transportation of the Twenty-eighth Light Artillery has been supplemented so that the Twenty-eighth will leave for Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and arrive at San Francisco about December 25.

Such men of this battery as have been assigned to the Eighteenth Mountain Battery, with station at Vancouver Barracks, will come direct to this place under charge of an officer of the Twenty-eighth.

Insane Suspect Discharged.

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 22.—(Special)—A Griesshaber, who was arrested yesterday on an insanity charge, was released on parole today by the examining board. Mr. Griesshaber's impaired mental condition is due to an excessive indulgence in liquors and remorse over the death of his wife about three years ago. Griesshaber is one of the best farms in Clackamas County.

To Collect Salmon Eggs.

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 22.—(Special)—C. Wallach, superintendent of the Clackamas fish hatchery, went through the Yaquina coast today in search of a suitable place for a collection station for steelhead and silver-side salmon eggs. Manager Edwin Stone stated that there are a number of places on the Yaquina River which are suited to such purposes, and it is likely a station will be established there.

NEW RAZOR MANUFACTURER.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Dec. 22.—(Special)—Weston & Graham, of Republic, will reopen their factory for the manufacture of razors and other edged tools to Walla Walla in the near future. Their plant will be enlarged and the output of razors increased. The firm has just patented a process for tempering steel to a high degree. This new process will be employed in the goods turned out,

and we produce only 200,000 tons of it, while we consume 2,700,000 tons.

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