Work of Oregon State Departments Is Reviewed and Some Needed Legislation Is Suggested

On September Bo, 1802, interest-bearing warrants were outstanding, which had been issued in repayment for swamp lands theretofore sold by the state and to which the state
scould not convey title, amounting to \$28,940.68
for principal, on which the interest accumulated and unpuld to April 1, 1863, amounted
approximately to \$19,016.42. Of the principal
\$50,025.68 bears interest at the rate of 8 per
cent per annum, and \$9014.70 at 6 per cent
per annum, Since that time payments have
been made on that portion of these warrants
which bears the larger rate of interest, out of
moneys realized from the sale of swamp
lands, whilst the principal of the indebtedness, which bears 6 per cent per annum, has
been increased because of resamment, has
been increased because or resamment for
sother swamp lands, to which no title could
be conveyed. References to the report of the
Treasurer discloses that at the end of the last
facal year there were outstanding warrants
of account of swamp lands amounting to \$44.

100.89 of principal and \$15,807.10 of interest.
of the principal \$14,807.80 bears interest at
8 per cent per annum. There is, no fund out of
which these warrants can be paid except as
moneys are realized from the sale of swamp
lands, and so little of this remains to the
state that the interest on the indentsclass
is barely kept down by the makes thereof.
An appropriation about be made for the
payment of these warrants and your extract
attention is called to the matter, for as a
business proposition the state ought no longer
to be compelled to pay this enormous interest
charge.

In addition to this, at the last segment of a Legislature, claims for repsyment of twoties of the bounty paid by the several counes of the state under the scalp bounty law
field had been presented and remained unidd, amounting to \$54,298.66. An appropriain was then made to most this indebtedness,
is it was included in a bill which approtated large sums for other and distinct pursess. This bill was winted because visitative
Section 39. Article TV of the Constitution,
dd not because of any objection to the parvalur item now under discussion.

This indebtedness has been increased by the
vectuation of other claims for repayment.

# Need of a Tax Commision.

It is possible that if a tax commission were appointed to gather data, and frame a law to be resorted two years better, benche a treation to the people by conflating appropriation to the respective to their support to their supports to their

done was flox,080,000, and in most only 15.

150,000, an increase in 10 years of only 15.

150,000 knows that this is not a fewford the part of the fund at his disposal few the provide in availth in our case to 10 years what is the result of this fathers speec the pure of creatry originals to father speec the pure of creatry and to properly originals to be sufficient to be sufficient to be sufficient to be sufficient to father speech the season of a greater properlies while the example of maintaining the more as has been the case of maintaining the more as has been the case of maintaining purposes continue to increase, and the barrier of the sufficient to be levied for state purposes continue to increase, and the barrier of the season of property which are achied and confidence of the sufficient to be seen to the season of the part of the sufficient to be seen to the season of the same to be account the sufficient of the sufficient to be sufficient to the sufficient to be provided after the sufficient to the su

divocand, as far as possible, from that for county and municipal purposes. To that sod, in many states, methods have been successfully resorted to far relieving real as well as personal property from takention to meet the expenses of the seministration of the affairs of the state. At the last regular session of the Legislature, progress was made in the right direction by the passage of the inheritance tax law and the corporation locase law. There may be inequalities in these that will need adjustment, but the general purposes of both are most excellent. During the 16 months the inheritance tax law has been in force, 5000,000 to the varieties of the State Treasury thereunder, while under the latter law \$191,015.51 has been collected. These anounts are likely to there are each year as the state grows, in population, in addition to the amounts thus realized, insurance components divising the same force and \$700 and \$700 and \$700 and

der, would, as suggested by the Secretary State, in all probability be the simplest best method of taxation.

After quoting at length from a report made by an ex-member of the New York Board of Education, a report that deals severely with "overcrowded studies." Governor Chamberlain makes the following recommendations and says:

In my first message to the Legislature I commended the abolishment of at least

Condition of the Fishing Industry.

The report of the Master Fish Warden shows in detail the transactions of the Department of Fisheries for the past two years, and shows the condition of the industry at the present time.

ion of the Legislature \$2500

State Printing Costs Too Much.

At the last session of the Legislature, \$50,000 was appropriated for public printing, paper and binding. This has been exhaussed. At the close of the fiscal year there was a deficit of \$7,000.72 and this will be increased to about \$16,000 before the end of the binenial term, and covers paper and binding. as well as printing. There are two ways by which this enormous expense may be reduced. First, a lower table of fees should be fixed by law now, to take effect at the termination of the present incumbent's term. This will, of course, not afford present, but future relief. Second, much of the printing now required to be done could be lopped off without in any way impering the public service. This latter course will afford immediate as well as future relief against this exception charge. It must not be forgotten that the schedule of fees charged by the State Printer was fixed more than 20 years ago, and it is, a well-known fact that since that time, though there has been no reduction in the wages paid to printers, there has been a decline in the cost of work necessary to be done because of improved machinery and changed, conditions.

I carnestly call your attention to this matter, and suggest that some legislation.

Health offices.

Health offices are maintained at Astoria. Gardiner. Marshfield and Yaquina Bay at an annual expense of \$2700. This might with propriety be saved to the state by doing away with these stations. The United States maintains a quarantine station at Astoria in charge of a capable physician, and I have assurances that if the stations at the other points named are abolished, they will likewise be placed uhder Federal control. I renew my recommendation of two years ago for the abolishment of the State Quarantine. Service at the points named.

Upon assuming the duties of the Executo a rectification, so far as possible, of the

ent status of every acre of public land in the state.

The State Land Agent and Clerk of the State Land Board have devoted much of their time to straightening out the tangle into which the records of both offices had become involved because of the tack of unity of action between the two. This task was carefully begun under the administration of Mr. J. W. Mocrew, and has been acrupulously and persistently followed up by his monessor, Mr. Oswald West, to whom, as well as to Mr. George G. Brown, Clerk of the State Land Board, much credit is due for bringing order out of what

the General Land Office on appeal.

Land Held for Cancellation.

The Honorable Secretary of the Interior has practically held for cancellation every selection made on base furnished and sold by General Odell. As these selections have been field for cancellation, the State Land Agent has notified all the purchasers from the state of the condition of their titles, and of their right under the law to recover back the amounts paid by them to the state as the purchase price of the lands. It will appear from the report of the Clerk of the State Land Board that up to the end of the facal year 21d ciaims have been presented to the state for repayment on 46.368.66 acres of indemnity school lands selected prior to January 1, 1903, amounting to \$77.419.70 of principal and interest, while 17 claims for repayment on 3777.15 acres of school land have been presented and paid amounting to \$3585.55. The end is not yet, and in all probability claims will be presented for repayment of an amount almost as large as that already paid. I have had much forrespondence with the Honorable Secretary of the Interior and the Honorable Secretary of the Interior and the Honorable Commissioner of the General Land Office in reference to these holeennity selections and have endeavored to sustain them so as to avoid refunding from the Irreducible School Fund the amounts which it had received from their sale, but in altempting to sustain them all, I was not aware of the fact that many thousand acres of this alleged, mineral hase had either been sold in place by the state prior to its attempted use as the basis for indemnity selections or had previously been used as the basis for indemnity selections of he fact that many thousand acres of the has only been brought to my attention recently through the clerk of the State Land Board who have spent much time and labor in tabulating and listing all of the lands which have been used as bases for indemnity selections, and which are in conflict with sales made by the state in place.

First in Time, First i

First in Time, First in Right.

Under the policy which the State Land Board has adopted with reference to these lands, the first in time is recognized as the first in right, and the oldest till has been given precedence. If the land was nold in place prior to its attempted use as base, that fittle has been recognized, if it was sought to be used as hase for indennity selection prior to its sale in place and the records of the State Land Office show that fact, that fittle is given precedence.

Operations in mineral base have been disastrout to the credit of the state (or those who have held certificates of sale or deeds to indemnity lands based thereon have as algued such certificates or curveyed their al

Anylum. Reform School, and the Schools for the Billind and Deaf Mixtes are complete in detail and faithfully account for the moneys appropriated for their maintenance, and truly point out the needs of these several in-attitutions.

National Guard.

The National Guard of this state has reached the highest state of proficiency. The act of Congress, approved January 21, 1903, for promoting the efficiency of the militia, but the high character and standing of the officers and much to bring about this result, but the high character and standing of the officers and much to bring about this result, but the high character and standing of the officers and men composing the Guard have played the meet important part therein.

The appropriation made at the last sersion of the Legislature for the payment of the amounts due the volunteers who served in the Indian Wars of 1835-1850 was listed. The Attorney-General was required an additional appropriation of about \$40,000.

They are rapidly passing away, and it anything is to be done for them, it ought to be done now, else it will be too late. Their chairm ought to be paid and the because of Odell's familiarity with the facts. The Attorney-General was requested by me progress to relation of the control of the cause of odell's familiarity with the facts. The Attorney-General was requested by me appropriation of about \$40,000.

They are rapidly passing away, and it anything is to be done for them, it ought to be done now, else it will be too late. Their chairm ought to be paid and the because of Odell's familiarity with the facts. The Attorney-General was requested by me presented to pay the present at they urge Cangres to relation of the capital part of the capita

Employment Agencies.
Stringent laws should be enacted for protecting those seeking employment against dishonest and tresponsible employment against against against against against against a five machine of such a law will afford protestion to the many strans, era coming to the state in quest of remunerative employment.

Salaries for State Officers.

'Juvenile Courts.

In at least ill states laws have been enacted having for their object the care, control and protection of dependent, neglected and delinquest children. This class of legislation was for a time only made applicable to the large cities and towns, but it is now being made general in its application. It usually provides for detaining children awaiting examination apart from criminals, for the establishment of superarte courts specially provided and known as juvenile courts, and for a system of paralle on probation under the supervision of discreet and duly accredited persons. In some cases, parents or guardians are held responsible for acts contributory to the delinquency of the child. After all efforts have falled, the incorribige are committed to reformatories and genientiaries. Colonado has gone further than any other state in carrying out the principle of the probation system, and a general law covering the subject was chained at the last season of the Legislature of that state. I suggest it as a model from which to frame a law suitable to conditions that exist here.

Indeterminate Sentence.

The constitution of the state and of the Duited States guarantees to the accused in all criminal prosecutions and to Higmans in civil cases the right of trial by Jury. There are many miscarriagus of justice and much expense is entailed upon the people as well as upon litigants by a law which requires that all the jurces shall agree upon a verdict. I am a firm believer in the jury system, and hold it to be the strongest safe-guard of the rights and Hiertles of the people, but there is neither reason nor justice in permitting a minority, or even one of 12 jurors, to prevent a verdict either in

Governor Chamberlain concurs with

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