

SENATE PASSES BANKING BILL

Heated Debate Precedes Final Vote on State Regulation Measure.

HAINES LEADS THE FIGHT

Warns Opponents That They Must Approve Legislation or Suffer at Hands of the People—Vote Is Nearly Unanimous.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 18.—(Special).—The Haines bill for a banking law was passed by the Senate today with only three dissenting votes. Upon one pretext and another the banking interests were able to delay legislation until the last day for passing bills in the chamber where the Haines bill originated, and it was believed the bill could not then get through both houses. It remains to be seen whether it can. The measure is a very lenient one, allowing banks to reduce their reserves to 15 per cent of their deposits and 10 per cent of their demand time deposits, only one-third necessarily to be cash in hand. It permits loans of 25 per cent of the amount of capital and reserves to one individual, but second loans are not governed by this limitation. The bill does not require banks to conform to its requirements until 18 months after it becomes a law. The bill has been persistently fought before the committee and was strongly opposed on the floor of the Senate today. Even its supporters claim that it is anywhere near perfect, but believe it will form a basis for future legislation. The bill provides for appointment of a banking board by the State Board on a salary of \$2000 a year.

When the Haines bill came up on report of the committee, Senator Coker, chairman of the committee, asked unanimous consent to make a number of amendments, the most important of which was the insertion of a clause permitting a bank to receive an unlimited amount, provided the loan is secured by real estate or personal property and does not exceed 75 per cent of the value of the security. One of the amendments also provided that the banks shall not be required to comply with the provisions of the banking law for 18 months after the law becomes effective, or about 21 months from the present time. Haines Takes the Floor.

Senator Mullt objected to one of the amendments, and Haines, who had called Senator Ringham to the chair, moved that the bill be referred back for amendment. Malarkey opposed this and moved an indefinite postponement. This precipitated a vigorous debate, which occupied most of the afternoon. Malarkey said that this bill had been before the Senate since January 23, and the banking committee had just reported it because of the attitude of the chairman proposed further amendments. Under such circumstances the Senate could not act intelligently. He said he had asked him to support this bill, but a large number of members, among them the heaviest bankers of Portland, had asked him to oppose it. Senator Haines objected to postponement, arguing that the people have been demanding banking legislation for several years; that there are now 150 banks in Oregon absolutely without regulation by the state. Any man can rent a building, hang out a sign and begin taking in deposits. This bill had been carefully prepared by a committee after notice to all bankers, and after the bill had been drawn it was submitted to them and met no criticism. It was only after the Legislature met that objections were made. Bankers who opposed it said they could not support it because of certain provisions. When it had been amended as desired by them they still fought it. Their purpose evidently was to defeat any banking legislation, said Senator Haines, and in ringing tones he warned all such that if they prevent legislation now, they will get a law by initiative that they do not want, but which they will deserve. Coker Answers Malarkey.

Senator Coker responded to Malarkey's remarks by saying the reason for delay in reporting the bill was that the people whom Malarkey represents kept objecting to provisions of the bill, and an effort was made to change the bill to suit them. This bill is more lenient than the National banking law, yet they are dissatisfied with it.

TAX REBATE IS ABOLISHED

Discount for Prompt Payment Not Approved by House.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 18.—(Special).—The House tonight passed a bill repealing the 3 per cent rebate for early payment of taxes, prior to March 15, each year. Vawter said that he did not see what the country had to gain by repealing the rebate provision. He said under the rebate system the bulk of the taxes was encouraged to be paid before March 15, and the average county, which pays 3 per cent on its outstanding taxes, could apply the money in cancellation of such warrants. Otherwise, it would have to wait another six months, or until October, when the warrants and the taxes become due. He thought it was about a stand-off. Newell said that from 85 to 90 per cent of the taxes are paid under the present system, although many of the counties do not need one-half of their tax until fall. He insisted that the rebate plan was undeniably in the interest of the rich man, while

STATE WILL REDEEM PLEDGE

Bill to Reimburse Indian War Veterans Passes.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 18.—(Special).—Unanimous was the vote in the House this morning on Speaker Davey's bill appropriating \$50,000 to reimburse the Indian War veterans for horses used by the state during the Indian wars of 1855-56. In speaking for the measure, Mr. Davey said the claim was pledged by the Legislature one-half of a century ago, and common justice dictated that the pledge be redeemed now. Joseph of Lincoln and Polk and McClellan also spoke for the bill, holding that the services of these faithful veterans in preserving this state at that early day were deserving of proper compensation. Senate Joint Memorial 7, by Smith of Umatilla, urges a National appropriation for pensions for survivors of the wars of Springville, with Bamcock Indians, in Umatilla County in 1878. The memorial was referred to the Senate committee on resolutions. Senate Joint Memorial 4, by Miller of Linn, asking Congress to increase the pensions of Indian war veterans, was adopted today by the Senate.

NONPARTISANSHIP IS SHAM

Governor's Friends Make Political Capital Out of Accident.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 18.—(Special).—Democrats are parading the "non-partisan" administration of Governor Burns, and rather than the appointment of Republicans to the offices of Judge and District Attorney in the new Eleventh district. The appointees are E. Y. Littlefield, of Marion, Judge and J. A. Collier, of Fossil, District Attorney. The new district is composed of Gilliam, Sherman and Wheeler counties who are now serving, who are the only officials affected by the measure. The bill further explained that no additional cost would be entailed to the state, while he believed a much more satisfactory administration of the prosecuting Attorney's office would result, especially in the smaller counties that are generally far removed from the county in which the District Attorney resides. Freeman maintained that the salaries provided for the County Attorneys in the majority of the smaller counties of the state are inadequate to secure competent and reliable men to fill the office of County Prosecutor and properly administer the office. He proposed a system of salaried County Attorneys, with the smaller counties of the state, since they are joined together to the extent that a sufficient number can be paid and men well versed in the law induced to serve in the capacity of District Attorney. Jones of Polk and Lincoln favored the bill as being particularly in the interest of the smaller counties of Oregon and the coast counties, but with the exception of himself and the author of the bill there were none to advocate the measure.

ATTORNEY BILL IS KILLED

HOUSE MEMBERS MAKE DEFEAT DECISIVE.

Campbell Pleads for His Measure in Vain—Will Try for Reconsideration.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 18.—(Special).—Campbell's County Attorney bill was defeated in the House this morning by the decisive vote of 18 yeas to 36 nays. Before the vote was announced the author of the bill changed his vote from aye to no so as to be in a position to move a reconsideration of the vote later in the day. In advocating the bill Campbell said its provisions did not take effect until 1910, when the terms of the District Attorneys who are now serving, who are the only officials affected by the measure, will expire. He further explained that no additional cost would be entailed to the state, while he believed a much more satisfactory administration of the prosecuting Attorney's office would result, especially in the smaller counties that are generally far removed from the county in which the District Attorney resides. Freeman maintained that the salaries provided for the County Attorneys in the majority of the smaller counties of the state are inadequate to secure competent and reliable men to fill the office of County Prosecutor and properly administer the office. He proposed a system of salaried County Attorneys, with the smaller counties of the state, since they are joined together to the extent that a sufficient number can be paid and men well versed in the law induced to serve in the capacity of District Attorney. Jones of Polk and Lincoln favored the bill as being particularly in the interest of the smaller counties of Oregon and the coast counties, but with the exception of himself and the author of the bill there were none to advocate the measure.

NO TAX ON WATER POWERS

Bill to Levy Tribute on Unappropriated Rights Killed.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 18.—(Special).—Taxation of unappropriated water powers, proposed in a bill by Representative Newell, was turned down by the House this afternoon. The measure proposed a tax of 50 cents per horsepower for every horsepower power estimated to be appropriated by any person or corporation from any stream in the state, after the passage of the bill, the tax to be paid to the state. The bill was amended so that the tax on such water appropriations was limited to a term of 50 years. Newell explained that the bill had two purposes—placing a limit on these franchises and providing for some revenue to the state. Settler considered that the matter of imposing such a tax had been too long deferred. He said that the bill was a most meritorious one and if such a tax had been imposed on this power years ago, the state would have realized large returns therefrom. Coffey contended that all of the best water powers in the state had already been appropriated and those enjoying these rights were not paying anything for them. He wanted to know why the individual or corporation should be subjected to a tax on water power when the water power itself was not being developed. The measure was defeated by a vote of 18 yeas to 36 nays.

Good News for Dry Counties.

Pardon Board Is Killed.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 18.—(Special).—Senator Beach's bill to authorize the Governor to appoint a State Board of Pardons and Pardoners, to be composed of a board with authority to consider and make recommendations upon petitions for pardon, commutation or parole. The board was to receive reports from paroled prisoners and have authority to order them returned on violation of the terms of parole. It provided for the payment of \$25 to each discharged convict. There were only 13 affirmative votes, 18 being negative.

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HOUSE PASSES BURNS BILL VOTE FOR STATE PURE-FOOD LAW IS UNANIMOUS.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 18.—(Special).—Without a single dissenting voice, Representative Burns' pure food bill passed the House this morning. The bill requires that all packages and containers containing groceries and food stuffs shall be properly labeled as to their contents, both in respect to adulteration and true net weight. The debate attending the consideration of the bill was brief. "Sixteen ounces to the pound," said Burns in discussing the merits of the bill, "is just as sacred as 100 cents to the dollar. The opposition to this bill does not come from the manufacturers, but rather from the importers and distributors. There are probably not more than ten men in Multnomah County who do not approve of this bill, and they have forgotten it since our commandment, 'Thou shalt not steal.' " "The commandment is all right," suggested Speaker Davey, "but I think the gentleman is a little mixed as to its meaning." Rodgers inquired if the provisions of the bill did not discriminate as between goods manufactured in this state and those that were imported. "No," said Burns, "the bill is a square deal for all the people and the vote was then taken. To free food dealers from prosecution under the pure food law of 1905, for selling adulterated goods, when they are not responsible for the adulteration, a bill of Representative Burns passed this afternoon, permitting dealers to exhibit a certificate of analysis from the wholesaler or manufacturer, that the food is not adulterated. The bill reads in part: "No dealer shall be prosecuted for a violation of the provisions of this act when he can establish a guaranty signed by a wholesaler, jobber or manufacturer or other party from whom he purchased such articles, to the effect that the same is not adulterated within the meaning of this act designating it. Said guaranty to afford such protection, shall contain the name and address of the party or parties making the sale of such articles to such dealer, and in such case said party or parties making the sale of such articles shall be amenable to the prosecution, fines or other penalties which would attach in due course to the dealer under the provisions of this act. A guaranty may be filed with the Secretary of State by the manufacturer or dealer, and be given a serial number, which number shall appear on each and every package of goods sold under such guaranty, with the signature of the manufacturer or dealer. The Act of 1905, which guaranty shall be accepted in place of individual guaranty. Justice courts shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the Circuit Court of all cases arising under this act.

Routine of the House.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 18.—(Special).—Morning session opened this morning at 9:20 o'clock with the prayer and the members promptly tackled the great volume of business awaiting consideration. The courtesy of the House was extended to E. W. Rowe, of Portland, and Charles W. Hardy, of Eugene. Resolutions were offered as follows: H. R. 45, Chapin—Indorsing proposed modification of reciprocal demurrage law in relation to interstate commerce. H. J. R. 23, McCue—Ordering State Printer to print 2000 copies of the general laws of the state for free distribution. H. J. R. 21, Jones of Polk—For new style of type in state printing; adopted. H. J. R. 3, Jackson—Asking Congress to remove settlers on public lands in Clatsop, Clatskanie, Tillamook and other counties. H. R. 38, Beveridge—Committee to fix and report time of officers, stenographers and clerks; adopted. Speaker named Beveridge, Campbell and Carter. H. J. R. 11, Gray—Authorizing Superintendent of Public Instruction to compile school laws; rejected. H. J. R. 14, Jewell—Amending constitution as to apportionment of legislative districts, 38 Senators, 72 Representatives; rejected. H. J. R. 18, Gray—Secretary of State to print 5000 copies of game laws; rejected.

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