LEGISLATURE RECEIVES GOVERNOR WEST'S MESSAGE INSIST ON

Executive Declares State Finances Are in Good Condition - Amendment to Initiative and Referendum Recommended - Prison Conditions Held to Be Improved.

TATE CAPITOL, Salem, Jan. 13.-(Special.)-Governor West's message to the Legislature, submitted lay reports the finances of the State of Oregon to be in excellent condition. vernor West takes up questions con cerning all of the state denartments nd institutions and makes recommendations for legislation in moral lines. The text of his message follows:

To the Honorable, the Numbers of the signature of the State of Oregom-Gen-lemen. In accordance with the usual custom, and the command of the constitution, tagain becomes my pleasant duty to present for your information a brief statement of the condition of our public affairs and offer for your kindly consideration a eye suggestions which, it appears to me, could make for the greater development the state and the increased prosperity her people.

Special Reports.

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Important questions will be presented or your consideration at this session, among hem: A compensation act, a revision of our judicul system, an insurance code and he Jefferson-street levee and the Columbia outhern Irrigation matters. These have seen brought to your attention and quite uily discussed through special reports which have been mailed you from time to time. There is, therefore, no need of my taking our time, or trying your patience, with detailed discussion of these several questions. Siffice it to say that the reports have been prepared by men who have given he subjects most painstaking investigation at study and whose recommendations merit our carnest consideration.

The State's Finances. The State's Finances.

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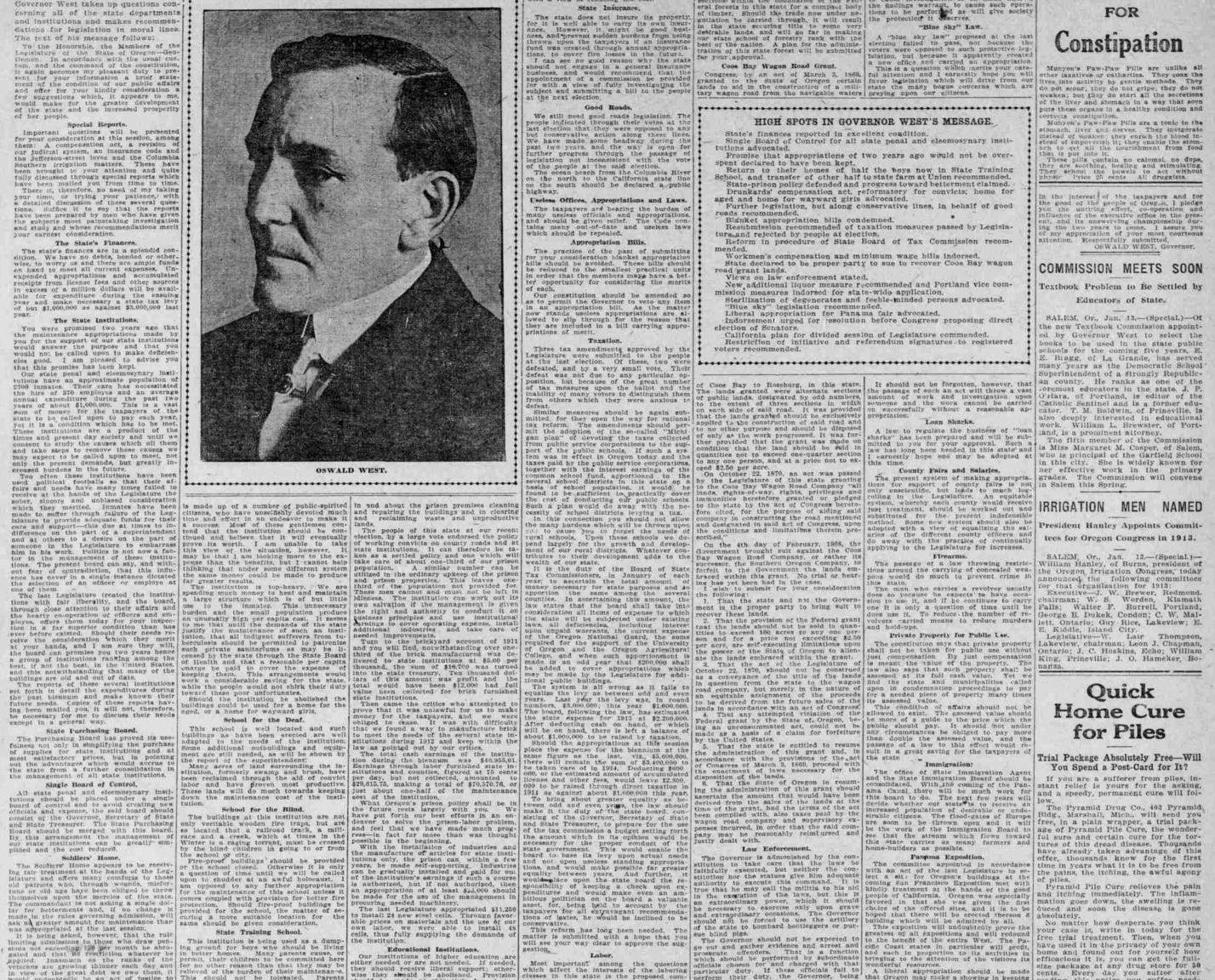
The state's finances are in a splendid condition. We have no debts, bonded or otherwise, to worry us and there are ample funds on hand to meet all current expenses. Unexpended appropriations and accumulated receipts from license fees and other sources in excess of a million dollars will be available for expenditure during the ensuing year and make necessary a state tax levy of but \$1,000,000 as against \$3,000,000 last year.

committee better food, more comfort or more kindly treatment.

The new hospital at Pendleton, when finding the hospital property of the later than the hospital and will stand as a model as far as construction, and arrangement are concerned, to a serious past himselfs and freat financial waste, the board in dratting its plans took into consideration the demands which the future would make upon it and laid the foundation for a much larger institution that at present constructed. The administration building, the heating plant and humble trained and future additions, therefore, may be confined largely to the erection of additional wards for the accommodation of an increased, population.

and arrangement are uncomment. ... and arrangement are uncomment. ... and arrangements and great financial waste, the board in drafting its plans took into consideration the demands which the future would make upon it and laid the foundation for a mane harger institution that at present constructed. The adminishment of the constructed of the poor, and the poor of sufficient constructed. The adminishment of the arrangement of the poor of sufficient capacity to supply the needs of an institution of far greater size, and future additions, therefore, may be confined largely to the erection of additional distribution for provided in the support of the proposal of the proposal of the proposal of the support of the support of the proposal of the support of the proposal of the support of the support of the proposal of the support o

OREGON'S GOVERNOR, WHOSE MESSAGE WAS SENT TO LEGISLATURE YESTERDAY.



is this arrangement the management of our state institutions can be greatly simplified and the cost reduced.

The Soldiers' Home.

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The Soldiers' Home appears to be receiving fair treatment at the hands of the Legislature and offers many confers to these old patriots who, through wounds, minfortune or old aga hays been obliged to throw themselves upon the mercies of the state. The commandant is a sealed a change is made in the ranks of the state that the last sealed a change is made in the ranks of the state that the last sealed a change is made in the ranks of the state of

of transporting the insane is now only about one-half what it was when the work was being performed by the Sheriffs. The transportation of prisoners should be placed with the prigon authorities; or legislation of some half should at least be adopted with a view of reducing the cost.

State Insurance.

The state does not insure its property for it is well able to carry its own insurance, it might be good business, and prevent sudden burdens from being thrown upon the taxpayers it an insurance from west of the nation. A plan for the administrations to cover five losses in the future.

I can see no good twason why the state should not engage in a general insurance business, and would recommend that the appointment of a commission he provided for with a view of fully investigating the sudject and submitting a bill to the people at the next election.

Good Roads.

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We still need good roads legislation. The people indicated through their votes at the last election that they were opposed to any but conservative action along these lines. We have made some headway during the past two years, and the way is open for further progress through the passage of legislation not inconsistent with the vote of the people at the said election.

The ocean beach from the Columbia River on the north to the California state line on the south should be declared a public highway.

Useless Offices, Appropriations and Laws.

Useless Offices, Appropriations and Laws. The taxpayers are bearing the burden of many useless officials and appropriations, and should be given relief. The Code contains many out-of-date and useless laws which should be repealed.

Appropriation Bills.

The practice of the past of submitting for your consideration blanket appropriation bills should be avoided. These bills should be reduced to the smallest practical units in order that the members mays have a better opportunity for considering the merits of each.

of each.

Our constitution should be amended so our constitution should be amended so as to permit the Governor to veto any item in an appropriation bill. As the matter now stands useless appropriations are allowed to slip through for the reason that they are included in a bill carrying appropriations of merit.

Comment of the control of the contro

HIGH SPOTS IN GOVERNOR WEST'S MESSAGE.

State's finances reported in excellent condition.

Single Board of Control for all state penal and eleemosynary institutions advocated.

Promise that appropriations of two years ago would not be overspent declared to have been kept.

Return to their homes of half the boys now in State Training School, and transfer of other half to state farm at Union recommended. State-prison policy defended and progress toward betterment claimed. Drunkards' compensation act, reformatory for convicts; home for aged and home for wayward girls advocated.

Further legislation, but along conservative lines, in behalf of good roads recommended.

roads recommended.

Blanket appropriation bills condemned.
Resubmission recommended of taxation measures passed by Legislature, and rejected by people at election.

Reform in procedure of State Board of Tax Commission recommended.

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Workmen's compensation and minimum wage bills indorsed.

State declared to be proper party to sue to recover Coos Bay wagon road grant lands.

Views on law enforcement stated.

New additional liquor measure recommended and Portland vice commission measures indorsed for state-wide application.

Sterlization of degenerates and feeble-minded persons advocated. "Blue sky" legislation recommended.

Liberal appropriation for Panama fair advocated. Indorsement urged for resolution before Congress proposing direct election of Senators.

California plan for divided session of Legislature commended.

Restriction of initiative and referendum signatures to registered voters recommended.

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puts these organs in a measure corrects constitution.

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in the interest of the taxpayers and for the good of the people of Oreg.a. I pledge you the untiring effort, co-operation and influence of the executive office in the pres-cut, and its unswerving championship dur-ing the two years to come. I assure you of my appreciation of your most courteous Respectfully submitted, OSWALD WEST, Governor,

COMMISSION MEETS SOON

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