

MCCOLLOCH'S BILL IS LIKELY LOST

Strength of Governor West to Be Tested When Proposed Measure Comes Up.

VOTE POSSIBLE THIS WEEK

Provisions Carried Would Make It Possible for Chief Executive to Usurp Officers' Functions, It Is Argued.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 26.—(Special.)—The probable defeat of the McCulloch bill providing for appointment of special officers by the Governor is seen in the fact that it contains a provision which would practically throw the entire state government into the hands of the Executive, as far as police regulation is concerned.

This is the measure which will afford the test of the Governor's strength in the Senate this week.

After providing for the appointment of special district attorneys, sheriffs or constables for 90 days "any one time," the act provides that during this period the special officer "insofar as it may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of the appointment shall have the same powers and authority as the regular officer, and for said purposes, the regularly elected officer."

Continuous Appointments Easy.

This provision of the bill, it is pointed out, practically "throws down the bars," giving to the Governor the power to usurp the functions of present officials in any county in the state and for as long a period as he desires. While it is stated in the act, he can appoint for only a period of 90 days "at any one time," there is nothing to prevent him from continuing reappointing for such 90-day periods as he desires. During such time the regular officer shall be supplanted by the special officer "insofar as it may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of the appointment." But there is no limitation on the purposes of the appointment and it is asserted that under cleverly veiled language the Governor could appoint a special officer to oust from power, if not from their salaries, district attorneys, sheriffs or constables as he sees fit.

Full Power Given Governor.

The bill in question is based on the constitutional provision found in section 10, article 4, which declares that the Governor shall take care that the laws are faithfully executed.

Under the bill the Governor is authorized and directed whenever it comes to his notice that the criminal laws of the state are not being faithfully executed, to appoint, for a period not longer than 90 days at any one time, a special officer, who shall have the same powers and authority as the regular officer, and for said purposes, the regularly elected officer shall qualify in the same manner as provided by law for regularly elected officers, and shall, for all the purposes of the office, or for the special purposes designated in the appointment, take charge of the office for a period not longer than 90 days at any one time with all the power and authority of the regularly elected officers. The bill provides that he shall carry out the directions of the Governor pursuant to the law, and to the same extent as the daily elected officer could by law.

Regular Officer Supplanted.

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PENSIONS OF \$30 REQUESTED

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The bill, recites the memorial as introduced in the House, calls for pensions of \$30 a month, but was amended to provide for \$12 a month by the Senate committee.

The memorial prepared by Senator Miller follows:

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jury mark, and some are in needy circumstances, we therefore believe that a more liberal pension than \$12 per month should be granted to these white-haired veterans. It would be but a just recognition of the services they rendered their fellow men in protecting their lives and their property. We, therefore, the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, most respectfully ask that the rate of \$30 per month be agreed upon by the conference committee and the same be granted by your honorable bodies in Congress assembled, for which we will ever pray.

LIVELY SESSION IS PROSPECT

Eight-Hour Bill Will Be Argued in Committee.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 26.—(Special.)—Several important public committee meetings are promised for this week. Included among these is a meeting for Monday night in the Supreme Court room, when the Dimick eight-hour bill will be thrashed out by the contending factions. If the measure of two years ago prove to be of any value as a criterion, these will be the warmest and probably best-attended sessions of any committee meetings of the year.

On the following night there will be a public meeting to discuss the minimum wage bill. This bill was introduced in the Senate by President Malarky, and there promises to be an immense delegation here from Portland.

J. N. Teal and other prominent Oregon citizens will appear Tuesday night before the joint ways and means committee to discuss the McCulloch bill, which provides for an appropriation of \$50,000 with which to investigate the water resources of Oregon. This investigation, if brought to a head by the Legislature granting the appropriation, will probably originally be centered mainly on the Central Oregon water resources, but it is the idea to have it cover the state like a blanket eventually.

ANIMUS SEEN IN BILL

U'REN IS BELIEVED BACK OF SCHUEBEL'S MEASURE.

Proposal to Tax Water Powers Would Cut Down Number of Tax Commissioners.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 26.—(Special.)—Something of a spirit of revenge is found in the House bill of Schuebel, providing for the assessment and taxation of all water powers "claimed and appropriated." The bill has received an adverse report from the committee and has been re-referred.

One of the provisions of the bill is that the State Board of Tax Commissioners shall consist only of the Governor, Secretary of State and State Treasurer. The present board includes the two tax commissioners, Charles V. Galloway and J. B. Eaton, in addition to the members of the State Board who act ex-officio.

The same provision was contained in the graduated single tax measure which received such an overwhelming defeat at the hands of the people in 1912. Schuebel is U'ren's law partner, and U'ren has never felt kindly toward Galloway or Eaton since they began to oppose his single tax plan.

While not drafted in the same manner as the water power portion of the 1912 measure, the bill of Schuebel has much the same intent, minus the graduated tax feature.

One of its principal provisions is the requirement to assess and tax all water powers "claimed or appropriated." This goes so far as to cover all filings on water for power purposes, it is stated.

Under the bill the Governor is authorized and directed whenever it comes to his notice that the criminal laws of the state are not being faithfully executed, to appoint, for a period not longer than 90 days at any one time, a special officer, who shall have the same powers and authority as the regular officer, and for said purposes, the regularly elected officer shall qualify in the same manner as provided by law for regularly elected officers, and shall, for all the purposes of the office, or for the special purposes designated in the appointment, take charge of the office for a period not longer than 90 days at any one time with all the power and authority of the regularly elected officers. The bill provides that he shall carry out the directions of the Governor pursuant to the law, and to the same extent as the daily elected officer could by law.

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