

STEAM ROLLER IS USED AT OLYMPIA

Effort by Democrats to Have Mr. Reeves on Contest Committee of No Avail.

WET AND DRY FIGHT IS ON

Proposed Utilities Bill Raises Storm of Protest and Hearing of Opponents Set—Tax for Roads Under Discussion.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—House Democrats today attempting to have their leader, Frank Reeves named on the Senate-Hogan re-count committee, bumped into the Republican organization and were completely flattened by the House steam-roller.

The contest instituted by Hogan, Republican, against Swale, Progressive, who was returned winner by two votes by the Snohomish County canvass, has developed into a fight of the House "dries" to retain Swale, who is aligned with the Prohibition element, while the wets are bending their efforts to have Hogan seated.

The Democratic caucus with two districts has decided upon a "dry" fight throughout the session and the caucus today decided to ask Speaker Conner to appoint Reeves a Democratic member of the committee that will have charge of the re-count. Farnsworth, of Lincoln, was detailed to make the request but failed to obtain the attention of the chair until after the Speaker had announced his committee, which included as Democratic Representatives, Williams, of Kittitas, and Zedler, of "wet" Democrats, and T. J. Kelly, of Pend d'Oreille.

Keves Kept Off Committees.

Farnsworth at this point asked the Speaker to add the name of Reeves, a Republican House leader, to the committee which could not be increased above the seven members named by Conner, since the report of the elections committee for a special committee had been adopted. Farnsworth moved a re-consideration but there were insufficient members joining with him to insure a roll call and a chorus of yays in the House shouted down the re-consideration proposal.

Later Swale announced he had retained Reeves who thus lost a place on the committee as his counsel in the re-count proceedings.

The members of the re-count committee appointed by Conner were: Winston, Guy Kelly, and Zedler, Republicans; T. J. Kelly and Adams, Democrats; Murphree, Progressive. Five of the seven are "wet" on the basis of last week's test vote on the Reeves resolution to consider no liquor legislation at this session. The liquor question was considered from another angle today when the Judiciary committee of Senate and House met and completed arrangements for a public hearing to be held Thursday night at which the testimony of the registered voters to 5 per cent, and the number of signatures on measures referred to the people from 5 per cent to 2 per cent.

DUCK-BAITING HERE FOUGHT

Senator Dimick Files Bill to End Alleged Portland Hunting Trust.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—Declaring that the sportsmen of Portland virtually have a monopoly of duck-shooting, Senator Dimick, of Clackamas County, today introduced a bill to prevent the baiting of ducks and other wild fowls in lakes and ponds.

The bill and others to prevent the use of certain kinds of guns in hunting ducks will cause one of the big fights of the session is assured. Efforts have been made at numerous sessions to put an end to the duck-baiting, but never has any sentiment among the country members been so strong in favor of the proposal as at this session.

FUND INQUIRY APPROVED

Senate Adopts Resolution to Investigate Officials' Expenses.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—The Senate today adopted a resolution to investigate the expenses of the officials of the State, which has as its object the investigation of money expended by heads and other persons employed in various departments in traveling, obtaining opinions from special counsel and experts on various subjects.

STONECUTTERS FILE PROTEST

Bureau of Mines and Geology Declared Useless.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—The Journeymen Stonecutters' Association of Portland, in a letter signed by its president, Fred Hacking, and other officers, received by the Senate today, protests against the bill introduced by Senator Dimick to abolish the Bureau of Mines and Geology. It is declared that "through the official activities of this bureau the postoffice at Medford and possibly at The Dalles and others are to be built of native stone, while heretofore some Eastern states have furnished stone for these Government buildings, and means the accession for these two buildings alone some \$35,000 to our payroll."

Sack Standard Is Sought.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—Standardizing of the weight of sacks and barrels is the object of two bills introduced by Senator Dimick, of Clackamas County, today. The weight fixed for shorts is 50 pounds to the sack and for bran 60 pounds to the sack. Senator Dimick said farmers had complained to him that they were receiving short weight and several placed their loss at three sacks to the ton.

Tab on Workmen Fails.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—Resolution 23, introduced by Senator Smith, representing Coos and Curry counties, was indefinitely postponed today. It provided that heads of departments and institutions furnish reports of the number of employees under them and the salaries paid. Senator Smith said a statement had been prepared that clerks were not kept employed during working hours, and the object of his resolution was to make an investigation of the report.

Attorneys Conspire, Charge

Senator Bethel, of Washington, Has Trouble Getting Bill Drwn.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—Senator Bethel, Lincoln County agriculturist, sees a conspiracy of attorneys to prevent him from procuring enactment of his pet bill to have copies of all session laws furnished every school district in Washington, to be kept at schoolhouses for reference of citizens.

Corporation Bill Accepted

Fight Expected on Act Providing for Minority Representation.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—One of the most exciting fights of the session is expected tomorrow when the bill of Senator Langbein providing for minority representation in the directorates of corporations comes before the Senate for final action. By a unanimous vote the Judiciary committee today tonight to report the measure favorably. Its phraseology was changed to make it apply to corporations in existence as well as those to be organized.

KEEP THE RAILS IS DRAWN IN IDAHO

House Bills Would Abolish Tax and Public Utilities Commissions of State.

NEW DRY AMENDMENT UP

Minority Leader Favors Absolute Prohibition in 1916—Governor Authorized to Investigate Proposed Railroad Plan.

BOISE, Idaho, Jan. 15.—(Special.)—Antaionism to present state commissions and boards broke out in the Legislature here today. The first step to give state support to the building of a north and south railroad was taken in the House when the McGowan resolution authorizing the Governor to appoint an investigating commission was adopted. The Teton County division bill passed, as did also the infected fruit measure.

Representative Hunsinger attacked the Public Utilities Commission, introducing a bill to abolish it, and was quickly followed by Representative Anderson, of Canyon, with a bill to abolish the State Tax Commission. Representative King, of Lewis, fathered a bill to abolish the office of State Educational Commissioner. In the Senate, Rockwell of Blaine introduced a constitutional amendment to abolish the State Board of Equalization and to create in its place a constitutional tax commission.

Minority Leader Anderson introduced a stringent constitutional prohibition amendment which would absolutely prohibit the sale or manufacture of liquor in Idaho, carrying a clause to make it effective in 1916. The first bridge appropriation bill of the session was introduced by Representative King, of Lewis, in the House. He asks for \$250 to purchase the toll bridge over the Clearwater River between Lewiston and Idaho counties.

NEW INITIATIVE BILL APPEARS

Mr. Weeks Would Out Out Petition Peddling; Reduce Requirements.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—Important changes in the present law governing the use of initiative and referendum are proposed in a suggested constitutional amendment introduced in the House today by Representative Weeks, of Marion County.

The measure would cut out petition peddling altogether in similar manner to the plan proposed in a bill introduced last week by Representative Olson, of Multnomah County.

The Weeks resolution would reduce the number of signatures required on initiative petitions from 5 per cent of the registered voters to 5 per cent, and the number of signatures on measures referred to the people from 5 per cent to 2 per cent.

SALT CONTRACT DUBIOUS

Legislature May Refuse to Confirm Lease by Land Board.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—It is apparent that there will be considerable opposition in the Senate to approving the lease made by the State Land Board with Jason C. Moore, of New York, for the development of the salt deposits of Summer and Abert Lakes in Lake County. The lakes are said to contain deposits worth millions of dollars, and the syndicate Mr. Moore represents plans erecting a plant at the junction of the Deschutes and Clackamas rivers to which point the deposits would be piped.

Under the lease approved by the Board and the contract made with Mr. Moore he is to operate the state, beginning next year, royalties of not less than \$25,000 annually, and more on a royalty basis according to the product of the lease for 10 years. Mr. Moore at one time bid almost \$2,000,000 for the property and other persons bid more than that, but the bid of the latter was not accompanied by a check, as stipulated by the board, and all bids were rejected.

It was then decided to lease the property on the royalty basis and the contract was approved by the board. Mr. Moore's bid was the only one accompanied by a check for \$10,000, as stipulated in the advertisement, and he was awarded the lease, subject to approval by the Legislature.

PRINTING CHANGE SUGGESTED

Bills Favor Payment of Own Bills by Each Department.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—The printing committee of the state government will be required to pay for its printing out of its own appropriation if bills to be introduced in the House tomorrow morning by Frank Dacey, chairman of the printing committee, are adopted.

Fewer Bills Reach Senate

Effort Made to Cut Pay of Lane County Commissioners.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—The following bills were introduced in the Senate today: S. B. 50, by Bishop—Reducing compensation of County Commissioners Lane County from \$5 to \$3 a day. S. B. 51, by Bishop—Standardize the weight of sacks of shorts. S. B. 52, by Dimick—To standardize the weight of sacks of shorts. S. B. 53, by Dimick—To make it unlawful to bait ducks or other wild birds with wheat or other articles of food for purpose of shooting same. S. B. 54, by Van der Helten—To increase salary of Jackson County Treasurer from \$1200 to \$1800 and provide an additional deputy at a salary of \$1200 a year.

Pamphlet-Mailing Bill Passes.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—The Weeks bill designed to eliminate some of the costs in mailing election pamphlets to voters was passed by the House today. It provides that voters, upon registering, shall receive the number of voters in the family. Unless otherwise desired only one pamphlet will be sent to a family.

Burglary Charge Stands

Man Held for Theft of Apparel Given Woman Bound Over.

LA GRANDE, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—Reported distinct vibrations of the earth caused considerable alarm in the Summerville district in the northwest part of Union County late last night. E. J. Conrad vouches for the fact that the barn on his ranch was shaken perceptibly at that time, horses in his pasture exhibited symptoms of fright over the disturbance. Many persons in the Woodell settlement felt the shock and vouch for its authenticity. No damage was done.

Union Shaken, Is Report

Summerville District Feels Light Tremblings, Vonches Rancher.

After preliminary examination before the Municipal Court yesterday Shirley Shields was held to answer to the Circuit Court by Judge Stevenson on a charge of burglary in which a handsome opera cloak and evening gown were taken from the New York Outfitting Company on January 11.

Miss Carrie Barnes, who will answer to a larceny charge today, testified that less than 24 hours after the alleged robbery Shields had presented her with the cloak and gown as gifts. Shields' bond was fixed at \$1000. Miss Barnes is being held under \$200 bail. She is charged with having clothes charged at local stores to the account of Peter McIntosh, of the Atlas Mining Company, without authorization.

Lipman, Wolfe & Co. Book Stock Sold to Gill's

Big Deal Makes Possible Unusual Savings

YESTERDAY was a busy day at Gill's—all day long an enthusiastic throng of shoppers crowded the book department—the buying was brisk—the praise overwhelming! Never before in Portland's history has such a merchandising event occurred—nor will it occur again. You can now buy books at this sale at half the regular price, and the range is complete, from little books for children to extensive and elaborately bound sets of standard authors.

Visit This Sale Today and Save.

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THE J. K. GILL CO., Third and Alder. Booksellers, Stationers and Complete Office Outfitters.

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LAND AGENTS DO NOT HAVE TO BE MEMBERS OF BAR.

Senate After Long Discussion Decides Work Does Not Call for Expert Knowledge—Bond Also Falls.

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Senator Hollis, at the request of State Treasurer Kay, a member of the State Land Board, introduced a bill providing that local agents shall be lawyers and shall provide a bond of \$100 for faithful performance of their duties and a protection to the state in case of loss of records.

Senator Dimick objected to the bill, declaring that it would not be right for lawyers to "hog" the work. He never heard of the state losing any money through land agents, he said. Kellar declared it was an attempt to legislate a business squarely into the hands of the attorneys and Butler said the proposed legislation was unnecessary, that the state had not lost a cent under the present system.

Garland said he thought the bill a good one for the protection of the people, and that it was idle to say lawyers were not better qualified to do the work than others. Moser said only lawyers were qualified to pass on abstracts. Dimick said there was nothing to prevent the board appointing a non-lawyer to do the work. The bill was unnecessary, Ragdale said the important work was the fixing of values and that men other than lawyers could do this. Vinton opposed the bond feature on the ground that it would entail unnecessary expense.

WOMEN REFUGEES ARRIVE

German Subjects From Tsing-Tau, China, Reach San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 15.—One hundred German women and children, refugees from Tsing-Tau, China, which the Japanese now hold, arrived here today on the liner Korea, Baron von Schack, the German Vice-Consul, met the vessel and arranged for transportation to New York, where the refugees hope to obtain passage to Germany through some neutral country. The German government is defraying their expenses.

Members of the party said there are still between 400 and 500 German women and children in Tsing-Tau. Their husbands and male relatives all have been made prisoners of war by the Japanese.

PRICE OF LIGHTS LOWERED

Baker Company and City Council Agree on Compromise.

BAKER, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—An agreement was reached between the Eastern Oregon Light & Power Company and the City Commissioners today which will establish a net maximum rate for electricity for lighting of 9 cents a kilowatt hour for the first 100 kilowatts and 10 cents for the balance. The City Commissioners, on the other hand, will abandon the proposal to install a municipal lighting plant for homes.

HOOD RIVER RAISES FUND

Commercial Club Seeks Publicity at San Francisco Exposition.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—The Hood River Commercial Club raised half of a \$2000 fund for a publicity campaign at the San Francisco exposition. Plans had been made and expenses incurred in securing the huge apple to be exhibited in the Palace of Horticulture at the exposition. The club was asked for \$2000. The court cut the appropriation to \$1200 and it became necessary for the club not only to raise the amount promised from its budget, but to solicit subscriptions to cover the deficit made by the decreased appropriation.

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Half-Price!

All Fancy Suits All Special Serge Suits All Novelty Coats

Every Reduction Genuinely Made From the Normal Price.

Women's and Misses' Shop—Entire Third Floor

Ben Selling

Morrison at Fourth

VERDICT ORDER DENIED

ALVAH TOWER FAILS TO GET INSTRUCTED ACQUITTAL.

Pictures Introduced to Prove Plea Plaintiff's Death Was Accidental.

Some on Ladders Watch.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—The Superior Court room was again packed today by spectators eager to hear the evidence in the case of the defendant Alvah Tower, a high school student, who is charged with killing his playmate, Matthew Harris, October 10, when out hunting near Sacra. This was the second day of the trial, and it probably will take another day before the case goes to the jury.

When the state rested just before 12 o'clock, H. W. Arnold, attorney for the defendant, asked Judge Beck for an instructed verdict of acquittal. The request was denied.

The state under which the information was brought provides that "any person who shall shoot another while hunting game, birds or other wild animals, shall be guilty of second-degree assault." J. O. Blair, County Attorney, says that these points were proved.

The defense introduced pictures taken December 21 to show the relative positions of the two boys at the time of the killing, and prove that Alvah Tower could not have seen Matthew Harris when he shot him. The pictures showed brush and weeds on the bank of Whipple Creek.

Mr. Arnold said that Alvah delayed reporting the killing to save his mother the shock at a time when his brother was critically ill. He said the boy decided to wait till his brother had recovered.

The Vancouver Woman's Club has taken considerable interest in this case, and members of the organization attended the trial. The courtroom has been filled and some even stand on ladders in the hall and peer over the heads of the crowd. There are more women than men attending the trial.

It is believed now that the case will reach the jury before court adjourns.

William Eblin, of Baker, Dies.

BAKER, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—William Eblin, an early settler of Baker County, died yesterday at Greenhorn, after a short illness with pneumonia. Mr. Eblin was 55 years of age. He came to Baker in 1854. He married Miss Mary Schmitt, of one of the pioneer families, and moved from Baker soon after his wife's death, several years ago. Two daughters, one married, survive him. Both live in Portland. He was born at Wertburg, Germany, and came to America in his youth. The funeral will be held in Baker.

Portland Boy Sent to Reformatory

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—One to 15 years in the reformatory at Monroe was the sentence given Max Hoaglin, a Portland youth, yesterday. Hoaglin pleaded guilty to burglary