

106 BILLS ACTED ON BY HOUSE IN 16 DAYS

Measures Received Total 318 and Representatives Have Passed 58.

48 HOURS LEFT TO FILE

Speaker Selling Keeps Desk Clear and Rush Now Is On to Present Pet Acts—Important Legislation Pends.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 28.—(Special.)—At the close of business tonight—the 18th day of the session—the House has 218 bills on its calendar, of which nearly one-half already have been disposed of in one form or another.

Of this number precisely 58 measures have been passed, four have been defeated after favorable committee reports, about 20 have been indefinitely postponed and eight have been withdrawn.

Another score of bills have been laid on the table and may or may not come up for reconsideration.

While some of the most important legislation is yet to come before the House, the calendar is being kept clear of minor measures and subjects so that there will be ample time for consideration of these questions when they appear.

Speaker Selling is making an effort to keep the desk clear of bills and twice sent the House through its order of business today and rushed all the measures excepting those that were introduced tonight to committee.

Pet Measures Made Ready. An only two days remain for the introduction of bills without suspension of the rules the members are preparing tonight to introduce all the measures within the limited period.

It is probable, too, that most of the big appropriation bills will come out of the ways and means committee within the next day or two. It is apparent, however, that the committee will be unable to get all its measures into shape before the expiration of the 20-day period and that some of the rules will be asked to accommodate them.

The rule adopted by the House this year to eliminate committee appointments means that all bills now work upon the committee, but it is believed that this same rule will expedite business through the House, as the bills will not be crowded and therefore less subject to delay.

The House got rid of one of its most perplexing problems this week when it disposed of the bill providing for continuing appropriations. This was one of the big programme measures and a part of the economy scheme.

While it apparently wipes out more than \$400 worth of appropriations many of these items will have to be placed back in the budget, as they provide for operation of essential departments of the state government. However, it is believed that much money will be saved by requiring the affected departments to present their budgets to the Legislature every year.

Gill Bill Hard Fought. Another important measure disposed of within the present week was the Gill bill eliminating commercial fishing in the Willamette River south of the mouth of the Clackamas. While this is not considered of state-wide importance it was one of much concern to the Legislature and was bitterly contested.

Every committee in the House is holding nightly meetings and is making efforts to keep the calendar clean. At the present rate of progress it is apparent that the House will be well able to take care of the major matters in the final weeks of the session.

Among those subjects will be the prohibition bill, which doubtless will be reported to the House with favorable recommendations tomorrow.

Roads, taxation and irrigation are among some of the other important questions yet to be handled. The irrigation committee today introduced its bill providing for a state-wide tax levy of one-half mill for irrigation purposes in accordance with the recommendations of the Irrigation Congress in Portland. Other measures proposed by the irrigation committee include the power irrigation districts to dispose of their surplus water for hydro-electric purposes and to enable such districts to incorporate to issue bonds on a basis similar to that of existing municipalities.

Two Road Bills Pending. Two big road bills now are before the House. Both have the approval of the roads and highways committee, but it is not intended for either of them to pass. The one general road bill introduced yesterday by Representative Sam Brown provides a state, county and district co-operative plan for road building and suggests a mill state-wide tax levy to provide the state's share of the financial burden.

The second road bill came in this morning from Representative Vawter, chairman of roads committee. It aims to increase the present quarter-mill road levy to 1 mill. It was not expected for both measures to be enacted, but the Legislature will be given a choice. If it passes one, the other doubtless will be withdrawn.

More Game Bills Appear. While the subject of game does not seem to be one of vital moment to the state it is certain to demand a whole lot of attention. Another batch of game bills were dropped into the House hopper today. One by Representative Carvey is of a revolutionary nature. It aims to provide a salary commission of three members, appointed by the Governor, in charge of all the game and fish affairs of the state. One commissioner is to represent the Eastern part and the other the Western part of the state and the third is to be appointed at large.

The bill providing a consolidation of the fish and game funds with the general fund of the state still is before the House and threatens to cause more trouble whenever it makes its appearance at the top of the calendar. It is due within a few days again.

NEWSPAPER BILL INTRODUCED False Publications and Improper Influence Provided For.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 28.—(Special.)—Declaring that newspapers in case of false publications reflecting upon the character of persons or associations should make every effort to make amends for the wrong, Senator Walker today introduced a bill providing that articles submitted by the persons or associations injured shall be given the same prominence in subsequent issues as was given the original one.

Any newspaper or publisher who attempts to influence improperly a public officer for or against any public measure, or seeks to influence improperly a public officer shall be deemed guilty of a felony and subject to a fine of not more than \$1000 or

imprisonment for one year or both, in another provision.

MARRIAGE LAW MAY CHANGE

Recalling of Anderson Bill Now Considered Probable.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 28.—(Special.)—An effort will be made in the House tomorrow to reconsider the Anderson bill to repeal the eugenics marriage laws passed by the last session. John B. Coffey, County Clerk of Multnomah County, was here today asking members to reconsider the Anderson bill, which was defeated by a narrow margin on Tuesday.

Mr. Coffey points out that it has resulted in a substantial loss of revenue to Multnomah County. As the three-day limit has not expired and will not expire until tomorrow the measure can be recalled without suspending the rules. It is believed tonight that the sentiment of the House now favors recalling the bill and passing it.

PICTURE OF WEST ASKED

Representative Gill Wants ex-Governor in State's Gallery.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 28.—(Special.)—Representative John Gill today introduced a resolution in the House providing an appropriation of \$500 to procure a painting of ex-Governor West to be placed on the north wall of the House chamber just west of the main entrance.

The painted portrait of every former Governor of the state from the territorial days down to the present now hang in either the House or the Senate chamber. It has been the custom for the Legislature to provide appropriations for these paintings.

HOUSE DEFENDS PRIMARY

(Continued From First Page.)

should come from the people, holding presumably that the unforeseen flaws of every initiated law should be met primarily by the public until some patriotic philanthropic to employ the same petition hawkers whose activities the bill sought to curtail, to initiate the amendments.

It is surprising to me the number of otherwise level-headed men who still cling to the idea that all initiated laws "come from the people." My observation has taught me that they come primarily from one man, or perhaps a group of three or four, who secure for the bills the indorsement of the small minority of 8 per cent of the voters.

Burden May Be Reversed. "The people adopt laws which they heartily approve in principle and often do so although objecting to some minor defects. I may be mistaken, but I take it that they will resent the overloading of the ballot which must result if every amendment honestly improving their adopted measures must never be undertaken by the Legislature.

Mr. Olson has in mind some changes which he believes will meet every objection offered today to this really meritorious and progressive measure. He probably will suggest that the candidate be given the alternative of obtaining place on the primary ballot either by petition or by paying a fee, but that in the event the petition method be adopted he be prohibited from remunerating in any way the name solicitors. This, it is believed, would eliminate the constitutional question, although, as pointed out by Mr. Olson in defending the bill, the decision of the Illinois court is not conclusive and several other states have a similar law in operation.

Two Pledges Suggested. Another amendment that may be reported back will provide for alternative pledges somewhat like statements No. 1 and No. 2 in the original Oregon method of electing United States Senators. That is, each candidate would have choice of subscribing to two pledges. One would bind him to support the nominee of his party and the other would declare his intention not to pledge himself in any way or the other.

Two bills pending in the Senate are attracting more than ordinary attention. The court revision bill by Senator Thompson, previously discussed, which changes the office of county judge into a county commissionership, creates several new circuit courts and provides for a circuit court of appeals composed of circuit judges serving without additional compensation, is bringing letters and suggestions from lawyers all over the state. Incidentally the court judges are up in arms over what would be a material reduction in their salaries.

Forestry Bill Fought. Senator Bingham's bill to put the State Forests out of business also is being subjected to criticisms from persons interested in timber. Senator Bingham asserts, however, that he is seeking only to change the methods of forest protection and expects to support a bill designed to put forest protection under a system more economical to the state.

Senator Garland is one of the witty members. A resolution providing that the Portland Library be furnished a set of Supreme Court reports was under discussion. Butler had said there should be no discrimination in the matter; that virtually all cities should be given sets. Garland replied: "My town people get all the law they need from me and I am certain the people of The Dalles get all they need from Senator Butler. But it seems there is a crying need for law in Portland, especially during the session of the Legislature, when its able barristers are here, so I say let that city have these reports."

Representative Lewis says he will never vote for a bill that provides the penitentiary sentence regardless of the nature of the crime that it seeks to punish. "When I was out at the Penitentiary last Sunday," he said in debate yesterday, "I made up my mind that I'd never

TAX FAVORED

Assessor Reed Gives Views on Senator Bingham's Bill.

NEW YORK SYSTEM CITED

Flexibility Urged but Public Meeting Rather Than Special Election Recommended—Provision for Bonds Suggested.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 28.—(Special.)—Declaring that he is inclined to favor a bill to limit the tax levy and that he believes such a levy may be worked out, Henry E. Reed, Assessor of Multnomah County, has written to Senator Bingham, relative to a bill now before the Senate committee on assessment and taxation.

"The problem of limiting the tax levy is an important one and should have careful study," says Mr. Reed in part. "New York City since 1902 has been assessed on a full valuation and the tax rate has not fluctuated anywhere near the range we have experienced in Portland. For 1912 the average of the rates of the five boroughs of Greater New York was 18.6 mills, for 1913 it was 18.5 mills and for 1914 it was 18 mills. These are approximate figures after leaving out some small fractions. If a great city like New York can put itself on a fairly constant rate of taxation I see no reason why we should not be able to do the same thing in our Oregon taxing communities.

"I note in your bill that you limit the amount to be levied in any year to 6 per cent over the amount levied in the preceding year, except the conditions set forth in section 3 (that there may be a special referendum in the taxing district on an increase in advance of 6 per cent, requiring a vote of two-thirds of the voters in favor of such increase before it is allowed).

"The idea of giving some flexibility to the law, which you cover in section 3, is a good one, but I think you can accomplish the same purpose through the medium of a provision limiting the amount of the budget under the law passed in 1913, rather than to go to the expense of a special election. This method of public meetings on subjects other than those of the state, for the state and its institutions a budget could be made out by the proper authorities long enough in advance of the legislative session for every member of the Legislative Assembly to have a copy of the budget and to have time to study it in detail. Thereafter, the Legislative Assembly should have power to reduce the appropriations founded upon the budget, but not to increase them except in response to an emergency measure proposed by the Governor.

"It seems to me that a measure limiting the tax levy would not be complete without legislation authorizing the issuance of bonds for courthouse, bridges, libraries, docks and other public improvements, especially when the estimated cost thereof exceeds the amount that can be used by a mill levy upon the taxable property of the taxing district wherein the improvement is made. Possibly a constitutional amendment might be required to authorize bond issues in some of the instances mentioned."

TITLE BILL TO BE REVISED

Amendments Declared Too Much in Favor of Abstractors.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 28.—(Special.)—Representative Huston's bill making abstractors of titles responsible for any losses or damages sustained by persons for whom the abstract is written was brought up in the House today in amended form, but precipitated a lively discussion, after which it was sent back to the revision of laws committee, of which Mr. Huston is chairman.

The House did not object to the original bill so much as to its amendment, which provided that no person could sell or deliver a copy of an abstract without consent of the makers. In the amendment it was argued, in all the interests of the abstract companies and would have the effect of discounting all the good results intended by the original bill.

HOUSE SEES WILD-LIFE FILM

Warden Finley Shows His Game Movies Despite Objection by Few.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 28.—(Special.)—W. L. Finley, State Game Warden, gave a moving picture exhibition of wild animal life in Oregon in the House chamber tonight. Behind this is hidden a question of internal discipline that he is seeking to settle in the affairs of the game committee, which was brought to the surface near the close of the House session this afternoon.

A few days ago Speaker Selling, upon request of Representative Eaton

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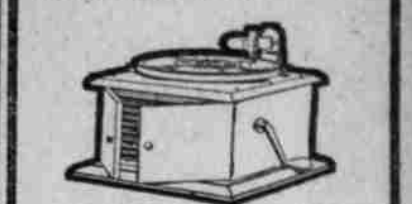
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EVERYBODY Can Have a VICTROLA

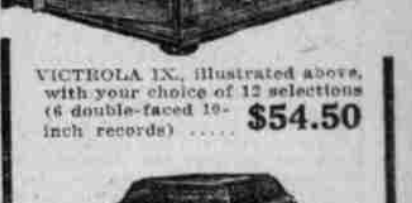
It is not necessary to pay the highest price in order to enjoy the modern music. Here are three of the eight different Victrolas:



VICTROLA IV, illustrated above, with 10 selections (5 double-faced 10-inch records) \$18.75

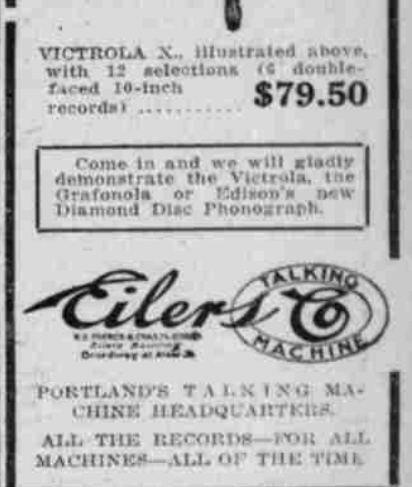


VICTROLA IX, illustrated above, with your choice of 12 selections (6 double-faced 10-inch records) \$54.50



VICTROLA X, illustrated above, with 12 selections (6 double-faced 10-inch records) \$79.50

Come in and we will gladly demonstrate the Victrola, the Grafonola or Edison's new Diamond Disc Phonograph.



PORTLAND'S TALKING MACHINE HEADQUARTERS. ALL THE RECORDS—FOR ALL MACHINES—ALL OF THE TIME.

and others, gave permission to Warden Finley to give a free exhibition of his pictures in the House chamber for the enlightenment of the legislators. In the evening a resolution, signed by Chairman Jones and Representatives Childs and Clarke, of the game committee, was brought before the House asking that the use of the chamber for the purpose of Mr. Finley's exhibition be denied.

The House suspended the rules and took immediate action. Representative Rittner declared that he, as a member of the game committee, had not conformed to the resolution and that he was in favor of allowing the exhibition to go on.

The House quickly overruled the game committee and invited Mr. Finley to bring on his pictures. Most of the members were present tonight to see the show.

BILL GIVES ASSESSMENT PLAN

Measure Requires Listed Valuation of Property for Sale During Year.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 28.—(Special.)—Those wide variations that sometimes develop between the assessed value of property and the actual sale price no longer will be possible if a bill introduced in the House by Representative Lewis, of St. Johns, becomes a law.

Under the provisions of this measure every owner of property in Oregon will

be required to file with the Assessor at the time he makes his annual tax returns a statement of the listed valuation of such property that he has had for sale within the year. The Assessor then will be given authority to fix the assessed valuation at a figure more nearly equal to the actual valuation than is possible under the present operation of the law, says Lewis.

EMERGENCY BOARD STAYS

Bill for Abolition of Body to Meet State Deficits Lost in House.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 28.—(Special.)—Oregon's emergency board for the purpose of meeting possible deficits in state funds will continue to exist as at present constituted. The board is composed of the Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House and chairman of the ways and means committee of the two houses.

The House this morning voted down Representative Frank Davey's bill abolishing the board—but not before the author of the measure and Chairman Cobb, of the ways and means committee, had engaged in some sharp verbal combat. Davey contended that the authority for meeting emergencies should be left in the hands of the state board of control and that the officers of the legislative houses and the committee chairman have no legal

authority after the Legislature adjourns. The law, he said, is unconstitutional. The ways and means committee had reported unfavorably on the bill and Chairman Cobb defended that action. The measure was defeated decisively.

MEASURE AIDS LEGAL HEIRS

House Passes Bill Putting Ban on Bequests Not Year Old.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 28.—(Special.)—The House this afternoon passed Representative Barrow's bill making invalid bequests to other than legal heirs of any testator, unless the will making such bequest was written at least one year before death. The object is to prevent persons from exercising undue influence upon persons about to die for the purpose of obtaining bequests of their property.

Representative Barrow explained that recently, in Coos County, the sons and daughter of an aged man had been deprived of their rightful property because the parent was induced, just before death, to bequeath it to another.

No Discrimination Is Bill's Aim.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 28.—(Special.)—Senator Moser today introduced a bill providing that district school boards shall not discriminate between men and women teachers in the matter of salaries for similar work.

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Your grocer orders Cottolene from us just as you do from him— He orders it just as he needs it, as you do— He knows that in Cottolene he is delivering to you the purest, sweetest, cleanest cooking fat you can buy. Tell him to deliver to you on Saturday as much Cottolene as your home will require during the coming week. Give your family the advantage of better foods that are made with

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SIDELIGHTS OF SESSION

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 28

(Special.)—On account of the recent presence of many women visitors in the House chamber President Selling has had into effect the rule against smoking while the House is in session.

At the beginning of the session some members sought to invoke the rule on account of the presence of Miss Towne, a "first woman legislator" insisted that the men be privileged to smoke—and so they did.

"I don't mind smoking, in the first place," she said, "and even if I did I certainly wouldn't object to it here."

Miss Kathryn Clark, Senator from Douglas County, was the first woman baptizian in Gardiner, Or. She is a Presbyterian.

W. S. U'Ren, of Portland, was a visitor in the Senate today. He addressed a labor meeting here Wednesday night.

Sherman Roberts, of Oklahoma, a member of Troop K in Colonel Roosevelt's Rough Rider Regiment in the Spanish-American War, called on Governor Withycombe this morning.

Senator Garland is one of the witty members. A resolution providing that the Portland Library be furnished a set of Supreme Court reports was under discussion. Butler had said there should be no discrimination in the matter; that virtually all cities should be given sets. Garland replied: "My town people get all the law they need from me and I am certain the people of The Dalles get all they need from Senator Butler. But it seems there is a crying need for law in Portland, especially during the session of the Legislature, when its able barristers are here, so I say let that city have these reports."

Representative Lewis says he will never vote for a bill that provides the penitentiary sentence regardless of the nature of the crime that it seeks to punish. "When I was out at the Penitentiary last Sunday," he said in debate yesterday, "I made up my mind that I'd never

do any act that would put a man behind those walls. I took an oath to high heaven."

"That's out of your jurisdiction, isn't it?" interrupted Representative Bowman.

A couple of visitors to the Statehouse yesterday evidently were determined to see the sights.

Let's go in and see the House in session," said one of them.

"No, let's go out to the Asylum," said the other. And they boarded a street-car.

Cyrus H. Walker, the first male white child born in Oregon, was granted the courtesies of the Senate today.

Captain James P. Shaw, of Milwaukee, was a visitor on the floor of the House this morning.

Colonel R. H. Ross, of Brandon, who was a member of the House in 1874, was extended the courtesies of the House today.

District Attorney Evans, of Portland, was a House visitor this morning.

Dr. Smith, of Portland, and Representative Barrow, of Marshfield, continue their warfare.

The Portland legislator's latest and hardest shot was to refer to his opponent in a speech yesterday as "Mr. Wheel Barrow."

Members of the House, the clerks, stenographers and newspapermen were treated to a feast of smoked salmon this afternoon, with the compliments of Representatives Jeffries and Anderson, of Astoria.

The delicate dish represented some of the choicest chinook salmon from the Columbia River, presented as an example of what the Astoria district is capable of producing. When it was announced that the fish were being served in the Fish Warden's office upstairs the House almost became deserted and for quite a while Speaker Selling had difficulty in maintaining a quorum.

Speaker himself left his rostrum and feasted with the newspaper boys.