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LEGISLATURE OF 1899.

Smallest Appropriation For Expenses Since 1889.

DEFEATED MORE THAN 450 BILLS

Useless Commissions Were Abolished and Much Judicious Legislation Was Enacted.

It is said that there are two sides to every story, and this is sometimes true even of a legislature. It is the purpose of this review to call the people's attention to the better side of the story of our last legislature; its faults and shortcomings have been well told by others.

First, as to public money: It appropriated less for the expenses of the state than any legislature since 1889, though the district attorneys of the state were for the first time placed entirely on the salary system and paid wholly from the state treasury. The following is the record of total appropriations by each legislature since 1887:

1887	\$ 784,618 60
1889	1,019,216 62
1891	1,303,764 05
1893	2,241,006 37
1895	1,339,564 69
1897	1,293,211 15
1899	1,260,028 91

Deducting from the appropriation of 1899 \$55,000 for district attorney's salaries, which was a new appropriation, and the total is but little more than one-half the appropriations of 1893.

Of the half million dollars increase in 1890 over 1887, \$406,000 is in the insane penitentiary and judicial funds; these are expenses that necessarily grow with increase of population and wealth, and the population and assessment has nearly doubled in Oregon during the past twelve years.

Now, as to the laws it made and refused to make: First, it defeated more than four hundred and fifty bills. This entitles the body to some credit from men who complain that too many laws are made. Many of the rejected bills were good measures, but it is impossible for any member to study and judge fairly nearly seven hundred bills in forty days. It rejected the sugar bounty bill and the artesian well experiment, which would have cost the state \$242,000.

The legislature enacted one hundred and seventy laws. Ninety were of a local nature—city charters and amendments, salaries of county officers, etc., all relating to questions which will be settled at home by the voters immediately interested within five years after the adoption of the initiative and referendum amendment to our constitution. The state legislature ought never to be troubled with these purely local questions. Fifty-eight laws were changes in the code and general laws, commonly believed to be improvements. Only about twenty of the general laws enacted caused much discussion or met with vigorous opposition.

The legislative body that enacted the Bingham registration law, and laws for the election of road supervisors by the people, the schoolbook commissions, with a referendum provision as to their more important acts; the practical abolition of the useless and expensive grand jury system, reforming the clerk-hire abuse in future legislatures, prohibiting the maintenance of armed bodies of men by any private person or corporation, reduction of interest to 6 percent, on school fund, placing district attorneys and clerk of supreme court on salaries, codifying and simplifying the law of negotiable instruments, abolishing compulsory pilotage, not to mention other improvements in our law—and last, but by no means least, the constitutional amendments for the initiative and referendum, and for a fixed term of residence in the precinct as a necessary qualification for a voter—surely the legislative body that did these things has some claim to be honored by the people of Oregon.

This legislature was fairly free from

bitter partisanship. Most measures were considered on their merits, without regard to party lines. Except on the apportionment bill, no one heard a partisan speech during the session, and he is remembered to the honor of the members who voted against the initiative and referendum amendment that not one of them tried to defeat it by arousing party prejudice.—Ex.

Emigrants From Texas.

There arrived on last night overland, in a special charter car, from the central part of Texas, four families comprising 28 people, who expect to locate permanently in Roseburg and the surrounding country. The names of the families are as follows, S. J. Black and family, S. C. Drake and family, James Stephenson and family, J. H. Smart and J. P. Rucker, a prospector. Mr. Black is a relative of the Wilbreds family, who came to this section of the country about two years ago and located at Peed.

Mr. Black expects considerable sur-

FROM SOUTH AFRICA

Boers Considering the advisability of Surrendering.

MAFEKING REPORTED RELIEVED

Boers Said to Have Been Repulsed After Some Very Heavy Fighting.

LONDON, May 16.—The most important developments in today's war news is a statement cabled from Cape Town announcing that the Boer delegates had advised the Transvaalers to surrender if defeated at the Vaal. This remarkable an-

SENATOR CLARK'S SCHEME.

Montana's Governor Accepts Clark's Appointment as Inevitable.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 16.—The Examiner prints an interview from Wadsworth, Nevada, with Governor Smith, of Montana, concerning the resignation and re-appointment of Senator Clark:

"I came to California on business," the Governor said, "and never thought that such a scheme would be hatched during my absence from my executive duties, or I would never have left the chair in the power of the Lieutenant-Governor. If the appointment is made before I reach Helena, I will have to accept the inevitable."

Married.

DAVIS SCHAD.—At the home of the officiating minister in this city May 16, 1900, Mr. W. E. Davis and Miss Maggie Schad, by Rev. S. A. Douglas

G. O. P. IN CALIFORNIA

Meets in State Convention at Sacramento.

TYPICAL REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

Declares Against Influx of Japs and Other Asiatics. Early Construction of Canal Favored.

SACRAMENTO, May 15.—The Republican State Convention has passed into the political history of California. It met this morning, hastened the affairs which concerned it, and adjourned tonight. Delegates to the National Republican Convention have been chosen, the administration of President McKinley has been indorsed, and the republicans of California are ready now for the battle of ballots which will take place in November. It is fortunate that the party enters upon this serious struggle, which means so much to the people of this state and nation, under conditions so favorable.

Delegates at Large—U. S. Grant Jr. of San Diego; George C. Pardee of Alameda; George A. Knight of San Francisco and N. Rideout of Marysville.

Alternates—E. S. Babcock of San Diego; Alfred Bonvier of San Francisco; Warren Porter of Santa Cruz and H. G. W. Diakenspeil of San Francisco.

Republican State Platform.

The Republican party of the State of California, by its representatives, pledges itself anew to those principles of domestic and foreign policy which under a wise administration of public affairs, have brought us prosperity at home and honor abroad.

We declare our continued adherence to the policy by which the republican party has proved itself in fact, as in theory, the friend of labor, and under which our manufacturers not only control the home market, but are taking first rank in foreign markets throughout the world.

We are in favor of the construction of the Nicaragua canal under Government control and ownership.

We fully appreciate the menace to this country, and especially to the Pacific Coast, from the continually increasing influx of Asiatic labor, and we call upon Congress by appropriate legislation to protect us from this impending danger.

We heartily commend the patriotism and valor of our soldiers and sailors who have upheld the honor of our flag and country and emulated the glorious example of the men who preserved the integrity of the Union and won the lasting love and admiration of a grateful people.

We heartily indorse the administration of President McKinley, as exemplifying the highest type of statesmanship, and gratifying in every particular the confidence reposed in him by the American people. We declare ourselves in favor of the continuance of the policy of the present administration as essential to the public welfare, and commend our president as meriting renomination and triumphant re-election and hereby instruct our delegates to the National Convention to give him their hearty support.

We indorse the fearless and economical administration of state affairs by Governor Henry T. Gage and express our approval of the faithful manner in which he has discharged the duties of his trust.

Hotel Fire.

CHICAGO, Ill., May 16.—Two persons are killed, one is missing and 14 are injured, as the result of a fire which early this morning destroyed the Hotel Helena. Five of the injured will probably die.

The Southern Pacific has recently placed orders for a total of some 3500 cars, including box, flat, coal and stock cars. These are to be delivered and placed in service about the latter part of August.



—GRANTS PASS OBSERVER.

THE DEAL COMPLETED. FOR A FEW PALTRY OFFICE NOMINATIONS THE POPULIST PARTY IS TURNED OVER TO THE DEMOCRATS

prise when told that there was scarcely a vacant house in this city, and those that were vacant were at a premium.

The PLAIN DEALER is glad to welcome these intelligent people to this city, and feel confident that they will be pleased with the surrounding country. May we see more of them.

Mrs. Albert O'Neil left on this morning's local for Rice Hill, for a weeks' visit.

Isadore Abraham has purchased from S. K. Sykes a Racine three change trap. It is one of the prettiest traps ever seen in Roseburg.

We understand that a horse belonging to John Dowel, became frightened and ran away, about noon yesterday. The horse was stopped on the Deer Creek bridge, by E. L. Parrott, the republican candidate for sheriff. Very little damage was done.

James Wharton, son of Thomas Wharton of West Roseburg, was admitted insane Wednesday and taken to the state hospital by Sheriff Stephens and Joe Wharton on this morning's local.

Ed. T. Nagler, representing Kohler & Chase, says that this town and Madford are about the only towns that are not talking "hard times." No need of it here Brother Nagler, we are doing well and have better prospects in sight.

Ed. T. Nagler wishes to announce that he will remain at the McClallen House for two days and any one wishing their piano overhauled, cleaned and tuned by a first class mechanic, should not fail to see him. He will make regular trips to Roseburg weekdays.

nouncement is vouched for on good authority, and evidently obtains more credence in Cape Town than would a mere rumor.

The occupation of Glencoe was merely a logical sequence of General Buller's advance and the Boers' retiring movement. As usual the Boers are reported to be flying, but also as usual, the accounts add that their transport and guns were removed in safety, which in itself is a contradiction of any statement that the Boers were panic-stricken.

About 1100 more troops have arrived at Beira, Portuguese, East Africa. Among them is Lord Dunraven, who accompanies the Dunraven sharpshooters as a supernumerary captain on the battalion staff.

LORENCO MARQUES, May 15.—A Portuguese official dispatch says an encounter has occurred at Mafeking, and that the Boers have been repulsed with heavy loss.

"Rube" and Frank Shields, college students of Boston, gave two of the best street exhibitions today in trick bicycle riding ever witnessed in this city. "Rube" as the hayseed trick bicycle rider and comedian, kept the crowd in the best of humor, while all marveled at the wonderful skill and feats of the younger brother. Among the most startling feats performed being that of placing a bicycle upon two high stools, while various tricks were performed upon it and last but not least, coasting down a flight of stairs.

A regimental brass band is to be organized at Eugene.

Dainty silk shirt waists just received at the Novelty Store.

Advertising is a spring tonic for business. Try an ad in the Semi-Weekly PLAIN DEALER.

Mitts, ties, beauty pins, belts, handkerchiefs, you'll find a good assortment at the Novelty Store.

W. E. Whiting a well known traveling man of San Francisco is registered at the McClallen House.

Don't forget the public school entertainment at the Opera House, Friday evening. An interesting program is promised.

One of the features of the musical program, at the public school entertainment, Friday evening, will be a whistling duet by Miss Helen Willis and Miss Effie Collins.

Julia Abraham's Cabin Native Daughters elected as representatives in the Grand Cabin which meets in Portland in June. Mrs. E. J. Stroud, Mrs. DuGas, Miss Regina Rast, Miss Lena Kearney.

A. C. Keller, brakeman on the through freight between Roseburg and Ashland, who with his family has been occupying one of the Tolles cottages, on the corner of Lane and Jackson streets, removed to Ashland to reside Tuesday.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Thos. B. Kay Woolen mills yesterday, O. P. Coshaw, Roseburg, was elected director, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Thos. Kay.—Eugene Journal.