

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

SCHOOLS ARE AIDED.

Several Good Laws Were Passed at Recent Legislative Session.

The following is a synopsis of the changes made in the school laws of the state at the recent session:

Every district in the state must maintain at least six months of school each year. A county court of each district must levy a tax for school purposes that will produce an amount that will aggregate at least \$7 for each child of school age. If a district's levy of this sum does not amount to at least \$50 per month, the county court must levy upon the property of such district a special tax large enough to produce the difference between the amount levied by the district and the \$50 per month. If the district's levy does not exceed a 5-mill tax, the county court may not levy a special tax. If the district's levy exceeds a 5-mill tax, the county court must transfer from the county fund to the special fund of such district an amount that will equal the difference.

The appropriation to each district is \$100 instead of \$50 before the new distribution is made. Another change provides that a county may on any general election may vote upon the question of creating a county high school fund. When such a fund has been created it is placed under the control of a county high school board, consisting of members of the county court, the county treasurer and a general election may vote upon the question of creating a county high school fund. When such a fund has been created it is placed under the control of a county high school board, consisting of members of the county court, the county treasurer and a general election may vote upon the question of creating a county high school fund.

County superintendents are given authority to make a partial apportionment of the money to any district upon request of the board of directors of the district. Secret societies, including fraternal societies, which may now or hereafter exist in any of the public schools of the state, including high schools, are declared unlawful. The governor shall appoint by the Monday in July, 1909, a board of members, called the Board of Curriculum. The members shall be without pay, excepting traveling expenses. The duty of the board shall be to determine what courses of studies in the higher educational institutions of Oregon. It shall be the duty of the institution to conform thereto, and changes that are made shall be effective at the beginning of the next year following such determination.

The outside doors and other exits of school buildings shall be so swung that they shall open outward.

Low Rates Inaugurated.

Portland—In view of the fact that the land and Seattle, the two principal cities of the Northwest, are to hold the various trans-continental railroads with terminals in the Pacific Northwest have conceded extremely low excursion rates from all points in East and Middle West. Portland held its third grand annual rose festival the week of June 7-12, while the city will be hostess for the Alaska-Pacific exposition, continuing summer. The rates which the railroads have given are much more attractive than any that have been put in effect in any previous year, so far as this part of the country is concerned, they permit of a much wider range of excursions and side trips, all of which are appreciated by the tourist. Many families and individuals in the Northwest have taken advantage of the low rates and have notified their friends and relatives in the East to make the trip in the summer and to do so early in the season so as to be able to visit the exposition at both Portland and Seattle. Rates are effective May 20, plenty of time enough for Easterners to avail themselves of the fine opportunity of seeing the whole Northwest at its best. Rates are good returning until September 30.

Publicity Wave at Milton.

Milton—The largest and most successful campaign ever undertaken by the Milton Progressive club for publicity was inaugurated by Tom Anderson of Portland and \$1,000 was raised in a few minutes. This section made a big display at the Alaska-Pacific exposition. Building is going here and with enlargement new buildings of Columbia college will make rapid progress.

Build Warehouse at Echo.

Echo—Through an arrangement with O. L. & N. the section houses are to be removed to make room for a large warehouse to be erected in connection with the wool scouring plant. This will relieve the necessity of constructing a switch to the scouring mill. H. H. Little has returned from Portland, where he purchased the machinery for a wool factory and rolling mills and plans to have it erected and running soon.

Gets Hops at 10 Cents.

Idaho—A contract for the sale of 100,000 pounds of hops at 10¢ a pound was recorded at Salem. The contract calls for 1909 crop of George L. near Independence. The hops were bought by Isaac Pincus & Sons, of Los Angeles. Rose is known as one of the most careful growers of hops in the district.

NORMALS ORDERED CLOSED

Even Title of State School Will Be Taken Away by Regents.

Salem—At a meeting of the normal board of regents it was voted to close all state normal schools at once unless maintained by private subscription, and then only until the end of the present half year. Hereafter the schools will be permitted to run as local public schools or as private normals, but will not be permitted to pose as state normals. This means the closing of Ashland, Weston and Monmouth normals at the end of this year, as all have secured funds to carry them to the latter part of June.

In discussing the situation the members of the board agreed that since the 1907 legislature prohibited the board from incurring any debt and the 1909 legislature failed to make an appropriation, the board has no right to continue the normals, thereby laying the foundation for a claim for reimbursement. The board will even refuse to permit the schools to run as state normals by private subscription after the end of this school year, for the reason that it is the desire to carry out to the letter the legislature's idea of closing all the normals. This will leave the field clear for the legislature of 1911 to settle the normal problem.

Ten Unions in Umatilla.

Pendleton—Ten local organizations of the Farmers' Educational & Co-operative Union of America have been formed in this county and the number will probably be increased to 15 within the next few days. The two latest additions are at Pilot Rock and Holdman. Some of the sheepmen went in with the farmers at Pilot Rock and there is talk of erecting a joint warehouse, which shall be used for the storing of both wheat and wool. No definite action was taken on the proposition, however.

Cows Make Good Returns.

Brownsville—Harry Parks, a farmer of this vicinity, has given a statement of the net returns from his nine cows for the past year. The total is \$660 or an average of \$73.33 each. Brownsville is becoming one of the largest dairy sections of the state. A number of the farmers have large silos and put up hundreds of tons of cut corn, vetch and clover for ensilage. It is claimed that ensilage prepared in this way is the best milk producing food, also the cheapest.

Ditch Break Floods Echo.

Pendleton—Echo was flooded with water as a result of a break in the government ditch at that point. The break occurred just above the depot and the water rushed down the hill at a tremendous speed. After the water was shut off at the intake, one mile and a half distant, water flowing at the rate of 80 second feet had yet to find its way into the streets. A large portion of the town was protected by the railroad grade, which turned the flood.

Fruit Inspector Resigns.

Freewater—T. L. Ragdale, fruit inspector for Umatilla county, has resigned and a petition was sent to Pendleton asking that Mr. Justin, a professor of horticulture in Pullman college, be appointed. The request has been denied, presumably because Mr. Justin is not a resident of Umatilla county.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Barley—Feed, \$28.50@29 per ton. Wheat—Bluestem, \$1.16@1.18; club, \$1.05; red Russian, \$1.01; valley, \$1.05. Oats—No. 1 white, \$36.50 per ton. Hay—Timothy, Willamette valley, \$13@15 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$14@18; clover, \$12@13; alfalfa, \$14@15; grain hay, \$13@14; chest, \$13.50@14.50; vetch, \$13.05@14.50. Apples—75¢@82.75 per box. Potatoes—\$1.25 per hundred; sweet potatoes, 2½¢@3¢ per pound. Vegetables—Turnips, \$1.25 per sack; carrots, \$1.25; parsnips, \$1.50; beets, \$1.50; horseradish, 10¢ per pound; artichokes, \$1@1.25 per dozen; asparagus, 14¢@20¢ per pound; beans, 25¢; cabbage, 2½¢@3½¢ per pound; cauliflower, 2¢ per crate; celery, \$4.50 per crate; parsley, 30¢ per dozen; peas, 15¢ per pound; radishes, 30¢ per dozen; rhubarb, \$3.50 per box; spinach, \$1.25 per box; sprouts, 10¢ per pound; squash, 2½¢ per pound. Onions—Oregon, \$1.50@2 hundred. Butter—City creamery, extras, 36¢; fancy outside creamery, 32¢@35¢ per pound; store, 18¢@20¢. (Butter fat prices average 1½ cents per pound under regular butter prices.) Eggs—Oregon ranch, 22¢@24¢ per dozen. Poultry—Hens, 16¢; broilers, 22¢; fryers, 18¢@20¢; roasters, old, 11¢@12¢; young, 14¢@15¢; ducks, 20¢@22¢; geese, 10¢; turkeys, 18¢@20¢. Veal—Extra, 9¢@10¢ per pound; ordinary, 7¢@8¢; heavy, 6¢. Pork—Fancy, 9¢ per pound; large, 8¢@8½¢. Hops—1909 contracts, 10¢@10½¢ per pound; 1908 crop, 7¢@8¢; 1907 crop, 2½¢@3¢; 1906 crop, 1½¢. Wool—Eastern Oregon, contracts, 16¢ per pound; valley, 15¢@16½¢. Mohair—Choice, 20¢@21¢ per pound. Cattle—Best steers, \$5.10@5.35; medium, \$4.50@4.85; common, \$3.25@3.85; cows, best, \$3.75@4.20; medium, \$3.25@3.80; calves, \$5.00@5.75. Sheep—Best wethers, \$5.50@6; medium, \$5.00@5.50; mixed sheep, \$3.50@4.25; ewes, \$5.50@6; lambs, \$6@6.75. Hogs—Best, \$7@7.25; medium, \$6.25@6.75.

READY FOR INAUGURAL.

People Are Flocking to Washington by Thousands for Event.

Washington, March 2.—Washington is filling with inaugural visitors and already the streets show the faces of many strangers. The fine weather today brought great throngs out upon the avenue along which the inaugural parade will pass and which is being given the finishing touches in decorations.

Preparations made by the new Union station for handling the crowds today received the first real test, and so far has proved satisfactory. Committees in charge have made exceptionally complete arrangements for receiving and caring for visitors. Hotels are rapidly filling. Some are already full. All signs indicate that Washington will, during the week, entertain the largest crowd that has attended an inauguration. Beginning tomorrow soldiers will commence to arrive, and from then on there will be a constant unloading of trains.

Admiral Bob Evans is going to be a policeman. The president wanted congress to make him a vice admiral, and it may some day, but pending that elevation in rank he, along with all other members of the inaugural committee on the public comfort, has been commissioned a policeman for special duty on March 4. Badges of authority such as all bluecoats wear have been provided.

It is not probable that "Fighting Bob" would get out upon the avenue swinging a club to restrain the crowd and preserve order during the parade, but he and his committee associates will wear their badges and should the admiral decide to make an arrest, it will be wise for the spotted one to go peacefully.

EIGHTY-EIGHT DROP OUT.

Twelve Senators and Seventy-Seven From Lower House Do Not Return.

Washington, March 2.—Twelve senators and 77 representatives, members of the present congress, will be absent when the Sixty-first congress assembles in special session on March 15. Hopkins of Illinois and Stephens of Wisconsin have not been re-elected yet, and it is possible the number of senatorial absentees will be 14.

Of the 77 representatives who retire on March 1, Hepburn of Iowa has served 22 years in congress, and Sherman of New York, who becomes vice president, has served 20 years. Delegate Smith, of Arizona, has served 16 years and Cooper of Texas has served 14 years.

In years of service, Senator Teller, of Colorado, is the Nestor of the retiring statesmen, having been elected senator upon the admission of his state into the Union, taking his seat December 4, 1876, since when he has been continuously and prominently in the public eye. He resigned from the senate in 1882 to enter the cabinet of President Arthur as secretary of the interior, re-entering the senate March 4, 1885.

Unemployed Organize.

Chicago, March 2.—Under the leadership of J. Eades Howe, of St. Louis, grandson of the builder of the Eades bridge, the Chicago association of unemployed was formed this afternoon. A committee was named to protest to the mayor and the finance committee of the city council against the proposed reduction of the appropriation for street work. The organization proposes to maintain a local headquarters, an employment agency and bureau of transportation.

German Gets Grand Cross.

Berlin, March 2.—Jules Campen, French ambassador to Germany, conferred yesterday upon Herr von Schoen, the German foreign minister, the grand cross of the Legion of Honor, as an indication of France's satisfaction over the Franco-German agreement on Morocco. This event is interpreted as meaning that the relations between France and Germany are on a better footing than for many years.

New Train Record Made.

Pittsburg, March 2.—Running over four different roads en route, a special train bearing a theatrical company today made the distance of 765 miles from Boston to Pittsburg in the record-smashing time of 17½ hours. Fifty-five minutes were clipped off the best previous time between Buffalo and Pittsburg, the time being five hours and ten minutes.

Snow Falls Over Paris.

Paris, March 2.—Snow has been falling in Paris almost continuously for 48 hours and a blizzard of unprecedented proportions prevails throughout France. Many deaths are reported. Several inches of snow has fallen in the interior of the Alps Maritimes and the conditions at Cannes and Antibes are exceedingly wintry.

Foreign Labor May Clash.

Pueblo, Colo., March 2.—The local situation between the Servians and the Austrians is rapidly approaching a critical stage. Ran Porubovich, editor of a local Servian paper, has been repeatedly threatened with death if he does not discontinue his remarks on the Austrian government.

Chinese Gets High Honor.

Ithica, N. Y., March 2.—Toufu Hu, of Wu Cheng, China, was elected to the Phi Beta Kappa fraternity at Cornell last week. This is the first time in the history of Cornell that a Chinese has been elected to the highest honorary society.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS IN BRIEF

Friday, March 5.

Washington, March 5.—In its first regular sitting of the session, the senate today received and confirmed the nominations of President Taft for the various cabinet positions and also that of Huntington Wilson as assistant secretary of state. In addition, senators Chamberlain, of Oregon, and Smith, of Maryland, were sworn in.

Thursday, March 4.

Washington, March 4.—The Sixtieth congress ended at noon today. The final act, though unofficial so far as the house was concerned, took place in the senate chamber, where both houses witnessed the incoming of the new administration.

The senate will meet at noon tomorrow to consider President Taft's nominations, but the house will not convene again until the extra session is begun on March 15.

The senate met at 9:40 o'clock, but the proceedings were confined to the most formal work. Vice President Fairbanks delivered an address in response to resolutions thanking him for his conduct of the office.

Immediately after adjournment of the Sixtieth congress the proclamation of the president calling the senate in extraordinary session to consider presidential appointments was read.

Utterly lacking in all the stirring incidents usually marking the closing of a congress, the house at 11:59½ o'clock was declared by Speaker Cannon to be adjourned without day. Having reconvened at 10 o'clock in the morning, it spent the two hours in cleaning up conference reports and passing a few bills of no great public interest.

Wednesday, March 3.

Washington, March 3.—The entire membership of the senate today presented Vice President Fairbanks with a silver service which cost \$1,185. The Democratic members gave him a loving cup.

The senate and house finally agreed to give the president \$75,000 a year and allow no traveling expenses. The proposed increase in salaries of other officers was lost.

The deficiency appropriation bill as finally passed tonight carries an appropriation for salaries for the new Federal judges for Oregon and Washington at the rate of \$6,000 per annum.

The house agreed to the conference reports on the military academy, legislative and executive and judicial appropriation bills.

A new penal code was enacted into law today through the adoption in both houses of congress of the conference report on the bill drafted by a joint commission originally appointed in 1897 and reappointed at the close of the 59th congress. The bill is a comprehensive and coherent revision and compilation of practically all the purely penal laws.

Tuesday, March 2.

Washington, March 2.—The deficiency bill, carrying appropriations for more than \$19,000,000, about \$2,250,000 of which was added by the senate, was passed by the senate today.

An amendment offered by La Follette, appropriating \$50,000 to buy a suitable memorial upon the Lincoln farm in Kentucky, was approved.

On motion of Penrose, the appropriation for inland transportation by railroad routes was increased from \$300,000 to \$1,250,000.

An amendment appropriating \$25,000 to enable the secretary of state to investigate matters in Liberia relating to American citizens was adopted.

Lodge offered an amendment appropriating \$66,000 to reimburse persons who contributed toward a ransom for the release of Ellen M. Stone, who was captured by brigands in Turkey, and it was approved.

Washington, March 2.—The ship subsidy bill, passed previously by the senate, was defeated in the house today by the narrow margin of three, the vote being 172 to 175. The opponents of the measure cheered wildly. The feeling in the house was strained as the hour of voting approached. The attendance was probably the largest of the session. Every one recognized that the vote would be close. Goldfogle, of New York, who was operated on yesterday in a hospital, was carried on the floor in a chair to vote against the bill.

Monday, March 1.

Washington, March 1.—The sundry civil bill, appropriating \$139,000,000, and the military academy bill, carrying an appropriation of \$2,541,000, were passed by the senate today.

The sundry civil bill was passed with an amendment securing \$40,000 for remodeling the White House office building to give additional room for the president and providing \$25,000 for his traveling expenses. On motion of Foraker an amendment appropriating \$120,000 to the Roman Catholic church in Porto Rico in payment for property in Porto Rico was adopted. The fortifications bill also passed.

Seven Condemn Roosevelt.

Washington, March 4.—Seven members of the committee on judiciary signed the report that President Roosevelt was without authority of law when he sanctioned the absorption of the Tennessee Coal & Iron company by the United States Steel corporation. This merger was in violation of the Sherman anti-trust law. Two of the majority committee, however, attached certain individual views, which, to a degree, minimize the effect of the declaration.

the senate today. The bill provides for the expenditure of \$250,000 for the purchase of land at San Pedro harbor, California.

Tomorrow the general deficiency bill, the last of the great supply measures, will be reported to the senate, and it is hoped it will be passed during the day.

Washington, March 1.—Transacting its business amid scenes of great confusion, the house gave every evidence that the present congress is closing. In his endeavor to maintain order the speaker was constantly pounding his gavel and admonishing members to cease conversation.

Saturday, February 27.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The rivers and harbors bill, carrying an appropriation of about \$9,700,000, was passed by the senate today. An increase of about \$360,000 over the amount allowed by the house was made.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The long fight of the discharged negro soldiers of the Twenty-fifth infantry for an opportunity to prove their innocence in connection with the "shooting up" of Brownsville, Tex., on the night of August 13, 1906, was won today when the house, by a vote of 210 to 101, passed the senate bill to that end.

Within three hours after it had been reported, the house today, under a suspension of the rules, passed the general deficiency appropriation bill. The bill carries appropriations approximating \$70,000,000.

Indians Forward Protest.

Washington, March 2.—On behalf of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians, Senator Owen, of Oklahoma, has presented to the senate a petition from the general council of those tribes, protesting against the reopening of their citizenship rolls. The petition is a review of all the efforts that have been made to establish correct citizenship rolls up to the time of the action by the Choctaw and Chickasaw citizenship court by which only about 150 out of more than 3,000 applicants, which had been favorably passed upon by the district courts, were largely fraudulent and the petition declares that many of them were admitted on testimony presented before the masters of the courts, who were attorneys for the claimants.

Keeps Old Chair.

Washington, March 5.—Cherishing a fondness for the chair which he occupied for the last seven years at the head of the cabinet table, President Roosevelt sent a duplicate chair to his office and ordered the old one removed to his home at Oyster bay. The president's desk, his chair, the cabinet table and the cabinet chairs are government property. The president, desiring to retain his office chair, purchased a new one himself to replace the old chair.

Taft to Use Historic Bible.

Washington, March 2.—W. H. Taft will take the oath of office as president of the United States on the century-old Bible which belongs to the Supreme court of the United States and which that body keeps in custody. Mr. Taft said today that had he been a member of the Supreme court his oath would have been taken on identically the same book. During the last few days there have been many offers of Bibles to Mr. Taft.

Dennett to Be Retained.

Washington, March 2.—Fred Dennett, of North Dakota, will in all probability be retained under the Taft administration as commissioner general of the land office. He is a warm personal friend of the new secretary of the interior, having been his choice for assistant when Ballinger was commissioner of the land office. He is also strongly endorsed by Chairman Hitchcock.

Check Appropriation Bill.

Washington, March 3.—Because the senate insists upon its amendment to the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, increasing the salaries of the president, vice president, speaker and United States judges, a deadlock has resulted. The measure was returned to the house late yesterday and that body emphatically re-recorded itself against all the amendments. A long wrangle ensued over asking a further conference.

Lock Chains Prove Worthy.

Washington, March 5.—Two samples of the chain to be used on the gear on the locks of the Panama canal are being tested at the public roads division of the Department of Agriculture. The two sections were submitted to a tensile test of 147,000 pounds to the square inch before the metal parted, and on a second test developed a strength of 6,000 pounds greater.

Decides on Lumber Duty.

Washington, March 4.—The ways and means committee of the house has voted to retain the duty on high grades of lumber, as in the Dingley law, making a reduction solely on rough lumber, which, as heretofore stated, is a cut to one dollar.

Hides to Go on Free List.

Washington, March 4.—It is reported that the ways and means committee has decided to place hides on the free list, and it is further rumored that Senator Lodge, after a canvass of the senate, is satisfied that body will approve the house action.

STATEHOOD BLOCKED.

Senate Committee Terminates Labor on Hearing of Corruption.

Washington, March 1.—Arizona and New Mexico's hope for statehood at the present session of congress went glimmering today in a sensational manner when the members of the senate committee that had the bill under discussion rose one by one and left their places without arranging for any future meeting, after the most sensational charges of political corruption in New Mexico had been made.

This action occurred at the conclusion of the reading of reports prepared by Beveridge and Nelson, in which it was stated that a gang had charge of New Mexico's interior affairs, and that corruption, jury bribing and many other offenses were the rule and not the exception.

Among the statements made was a telegram from J. J. Hagerman, former governor of New Mexico, reflecting upon the character of the people who are in control of politics in that territory, and declaring that these men expect to continue their control after the territory becomes a state. He refers to them as "freebooters," and says that 60 per cent of the voters are Mexicans, and one-half of that number are illiterate and ignorant, and easily could be governed by the "gang" to which he referred. He suggested that it would be well to wait until after the next census before admitting New Mexico to statehood.

JAPAN FUSS ENDS.

Good Humor Returns to Brown Men of Island Empire.

Tokio, March 1.—During the recent discussion in Japan of the attitude of certain persons in California in regard to the Japanese residents it appears that one of the difficulties faced by the Japanese newspapers was that their correspondents at the various points lacked an appreciation of conditions in America, as well as capacity to analyze the feelings of the people or the standing of those who espoused particular action.

As a result only the most sensational publications appearing in the newspapers in America as a rule reached the newspapers in Japan, the result being that from the outset there was almost an entire misunderstanding as to the real situation.

Later, as the position of the leading people of California developed through the more reliable press dispatches, a better feeling began to prevail, and now this controversy has almost entirely ceased. In fact many of the newspapers say that much good has come out of the evil, inasmuch as the discussion brought out even a greater degree of friendship on the part of America toward Japan than was at first believed to exist.

RUMOR SURPRISES CASTRO.

Late Venezuelan Ruler Says He Never Planned Gomez' Death.

Dresden, March 1.—Cipriano Castro, late president of Venezuela, today authorized the publication of a declaration of his innocence of the charge that he had conspired to bring about the assassination of Juan Vicente Gomez, the present president of the republic. "It is incredible," says he, "that after having shown my interest in him in so many ways I should try to cause him to be murdered. If Gomez had given me occasion to suspect him, I would have given orders regarding him before my departure from Venezuela, and I would not have been so stupid as to send such an order by cable.

"The shameless individual who instigated this conspiracy against me will have to proceed to the utmost extremes in order to justify himself, for he is aware that as soon as the matter is understood the Venezuelan people will not tolerate such perfidy."

Wireless From Train to Train.

Cleveland, Ohio, March 1.—Remarkable wireless telegraph experiments were made today when a number of messages were successfully sent from a special train running between Buffalo and this city at the rate of 70 miles an hour. A Lake Shore train especially equipped for the purpose left Buffalo this morning and arrived here this afternoon, when the success of the tests was reported. One message was sent to President Roosevelt. The experiments cost \$6 a minute.

Berlin Not Enthusiastic.

Chicago, March 1.—Marked indifference characterizes the German reception of President Roosevelt's proposal of an international conference for the conservation of natural resources, according to a cablegram from Berlin. The dispatch adds that the proposal, however, doubtless will be accepted. A financial authority suggests that Roosevelt is "trying indirectly to get back at the trusts, which are exploiting America's natural wealth."

Two Cruisers Sail South.

Panama, March 1.—The cruisers California and Pennsylvania, of the United States Pacific squadron, now here, will leave tomorrow for Annapolis, on the west coast of Honduras. The cruise follows instructions believed to have been received from Washington because of the troubled condition of affairs in Central America.

Jury Is Unable to Agree.

Pittsburg, March 1.—The jury in the graft case in which Counselmen J. C. Wason, William Brand and John F. Klein are charged with conspiracy and the taking of bribes, reported tonight that it had been unable to agree, and was locked up till tomorrow.