

OREGON LEGISLATURE.

The Benson Men Set Up Their Organization in the House.

Two o'clock Thursday of last week Benson men succeeded in organizing the lower house of the legislature...

At 2 o'clock, when Temporary Speaker Davis mounted the rostrum called the members to order...

"We have sat here for ten days in effort to organize this house. But rulings of the temporary speaker at all times been adverse to the possibility of organization..."

"Resolved, That the present temporary speaker, E. J. Davis, be, and he is hereby removed, and that Dr. J. N. Smith be, and he is hereby elected speaker pro tem. in his stead..."

"The reading of the resolution was met with great cheers by the lobby. Brown raised his hand in protest, and appealed to the spectators to keep quiet."

"We have serious business to do," said "Mr. Speaker," interrupted Middle of Douglas, "addressing Davis, I desire to enter an emphatic protest against this proceeding..."

"I will ask the speaker to put the question," said Brown, "although I realize it is a delicate matter for him." "This whole proceeding is out of order," replied Davis, coolly, "and I desire to put the question."

"I will then put the question," continued Brown. "All who favor the resolution will say, aye." There was a loud chorus of ayes. "Those opposed," several yells of "No" came from the lobby.

"Carried," cried Brown. Speaker Davis calmly watched the progress of events and said nothing. Smith was marched up beside Davis between Lake and Stanley. When he was opposite the speaker, Smith, who is a very small man, extended his hand to Davis, who is quite tall, and there was an awkward handshake. The crowd breathed a sigh of relief and smiled. There was to be no tragedy. It was just plain comedy. Smith smiled the pleasure of the house, and members promptly got on his feet and read a printed resolution removing temporary Chief Clerk Moody and appointing R. R. Hays, the Benson caucus nominee. Smith put the motion and it was declared carried, and Hays took a place beside Clerk Moody.

Chief Justice Moore was waited upon by a committee, and he swore in the members. Conn then offered a resolution to proceed to permanent organization, and it carried. H. L. Benson, of Josephine, was placed in nomination for speaker. The roll of the members sworn in was called by Hays. Benson got twenty-eight votes, Benson, Gratke and Misener voting blank.

A committee was appointed to escort Benson to the chair. Chief Justice Moore swore him in, and he made a short speech of thanks.

The following officers were then elected: Assistant chief clerk, H. S. Jordan; reading clerk, Frank Motter; calendar clerk, E. W. Bartlett; sergeant-at-arms, E. W. Murphy; doorkeeper, S. W. White (colored.)

These were the Benson caucus nominees. They were sworn in by Justice Moore. Bridges presented a resolution empowering the speaker to appoint three pages, a mailing clerk and one repairs doorkeeper, and it was adopted.

Thomas offered a resolution extending the usual courtesies to newspaper men, and that, too, was adopted.

Manifesto Issued by Populists.

The Populists have held a caucus and issued the following manifesto, which gives their side of the tangle in the house:

"To the People's Party of Oregon: The undersigned, your members-elect to the legislative assembly, ask your loyal support and that of all good citizens in our contest for such an organization of the house as we believe will result in economical and remedial legislation that will make an honest vote and a fair count possible in Oregon. We are contending for a fair organization of the house, in order to make possible the passage of the Bingham registration bill, the Holt judges-of-election bill, and an amendment to the constitution providing for direct law-making by the people by means of the initiative and referendum in its optional form."

"We are assured by eminent lawyers that the Bingham registration bill is constitutional, and likely to be effective. The Holt bill allows county central committees of each of the three principal political parties to designate one judge of election in each precinct, and committees of the two principal parties to each name one clerk of election in each precinct. The initiative and referendum need no explanation to Oregon Populists. These measures we believe to be all important in obtaining honest elections and control by the people of lawmaking in Oregon, and thereby preserving our liberties. The situation is this:

"Last June the Republican party elected thirty-eight members of the house of representatives. Only twenty-eight of this number have agreed to act together in organizing the house. Part of the remaining ten Republican members support Mr. Bourne and part do not support any candidate. The Populist and Democratic members are staying out until such time as a Republican majority may agree upon a candidate of its own for speaker, or until a sufficient number of them unite with us to assure Bourne's election, which we believe will enable us to obtain the measures herein named. As long as Republicans are thus divided, and it is possible that we may, by preventing organization, finally elect Mr. Bourne, and probably obtain the legislation before mentioned, we feel it to be our duty to the people of Oregon to stay out—wages or no wages. With this knowledge of the facts, we feel that we are entitled to your support for ourselves and our allies."

The manifesto is signed by two senators and twelve representatives. It is said that the remaining Populist senator and representatives, who were out of the city when the caucus was held, fully indorsed the manifesto.

A short session of the house was held Sunday, the temporary speaker having ruled that it was necessary according to the constitution.

The house has again failed to organize before Tuesday and this defers the senatorial election until Tuesday, February 2, and, of course, no ballot can be taken on that date unless the speakership problem is solved before Tuesday of next week.

The senate meets daily, but no business other than the introduction of bills is taken up.

Senator Harmon has introduced a bill designed to restore to sheriffs of the various counties the duty of conveying all committed persons to the state insane asylum, reform school and penitentiary. It is merely made the duty of the committing court to place such in charge of the sheriff. Nothing is said as to compensation, but the presumption is that the state is to pay, as at present.

Senator Brownell has introduced a bill in the interest of bicyclists. It directs that all transportation companies shall be required to check and transport bicycles like other baggage. The bill is general in its provisions and describes at length how railroad and other transportation companies shall convey free of all charges to each passenger, with a ticket, not more than 100 pounds of baggage. How it shall be checked and how reclaimed are described, the provisions simply enacting into law the present practices of railroad companies.

Senator Smith has introduced a bill changing the beginning of the close season on the Columbia from August 10 to August 1. This is in accordance with the recommendation of United States Fish Commissioner McDonald. There are provisions for the regulation of fishtraps, by which none shall have a lead more than 700 feet in length, and no fish wheel shall have a lead of more than forty feet in length. Other regulative provisions are added.

Senator Mulkey has introduced a bill intended to prohibit, as far as possible, corrupt practices at elections. It limits the sums of money that may be legitimately expended in securing a nomination or election to any office created by the constitution of state or for representatives in congress. It provides for a public inspection of the expense account of any candidate or political committee. Other states have similar measures on their statute books, and public sentiment in the state of Oregon, Senator Mulkey thinks, is ripe for a similar statute in this state.

THE BOILER EXPLODED.

Terrible Accident on a French Steamer in the Orient.

San Francisco, Jan. 21.—One of the boilers of the French steamer Saghalien exploded while the vessel was off the Chinese coast, December 2, bound from Singapore for Hong Kong. Eleven of the stokers in the fireroom and one engineer were killed by the explosion or by the scalding steam. The chief stoker was so badly injured that he died a few hours afterward and four other firemen died the next day as a result of their burns. The vessel was crowded with passengers and for a time there was the wildest confusion on board.

A letter brought by the Rio de Janeiro from the Orient yesterday, gives the details of the disaster. The passengers had just assembled in the saloon for dinner, when there was a loud report, like that of a cannon. The deck beams were torn up, gratings were sent flying in the air and the steamer trembled from stem to stern.

When the steam had cleared away men were sent below to the stakehold. Eleven of the Lascar firemen lay about the floor before the ruined boiler, dead or writhing at the last gasp, with their flesh parboiled by the terrific bath of superheated steam in which the explosion had plunged them. The chief stoker, a Frenchman, was among them. He died in the most frightful agony a few moments after he had been carried to the deck. The other firemen who were in the stakehold were badly burned. Four of them died during the night following the explosion.

SHOT HIS ARM OFF.

A Plucky Young Hunter of Ducks on Coos Bay.

Marshfield, Or., Jan. 21.—Edward Tower, son of Dr. C. W. Tower, shot his right arm off this afternoon, while duck hunting. He was accompanied by William Reichart and Harry Nasburg, and the accident occurred about three miles from town. The boys were in a small boat and Tower was picking up his gun to fire at a flock of ducks, when the gun was accidentally discharged. The charge of No. 2 shot took effect above the elbow, shattering the bone and severing the artery. A stray shot also struck Nasburg in the forehead, imbedding itself in the scalp.

Tower showed great presence of mind, and ordered his companions to tie a bandage above the wound to stop the flow of blood, and then they started to pull to town. When they reached Marshfield Tower was very weak from loss of blood, but he was very gritty. On examination, it was found necessary to amputate the arm several inches above the elbow.

NO CANAL FOR TURPIE.

Indiana Senator's Speech in Opposition to the Project.

Washington, Jan. 21.—The session of the senate was without incident. Senator Turpie spoke against the Nicaragua canal bill, and the reading of the legislative appropriation bill was completed, with the exception of sections making provisions for the congressional library, which were passed over temporarily in the absence of senators interested in the subject.

The old soldiers had a field day in the house today. Under a special order adopted yesterday, the whole day was devoted to the consideration of private pension bills. Of the 900 on the calendar, fifty-two were disposed of during the five hours' session.

An India Relief Camp.

Bombay, Jan. 21.—A correspondent of the Associated Press, who has begun a tour of the famine districts of India, telegraphs from Saratara, south of Poona, an important section of the Deccan, having an area of 48,000 square miles, and inhabited by 1,250,000 persons, saying that the famine is less severe there than in other parts of the Deccan. The first relief camp established at Nansil, on the Poona-Bangalore road, in the middle of November, and there are now five camps in that vicinity. The people are lodging in mat huts, containing parents and children or three single adults. They work from sunrise until noon, and from 2 P. M. to sunset at stone-breaking. The people are contented and have sufficient food and blankets. The correspondent did not notice any distress from the cases of destitution. No general emaciation was observed, nor were the people dying by the roadside. The situation in that district is taken, on the whole, to be satisfactory.

Robbery in Salem.

Salem, Or., Jan. 21.—Three masked men entered the Salem Labor Exchange, in North Salem, about 10 o'clock tonight, and demanded that Manager Hoye, at the point of a pistol, open the safe. Hoye demurred and was assaulted by the men. He was finally made to open the safe, and then the men renewed their assault.

The manager was cut through the hand with a knife, and also received two bad wounds in the back of the head. The men then escaped.

The sheriff was notified and went to the scene, but he could find no satisfactory trace of the thugs. They are supposed to have secured only a small amount of money.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER

Downing, Hopkins & Company's Review of Trade.

The past week has proved an unsteady one in the wheat markets. While there has been no weakening in the basic position of wheat, and while, indeed, the position today is stronger than a week since, the bears have upon two or three occasions raided the markets and broken prices. To our minds these fluctuations prove nothing against the deal. We don't know but prices will be lower, and are not talking about what will be the results, but we write of the foundation of the markets, and dealers must manage the rest. The winter wheat, usually two-thirds of the aggregate crop, is depleted to smaller remains in farmers' hands than for years. Consumption must soon resort to spring wheat, and that reserve is undoubtedly small. We are breaking away slowly from foreign prices and before harvest it will be a home demand and supply.

According to expert testimony many of the believers in wheat who have been watching the upward march of values for the past two months have been rather doubtful of its stability, in view of the cheapness of other cereals and their product. The fact that corn has entered the list as a competitor for bread consumption led to a halt in the advance and many traders were greatly influenced by this circumstance. The argument is made that flour is being adulterated to such an extent with corn meal, and the call for corn meal is increasing at such a rate that the demand for cash wheat will gradually become curtailed, and, with a lessening of the demand, perforce a decline in price.

One writer in discussing this phase of the wheat situation asserts that such a use for corn meal and other substitutions for wheat must be only credited to restricted areas. The theory advanced is that poor people who would most likely use this adulterated article as a human food do not buy flour, and hence the first argument falls to the ground.

Market Quotations.

Portland, Or., Jan. 22, 1897. Flour—Portland, Salem, Cascadia and Dayton, \$4.50; Benton county and White Lily, \$4.50; graham, \$4.00; superfine, \$2.80 per barrel.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 83@84c; Valley, 86@87c per bushel. Oats—Choice white, 40@42c per bushel; choice gray, 38@40c.

Hay—Timothy, \$13.00 per ton; clover, \$8.00@9.00; oat, \$5.00@10; wheat, \$8.00@10 per ton. Barley—Feed barley, \$18.00 per ton; brewing, \$20.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$15.00; shorts, \$16.50; middlings, \$26. Butter—Creamery, 35@40c; Tillamook, 40c; dairy, 22½@30c.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 65@75c; Early Rose, 80@90c per sack; California river Burbanks, 55c per cental; sweets, \$2.00@2.25 per cental for Merced; Jersey Red, \$2.50.

Onions—\$1.10 per sack. Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$2.00@2.50; geese, \$6.00; turkeys, live, 10c; ducks, \$4@4.50 per dozen. Eggs—Oregon, 17½@18 per dozen. Cheese—Oregon, 12½c; Young America, 13½c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 10c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 6@8c. Hops—9@10c per pound. Beef—Gross, top steers, \$2.75@3.00; cows, \$2.25@2.50; dressed beef, 4@4½c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, \$3.00@3.25; dressed mutton, 5½@6c per pound. Hogs—Gross, choice, heavy, \$3.25@3.50; light and feeders, \$2.50@3.00; dressed, \$4.00@4.50 per cwt.

Veal—Net, small, 6c; large, 5½c per pound. Seattle, Wash., Jan. 22, 1897. Flour—(Jobbing)—Patent excellent, \$5.25; Novelty A, \$4.75; California brands, \$5.60; Dakota, \$5.50; patent, \$6.25.

Wheat—Chicken feed, \$27 per ton. Oats—Choice, \$23@24 per ton. Barley—Rolled or ground, \$23 per ton. Corn—Whole, \$21 per ton; cracked, \$20; feed meal, \$23.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$16.00 per ton; shorts, \$19. Feed—Chopped feed, \$19.00 per ton; middlings, \$24; oilcake meal, \$28.

Hay—Puget sound, per ton, \$9.00@10.00; Eastern Washington, \$13. Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 24c; select, 23c; tubs, 22c; ranch, 18c.

Cheese—Native Washington, 12½c. Vegetables—Potatoes, per ton, \$16@18; parsnips, per sack, 75c; beets, per sack, 60c; turnips, per sack, 60c; rutabagas, per sack, 75c; carrots, per sack, 35@45c; cabbage, per 100 lbs, \$1.25; onions, per 100 lbs, \$1@1.25.

Sweet potatoes—Per 100 lbs, \$3.00. Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, hens, 8c; dressed, 9@10c; ducks, \$2.00@3.50; dressed turkeys, 15@16c. Eggs—Fresh ranch, 18c; Eastern, 19c per dozen.

Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 6c; cows, 5½c; mutton, sheep, 6c per pound; lamb, 6c; pork, 5c per pound; veal, small, 6c. Fresh Fish—Halibut, 5@6; salmon, 5@6; salmon trout, 7@10; flounders and soles, 3@4c.

Provisions—Hams, large, 12c; hams, small, 12½c; breakfast bacon, 10c; dry salt sides, 6c per pound.

EDUCATION'S GREATEST FRIEND

Dr. Henry Barnard Has Accomplished Much for the Cause.

In Hartford, Conn., there is now living Dr. Henry Barnard, known as the "father of American education." He has reached the ripe age of 88 years. His services to the cause of education are greater than those of any other man in this country, and there is a movement on foot to celebrate his forthcoming birthday in a fitting manner.

Dr. Barnard is a native of Hartford. His life has been spent in the cause of education, and in his active old age he is still busily engaged in the same work. He began his educational career while a member of the Connecticut Legislature sixty years ago. During his

term of service he advocated many reforms in the public school system of his State, which later he was instrumental in having introduced into other States, making a tour of the whole country for the purpose. His greatest claim to fame, however, was the organization of the National Board of Education. He was appointed the first commissioner of education under the new law.

Dr. Barnard was personally acquainted with all of the Presidents except Washington, John Adams and Jefferson. During his lifetime he has published more than 800 pamphlets on educational topics, and he is now at work revising some of his work for republication.

GAMECOCK WORTH \$1,000.

Prize Fowl Exhibited Recently at a Poultry Show in Birmingham.

A man in England paid \$1,000 for a chicken a short time ago, although the fact is not a basis for speculation as to English poultry market prices. In point of fact the price was considered so outrageous even for a gamecock that the story of the sale when it first began to circulate found few believers. But it was a genuine sale. The money was paid and the chicken taken.

It was at the Birmingham poultry show a few weeks ago that this remarkable transaction took place. The gamecock in question, a fine black rooster, is said to be one of the most perfect of its kind in existence. It has a wonderful reach, is almost perfect in shape and size, while its fine tail is one of its best points. It has a fine ancestral record of prizes and triumphs, and is

a heavy winner itself. The owner of the bird was Mr. Hugo Ainscough, and the purchaser was Capt. Heaton, agent of the Earl of Ellesmere.

Qualities of Southern Wheat.

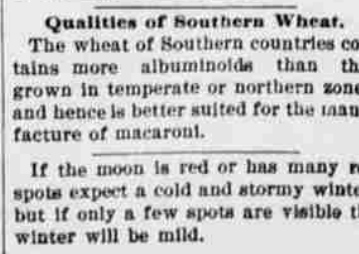
The wheat of Southern countries contains more albuminoids than that grown in temperate or northern zones, and hence is better suited for the manufacture of macaroni.

If the moon is red or has many red spots expect a cold and stormy winter; but if only a few spots are visible the winter will be mild.



GAMECOCK WORTH \$1,000.

Dr. Henry Barnard.



DR. HENRY BARNARD.