

SESSION BROUGHT TO A CLOSE

Review of Business Transacted at the Capital.

SUMMARY OF BILLS PASSED

The Fifth Session of the Washington Legislature Adjourns Sine Die, After Sixty Days' Continuous Session.

The fifth session of the Washington legislature adjourned sine die early Friday morning. The closing scenes were unusually interesting and at times exciting. Both branches of the legislature worked hard all day Thursday. The lobbies were packed with spectators, and the sergeant-at-arms was often ordered to clear the floor space of lobbyists within the bar of each house, to give room to move about.

Conference committees were the order of the day, and accomplished important work in bringing the houses to agreements. The most important were those having on hand the freight-rate reduction bill and the general appropriation bill. The former finally effected an agreement during the afternoon, and the freight-rate bill soon went to the governor. The appropriations bill was not so easily settled, and it was long after midnight when any kind of an agreement was reached.

The clock was stopped at midnight, and it was near sunrise when final adjournment was effected. The cause of delay was the contest over the appropriation bill, and the time given enrolling clerks to prepare the bills for the signatures of the presiding officers of each body. Some members protested against continuing after midnight, but to no avail.

The resolution to investigate the penitentiary was lost in the senate.

Resume of the Work.

Below is a summary of the important bills that have passed both houses of the legislature during the fifth session:

Fixing order of payment of debts of decedents. Approved by the governor.

Regarding assignment and cancellation of mortgages. Approved.

Reducing salaries of warden and clerk of the state penitentiary to \$1,400 and \$1,000 per annum, respectively. Approved.

Defining the crime of rape, and fixing the age of consent at 18 years. Approved.

Fixing the duties of coroner when sheriff is incapacitated. Approved.

Protecting manufacturers, bottlers and other dealers in liquors. Approved.

Granting bounty for production of sugar. This bill provides for the state to pay 1 cent per pound, as bounty, to manufacturers, for all sugar manufactured within the state.

Providing that property assessed for street improvement purposes may be sold on ten days' notice after the assessment falls due, without foreclosure proceedings.

Providing for suing the sureties on bonds by laborers or others, on contracts for street or other municipal improvements.

Providing prior liens for employees against the real or personal property of employers of labor.

Authorizing bringing of suits for distribution of funds of insolvent insurance companies.

Providing for incorporation of cemetery associations.

To prevent unauthorized interference with electric wires, meters and cables.

Making all debts payable in lawful money or currency of the United States.

Protecting trade-marks, labels and advertisements.

The anti-option deficiency judgment law, providing that in all proceedings for the foreclosure of mortgages hereafter executed, or on judgments rendered upon the debt thereby secured, the mortgagee or assignee shall be limited to the property included in the mortgage.

Exempting from execution and attachment to householders and freeholders personal property to the amount of \$1,000. When any person dies seized of exempt property, leaving heirs, such property shall be set aside for the use of such heirs, free from all claims against the deceased.

Submitting an amendment to the constitution to the voters of the state, at the next general election, embodying the right of woman suffrage.

Giving the owners of lands abutting upon tidelands the prior right for sixty days to apply for the purchase of said lands.

Relating to admission of attorneys and counsellors-at-law. Approved.

Defining motions and orders.

Relating to removal of attorneys. Approved.

Relating to new trials. Approved.

To prevent attorneys advertising for divorce cases. Approved.

Prohibiting the discharge of ballast in bays.

Relating to the duration of judgments, and providing that after the expiration of six years from the rendition of any judgment it shall cease to be a lien or charge against the estate or person of the judgment debtor.

Providing a new revenue and taxation law, in which many important changes were made.

To prevent the introduction or spread of disease among sheep.

Allowing farmers and gardeners to peddle their products in cities without licenses.

Allowing married women to act as administratrix or executrix of deceased persons.

For the protection of honey bees. Approved.

To protect the cheese and milk industry by compelling proper marking of cheese imported into the state. Approved.

Making it compulsory to record all deeds, mortgages and assignments of mortgages in county where property is located. Approved.

Extending the right of eminent domain to mining corporations, for the purpose of building tramroads, etc.

Fixing the fees to be paid to the secretary of state by corporations. For filing articles of incorporation, \$10; filing amendatory or supplemental articles, \$10; certified copy of articles, \$5; annual license fee, to be paid before July 1 each year, \$10, for all corporations incorporated before or after the passage of this act.

Providing for the reservation and improvement of a portion of the public highways for bicycles and foot passengers.

Providing for dissolution of the municipal corporations of the third and fourth class.

Authorizing cities to acquire and maintain water works and waterpower, gas and electric light plants.

Providing a method for collecting assessments for local improvements, especially for Seattle.

Providing for voting on constitutional amendment relative to taxation.

Fixing the maximum railroad freight rate at \$4.25 a ton for distances of 350 miles for grain, etc., and other reductions.

Authorizing cities to sell water works, gas or electric light works upon a vote of the people.

Appropriating \$10,000 for a wagon road from Lyle, in Klickitat county, to Washougal, in Clark county.

Appropriating \$20,000 for the completion of the state road from Marcus to Marble Mount.

Appropriating \$10,000 for a state road from King county to Yakima, via Natchez pass.

Appropriating \$10,000 for a state road from Grand Forks to La Push.

Appropriating \$2,500 for a state road from Montesano to Brookfield.

Abolishing boards of control for the Eastern and Western insane asylum, for the penitentiary, the Soldiers' Home and the reform school, and providing for a board of five citizens, one of whom shall be commissioner of public institutions and auditor of accounts, at a salary of \$1,500.

Authorizing the commissioner of state lands to lease mineral lands owned by the state, original locators having a preference for ninety days.

Providing that, as to all negotiable paper, the time intervening between Saturday noon and Sunday midnight be declared a legal holiday.

Granting debtors the right of possession of real property during the period of redemption.

To prevent destruction of miners' location stakes or notices, and providing a penalty.

Abolishing municipal courts in the cities of Spokane, Seattle and Tacoma on January 1, 1898, and giving justices of the peace jurisdiction to perform the work of municipal courts.

Creating a board of forest commissioners, consisting of the governor, treasurer, commissioner of public lands and the professors of forestry in the state university and agricultural college.

Providing for the disorganization of irrigation districts.

Requiring street cars to be provided with pilots, fenders or aprons.

Providing for the service of summons and complaints upon corporations in the hands of receivers.

For the protection of sturgeon in the Columbia.

Providing that at the general election to be held in November, 1898, there shall be but one justice of the peace and one constable elected in cities of the first class. The salary of justices is fixed at \$1,000, and of constables at \$720 per annum.

Amending the laws relative to fishing with view to the protection of salmon, and increasing the license for traps.

Defining the boundaries of Chehalis county.

Relating to estates of insane and incompetent persons.

Providing for a current expense fund in cities of the third class.

Relating to the settlement of estates of decedents.

Relating to arid land, and creating a commission for the reclamation of arid land and appropriating \$30,000 therefor.

Allowing corporations to become sureties on bonds of officials, and regulating such corporations.

To regulate insurance companies, requiring that policies be written by local agents; that a license be secured from the state, and that 2 per cent on all policies be paid to the state; that statements be published in two daily papers each year; that in case of a total loss the full amount of the policy be paid, and prohibiting insurance combinations.

Allowing road funds collected in city limits to be turned over to the municipality.

SESSION CONCLUDED.

The National Senate Adjourned the Extra Session Sine Die.

Washington, March 12.—There was an unusually large attendance of senators when Vice-President Hobart called the senate to order at noon today. The first business was the reading of a letter from Governor Bradley, of Kentucky, announcing the appointment of Andrew T. Wood as senator to succeed Blackburn. Hoar at once moved that the senator-elect be sworn in. Gorman moved that his credentials be referred to the committee on privileges and elections. Hoar said he would not object, and the credentials were referred.

Then Hoar presented a written notice of two proposed amendments to the rules of the senate of a radical nature. The most important was according to Hoar's written notice "To enable the senate to act on legislation when it desires after a reasonable debate." It provides that when any bill or resolution had been under consideration for more than one day, any senator could demand that the debate be closed. If a majority of the senators desired, there should be a vote without further delay, and no motion should be in order, pending a vote, but one to adjourn or take recess.

The other amendment proposed was to prevent interruption of members of the senate. It provides that when a senator makes a point of no quorum, there shall be a roll call, and if the presence of a quorum is disclosed business should proceed.

A memorial was presented by Shoup from the Idaho legislature, asking for the annexation of a part of Wyoming. It was not read. Warren said if the Wyoming legislature had been informed of the memorial, it would have taken action.

It was decided on motion of Hoar that when the senate adjourned, it should be until Monday at 11:30, but in executive session the senate reconsidered its action and agreed that adjournment would be sine die. This was found expedient, as no business could be transacted in half an hour Monday, and the nominations made in that half hour would fail if not immediately confirmed.

At 12:40 the special session adjourned.

Without Amendment.

Washington, March 12.—The senate committee on foreign relations today agreed to report the Alaskan boundary treaty with Great Britain without amendment or change. The arbitration treaty will be taken up at a special meeting of the committee.

IMPORTERS PANIC-STRICKEN.

Tariff Legislation Rumors Caused a General Alarm.

New York, March 12.—The World says:

The dispatch from Washington predicting that congress at its special session will at once increase the revenue by adding from 10 to 35 per cent to the schedules of the Wilson bill, has created a small panic among importers, and an almost unprecedented rush to get bonded goods out of the warehouses before the increase takes effect.

The proposed summary action of congress has taken merchants completely by surprise. While they were prepared for a special session to pass a new tariff bill, they expected that the new bill would occupy the attention of congress for at least six months, which would give them ample time to withdraw the \$19,500,000 of goods which were in bond on January 31. It had never occurred to them that congress might adopt a temporary measure for increasing the revenue, and the possibility of such a thing, with only about ten days to get their goods out of bond, at the present rate of duty, caused a genuine sensation. It is understood that Butterfield & Co., and other importers of dress goods are among the heaviest withdrawers.

In banking circles there is a greatly increased demand for loans on call paper. One bank made a loan of \$500,000 to a big importing firm for the purpose of withdrawing goods from bond, and the payment of duties thereon.

Idaho Legislature Has Adjourned.

Boise, Idaho, March 12.—The Idaho legislature adjourned at 2 o'clock this morning. Before adjournment a joint resolution was adopted providing for a commission of the governor, secretary of state and attorney-general to investigate the management of the state offices from the beginning of the state government. Five thousand dollars was appropriated to defray the expense.

The bill to reduce the salaries of state officers and judges of the supreme and district courts was passed with a number of amendments, the salaries of the justices being put back to \$3,000, and those of the district judges being fixed at \$2,500.

The bill to create the county of Clearwater was passed by the senate without amendment. Two irrigation bills were worked through in amended form, after a very stubborn fight.

Great Northern's Betterment.

Chicago, March 12.—The Great Northern is about to expend \$100,000 on the improvement of the equipment of its passenger trains. These are all to be vestibuled according to latest and most improved methods, and new equipment will be added.

THE NEW TARIFF BILL.

Will Be Introduced Soon After Congress Assembles.

Washington, March 11.—Chairman Dingley, of the ways and means committee, today said that he expected that the new tariff bill will be ready to introduce very soon after congress assembles. Speaking of the report that the law might provide that the duties assessed should go into effect immediately on the introduction of the bill, Mr. Dingley said it would be impossible, under the constitution of the United States, to make a law retroactive. In the United States, he said, imports must be assessed according to the law on the statute books at the time the goods were imported. The law could provide that goods still in bond should pay the new duty if they had not been withdrawn from bond at the time the law went into effect.

The committee had under consideration the sugar schedule, but reached no conclusion regarding it.

The free-list schedule was completed. Nearly all the remaining articles which had not been disposed of, and which were dutiable under the McKinley law, had been restored to the dutiable list at rates somewhat less than the McKinley rates. These additions to the dutiable list include some chemicals used in the manufacture of soaps, and it may be necessary to increase the duty which had been placed on soaps in the first draft of the bill, to make up for this change as to raw materials.

The pottery schedule has not yet been completed, and there is considerable question whether the ad valorem rates of the McKinley law shall be restored, or specific duties imposed.

THE OGDEN GATEWAY.

A Rumor That the Short Line Will Soon Open It.

Omaha, March 11.—Consternation was caused in Union Pacific circles this morning by the receipt of a rumor from Salt Lake City to the effect that it was definitely known that the Ogden gateway to the Utah, Idaho, Montana and Oregon territory, now controlled by the Union Pacific, would be opened to other railroads soon after the Short Line commenced to transact business on its own account. The news was most joyfully received by the Burlington, the Rock Island and the Missouri Pacific roads. General Manager Dickinson, of the Union Pacific, said:

"I have no information on the matter. Even should action be taken later, the announcement at this time, while the Oregon Short Line is a part of the Union Pacific system, is premature, to say the least."

General Passenger Agent Lomax, of the Union Pacific, said:

"The question of opening the Ogden gateway to other roads is one that probably will not be decided by the Short Line management for several months yet. I doubt if the policy of the road on that point has as yet been considered. The Short Line is a part of the Union Pacific, and that is about all I can say."

General Manager Holdrege, of the Burlington & Missouri, said:

"This is good news. I hope it is true. It would be a good thing for the Burlington, as well as other lines, for it would let them all into a territory where they desire very much to carry on business."

WILSON'S FIRST ORDER.

Concerns Exportation of Beef to European Ports.

Washington, March 11.—The first official order issued by Secretary Wilson, of the department of agriculture, made its appearance today. It concerns the exportation of beef to foreign countries, and provides:

"That from and after March 15, 1897, all beef offered for transportation to European ports, whether fresh, salted, canned, corned or packed, being the meat of cattle killed after the passage of the act under which this order is made, shall be accompanied by a certificate issued by an inspector of this department, showing that the cattle from which it was produced were free from disease, and the meat sound and wholesome. Until otherwise ordered, certificates will not be required with beef exported to other than European countries."

The original order of the secretary, of August 28, 1895, for carrying out the provisions of section 2 of the act under which the order is made, is postponed to the date set out in Secretary Wilson's circular.

The Lexow Report.

Albany, N. Y., March 11.—The resolution of the joint committee on trusts, which held several sessions in New York city last month, was submitted to the legislature today. It notes the fact that the decision of Judge Swayne on the federal constitution forbids action on the part of individual states to absolutely repress trusts, but expresses the belief that the attorney-general can, by bringing action before the supreme court judge. The bill which accompanies the report grants immunity to witnesses who incriminate themselves, and gives the supreme court subpoena power. A bill may be introduced to stop the factory system as used by the sugar trust.

Senator McCarren filed a minority report exonerating the sugar trust and saying the trust has made possible lower prices for the commodity.

CAUSED BY A WASHOUT

The Worst Railroad Accident in Years.

FIVE PEOPLE WERE KILLED

The "Cannon-Ball" Passenger Train Wrecked in Indiana—Engine and Two Cars Went Over Embankment

Princeton, Ind., March 12.—One of the worst railroad wrecks that has occurred in this vicinity for many years happened today at 3 o'clock to the Pittsburg and Nashville limited, north-bound over the Evansville & Terre Haute road, one mile north of Hazelton. The engine went over the embankment, falling a distance of fifteen feet, into six feet of water. The smoker was telescoped by the baggage car, and the ladies' car and sleeper remained on the track. The engineer says he was running twenty-five miles an hour, and when he approached the washout saw nothing but a small hole. The engine passed over it and went down the embankment. The dead are: George A. Seers, conductor; Joseph Bowman, fireman; three passengers, names unknown. Two were wounded seriously and several slightly.

All the passengers in the smoker are supposed to have been killed. Four bodies besides Conductor Seers were seen in the smoker as it broke loose and rolled down the embankment and floated off in the current.

Harry J. Hill, the baggageman, was the only member of the train crew that escaped unhurt.

Set a Dog Upon the Officer.

Chicago, March 12.—In order to avoid arrest, J. J. Duff turned a vicious dog loose on Officer Erickson yesterday, and as a result both are now in a hospital and it is feared the policeman may die.

Duff went home drunk, quarreled with his wife, and, after beating her severely, turned her from the house. She complained to the police, and Erickson was sent to arrest Duff. He found the doors locked, but was admitted by a small boy. Duff unlocked the big dog and the animal leaped at the officer, dragging him to the floor. He bit him several times in the face, lacerating the flesh. The policeman succeeded in getting his revolver from his pocket and fired, the bullet taking effect in the lower part of Duff's abdomen. The wounded man attempted to seize the officer's weapon and was himself attacked by the dog. Both men were lacerated by the dog's teeth, and when other officers arrived Erickson was unconscious. The men were removed to the hospital and the dog killed.

Secretary Sherman's Plan.

Washington, March 12.—Mr. Sherman has announced to his associates that he is in a fair way to make arrangements with Spain that will remove the great cause of irritation in Cuba. He has submitted to the Spanish government through Minister Taylor a proposition that American citizens who are suspected or convicted of complicity with the insurgents shall be immediately expelled from the island without imprisonment or prosecution, unless they shall voluntarily return and place themselves in jeopardy. The arrangement would not apply, however, to persons engaged in active hostilities or who have been taken with arms.

Mr. Sherman is also proposing to negotiate a treaty with Spain, by which the rights of naturalized citizens shall be defined.

Three Were Killed.

Colon, March 12.—A serious dispute occurred among the Jamaicans employed as laborers on the Culebra section of the Panama canal and others of the canal employes. The men finally became engaged in a fight which the police were unable to quell. The military authorities were called on for assistance, and a detachment of troops was sent to the scene of the disturbance. Their presence had the effect of restoring order. During the fighting three laborers were killed and several wounded. The Jamaicans are dissatisfied with the conditions under which they work, and numbers of them are applying to be sent back to their homes.

Easy Enough When You Know How.

Washington, March 12.—Just at a time when photographers had abandoned hope of discovering a really practicable process of color photography, a report to the state department from Consul-General Mason, at Frankfurt, gives a description of a means of doing this in a manner so simple and inexpensive as to be available to every photographer, thus opening a new era in reproductive art. The process is the discovery of Chasagne, a Persian savant, and is purely chemical.

Many Turks Were Killed.

Berlin, March 12.—A dispatch to the Cologne Gazette from Candia says in a fight between bashi bazonks and a detachment of insurgents before the gates of the town, sixty of the Turks were killed or wounded. The dispatch further announces that firing between the opposing forces continues, and the town is threatened with incendiarism.