

OREGON UNION

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AT CORVALLIS, OREGON. FRIDAY, JAN. 27, 1898.

We have received copies of the most important bills now pending before the legislature. Parties wishing to see them may do so by calling at the UNION office.

SEEMS INEVITABLE.

Will Benton's Boundaries be as in 1890—Seems a Mere Matter of Time.

The rush of bills has discontinued and the weeding out process has begun. In the senate there are over 160 bills read a second time and referred to committees so that the senate committees have all their spare time occupied. Many, very many, of these referred bills will find their grave in the committee room and never be heard of again. This to an outsider may seem a very frivolous way of doing business, but the people in this as in many other of their grievances are solely to blame. They insist on their representatives introducing foolish and impossible measures, that if passed would defeat the very object sought for, and so they are introduced, the representative fulfills his promise, and the bills lie quietly sleeping in the committee room grave yard. The bill to increase the number of judges of the supreme court which passed the house was defeated in the senate as was expected. In fact bills are frequently passed in the house with the expectation that they will be defeated in the senate, and this for obvious reasons.

A printed invitation was sent by mail here on Thursday last inviting the legislature to visit Corvallis and was presented and accepted in the house. It seemed to be fatherless for a time and fell rather flat, as no provision had been made for transportation. Senator Daly went to Portland on Friday and through the kindness of Mr. R. Kohler of the Southern Pacific secured a special train to convey the members to Corvallis. He introduced a joint resolution in the senate providing for a committee from both houses to take charge of the excursion and name a day for it. At this writing the day has not been named, but it will probably be Wednesday next. The way the members are talking now a good crowd may be expected and the citizens of Corvallis will have an opportunity to show their hospitality.

Petitions from the Lower Alsea country and from Corvallis numerous signed have been presented here praying for the division of Lincoln county and to attach the south end to Benton county. This would be a serious wrong to the north end of Lincoln county and no earthly benefit to Benton, but on the contrary a very great inconvenience and expense, and so the parties having the matter in charge were told that such a measure would not be allowed to go through the senate. This seemed to settle the matter at least for the time being, but efforts along that line will be continued, and the final solution to the matter will be Benton county as it was in 1890. It seems inevitable.

A most bitter fight is being made from ambush on the Daly educational bill, especially the text book clause, and at this writing there is no surety as to the result. One singular fact is that for the past two days only, letters have been pouring in on members from their county superintendents begging them to defeat the Daly bill. What is singular about it is that these remonstrances should have been held back until the day they expected the bill to come up for a third reading and that they should come in such a swarm and all at once. There is someone at headquarters somewhere engineering this opposition, without a doubt. These letters give no reasons why the Daly bill should be defeated, and my opinion is that the bill will pass.

The LaGrande sugar beet bounty will come up again soon and will, I think, be defeated.

There is a bill which has passed the house appropriating \$25,000 for fish hatcheries, which I think will be defeated in the senate. There are many other house bills creating log inspectors, wheat inspectors, and various other offices, but they are all doomed in the senate.

SELECTION OF TEXT BOOKS.

The efforts of those who antagonize the Daly law seem to be directed mainly against that feature of the bill concerning who shall constitute the text book commission and the manner of selecting the text books.

We publish these sections of the bill touching these points, that our readers may better understand discussions of them:

"In the month of January, in the year one thousand nine hundred and one, and in the month of January every four years thereafter, the governor shall appoint, from different sections of the state, a state board of five text book commissioners, who shall hold their offices until their successors are elected and qualified. The governor shall fill all vacancies in such board.

"In the month of February, in the year one thousand nine hundred and one, and in the month of February every six years thereafter, the state board of education shall, under the direction of the state board of education issue a circular, and mail a copy of the same to all the leading school-book publishers in the United States. Such circulars shall contain the following:

- 1. The name and postoffice address of each member of the state board of textbook commissioners.
2. The time and place of meeting of the state board of textbook commissioners to adopt textbooks.
3. The general form of bid to be followed by publishers in submitting textbooks for adoption.
4. The general form of contract to be entered into between the state board of education in behalf of the state, and a publisher whose book or books may be adopted.
5. The branches of study included in the state course of studies, for schools of all grades.
6. The provisions of this Act relating to the adoption of textbooks.
7. Such additional facts and information as may be deemed expedient.

"The state board of textbook commissioners shall meet at the state capitol on the second Monday in July, in the year one thousand nine hundred and one, and on the second Monday in July every six years thereafter, and continue in session for not less than fifteen days, exclusive of Sundays and other holidays, in a room to be designated by the state board of education. Four members shall constitute a quorum. They shall immediately organize by electing a chairman from among their number, and a competent person as secretary. No person holding any office under the state, or any county, shall be elected secretary.

"When organized, as provided in this act, the state board of textbook commissioners shall adopt textbooks for use in all the public schools of this state for six years. The sessions of the board shall be public and the vote upon the selection of each textbook shall be viva voce and the vote of each member shall be recorded in the minutes of the board. The adoption shall include textbooks for all branches of study specified in the state course of studies for schools of all grades, and no others. At least three votes shall be necessary to a choice of any textbook.

"The proposals of each publisher shall be submitted to the board in writing not later than the first day of the session of the board and shall contain the full title of each textbook proposed to be furnished by him, the date of copyright, the price at which it can be exchanged up to the thirty-first of December, inclusive, of the year of adoption for the corresponding textbooks then in use in the common schools, the introductory price, at which it will be sold to the patrons of the schools of this state up to the thirty-first day of December, inclusive, of the year of adoption, and the retail price thereafter during the period of adoption, and the proposal shall further contain an offer to furnish to the said patrons the textbooks described, or any one of them at prices, and no higher, than contained in the proposal, during the period of six years from their adoption, and to comply with the other requirements of this act.

"The said board may adopt or reject any textbook or all textbooks contained in any proposal, or if the price of any textbook in all the proposals shall be considered by the board unreasonably high or the book not suitable, the board may reject such textbook and thereafter,

at this same or a subsequent session receive new proposals for such book and adopt it in the same manner as above provided. No publisher shall have the right to have his proposal as to any textbook considered unless he shall have delivered to each member of the board one copy of such textbook, at least sixty days before the meeting of the board, free of cost.

"Each member of the state board of textbook commissioners, and the secretary elected by them, shall be paid one hundred dollars for attendance at each meeting required in this act, and a further sum sufficient to cover all actual traveling expenses incurred in attending such meeting. Any claim for compensation made under the provisions of this act shall be audited by the secretary of state, and paid out of any funds in the hands of the state treasurer not otherwise appropriated."

Our private opinion publicly expressed is that the book trust is behind the Daly bill, and knowing that public opinion is against them are masquerading as enemies of the bill.—Albany People's Press. We reprint the above, not because it is worthy of respect, nor to amuse those who have a keen sense of humor, but to show the nature and caliber of the opposition to Mr. Daly in his splendid fight against the book trust in the interest of the people. It is merely a "private opinion" born of a disordered intellect, backed by no effort at argument and lacking even a glimmer of reason. Such an opinion was to be expected, however, from a paper, which, a few months ago, solemnly declared that Hobson sank the Merrimac in Santiago harbor "to cover a gigantic steal on the part of the government."

A committee of the legislative assembly has been investigating the school book question and has decided to recommend a bill for an act placing the selection of textbooks in the hands of a committee appointed by the governor, instead of giving the county school superintendents such authority. The object is to secure a system of textbooks much cheaper than now and taking the control of the text-book question out of the hands of the American Book Company which has a monopoly contract till 1901. The American Book Co. is fighting the measure very vigorously. The chairman of the committee and the active opponent of the book trust is John D. Daly, senator from Benton and Lincoln, than whom there is no better, or more conscientious man to undertake this task, in the state of Oregon.—Junction City Times.

"The good men do lives after them," said Shakespeare, but that does not apply to old pioneers like Harrison R. Kincaid, whose petty shortcomings are more than overbalanced by good service rendered the people.—Capital Journal. Better wipe the dust off your Shakespeare, and look it over again Neighbor Hofer.—Corvallis Union. There is truth in our revised Shakespeare. Evil in the light of metaphysics is not only self-destructive but non-existent. The good alone survives. The many good things Harry Kincaid did will survive all the evil that can be said. Good is the only reality. But we don't expect the highest truth to be understood or appreciated by all.—Capital Journal. We accept the apology.

The Great McEwan.

McEwan, the hypnotist, has secured the opera house in this city for a season, beginning January 30th. McEwan has appeared in all the leading cities of America, and exchanges near at home speak in glowing terms of his wonderful ability. The Vancouver "Province" among other things says of him: The great McEwan closed his Vancouver engagement last night with an entertainment that from a point of interest and comedy excelled any of his previous performances. The subjects, fifteen in number, went through the most laughable kinds of antics and the telephone test was a wonderful success. The theatre was crowded as it has been every night McEwan has held the boards, and those in the audience were more than satisfied with what they saw.

Teachers' Notice.

In order to facilitate matters with the State Board of Examiners, Sup't J. H. Ackerman requests all applications for state diplomas and state certificates to be made at the regular quarterly examinations. The next examination occurs February 8, 1898.

G. W. DENSMAN, County Sup't.

CLOSING-OUT SALE. OF CLOTHING.

I have decided to retire from the Clothing business and will sell our immense stock of

MEN'S and BOYS' SUITS and EXTRA PANTS AT COST also LADIES' FINE SHOES and JACKETS.

As we have decided to close out these lines, we will force the sale of the entire lot till all are sold.

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Cut on scientific anatomical principles and fit the feet as nature intended. We unhesitatingly recommend them and guarantee them to give perfect satisfaction.

Only to be had of us in the city. Butryn and faced, \$3.50

NOLAN & CALLAHAN.

Levying Tribute.

That school patrons of Benton county may get some idea of the manner in which their pocket books are being fleeced by the book company which is now using every trick known to its cunning representatives to continue the graft, we publish the prices of text books in use in schools of Indiana and also the price paid for similar books in Oregon: Text Book Oregon. Indiana. Readers. First.....\$.25.....\$.10 Second......40......15 Third......55......25 Fourth......80......30 Fifth.....1.00......40 Geography Elementary......65......30 Complete.....1.25......75 In this state a mental arithmetic is used, the price of which is 25 cents, and a written arithmetic for which we pay 95 cents. The Indiana schools use an elementary arithmetic costing 35 cents and a complete arithmetic the price of which is 45 cents. The difference in the price of text books in Idaho or Washington is such that the parent in Oregon who started his child to school with a set of new books last fall, paid the American Book Co. a bonus of \$1.50 for the privilege of doing so.

Wanted.

To employ a young person, skilled in shorthand and typewriting, good penman, accurate in figures, with careful habits, able to glean information from county records. Apply in writing to "THE OREGON UNION."

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J. M. Cameron carries the largest and best selection of robes in the state of Oregon, outside of Portland. They have just received a very large invoice direct from the factory, and the low prices at which they sell them will astonish you. The prices range from 50 cents upward. They have a full line of saddles and harness, and other supplies in their line either bought for cash or manufactured in their own establishment. The price cannot be beat, and the quality they guarantee.

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Teachers' Examination.

Notice is hereby given that for the purpose of making an examination of all persons who may offer themselves as candidates for teachers of the schools of this county, the superintendent thereof will hold a public examination in his office at Corvallis, Benton county, Oregon, on Wednesday, February 28th, at the hour of 1 o'clock p. m. All applicants not present at the beginning will not be permitted to enter the examinations. Strangers must furnish the superintendent with recommendations as to their good character before they will be entitled to take the examinations. G. W. DENSMAN, School Supt. Benton Co., Oregon. Dated this 27th day of January, 1898.

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Rebate tickets on sale between Portland, Sacramento and San Francisco. Net rates, \$7.00 first-class and \$7.00 second-class, including sleeping. For tickets and information regarding rates, maps, etc., call on company's agent, A. K. MILLER at Corvallis. E. P. ROWERS, Asst. G. F. & P. Agent, Portland, Oregon.

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