

## FAVOR STATE BUREAU OF BANKING, INSURANCE AND STATE ACCOUNTS

Prominent Bankers, Business and Insurance Men Believe Such Body Would Solve Many Puzzling Problems in Regard to Financial Affairs.

A state bureau of banking, insurance and state accounts to watch carefully and periodically examine the condition of all banks in Oregon; to supervise, investigate and admit all insurance companies allowed to do business in the state, and to see that all money due from each and every county to the state treasury is transmitted to the state treasury in a timely manner, is the latest phase of the agitation for a bank examiner and new insurance laws and regulations for Oregon.

A number of the prominent insurance men, bankers and business men of Portland, and the state at large, have been paying considerable attention to the needs of legislative remedy for existing laxities in banking and insurance laws and have been searching for the best and most effective cure for present abuses. They have been examining the laws of other states and have noted the great advantage gained in Idaho and other states by the creation of a banking and insurance bureau to which is delegated all the business and investigations of those branches of business with the added duty of seeing that the counties do not cheat the state out of money due for taxes, or other revenue.

**Favor the Bureau.**

These men, who at present are modest about the public use of their names, have come to the conclusion that it would be well for the legislature to provide for the bureau named, and to allow the state board, or the legislature itself, to appoint or select some thoroughly competent and trustworthy man as chief of the bureau, under whose direction and control all its work could be carried on. According to their ideas this chief should be allowed to appoint as deputies and clerks men who are skilled in banking and insurance.

The duties of the deputy appointed to look after the banking end of the bureau would be, in fact, those of a state bank examiner, as that officer exists in some states. He would make an examination of all the banks in the state at certain stated intervals of time, would see that their books were kept in good shape, would see that the securities taken were trustworthy, the notes given well guarded, and would, in short, protect the interests of the people in every way possible. He would

make full and complete report of all examinations made by him and publish these reports for the information of the general public.

**Insurance Protection.**

The duties of the deputy dealing with the insurance department of the bureau would be those of an insurance commissioner. He would examine into the condition of each company wishing to do business in the state and would determine before admitting it that it was entirely solvent; that its policies were fair, and that the public would run no risk of loss by dealing with it.

The state accountant of the bureau would have oversight of all county books in the state. He would put into use a systematic system of bookkeeping so that one examiner would be able to make quick and correct investigation of any set of county books in the state. He would also see that all taxes due the state were paid and that the state treasury received every cent due.

It is argued in behalf of this proposed measure that one man could not well be bank examiner under extraordinary conditions which might arise, nor could one insurance commissioner meet unusual requirements, and that no provision is being thought of for the protection of the state from the small leaks in transmission of state money due from the counties. It is argued that such a law would save thousands of dollars that are now going to state officials, or being lost through extravagant and inefficient means of accounting.

**Will Have Bill Drafted.**

It is the intention of the men who are discussing the measure to have a bill drafted on the general lines set out and following the tried and proved laws of other states. This bill will then be presented to the legislature and it is expected that by the time it comes up for hearing, or by the time of its presentation, it will have the united backing of all insurance and banking interests in the state. Preliminary steps are now being taken toward the drafting of the bill.

Another mystery is why paper always tears just the opposite way from what you want it to.

## TYPOS HAVE BILL TO INTRODUCE

Salem Union Printers Plan New Scheme for State Printing Office.

**WOULD HAVE BUILDING WITH STATE PLANT**

**Would Also Put State Printer on Flat Salary of Three Thousand Dollars Per Year and Appropriate Money for Expenses.**

Salem union printers have come to the front in the controversy over the state printing office with the draft of a bill which will be presented to the coming legislature providing for the erection of a state printing building upon ground to be purchased by the state, and the installation of a new and modern printing plant in this new building.

It is further provided by the bill that the state printer shall be put upon a stated salary of \$3,000 a year.

In the statement which has been issued with the draft of the bill sent to the various members of the legislature, the authors of the proposed measure declare that it is their intention to attempt to place the state printing plant upon a solid and fair business basis. This will be a great saving to the state, the authors of the bill say, and will also give added room to the officials of the state and to the legislature for the public work of the state.

**Officials Favor Bill.**

The bill is said to meet with the favor of the officials of the state house who are much annoyed at the noise and jar of the printing presses and other machinery. The noise made by the many presses can be heard throughout the entire building and in some parts is so great that the transaction of business is much interfered with.

It is considered at the state house also that the printing plant is a menace to the building. It has been in the one room for many years, practically since 1878, and the floor is saturated with oil, while oil is bulk and inflammable ink and paper are stored there. The oil is also quartered across the hall from the heating plant. It is thought to be unwise therefore for the printing plant to remain where it is.

These arguments have been made for some time and have been crystallized in the bill which has been drawn up by the printers' union.

**What Bill Provides.**

The bill provides that the governor, state treasurer and secretary of state be empowered to act as a state board of building commissioners. This board shall have the power to acquire some convenient and suitable location for the erection of a state printing plant, which shall be either secured by purchase or condemnation. The measure provides for the appropriation of \$10,000 with which to purchase the site. It is further provided that an appropriation of \$5,000 be made for the erection of a state printing building while \$20,000 more is provided for the purchase of the printing plant proper.

The union has also drawn a second bill, co-acting with the first, which provides that the state printer shall be placed upon a flat salary of \$3,000 a year. It is stipulated in this law that the state board of printing commissioners, consisting of the secretary of state, attorney general and state printer shall have charge of all printing done by the state printing office and shall govern the amount of work done, the amount of stock bought and all the details of the office.

It is intended that this bill shall be in effect after January, 1908, and it is estimated that the state printer should be given a salary of \$3,000, while he should be allowed \$2,000 for labor, \$5,000 for incidentals, and \$15,000 for printing and materials.

Copies of these drafts have been sent to the different members of the legislature and it is expected by the authors that both drafts will meet with the favorable consideration of the legislature.

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Porterhouse Steak.....	12½¢	Lamb Stew.....	5¢
"T" Bone Steak.....	12½¢	Leg Pork.....	12½¢
Tenderloin Steak.....	10¢	Pork Shoulder Chops.....	12½¢
Sirloin Steak.....	10¢	Pork Shoulder Roast.....	12½¢
Round Steak.....	10¢	Leaf Lard.....	12½¢
Hamburg Steak.....	10¢	Salt Pork.....	12½¢
Rump Roast Beef.....	8¢	Pork Loin Roast.....	15¢
Pot Roast Beef.....	8¢	Pork Loin Chops.....	15¢
Corned Beef.....	8¢	Our Own Lard, 5 lbs.....	60¢
Boiling Beef.....	5¢	Our Own Bacon.....	17½¢
Liver.....	5¢	Hams.....	17¢

THERE IS A PORT OF PORTLAND MEAT GRAFT  
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## TERRITORIAL GOVERNOR OF WASHINGTON DIES

George E. Cole's Found Dead in His Room at the Oregon Hotel.

George E. Cole, ex-governor of Washington territory, and at one time postmaster of Portland, was found dead in his room at the Oregon hotel yesterday afternoon at 1 o'clock. While it was never known that Mr. Cole was a sufferer from heart disease, it is thought that he died of that complaint.

Mr. Cole came to Portland Sunday morning and seemed in his usual health. He went to his room at 8 o'clock, and nothing more was seen of him until his body was found. Coroner Finley was called, and gave the opinion that the aged pioneer had been dead for nearly 10 hours. Mr. Cole was on his way to California, where he was in the habit of spending the winter months. He was about 80 years of age, and for the last few years had been living on his estate at Fairfield, Washington.

Not only was Mr. Cole one of the oldest pioneers on the coast, but one of the most popular. For a number of years he was a member of the Oregon territorial legislature, then postmaster of Portland from 1878 to 1881. He was also governor of Washington before it was a state. He had but one daughter living at the time of his death, Mrs. Ella Lehigh, formerly of this city, but now residing in California.

Dr. Mae Cardwell, whose husband, Dr. J. R. Cardwell, was a brother-in-law of Mr. Cole, stated last night that she never knew of the dead man suffering from heart trouble. Mr. Cole called upon Dr. Cardwell on his arrival in Portland and arranged for a visit yesterday.

The deceased was born in Trenton, New Jersey, December 23, 1826, and when quite young moved to Illinois. He joined the 49th rush to San Francisco, and came to Portland the following year. He returned to California for a year, but came back to Oregon. He was elected to the Oregon territorial legislature in 1861. Two years later he married Miss Mary E. Cardwell at Corvallis. He served in the United States district court from 1869 to 1871. In 1868 he was elected to congress from Washington territory, and served two terms. He served four years as governor of Washington territory from 1872 to 1876. Mr. Cole then returned to Portland and was appointed postmaster of this city in 1873. He held the position until 1881. He afterwards moved to Spokane, and was elected treasurer of Spokane county in 1888, which position he held until 1893. He then retired from active life and lived quietly at Spokane and Fairfield, making an annual pilgrimage to California every winter to escape the cold weather.

**ONE THOUSAND IN DAMAGES ASKED**

Suit for \$1,000 damages from the O. W. P. & Ry. company for personal injuries was filed in the state circuit court yesterday by W. A. Cox, a Kenton man. Cox alleges that on August 12 of this year, he was riding on the front platform of O. W. P. car No. 46. The controller of the car was out of repair and the motorman removed the shield and endeavored to adjust the mechanism, says Cox. While the shield was off the motorman is alleged to have turned on the current, and a blinding flash of electricity leaped out and damaged Cox's eyes. He says he lost \$300 in special fees because of the injuries to his eyes, which he believes to be permanent. Roscoe R. Johnson appears as attorney for Cox.

## BIG BUILDING TO BE REMODELED

Chamber of Commerce Slated to Undergo Extensive Repairs in the Spring.

Plans for interior improvements to be made next spring at a cost of about \$50,000 are being drawn by D. C. Williams, architect, for W. D. Hofstus, owner of the Chamber of Commerce building. The present chamber of commerce quarters, which occupy one large, high-ceilinged room, will be divided into three floors, and 24 offices added.

The structural work for these floors will be of steel, and the space will be divided in form similar to that of the upper stories of the building. The chamber of commerce will occupy practically the same quarters on the second floor. The corridors of the entire building will be floored with white tiling. Work on these improvements will be commenced in May, and while the work is being carried on the chamber organization will have offices elsewhere in the building.

It is estimated that the tiling of the corridors in the seven floors above the ground floor will cost about \$15,000. The remodeling of the chamber of commerce auditorium will be done at a cost of about \$20,000. Including the rebuilding of the eighth story, burned by the fire that destroyed the Commercial club's quarters, the present owners of the building will expend \$100,000 in its rehabilitation.

A large force of plasterers are now engaged in the eighth story, where the corridors in the seven floors above the ground floor will be installed. The entire floor is rented to various business and professional firms. When the remodeling of the building is complete it will contain 320 offices. Major Sillars, the local manager, has just purchased at a cost of \$400 a new directory, to be installed on the wall at the south entrance, in the main lobby.

MARK C. STEENSTADT, who has been enslaved in the building for 12 years, and who is said to have operated the first passenger lift in Portland, has been installed as information agent and superintendent of the main lobby and elevator service. Numerous improvements are being made in the interior appearance of the building. The fine oak woodwork has been given new finish, the walls and ceilings new tint, the chandeliers and lighting equipment cleaned, and the plumbing overhauled. The stone exterior will be cleaned and freshened by the sand blast process, as was the outside of the federal building at Morrison and Fifth streets.

## CLERK TO ANSWER FOR EMBEZZLEMENT

Morris Fleishman, charged with the embezzlement of \$83 from Woodard, Clarke & Co., where he was employed as superintendent, was bound over to the circuit court yesterday by Judge Cameron. The defendant waived a preliminary examination, and his bonds were fixed at \$1,500. As he was unable to secure bail, he was remanded to the custody of the sheriff. Fleishman, after his crime, fled to Vancouver, British Columbia, and was brought back to this city by Detective Jones. Nearly all of the money he is alleged to have stolen was found in his possession when he was arrested by the British Columbia police.

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Assets, \$72,000,000. Annual income, \$15,000,000.

ROLLA V. WATT, PACIFIC COAST MANAGER.

## CARL EVANS ESCAPES SEVERE PUNISHMENT

Carl Evans, expressman and former member of the fire department, who was tried last week on a charge of contempt of court for endeavoring to induce F. D. Lloyd, complaining witness against "Chick" Houghton, accused of highway robbery, to testify with the city was found guilty yesterday by Judge Cameron and fined \$50. The court in announcing his decision in the case, stated that the testimony was conclusive of Evans' guilt. The imposition of a fine came as a surprise, as it was thought that in view of the circumstances a jail sentence would result.

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