

### WEBSTER SHIPPED IN BILL

#### County Judge to Be Shorn of Power as Result of Old Political Fight.

### NOTHING BUT PROBATE BUSINESS FOR HIM

#### Wings of Republican Party in Multnomah Using Machinery of Legislature to Pay Off Debts That Are Long Overdue.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)  
Salem, Feb. 15.—If the senate concurs in the decision of the house, upon the recommendation of the Multnomah delegation, County Judge L. E. Webster will be deprived of whatever power and authority he heretofore has held in the administration of county business, and will be separated from the board of county commissioners, and his jurisdiction limited to probate work alone. The Beutgen bill, together with much other Multnomah county legislation, passed the house last night.

According to the terms of the new bill, which has gone to the senate, Judge Webster is to have no part in the business administration of the county. He is to be severed from all work that has been done or was planning to do in the construction of roads and highways in the county; he will have no more power or authority at the rock quarry at Kelly Butte, no voice in the appointment of any deputy sheriff or other county official; he is in fact to be limited to the routine of the probate court.

The Beutgen measure has been in course of incubation for several months. It creates one new county commissioner, who will be named by the legislature on the recommendation of the Multnomah delegation. It is the intention of the delegation to name some well known legislator as deputy sheriff of the county. The appointee is to hold office until after the election in June, 1908, and is to be the chairman of the board. All county commissioners are to receive \$75 a month.

The proposition is a political move directed at Judge Webster and his wing of the Republican party in Multnomah county. Its real purpose is to deprive him of all patronage and deplete his influence as much as possible. It is also a result of the old feud between Sheriff Stevens and Judge Webster, and one step more toward the entire success of the sheriff in securing everything he wants as regards the entire self-management and perquisites of his office.

A patron for the county jail at a salary of \$90 a month was also provided in a bill passed at the night session, which was largely beneficial to Multnomah officials. The county had its findings, and on the recommendation of the delegation the house passed a bill raising the salary of the county surveyor to \$150 per month and allowing him a mileage at the rate of 10 cents a mile for all traveling done in the discharge of his duty.

Salaries of the deputies in the sheriff's office were raised and fixed as follows: Chief deputy, \$1,500 a year; three assistants at \$1,200, three other deputies at \$1,250; six deputies at \$1,000 in the tax department, and five in the executive department at \$1,200. It is further provided that the sheriff may have the authority to appoint as many extra deputies as may be deemed necessary at any time, the compensation to be paid as that of the other deputies in paid. The house also fixed the salary of the county treasurer at \$2,000 a year and granted him one deputy at a salary not to exceed \$75 a month. The salary of the county superintendent of instruction was fixed at \$2,500 a year.

### CANDIDATES' EXPENSES

#### Would-be Senators May Only Spend Two Thousand Dollars Hereafter.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)  
Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—A corrupt practice act was passed by the senate yesterday. The bill passed was framed by the judiciary committee by combining the bills introduced by Senators Bingham and Coshaw, and provides that the treasurer of every political committee and every candidate must file with the secretary of state a detailed account of all expenditures by the committee or candidate. The statements must be filed within 10 days after each election.

### MONEY FOR EDUCATION

#### Oregon Agricultural College Gets a Largely Increased Appropriation.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)  
Salem, Feb. 15.—Senator Johnson at last succeeded in getting his bill for \$50,000 a year for the maintenance of the Oregon Agricultural College through the senate. The college has had only \$25,000 a year for the last 10 years, though the institution has grown rapidly. Johnson's bill as originally drawn called for an appropriation of \$50,000 a year, but Senator Kay succeeded in having it reduced to \$37,500. When the bill came up for final passage yesterday Johnson amended it by reinserting the \$50,000, and the bill passed.

Multnomah Falls will not be robbed of their beauty by water being taken for modern industries. Senator Sichel's bill providing that the water of Multnomah creek may not be taken for power to develop mineral resources, or for any other purpose, was passed by the senate yesterday without a dissenting vote, and sent to the house, where it is believed there will be no difficulty in getting the bill passed.

### STATE LIGHT PLANT

#### Nottingham's Bill Provides for Lighting State Institutions.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)  
Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—An appropriation of \$15,000 for a state lighting plant for the various state institutions is provided in a bill by Senator Nottingham. It is practically the report of the special committee on lighting, of which Nottingham is chairman. It is left in the discretion of the state board of control whether the state shall erect its own plant or renew the contract it now has with the Citizens Light and Power company of Salem.

### SOLONS DO NOT WANT TO WALK

#### Reconsider Vote by Which There Will Be a Chance to Get Free Transportation.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)  
Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—When it was fully realized by the members of the senate that they were likely to have to pay railroad fare to and from, as a result of defeating the Freeman compulsory pass bill, thereby making operative the rigid anti-pass provisions of the Chapin commission bill, energetic steps were taken to change the objectionable character of the bill.

Some active work was done among the senators who had voted against the compulsory pass bill, and when the senate convened in the afternoon enough votes had been changed to reconsider the vote of the morning and pass the bill. The Chapin bill had been amended to harmonize with the compulsory pass bill by excepting from its restrictions those public officials to whom the giving of passes should be required by law. It was intended that the Freeman bill should be the law which should require the giving of passes to public officials. But when the Freeman bill was defeated by the senate it meant that there would be no such law, and that the legislators would have to comply with the anti-pass clause of the Chapin bill at once, which, because of the emergency clause, will become operative as soon as the governor signs it. This would prohibit the legislators from using passes they now have to get home from Salem.

The Freeman bill was defeated at the morning session by the vote of 12 to 15, as follows:  
Ayes—Bailey, Beach, Bowerman, Cole, Hodson, Langhary, Malarkey, McDonald, Miller of Linn and Marion, Sichel, Wright.  
Nays—Bingham, Booth, Caldwell, Coshaw, Hart, Hedges, Johnson, Kay, Laycock, Miller of Linn, Scholfield, Smith of Marion, Smith of Umatilla, Wheelodon, Haines.

After two hours' work by Senator Wright and Representative Perkins the following five senators who had voted against the bill were persuaded to vote in favor of it: Caldwell, Johnson, Scholfield, Smith of Umatilla, and Haines. Senator Nottingham, who was absent when the bill was voted on in the morning, joined the forces who were working to secure the passage of the measure, and the vote was thus brought up to 18.

Senator Johnson moved for the reconsideration, which aroused the opposition of Hedges, who has been fighting the compulsory pass bill all through the session. He declared that the Freeman bill was unconstitutional, immoral and wrong. Senator Booth said that when he first heard of the idea of compelling the railroads to issue free transportation to public officials he thought it was a joke, and was sorry that it was serious. On reconsideration the bill was passed with two votes to spare. The vote follows:

Ayes—Bailey, Beach, Bowerman, Caldwell, Cole, Hodson, Johnson, Langhary, Malarkey, McDonald, Miller of Linn and Marion, Sichel, Smith of Umatilla, Wright, Haines.  
Nays—Bingham, Booth, Coshaw, Hart, Hedges, Kay, Laycock, Miller of Linn, Smith of Marion, Wheelodon.

It is generally believed that the efforts of the men who brought about the reconsideration of the vote and the final passage of the bill have been in vain, as the governor is expected to veto the Freeman bill as soon as it gets into his hands, and in such a case the legislators will have to pay their fare home any way.

### NEW DESKS FOR SENATORS

#### Appropriation for Nearly a Million and Quarter Dollars Passes.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)  
Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—The general appropriation bill for \$1,253,370 for stated expenses of the state government has passed the senate. The only objection it encountered was met while it was being considered by the senate as a committee of the whole. Senator Beach endeavored to have the appropriations for traveling expenses for the various state officials stricken out, but was unsuccessful.

New desks are sought by the senators, and an amendment to the general bill, which authorizes the purchase of new chairs also, but was voted down. There was no increase in the amount of the appropriation on account of the desks, which are to be paid for out of a fund of \$25,000 for repairs and improvements in the capitol building. Traveling expense for the attorneys-general were reduced from \$2,000 to \$1,500. An appropriation of \$5,000 to pay expenses of litigation has also been increased by Senator Johnson, who wanted it reduced to \$2,500; his motion was defeated. The appropriation for the labor commissioner, which had been increased from \$5,200 to \$5,500 in the house, was reduced to the original figure by the senate. The appropriation for the board of horticulture was reduced from \$9,900 to \$5,900.

### NEW OREGON CODE

#### Made Necessary by San Francisco Fire, Which Destroyed Plates.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)  
Salem, Feb. 15.—The secretary of state's meager supply of Oregon codes is exhausted and the San Francisco publishers of the code have only 23 copies on hand, as the plates were destroyed by the San Francisco fire. As additional volumes cannot be printed, the available supply will be exhausted very soon.

To relieve this condition Senator Cole introduced a bill providing for a new compilation of the code, the supreme court to appoint two commissioners for this purpose. It is directed that they shall include the laws passed by the legislature and that the new codes shall be ready for distribution November 1, 1908. They are to be printed by the state printer. The bill carries an appropriation of \$15,000. If the bill does not pass there will be no codes for general distribution nor to supply the members of the next legislature.

### POSTPONED IN SENATE

#### Bill to Declare Associated Press Common Carrier Falls.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)  
Salem, Feb. 15.—Hodson's bill to declare the Associated Press a common carrier was killed by the process of indefinite postponement in the senate this morning. The judiciary committee made an adverse report on the bill. Who is Metzger? He sits your eyes for \$1.00. 1111 Sixth street.

### COULD NOT MAKE JOKER STICK

#### Freeman Charged With Undertaking to Legislate Through House Clerk.

### EASY ENOUGH IF ONE LITTLE WORD LEFT IN

#### State Land Board Would Have Been Compelled Instead of Merely Permitted to Take Important Action in Tainted Land Titles.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)  
Salem, Feb. 15.—Frank Freeman of Multnomah nearly slipped a joker into the state land code yesterday, and had it not been for the watchfulness of State Land Agent Oswald West the amendment offered would have passed unnoticed and the whole intent of the new land code might have been perverted. As it was, the bill had to be called back from the engrossing committee and rectified.

The incident occurred when the land code was before the committee of the whole. There was no opposition to the code as presented, until section 35 was reached, when Freeman offered an amendment to the provision that where persons have purchased lands on fraudulent certificates or forged applications, ignorant of the nature of the prior transaction, the board might either refund the money paid or issue deeds to the land. Freeman offered the following amendment:

"Said board may (shall) on full compliance by said innocent holder with the law, including full payment of purchase price and surrender of said certificate and assignment thereof to said board, issue to said innocent certificate holder a deed from the state for the land included in said certificate as provided by law."

Freeman attacked the governor and the land board in defending his amendment. He said that under the provision of the law as it was intended the power of refunding was discretionary. Chamberlain, he said, had voted to issue certificates and deeds to some innocent purchasers and had by the same token refused them to others just as deserving. He had discriminated, he said. McCus opposed, saying it would make it mandatory upon the board to refund all money paid or issue deeds and would give them no discretion.

The amendment was lost. Freeman then asked that he might change the word "shall" to "may," thus making it discretionary, and attach the amendment to the end of the section. The house consented to this and Freeman sent the amendment to the desk. He explained that the intent of his clause was to give the board power to return either money or lands if it deemed the holder of fraudulent certificates entitled to the treatment. As soon as the amendment was adopted and incorporated in the bill by vote of the house, Freeman went to the desk and told the clerk to retain the word "shall," which was still on the paper sent up by him, contrary to the intention and expectation of the house. The amendment went to the engrossing committee, where West found it and had the bill brought back to the house for correction.

The amendment offered by Freeman in the first instance was in line with the bill offered by him in the interest of a wealthy family of Portland, and the effect of the amendment would have been to place command upon the state land board to pay not only the particular claim, but hundreds of others. The bill finally passed, with no negative votes.

### FIGHT ON SALMON KING

#### Speaker Davey Joins in and Makes Attack on Vawter.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)  
Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—R. D. Hume, the salmon king of the Rogue river country, was made the pivot of a bitter fight in the house over the regulation of the salmon fishing in the Rogue river and its tributaries. Vawter called up house bill No. 290. Jewell of Josephine insisted that his bill, No. 144, should be taken up first. The chair ruled with Jewell.

These bills are similar. The Vawter bill does not change the existing law as to the month of the river, where the Hume canneries are, while the Jewell bill regulates these as well as the upper river.

Personalities were thick. Jewell said he and Vawter had drawn No. 290, but R. D. Hume had heard of it and after he had reached the scene Vawter had decided the bill would not do, and so had drawn another, leaving out the personalities.

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Hume interests from all regulation. Vawter said the gillnetters and seines had ruined the Rogue river; they fished under the spillways of the dams. He also said Jewell was the treasurer of an association of these men, who had violated the law.

Davey took the floor in defense of the Jewell bill. He roared R. D. Hume, as "this man who has inspired, blundered or defeated legislation, and has then gone away and boasted that he could do as he pleased with the Oregon legislature. Had there been nothing in the Jewell bill which touched the Hume interests there would have been no second bill introduced here."

Vawter said Davey's remarks were balderdash. Davey replied in the most caustic manner, referring to the disappointed speaker's hopes of Vawter as a motive. The colloquy showed in the open for the first time the fact that the old organization sore had not healed during the busy times of the session.

### TWO NORMAL SCHOOLS

#### House Passes Smith Bill, Which Is Now in Governor's Hands.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)  
Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—Oregon is to have two normal schools. The house has passed the Smith bill providing for two from July 1, 1907, until the next session of the legislature, and the measure is now up to the governor. What his action will be is unknown, though it is common report that the Smith bill was drawn, in the first place, "to put the governor in a hole."

It is the sense of the house that appropriations be made for all the schools to cover the period extending from January 1, the time that the last appropriation ran out, until July, the date set in the Smith bill for two of the schools to go out of existence.

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bring their sheep into their holdings without delay. The bill provides for the appointment of a state inspector and authorizes the dipping of sheep. The measure has been demanded by the sheep growing interests and the Umatilla county delegation was elected upon the platform that it would secure adequate sheep legislation.

### PORT OF COLUMBIA

#### Citizens People Fight It, but Council of Columbia Supports.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)  
Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—Clatsop county does not want to come into the Port of Columbia, and has filed a minority report in the house asking that the Port of Columbia bill do not pass. The Clatsop county people have stuck on the pilotage provisions of the chamber of commerce measure and look at the bill as simply a measure to take away from Astoria and give to Portland the pilotage business of the Columbia river.

The pilots," said McCus, who signed the minority report, "have done the best they can. That the service at the bar is not all that could be desired is the fault of the Oregon Navigation company and its tugboat service."

Council of Columbia county has swung into line with Multnomah. He has heard from the sawmills of Rainier, which make up the commercial interests of Columbia county in large part. These

desire the Port of Columbia. Council is also practically a Portland man and is friendly to Portland interests.

### CORVALLIS BILL THROUGH

#### Hundred and Fifty Thousand.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)  
Salem, Feb. 15.—The house passed yesterday the appropriation of \$150,000 asked for by the Agricultural college at Corvallis. Considerable opposition developed against the bill on account of the large size of the appropriation and it was only saved from defeat by the hurried entrance of several members who had gone into the corridors before the voting began.

### LABOR IS SKEPTICAL

#### Boyers' Bill May Be in Interest of Corporations, Is Charged.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)  
Salem, Or., Feb. 15.—The house passed Boyer's bill which makes it unlawful for any lawyer or firm of lawyers to solicit damage suits at hospitals, factories or institutions where accidents may occur. It has been alleged that the bill was drawn in the interest of employers and

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Hanan's, Boyden's Patent and Enamel Lace and Bluchers; regular price \$4.00; now.....	\$4.15
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