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Oregon Daily Journal

DAILY WITH HER THE UNION SHE FLIES OWN WINGS

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LEGISLATURE ENDS WORK OF SESSION

Official Finish Came at Noon But Real Death at Much Later Hour This Afternoon

Governor Names Will R. R. King of Ontario and James H. Slater of Salem as Supreme Court Commissioners—Both Houses Swamped.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)

Salem, Feb. 23.—The legislature is being held up by the clerks of the engrossing and enrolling committees, who refuse to work unless paid overtime for part of the session and for the extra work now waiting. The house engrossing committee has 11 long bills, amended in the senate waiting engrossment.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)

Salem, Or., Feb. 23.—The twenty-fourth biennial session of the legislature officially skidooed at one minute past noon today on Feb. 23, though in reality the adjournment did not come until much later in the afternoon. Just as the whistles were blowing for the noon hour the janitor of the state house appeared in the senate chamber with a step ladder and stopped the big clock back of the president's chair, while the senate went on grinding without interruption save a ripple of laughter.

The house had finished all consideration of business and was standing at ease waiting for the finish of business yet unconsidered by the senate. When the janitor and his ladder appeared in the hall of representatives he was greeted with cheers.

Swamped by Bills.

The house enrollment and engrossing committees are swamped by bills sent to them as the result of senate amendments to house bills. Out of all the house bills sent to the senate and passed by that body, there is hardly one which has not come back to the house amended. The house in most cases has concurred, necessitating engrossment or enrollment, or both, before the bills could be signed by the presiding officers. This fact is largely responsible for the fact that the legislature could not adjourn shortly after the noon hour.

The senate took up a good deal of time at the morning session to consider the special appropriation bill. It amended the house bill by striking out $2,500 given to Jefferson Myers and putting back $2,500 for ventilation of house and senate chambers. The house, to save the whole bill, was forced to recede from its position and concur.

Important Legislation.

The session has been a notable one in point of work and legislation. Many important laws have been considered and passed. The railroad commission, the banking law, the assessment code, the supreme court commissioners, have been provided for, together with other important legislation.

On the other hand, throughout the session corporate influences have been treated kindly. Land grant grafts, taxation reforms, directed against companies holding property, not reported under the existing law, and such legislation has met with unkind treatment in the senate especially. It has been

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FREE CAR RIDES, JOHNSON'S PLAN

Mayor of Cleveland Says That Streetcars Should Be Free to Everyone, the Same as Highways and Bridges Are.

(Journal Special Service.)

Cleveland, Ohio, Feb. 23.—"I am pleased with the virtual victory the 3-cent fare has obtained," said Mayor Johnson today, "merely because it is a big step toward what I really want—that is, free street cars. Eventually I hope to see them as free to passengers as the air they breathe.

"I have fought for the 3-cent fare because it is two cents nearer nothing than is five cents. Street cars ought to be as free as elevators. Fares used to be collected on bridges and turnpikes, but such tolls have a mediaval sound now. So will street car taxation of fares, some time.

"A proper system of taxation would yield sufficient funds to operate street car lines without burdening the people. With free cars, a workingman could chose his home where he would. Congested districts would disappear.

"I operated a free system once. That was in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, after the flood. We had to run free, because no one had any money. But people didn't ride unless they needed to ride. There was no wonderful rush after something for nothing."

COUNTESS FLEES FROM THAW CASE

Prisoner's Sister Said to Have Returned to England to Avoid the Notoriety of Trial

Feared That Jerome Will Change Tactics Coming Week and Send Thaw to Insane Asylum by Testimony of Family Physicians.

(Journal Special Service.)

New York, Feb. 23.—It is reported today that the Countess of Yarmouth has eliminated herself from the Thaw case. She has not visited the criminal court since the day the judge told the women to leave during unpleasant testimony. As far as known, she has not visited her brother at the Tombs. It is reported that she has returned to England incognito, ashamed at the disagreeable notoriety which is said to have disgusted her.

Evelyn Nesbit Thaw visited her husband today. She was alone and spent several hours with Harry Thaw. She looks much better than she did yesterday and has apparently recovered from her nervousness. Undoubtedly she will be able to return to the stand Monday.

To Declare Insanity.

District Attorney Jerome has informed members of his staff that Dr. Deemer and Dr. Bingaman, Thaw family physicians, can supply all the evidence that is required to prove that Harry K. Thaw suffers from hereditary insanity and that his malady has progressed to such a stage that his recovery is impossible.

On the authority of one connected with the office of the district attorney the statement is made that the prosecution stands ready at a moment's notice to make a quick switch and ask that Thaw be committed to the asylum for the criminal insane at Matteawan.

It has also become known that the real cause for much of the dissension in the ranks of counsel for the defense arises from the fact that the relatives of Thaw hold Delmas responsible for laying a foundation on which Jerome may proceed to have the slayer of Stanford White declared insane. It has been against the advice of some of his associates that Delmas has introduced much testimony tending to show that Thaw was insane when he shot White. The feeling is held by at least two of his associates, and as well by relatives of Thaw, that Delmas went entirely too far along the line of insanity.

To Examine Experts.

Few will be surprised if Jerome early next week demands the examination of Dr. Deemer and Dr. Bingaman, announcing his intention of having an inquiry into the sanity of Thaw. Dr. Deemer and Dr. Bingaman are Thaw's family physicians, and the district attorney knows they are ready to testify that Thaw was deficient in mental and moral balance from his earliest childhood.

There are those who counsel relatives and friends of the defendant to offer no objection if the district attorney moves to have a commission appointed to inquire into the mental condition of Thaw. They believe Jerome will succeed in so discrediting Evelyn Nesbit Thaw as a witness after he introduces in rebuttal reputable witnesses to testify that at the time the young woman says she was made a victim of Stanford White, the latter was not in New York, that the effect upon the jury will be dangerous to the success of the defense.

Thaw's Horror of Asylum.

Thaw has so great a horror of the insane asylum, however, that he will demand that every chance be taken in open court rather than submit himself to a commission of alienists.

Jerome would neither admit nor deny when asked whether he would move on Monday to have the trial adjourned while Thaw's sanity was being determined. It was only after consultation with his assistants that it became known finally that he had determined, when the right opportunity presented itself, to take advantage of testimony already introduced by the defense and endeavor to force Thaw into the seclusion of an asylum for the criminal insane.

The opinion is expressed by lawyers that Delmas and his associates have succeeded far better than they intended in proving the insanity of Thaw. One who has a reputation as a medico-legal expert declared he was firm in the belief that Harry Thaw will be forced into an insane asylum.

WILL THE DAY EVER COME?

Oh, Happy Day!

BLOW TO EQUITABLE TAXATION

Senate's Defeat of Bill Helps the Steetcars Systems to Escape Paying Their Dues

Railroad Commissioner Aitchinson Regards Defeated Measure as Keystone of Whole Plan Formulated by Tax Commission.

Of all the corporations which escape their just share of taxation in Oregon, the street railways are the most conspicuous and the most flagrant offenders. One of the most important measures introduced at this session of the legislature, and one which if enacted into law, would put an end to such tax dodging, was defeated yesterday by the state senate.

This measure, known as house bill 87, was framed by the state tax commission after 18 months' of painstaking study and investigation, received the endorsement of three-fourths of the assessors, was passed by the house, was favorably reported by the senate committee on assessment and taxation, and was then defeated on the floor of the senate by a vote of 18 to 10. With the single exception of Senator Nottingham, every Multnomah member voted against the bill. Marion county's two senators also voted against the bill.

Force Corporations to Pay.

C. B. Aitchison, who was secretary of the state tax commission and is now a member of the railroad commission, regards the defeated bill as the keystone of the whole plan formulated by the tax commission. "This bill was framed," he said today, "for the purpose of compelling public service corporations to pay their just share of taxes. It provided for the creation of a state board of tax commissioners who should have power to assess the property of all railroads, street railroads, light, power and other public service corporations. The report of the tax commission appointed by the legislature of 1905 shows that the total value of railway property in Oregon, according to the last census was $75,661,000, the commission's estimate of the same property being $69,401,189. Yet the assessed value of this property, as fixed by the various county assessors for 1904, was only $10,815,915.41. In other words the assessed value was only 14.3 per cent of the value fixed by the federal census. County assessors made their valuations, on the average, at about 34 per cent of the actual value, so that about $36,000,000 of railroad property has been escaping taxation altogether.

"Although the report of the late commission has been widely circulated over the state months in advance of the meeting of the legislature, the accuracy of these findings of fact has never been publicly challenged to my knowledge.

Street Railroad Dodgers.

"Street railways are conspicuous among the corporations which have been escaping taxation, particularly the street railways in Portland. The tax-commission suggested a remedy, which was that valuations of public service corporations should be fixed by a state tax commission. The legislature of 1905 had conceded its inability to find a satisfactory solution of the problem and we therefore proposed this bill, which takes the assessment of all such public service properties from the local as-

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PRESIDENT SPEAKS AT HARVARD TO STUDENTS

JAPANESE AGAINST PROPOSED TREATY

Our Diplomatic Defeat, Is the Way Organ of Nipponese in Portland Puts It — Protest Meeting to Be Held Tonight.

All the Japanese of the city are urged to attend a meeting to be held this evening at 8 o'clock at the Buddhist church, 48 North First street to consider the question of a protest against the signing of the treaty between the United States and Japan.

The time set for the signing of the treaty is next month and it is desired to make a strong stand against it by uniting all the Japanese associations of the coast from Seattle to Los Angeles in one body, and telegraphing their protest to the Japanese ambassador, Mr. Aoki, in Washington, and to the Japanese government.

The issue is not taken on the subject of coolie labor, but on the diplomatic defeat of the Japanese government if the present proposed treaty receives signature.

Extra of Japanese Paper.

The Japanese of this city feel that a better treaty should be drawn, more fully expressing the wishes of their government; it is their feeling that the purpose of the exclusion bill is not objectionable to the home government which wishes to keep their laborers in the east. Particularly is it desired to increase the settlement of Japanese in Manchuria, but the wording of the bill is objectionable.

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ATHLETICS AND CITIZENS SUBJECTS OF HIS TALK

President Pays First Visit to Son and Alma Mater Since His Elevation to Presidency—Advises Students to Abhor Corruption and Inefficiency.

(Journal Special Service.)

Cambridge, Mass., Feb. 23.—Theodore Roosevelt paid his first visit to his alma mater today since becoming president of the United States. The president made no effort to conceal his pleasure at the opportunity to revisit the scenes of his college days and to walk again across the historic Harvard campus. The students, too, were glad to see him and they turned out en masse to do him honor. It was as a Harvard man that he was greeted, not as president of the United States, and the informality of the occasion was especially pleasing to Mr. Roosevelt.

This afternoon President Roosevelt delivered an address in the living-room of the Harvard union, under the joint auspices of the union and the Harvard Political club. The address was simply an informal talk to the undergraduates and Harvard men generally.

Athletics and Citizens.

The president spoke on the subjects of athletics and the duties of citizens. He said he favored all forms of athletics but he urged students not to devote al their time to play. He told them to fit themselves for serious work in life and not be faddists.

"Be citizens," he said, "who abhor corruption and inefficiency and who wish to see decent government prevail at home with genuine equality of opportunity for all men, and who wish so far as foreign matters are concerned to see this nation treat all other nations, great and small, with respect, and if need be with generosity, and at the same time show herself able to protect herself by her own might from any wrong at the hands of any outside power."

Becomes Godfather.

The president and party arrived here at 8:30 this morning and went to the home of Dr. W. S. Bigelow. Mrs. Roosevelt and her daughters went to the home of Mrs. George C. Lee, Alice's grandmother.

At 11 o'clock the president stood godfather for the son of Captain Guy Marchie, a lawyer, and former Rough Rider.

The president moved rapidly from place to place. He went to the publishing house, and took lunch with his son and a few undergraduates at the Sphynx club, Cambridge. He addressed the Harvard Union and attended the initiation of his son into the Porcellan club. He will take tea with Bishop Lawrence of the Episcopal diocese of Massachusetts and go to Groton tomorrow.

FIFTEEN SAVED FROM WRECK OF THE BERLIN

(Journal Special Service.)

Rotterdam, Feb. 23.—Three more survivors were rescued from the wreck of the Berlin today. The total of the saved is 15. Boats were unable to reach the wreckage but a Dutch fisherman swam out and carried a line, which he affixed to the survivors and his mates drew them in. The swimmer's effort is unsurpassed. He lived in and overcame waters in which no small boat could have stayed afloat.

FIGHT BILLBOARD ON THE HEIGHTS

Residents Fear Advertisement of Cigar Just Erected Facing the Public School Is but the First of Many Other Signs.

Residents of Portland Heights are sharpening their indignation tomahawks preparatory to engaging in deadly warfare against the unseemly advertising billboard which yesterday made its initial appearance in the very heart of this exclusive district.

A monstrous cigar sign has been erected directly across from the Ainsworth school, at Twentieth and Elm streets, and the assertion was made this morning that unless the commercial interests, which now threaten a gross transgression on the civic beauty of the heights, withdraw from that field, there is a strong possibility of the fire department's being called upon some dark night.

The department on the heights, moreover, is composed of volunteers, and the latter will appear in force at the indignation meeting of the Portland Heights Improvement association, which will take steps tonight to eject

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SCATTERS $1,000 TO SAVE HIMSELF

St. Louis Capitalist Forced to Throw Gold Into Stream to Prevent Drowning in Flood—Search Proves Fruitless.

(Journal Special Service.)

Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 23.—To save his life George H. Dunham, a St. Louis capitalist tossed $1,000 in gold into the Mojave river and all efforts to recover it have failed. He had been on the desert with Paul Biddle, a San Bernardino mining promoter examining a group of claims. The samples of ore had been so satisfactory that he had promised to pay $1,000 if a personal inspection warranted it, and he carried the money along. It was in sacks in the inside pockets of a heavy khaki coat.

While they were fording the river their wagon was overturned and Dunham was swept downstream. He had a desperate struggle, handicapped by the weight of the gold, and fearing he must let it go or drown. Reluctantly he threw away the bags of coin and managed to reach shore, almost dead from exhaustion. Biddle and his team also escaped.

The men spent a day dragging the river for the gold.

Teacher Had a Little Skunk That Went to School One Day

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Kalama, Wash., Feb. 23.—The serenity of the Kalama school was disturbed last Wednesday by a small animal of the genus Mephitis, commonly known as a skunk, which, in search of a higher education, took up his abode in one of the teachers' desks. The animal was not noticed until about school time, when the teacher, hearing something scratching in the desk, opened it, and, she being a student of zoology, quickly identified the animal. The principal was called, and after a careful examination of the register found that Mephitis was not enrolled as a pupil of the school and decided to expel him. One of the pupils whose olfactory nerve was badly affected from asthma came to the principal's assistance and killed the animal.

For obvious reasons the desk was removed from the building and the pupils were dismissed for the day. The animal laid in state one day, while the pupils that desired took a last look at the remains. The Zoology class refused to accept the body so it was buried on the school grounds, a fitting monument being erected to its memory, with the following inscription carved thereon: "Here lies the remains of Teacher's Pet."

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