

Kiddle's Right to Seat in Senate Affirmed by Committee : School Supervisory Bill Has Slim Chances in the House

THOMPSON ADOPTS 'STRONG-ARM' WAY IN KIDDLE CONTEST

Republican Chairman of Special Committee Upbraids Judge Knowles for Opening Ballot Boxes.

(Staff Correspondence.) Salem, Or., Jan. 21.—After a revel of constitutional law, of hair splitting distinctions and of criticism of Circuit Judge Knowles for "tampering" with the ballots cast at the November election, the state senate yesterday afternoon denied the contest of John E. Hodgkin of Union to the seat of Senator E. M. Kiddle, and affirmed the title of Kiddle to represent Union and Willowa counties.

What was facetiously termed the "Democratic rebellion" was suppressed by a vote of 19 to 8, Kiddle and President Malarkey not voting and Carson absent. So the senate will remain politically as it began, with a Democratic representation of two members out of 30.

On the returns of the November election Kiddle was elected over Hodgkin by a margin of four votes, 2198 for Kiddle and 2194 for Hodgkin. The latter started a contest in the only manner provided by law, asking for a recount of votes in precincts where he had reason to believe that mistakes had been made.

Thompson's Fight Recount. A special senate committee of three considered the contest, consisting of Bean and Thompson, Republicans, and McCulloch, Democrat. The majority report of Bean and Thompson took the position that Judge Knowles had no authority to make the recount, as the ballot itself is the sole judge of the election and qualifications of its members.

McCulloch did not dispute the absolute power of the senate, but contended that Judge Knowles was right in proceeding as the law provides in conducting a recount. He suggested that the court should be asked to complete the recount and submit the result for the consideration of the senate.

Thompson, who led the fight for Kiddle, said no evidence had been presented aside from the certificate of Judge Knowles, and the recount of the court he denounced as "unconstitutional."

On a motion to adopt McCulloch's minority report, under which Judge Knowles would complete the recount to determine who was actually elected, Joseph, Kellaher, Miller and McCulloch voted aye, with 23 noses, Kiddle and Malarkey not voting.

Bills Introduced in Oregon Senate

(Salem Bureau of The Journal.) Salem, Or., Jan. 21.—Eighteen new bills were poured into the hopper in the senate yesterday, a total of 93 for the session. One was later withdrawn, as it was found that it would be considered as a revenue bill, and therefore only valid if introduced in the house. The new bills are as follows:

CONSUMER WOULD FINALLY PAY TAX ON WATER POWER

Such Is Declaration of Utility Men Who Appear Before House Committee to Argue Against Increase.

(Staff Correspondence.) Salem, Or., Jan. 21.—Representatives of nearly a dozen public utility corporations and power interests, large and small, appeared before the revision of laws committee of the house last night to argue against Representative Schuebel's proposed amending law to impose a tax of from 25 cents to \$2 per horsepower on all water power either appropriated or claimed in Oregon.

"When this bill, if enacted, simply means that the large corporations will own all the water power in Oregon," declared John H. McNary, appearing for concerns in which Salem capital is interested. "These small concerns require time for development of their water power and this bill would place a burden on them during that unproductive period they cannot afford to pay."

"It would mean that these concerns would have to surrender their power rights. The large concerns later would grab this water power and you would have monopoly, man over. They could afford to pay the tax while we cannot."

Says Would Encourage Speculation. "The bill, in fact, would create an absolute monopoly. It means if passed the confiscation of the water power rights of the small producer, and there is no way out of it."

Mr. McNary said that he had especially in mind power rights of the Santiam river, which would develop a theoretical 4,000 horse power. "At the \$2 tax, this would mean we would pay \$8,000 a year until this power is developed," he said.

S. B. 83, by Burgess—Requiring monthly report to dairy and food commissioner of certain goods held in cold storage.

the concern desiring to do legitimate development. "I do not believe this is its intentional object, the law would do away with the second purposes of the water code. It would do away with the beneficial test of ownership for the mere ability to pay the license."

On First Test Vote in House, Foes of System Muster 37 to 23 Supporters—Debate Is Warm.

(Staff Correspondence.) Salem, Or., Jan. 21.—By a test vote of 37 to 23, opponents of the present school supervisory law won the first round of their fight to repeal the measure on the floor of the house yesterday afternoon.

Forcing the adoption of the minority report of the committee on Education over the report of the majority, which had recommended that the bill abolishing the office of school supervisor in counties of more than 50 school districts should not pass, they compelled the consideration of the bill itself by the house in the near future.

Representative Howard, of Douglas county, who introduced the bill in the house and brought in the minority report, led the debate against the supervisors.

He and other speakers on his side declared that the system has proved useless, that it is pernicious, that it has made for political log-rolling, that 90 per cent of the people are against it, and that instead of increasing the efficiency of the rural schools it has decreased it and caused bitter squabbles in the various school boards.

On the other hand the supervisory system has equally ardent support. Representative Lofgren of Multnomah, Hurd and Eaton of Lane and others told how almost unappealingly insanitary conditions in the rural districts had been remedied through the work of the supervisors. They declared that these men have been hampered in their work by the jealousies of local school boards, and that the system has not had a fair trial.

SUPERVISORY LAW DOOMED TO LOSE, NOW INDICATION

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SIAMESE TWINS CAN'T AGREE ON EATING TIME

Hereby, Mass., Jan. 21.—Medical men here are expressing wonder at the vitality of twins which arrived some time ago at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Gibbs. Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs are the parents of two girls which in many ways are like the famous Siamese twins. They are attached to each other at the hips, but in every other way are perfectly normal.

Where they grow together it seems to be just a large mass of ligaments, but the surgeons interested in the cases have decided not to make any extended examination of the twins until they get older, as the surgeons declare it would be dangerous to try to separate them by an operation until they reach the age of 6 years at least.

Bills Introduced in Oregon House

(Salem Bureau of The Journal.) Salem, Or., Jan. 21.—With the introduction of 18 new bills yesterday, the total number of measures introduced in the house so far this session, with the second week just begun, was brought to 165.

One of the bills, fathered by Hurd of Lane county, proposes to create the new county of Sluslaw of the western portions of Lane and Douglas counties. Florence would be made the county seat of the bill becomes a law.

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MORALS COURT MEETS FAVOR

Outside Members Are for Vice Commission Measure if County Bears Cost.

(Staff Correspondence.) Salem, Or., Jan. 21.—Advocates of the bill for the creation of a morals court in Portland will be given a hearing at a joint meeting of the judicial committees from the senate and house tomorrow evening at 7:30 o'clock.

This is the bill prepared by the vice commission, which recommended a special court to deal with the social evil, in view of the large proportion of cases of this class in the Multnomah courts, and the results which it is thought may be accomplished in reforming those who may just be starting on the scarlet pathway.

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CARUSO'S EX-CHAUFFEUR VERY MUCH IN TROUBLE

(By The International News Service.) Milan, Jan. 21.—Signor Caruso's ex-chauffeur, Cesare Romati, who some time ago eloped from Florence to the French Riviera with a lady friend of his master, the well known opera star, Ada Glacetti, in his master's motor car, and who was recently condemned at Milan to ten months' imprisonment as the organizer of a perjury plot against the great tenor, was again got himself into serious trouble.



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