

LEGISLATURE WOULD KNOW HOW TRAVELING MONEY IS EXPENDED

House Passes Resolution Directing Detailed Accountings From Everybody

MANY LONG TRIPS MADE

Incomplete List of Journeys Shows 23 With Expenses of \$4635.63, Ranging From \$27.50 to \$425.81.

Salem, Or., Jan. 12.—The legislature is an inquisitive body. It wants to know how state officials, boards, commissions and institutions are spending the money appropriated for them for traveling expenses.

Yesterday the house passed, under suspension of the rules, a resolution directing every state official, department, board and commission to submit a complete, detailed statement of all money expended in the payment of traveling expenses during the years 1915 and 1916, with the date and purpose of each trip.

State officials and department heads and others, in the past two years, have traveled to the four corners of the Union at state expense. There has been a regular scamping of officials to attend this or that convention or other business, with the taxpayers footing the bills.

In the past officials and department heads have had such a free hand with trips at state expense that at the 1915 session of the legislature Secretary of State Olcott requested the enactment of a law requiring all persons desiring to take a trip outside of the state at state expense, to first obtain a permit from the governor.

Law Has Failed as a Curb. If there has been any lessening of trips since the law was enacted, it has pointed it out. Only painstaking investigation or the reports which the house has called for will reveal the total number of such trips that have been taken with the governor's approval.

Checking information obtained from various sources of a list of some of the trips that have been taken in the last two years has been completed. This incomplete list reveals 23 trips, the expense of which totals \$4635.63.

No pretense is being made in this article of saying that any of these trips were not justified, but they afford some of the items in which the legislature is interested just now when appropriation bills are to be considered. And these are only "out of the state" trips, with no reference to the total number of trips that have been taken at state expense to attend this or that county fair or booster gathering of some sort within the state.

Here is the incomplete list of out-of-state trips which were authorized by Governor Withycombe, and which cost the state \$4635.63.

Trips That Were Taken. H. H. Corey, public service commissioner, to attend the national convention of Railway Commission of Washington, D. C., in November, 1915, expense \$241.10.

R. G. Eargent, superintendent of banks, attending convention of superintendents of state banks at Louisville, Ky., in June, 1916, expense \$189.95.

John H. Lewis, engineer, to attend highway legislation, August, 1916, expense \$187.40.

Harvey Wells, insurance commissioner, to convention of insurance commissioners, New York, December, 1916, expense \$247.26.

A. Churchill, school superintendent, to National Education association, New York, June, 1916, expense \$229.79.

Arguments Were Expensive. George T. Cochran, water commissioner, to Washington, D. C., to argue case before supreme court, March, 1916, expense \$217.80.

James P. Chinnock, water commissioner, to Washington, D. C., to argue case for water commissioners, expense \$277.

George M. Brown, attorney general, to Washington, D. C., to argue case before supreme court, April, 1916, expense \$284.65.

Dr. David N. Roberg, state health officer, to Washington, D. C., to attend meeting of state health officers, August, 1916, expense \$264.21.

John D. Michie, dairy and food commissioner, to Detroit, Mich., to attend meeting of Association of American Dairy, Food and Drug Officials, August, 1916, expense \$187.45.

Carle Abrams, industrial accident commissioner, to Columbus, Ohio, to attend meeting of International Accident Boards

BILLS INTRODUCED IN OREGON HOUSE

H. B. 60, by joint ways and means committee of house and senate—Appropriating \$25,000 for expenses of legislative session and declaring an emergency.

BILLS INTRODUCED IN OREGON SENATE

S. B. 53, by Olson—Providing for \$1500 homestead exemption.

S. B. 54, by Smith of Josephine—To assist locators in opening prospects.

Dr. P. H. Thompson, chief medical adviser industrial accident commission, same trip as Abrams, expense \$188.

Ackerman's Trip Obscured. J. H. Ackerman, president Oregon Normal, to Spokane, to attend Inland Empire Teachers' association, April, 1916, expense \$27.50.

Miss Ava B. Milam, professor domestic science O. A. C., to agricultural colleges in various states to study up-to-date methods, April to June, 1916, expense \$250.69.

W. J. Kerr, president O. A. C., eastern trip to interview candidates for position in the college, February, 1916, expense \$425.81.

W. J. Kerr, president O. A. C., to Berkeley and Oakland, Cal., to attend conventions, August, 1915, expense \$134.40.

G. P. Putnam, secretary to the governor, to San Quentin prison to study prison conditions, August, 1915, steam-er transportation only, \$30.

F. L. Campbell, president U. of O., to Pan-American congress, Washington, D. C., and to interview candidates for positions at University, December, 1915, expense \$292.40.

O. P. Hoff, labor commissioner, to Boston to study methods of factory inspection, May, 1916, expense \$294.58.

H. J. Schulderman, corporation commissioner, to Salt Lake to examine affairs of Western Loan & Building company, March, 1916, expense \$61.20.

H. J. Schulderman, corporation commissioner, to Monterey, Cal., to attend convention of insurance commissioners, September, 1915, expense \$89.

Total, \$4635.63.

SENATE FOILS MOSER'S PLAN FOR BINGHAM

(Continued From Page One.) present. So the motion favoring the appointment of Griffin carried by only one vote, let alone the protest that would have gone up if Moser had sought to carry through his scheme to place young Ben Bingham on the payroll without the request from anyone, so far as is known, except young Bingham himself.

Senator Pierce vigorously opposed the state paying anyone a salary under the guise of a stenographer for Senator Bingham. He said he was willing to extend every courtesy to the people of Lane county and to anyone they might wish to send to the senate, but he charged the resolution, by subterfuge, was dipping into the state treasury to take out \$200.

Objections Are Stated. "I object to appropriating \$200 to pay Mr. Griffin as a clerk when you all know he will not earn \$5," declared Senator Pierce.

Senator Bishop pointed out that Senator Moser's plan was to have a son of his own appointed to the position of state or someone else, certainly not by me.

"Perhaps you had better ask the Hon. Ben W. Olcott, secretary of state, whether Senator Bingham's son has been appointed or sworn in by him as a clerk for Senator Bingham, and this may throw some light on the subject. Respectfully, GUS C. MOSER."

Only Part of Truth. Senator Moser's attempted evasion of the responsibility in the Bingham matter would be more convincing, if it told all of the evidence of the appointment of the secretary of state, usually expressed by resolution.

The mere filing of an oath of office in the office of the secretary of state is evidence of the appointment under the authority of the senate, and by its direction, but is not binding unless, and until, ratified and adopted by the committee on salaries and per diem, appointed at each session to check over and make up the final employment list of each house.

STANFIELD PUTS ONE OVER ON THE HOUSE; KEEPS 'EM ON JOB

Compliments Members on Few Measures In, but Urges No Holding Back.

FIRST MONEY BILL SHOWS MEMBERS SEE TO IT THAT PROVISION IS MADE FOR THEIR OWN PAY AND TRAVELING EXPENSES.

Salem, Or., Jan. 12.—Speaker Stanfield wants the house to speed up and get into its stride, if it has not already done so.

Thursday afternoon just before adjournment for the day, he called the attention of the members to the small number of bills that have so far been introduced.

He complimented the members on their moderation in the bill manufacturing business, but asked them to bring in the measures they contemplated as soon as possible, so that the house can map out its work early in the game.

The speaker did not object to the small number of bills which have made their appearance so far, the last one being house bill 55, but he did caution against delay.

"Learning the Ropes." Stanfield is rapidly "learning the ropes" of the speaker's job. There was a big underground sentiment at noon Thursday for an adjournment until Monday.

Stanfield knew this, and as soon as the desk was cleared, calmly announced that "it has been moved that the house do now adjourn until 10 o'clock tomorrow," put the motion, and it was all over before the 1055s who wanted to beat it knew what had happened to them.

The first money bill to make its appearance from the hands of the ways and means committee came into the house Thursday afternoon, in the shape of an appropriation of \$25,000 for the payment of mileage and per diem of the members of the legislature.

Goede of Multnomah fathered a bill providing that whenever any school district purchases furniture, stationery, apparatus, fuel, buildings, improvements or repairs in excess of \$500, the work or supplies must be let to the lowest bidder after due advertisement.

Would License Mortgages. Sheldon introduced a bill providing that all chattel mortgages on migratory chattels be licensed and registered in the office of the secretary of state.

Lewis introduced two bills, one providing that if any person makes a false return of personal property to the assessor, that official may correct the amount on the assessment roll and bring proceedings for the punishment of the person making the return.

The second bill provides that where any tenant refuses or fails to pay his rent he may be ejected from the premises and immediate possession gained by the owner, provided the latter gives the tenant three days' written notice to vacate.

This bill cuts the notice time from 10 days, the existing law. The same bill also raises the homestead exemption from \$1500 to \$5000.

EXEMPTION DEFECTS ARE SUBJECT OF BILL

Salem, Or., Jan. 12.—A bill designed to remedy defects in the old \$1500 homestead exemption law has been introduced by Senator Olson.

The bill would prevent a man from claiming a \$100,000 house and lot as a homestead and withholding it from his creditors in case of bankruptcy.

The Olson bill passed the house at the last session but failed in the senate.

Bone Dry Bill Is Expected Monday

Salem, Or., Jan. 12.—The bone dry bill will make its appearance before the legislature Monday, according to the present plans of its friends and supporters inside the legislature and out.

A meeting was held last night in the office of the attorney general at which time the various drafts that have been made were gone over and the legislative wheat sifted from the chaff.

These bills, together with the suggestions made as to the various sections, have been turned over to the committees on alcoholic traffic of the

Sheriffs May Lose Jail Food "Rakeoff"

Salem, Or., Jan. 12.—Boarding the prisoners in the county jail in counties of 100,000 population, is taken out of the hands of the sheriff and placed in charge of the county commissioners, by the provisions of a bill introduced by Senator Farrell.

The bill provides, however, that the county may advertise for bids and let the contract for feeding the prisoners to the lowest bidder.

Strayer Bill Will Cut Court Costs

Salem, Or., Jan. 12.—Senator Strayer has introduced a bill to make it possible to obtain testimony, both direct and cross examination, by means of interrogatories from witnesses at a distance at a minimum expense.

Strayer says the present law provides such interrogatories must be taken by the parties to the suit or a personal representative, while his bill provides the interrogatories may be taken the same as a deposition or before some person agreed upon by the contending parties.

A great saving to litigants will result by the passage of the measure, Senator Strayer says.

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