

JOINT COMMITTEE OF LEGISLATURE IS GIVEN SWIFT AND EASY K. O.

Senator Dimick's Joint Resolution Sidetracked and a Separate Board Proposed.

CAUSE SEEMS APPARENT

House Members Dubious About Barrett as Committee and Brownell Seeks Limelight.

Salem, Or., Jan. 17.—The resolutions committee of the house threw a monkey wrench in the consolidation machinery of the two houses on Tuesday when it side-tracked Senator Dimick's joint resolution providing for a joint committee of three from the senate and three from the house to consider all consolidation bills, and adopted a house resolution providing for the appointment of a house committee of five members of the house for that purpose.

The Dimick resolution passed the senate without opposition but the senate has been holding all consolidation bills waiting for the appointment of the joint committee. The practical refusal of the house to adopt the senate program for a joint committee throws the situation into a deadlock, unless the senate backtracks on its own plan and follows suit with the house by the appointment of a senate committee which may or may not act jointly with the house as its members may desire.

Two Influences Apparent. Behind the action of the house probably lie two contending influences. It has been current gossip that Senator Barrett, who was Senator Day's right hand in consolidation matters two years ago, and who has reintroduced most of the Day consolidation bills in the present senate, was to be one of the members of the senate joint committee. Senator Barrett does not grade very high in the political esteem of some of the house members, who looked with more or less hesitance upon his service on the committee.

Added to this Brownell of Clackamas seems to be jockeying to beat Senator Dimick of Clackamas under the wire of publicity at all times and on all subjects. So, before the Dimick joint resolution could reach the house for consideration, Mr. Brownell shot in a resolution of his own, providing for the appointment of a consolidation committee. This resolution did not meet with the approval of the resolutions committee, and it drafted a resolution of its own which it sent in ahead of the Brownell resolution. It was adopted and Speaker Stanfield at once appointed Brownell, Thomas, Ritter, Portland and Porter as the committee.

Members Real Consolidators. The members of this committee are all supposed to be real consolidators and they are expected to eat all consolidation bills raw when they reach second reading and are referred to

them for consideration. They are supposed to make a full survey of the situation, decide what consolidations can well be made and report their findings and bills to support them to the house not later than the 25th day of the session. If the senate, which now has practically all of the consolidation bills in its grasp, does not get the measures over to the house in time for the committee to do business with them, it will either have to wait, or draft bills of its own.

Anyway, there seems to be a crevasse between the senate and the house, which will have to be bridged before any united action can be secured regarding the much-talked-of plan to consolidate or abolish various of the boards and commissions of the state.

STATE OF WASHINGTON PLANS FIGHT TO SAVE PUBLIC SERVICE BODY

Legislature Is Asked for \$10,000 to Finance Representation at Newlands Hearing

State House, Olympia, Wash., Jan. 17.—Eighty to 12 was the vote in the house of representatives Tuesday the first of the session to show the actual strength of the house organization. It came up on a declaration of Paul Houser of King county that house records of previous sessions had been jobbed, and on his motion that the minutes of each day's proceedings be printed each night and placed on the members' desks at the opening of the succeeding day's session. The opposition declared the expense would be enormous and the benefits of slight value.

Five bills in the senate and 22 in the house was the day's record of proposed legislation. One of the interesting bills was an emergency appropriation measure asked by the state public service commission, requesting immediate appropriation of \$10,000. This is to permit the commission to be represented before the Newlands committee now in session in Washington, D. C., where the railroads are seeking legislation to wipe out state commissions and place exclusive legislation in the interstate commerce body. The bill also will permit the state authorities to cooperate with the federal authorities in the valuations of railroad properties now in progress, and, finally, permit the state to hire Charles A. Reynolds of Seattle, former chairman of the commission, to represent the state especially in the appeal of the Southern Pacific from the order of the federal commission wiping out the \$17.50 differential given by the southern roads for tourist tickets from the east, when they go via San Francisco instead of via Portland and the Sound cities. Reynolds tried the case originally and won, but the railroads recently secured a hearing.

The unusual feature of the request by the present commission is the present members have a little love for Reynolds, who yesterday in the house caused introduction of a bill which would make their jobs elective instead of appointive.

OREGON INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION NOT TO BE MOLESTED

Senate Kills Bill to Put University, O. A. C. and Normal School Under One Control.

Salem, Or., Jan. 17.—The senate is not going to experiment or tangle with the state institutions of higher education. This was brought out clearly Tuesday afternoon when the senate, by a substantial majority, voted indefinitely to postpone Senator Barrett's bill to place the University of Oregon, the Oregon Agricultural college and the Oregon State normal under the control of one board of regents of three members to be appointed by the governor.

The bill came up for consideration with an adverse report from the senate committee on education, the adoption of which killed the measure. Senator Barrett sought to postpone the time of death of the bill by having it referred to the committee with instructions to report it out for a final vote without recommendation, but that lost.

Senator Pierce, Senator Garland and Senator Smith of Coos made the most vigorous attacks on the bill, while Senator Strayer asked Senator Barrett the pertinent question: "Can you explain to what extent there would be a saving by combining the boards?"

Senator Barrett said he had not figured that out yet, while Senator Garland said the bill would increase the expense of the boards, in addition to endangering their welfare.

Senator Pierce pointed out that the plan to consolidate the boards had been thrashed out time and time again and always found to be not feasible. The senate passed a concurrent resolution providing for the appointment of a committee of six, three from the senate and three from the house, to visit the eastern Oregon state hospital at Pendleton and the Soldiers' Home at Roseburg. The chairman of the two ways and means committees will be on the committee.

Women May Fish Without License

Salem, Or., Jan. 17.—Senator I. S. Smith of Coos Tuesday showed himself the champion of women's rights—with a fishing pole. At a joint meeting of house and senate committees at the state fish and game commission, the suggestion was made that women be taxed the same as men for hunters and anglers' licenses.

"No," said Senator Smith. "In justice and chivalry to our wives and daughters, we ought to let them fish free. When women fish they never catch anything, as far as the fish are concerned—the women are perfectly harmless."

A compromise finally was affected whereby women will be taxed the same as men for hunters' licenses, but will be allowed to angle free of charge. This recommendation will be made in both branches of the legislature.

Huston Asks \$13,130 to Support Exhibit

Salem, Or., Jan. 17.—Senator Huston introduced in the senate Tuesday afternoon a bill appropriating \$13,130 for the maintenance of the permanent exhibit of products and resources of the state now located in the Oregon building in Portland.

The bill provides for the appointment by the governor of a superintendent of the exhibit, with a salary of \$1500 a year. The superintendent may appoint an assistant at \$1200 a year. In addition \$7730 is appropriated for incidental maintenance expenses.

BUDGETS OF GOVERNOR AND STATE TREASURER PARED BY COMMITTEE

Those of Secretary of State and the Attorney General Have Been Approved in Full

Salem, Or., Jan. 17.—Governor Withycombe, Secretary of State Oloft, State Treasurer Kay and Attorney General Brown last night appeared before the joint ways and means committees of the legislature and presented their claims for appropriations for their departments.

The committee cut the claims of the governor and the state treasurer and allowed in full that requested by the secretary of state and the attorney general. The appropriations for the governor's office were allowed in full, but the chief executive made a special plea for \$500 for the employment of special agents to be used in enforcing the laws, particularly the "bona fide" law. The committee cut the amount to \$400, which sum it had previously decided was enough. The appropriation for the governor's office proper was \$22,700.

State Treasurer Kay presented a budget calling for \$36,300, which was cut to \$35,100. This cut was made with the consent of Mr. Kay, who said he could get along with \$20,000 in his traveling fund and \$1000 less in the fund for paying the premium on his bond.

The committee allowed Attorney General Brown \$33,320, omitting from consideration at this time the \$5000 requested to defray the expense of prosecuting land fraud cases in Harney and Grant counties. This was done at the request of Mr. Brown, who said this claim will be presented in a separate bill.

Before his appropriation was passed on by the committee, Mr. Brown made an extensive argument in justification of the prosecution of the Hyattson land fraud cases, for which \$6000 was allowed.

Legislators May See U. of O. on Invitation

Eugene Chamber of Commerce and College Regents Arrange for Special Train and Entertainment of Guests.

Eugene, Or., Jan. 17.—The state legislature will be given an invitation by the Eugene Chamber of Commerce and the board of regents of the state university to visit the university and a special train will be provided at the expense of the chamber.

This was decided at a meeting of a committee from the regents and a committee from the chamber this afternoon. It is probable that Friday or Saturday of next week will be the date selected for the visit. It is planned to give the visitors luncheon at the Chamber of Commerce and arrangements will be made to entertain them at the university.

Junketing Trips of Officials May End

Senator Farrell Introduces Bill Providing That Warden of Penitentiary or Deputies Shall Conduct Prisoners.

Salem, Or., Jan. 17.—Portland junketing trips of state and county deputies of the eastern, central and southern Oregon counties will become only pleasant memories if the bill introduced in the senate Tuesday afternoon by Senator Farrell of Multnomah becomes a law.

This bill takes from the sheriff the privilege of conducting prisoners to the state penitentiary and imposes that duty upon the warden of the penitentiary and his deputies. It provides the expense of getting the prisoners to the prison shall be borne three-fourths by the state and one-fourth by the county.

Project Promoters Released From Bond

State Boards Grant Company Relief in View of Chewaucan River Decision and Pledge Aid in Appealing Case.

Salem, Or., Jan. 17.—Agreement was reached Tuesday by the state water board, the desert land board and the Northwest Townsite company of Philadelphia whereby the company is released from obligation under its \$50,000 bond to develop the Paisley irrigation project.

Development of the project was blocked by a decree of Circuit Judge Bernard Daly of Lake county giving nearly all the water of the Chewaucan river to the Chewaucan Land & Cattle company. It was from the water of this river that the land of the Paisley project was to have been irrigated.

Terms of the agreement reached are that the company's bond of \$50,000 will be held in security until the company will settle with those who purchased its stock. The land and water boards promise their combined efforts to aid in appealing the case from the decision of Judge Daly to the supreme court, in obtaining from congress an extension of time for filing an appeal, and in securing from the legislature an appropriation of \$2000 for perfecting the appeal.

BILLS ON INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM WILL BE CONSIDERED TOGETHER

House Judiciary Committee Sets Thursday Evening as Solely for This Purpose.

Salem, Or., Jan. 17.—Thursday evening will be initiative and referendum evening with the judiciary committee of the house. Already there have been a number of bills bearing upon the initiative and referendum introduced in the house.

House bill No. 7, by Bowman, would prohibit the circulation of initiative, referendum or recall petitions by paid circulators.

House bill No. 87, by Gordon, changes the form of initiative and referendum petitions.

Brownell introduced a bill today providing that any elector or elector

may have an initiative or referendum measure put on the ballot by sending a signed copy of the measure to the secretary of state, accompanied by a fee of \$500.

Representative Forbes, chairman of the judiciary committee, announced this afternoon just before adjournment that his committee already had several bills dealing with the initiative, referendum or recall before his committee, and that there would in all probability be more in a short time. In order to give all persons interested an opportunity to be heard he announced a special meeting of his committee for Thursday evening, at which time all these measures will be taken up for consideration and discussion.

Odds on Peace by September Even

San Francisco, Jan. 17.—(P. N. S.)—Lloyd's of London is betting even money in any amount that the world war will end by September of this year.

Instructions to issue insurance prices on this basis were received at the local offices of the company today.

The cable instructions also advised that odds of 80 to 25 would be given on the war ending in 1917.

ROADS AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE OF HOUSE IS BEHIND BEAN BILL

Measure Provides Funds for Bond Issue to Insure Aid Under the Shackelford Act.

Salem, Or., Jan. 17.—The roads and highways committee of the house is solidly back of the bean bill to provide funds by bond issues with which to make up any deficiency that may arise in the road fund of the state over and above the amount needed to meet the federal aid offered by the Shackelford bill.

The Shackelford bill, under its terms, will furnish about \$1,500,000 for the consideration of Oregon roads under the coming five years, provided Oregon meets it half way and spends dollar for dollar with it in joint road construction.

The Bean bill provides in substance that, should the state highway commission, or whatever body is entrusted by law with the handling of road work in Oregon, find at any time that not sufficient funds are available so that the state could meet the terms of the Shackelford bill, the board of control would be authorized to meet the deficiency by the authorization and issuance of sufficient bonds.

The house committee on roads and highways held a meeting this afternoon and unanimously voted to report the Bean bill at tomorrow morning's session.

Human Sterilization Purpose of Measure

Salem, Or., Jan. 17.—"A bill for an act providing for the sterilization of sexual perverts and feeble-minded individuals," reads the title to a measure introduced in the senate Tuesday afternoon by Senator Farrell of Multnomah county. The bill provides for the sterilization of persons periodically insane, epileptic or feeble-minded, and says if the persons themselves or their guardians do not give consent the operation may be performed by order of the county court upon recommendation of a board of examining physicians.

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Seattle Dentist Dies In His Own Chair

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 17.—(P. N. S.)—Heart failure is believed to have caused the death of Dr. S. Lamson, a dentist here, who was found in his dental chair by the night janitor of a physician's building Monday night.