

Purse Seine Fishing Target in Three Bills; Fifty-Fifty State Road Bill Is Launched

BILL TO PROPOSE DOING AWAY WITH PRIMARY SYSTEM

State House, Salem, Jan. 18.—Abolition of direct primary elections and repeal of the direct primary law are to be attempted by a mysterious bill now in the possession of some one yet unnamed and which is to be introduced by a member of the senate or house, not yet designated.

Whispers concerning the impending measure have been sifting about the lobby for the past few days, and while none of the members admit that they have seen the bill in drafted form, several of them have been told what it is to contain and what it is to do in the reorganization of the political system of the state.

COST TOO MUCH
Primary elections now cost the state more than \$200,000 every two years, say those who have listened to the arguments being made in support of the proposed bill repeat, and in order to eliminate this cost to the taxpayers it is intended to repeal the direct primary law, do away with direct nominations for public office, and resurrect the old and abandoned convention system.

Under the proposed bill, at least as it is explained by those who have been sounded out on the subject, delegates, to county, district, state party conventions would be elected at each general election to serve during the succeeding two years. These delegates would get places on the ballot by petition, in much the same manner as precinct committeemen place their names there. The number of signatures required to entitle a prospective delegate to place on the official ballot would be proportional to the population in the district which he desired to represent.

DELEGATES ALLOTTED
Each county or district would be entitled to delegates in direct proportion to the population which that county or district bore to the whole state and the high men on the ticket, down and including the number allotted to the district would be elected.

All the delegates elected in a county would be acting together to comprise the county convention. All those elected within a congressional district would compose the district convention for the purpose of nominating a congressional candidate for the district, while all of the delegates elected throughout the state would serve in the state convention and make nominations for state officers, all parties would operate under the same law and would, in equal manner select their candidates, not only for delegates to the various conventions but for candidates for office as well.

SAVE ELECTION COST
This plan, it is contended, would do away with the present primary elections and would, as a result, save the cost of these elections which amount to something like \$200,000 each.

The conventions would be required to meet 90 days prior to the date of the general election for the formulation of party tickets.

The proposed bill, it is understood, would not close the official ballot to candidates not nominated at the party conventions, but such candidates could secure position on the ballot by the petition route, but only as independent candidates, since they would not be permitted to use any party designation.

Information as to the present custodian of the proposed bill has been closely guarded to this time though it is stated that the measure has been drafted and is in shape for introduction. Nor is it now known whose name the bill will bear when it is introduced, but it is predicted confidently that it is in the offing and will make its appearance in one house or the other within a few days.

High Schools and U. Plan Readjustment
To effect a readjustment between the high schools and the University of Oregon and to prepare for the entrance of about 200 Portland high school graduates into the University in February, Superintendent D. A. Groat, Dean Colin V. Dymont and the eight high school principals will hold a conference at 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon in Groat's office.

Measure Proposes New Commission for Publicity Purposes

State House, Salem, Or., Jan. 18.—The immigration committee of the house held its first meeting Monday for a law to consider a bill introduced by Lee of Multnomah to create a commissioner of publicity, promotion and development, and appropriating \$45,000 for its work.

A favorable report will be presented by a majority of the committee, Lee, Lynn and Fletcher, Woodson and LaFollette are opposed on the ground of curtailment of every possible expense, and because of their reluctance to recommend the creation of any new commissions.

The bill provides that it shall become effective 30 days after becoming a law, when the state board of control shall appoint the new commissioner, fix his salary and office and establish rules for his guidance and official duties. He is to compile and edit reliable literature of the whole state, to be printed by the state, in cooperation with the Pacific Northwest Tourist association, Portland Chamber of Commerce, Oregon State Chamber of Commerce, Oregon Agricultural college and local promotion agencies; but it is provided that nothing in this bill shall prevent the state board of control from adding in a strictly just and proportional manner the agencies heretofore mentioned, nor of utilizing existing organizations showing practical utility.

A majority of the committee believes the proposed appropriation would be well expended in getting immigration to Oregon and thus adding largely to its taxable wealth.

House Takes Action To Accept Statue From R. A. Booth
State House, Salem, Or., Jan. 18.—A house joint resolution, introduced Monday by Speaker Beane, provides for the acceptance from R. A. Booth of Eugene of the bronze statue in heroic design depicting the early circuit rider of Oregon.

The resolution provides that the statue shall be placed in some suitable and convenient place on the state capitol grounds at Salem, such as may be selected by the governor or a committee appointed by him for this purpose.

"It is the sense of the Oregon legislature," says the resolution, "that the circuit riders, as the friends, counselors and exiles to the pioneers on our frontiers, largely directed the thought of our citizenry and shaped the course of our state's development and were largely instrumental in determining the boundaries of the Oregon country."

The resolution also expresses a feeling of gratitude to Booth for his gift to the state in memory of some of her most valuable and substantial early citizenry.

Proposed Bill Asks Increase in Fees Paid by State Banks
State House, Salem, Or., Jan. 18.—Material increases in examination fees to be paid by state banks are provided for under the provisions of a bill introduced Monday by Senator Robertson. Examination fees of banks having a capital and surplus of \$20,000 and under are increased from \$17.50 to \$30 under the provisions of Robertson's bill. Other changes in fees provided in the bill follow:

Banks of over \$20,000 and not over \$50,000 capital and surplus, increased from \$25 to \$40.
Over \$50,000 and not over \$100,000, from \$30 to \$50.
Over \$100,000 and not over \$150,000, from \$40 to \$70.
Over \$150,000 and not over \$200,000, from \$50 to \$80.
Over \$200,000 and not over \$250,000, from \$75 to \$100.
Over \$250,000 and not over \$300,000, from \$85 to \$125.
Over \$300,000 and not over \$500,000, from \$100 to \$150.
Over \$500,000 and not over \$750,000, from \$125 to \$200.
Over \$750,000 and not over \$1,500,000, from \$200 to \$275.
Over \$1,500,000, from \$250 to \$350.

Bills Passed
S. B. 42, by committee on revision of laws—Providing for investment of rehabilitation funds of industrial accident commission when same exceeds \$75,000 and for suspension of transfers to such fund.

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ON THE STEPS OF THE CAPITOL



Senator L. I. Patterson and Representative Herbert Gordon, representative from Multnomah county, photographed together on their way up to the State House.

SENATE BILLS

Bills Introduced

S. B. 57 (by Ryan and Vinton)—Providing for the nomination and election of some person to fill vacancy and ensuring term at same time.
S. B. 58 (by Banks)—Amending the law relating to the recording of deeds and increasing term from two to four years.
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S. B. 93 (by Banks)—Amending the law relating to the recording of deeds and increasing term from two to four years.
S. B. 94 (by Banks)—Amending the law relating to the recording of deeds and increasing term from two to four years.
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Rose Festival Tax Strikes Opposition In Outside Counties

State House, Salem, Jan. 18.—Although a bill introduced by Representative Leach of Multnomah county, providing for a tax levy for maintenance of the Portland Rose festival, and its provisions are applicable only to Multnomah county, it struck opposition from members from outside counties Monday night, when it was taken up by the revision of laws committee. The result was that it was held in committee until Portland men especially interested can appear before this committee.

The bill provides for a special tax levy in any county of Oregon containing a population of 75,000 inhabitants of fifteen one-hundredths of one mill on each dollar of assessed valuation for a rose festival fund and makes the levying of such tax mandatory.
"I am opposed to it," declared Representative Hubbard of Baker county. "We might as well put in a bill compelling Umatilla county to levy a tax to put on its annual Rose festival. I believe these festivals should be supported without legislative assistance."

Representative Johnston of Grants Pass was inclined to view the bill with friendly eyes, and Representative Korrell of Multnomah county admitted that he has been receiving protests from the taxpayers' association of Portland.

FIFTY-FIFTY ROAD BILL INTRODUCED

State House, Salem, Jan. 18.—A bill providing for permanent highway construction in all counties annually was introduced in the house Monday by Representative Earl E. Fisher of Washington county. It creates the Greater Oregon Highway system, under supervision of the state highway commission and state highway engineer.

Provision is made that, beginning with the year 1922 and each year thereafter, all state highway funds for building new highways shall be divided on a 50-50 basis, one half of such funds to be used annually for constructing of trunk lines and main highways through the state and the other half to be divided equally among the several counties, to be spent annually for the construction of such roads as each county may levy for the construction of roads in each county under the full supervision of the state highway commission and the state highway engineer.

The county court in January of each year shall designate the roads on which such funds shall be used and "the work shall be planned as the whole to the state and permanent highway construction in Oregon, both state and county, will be gradually merged into one uniform system of state highways."

Bill Would Provide Funds for Widow of Judge O. W. Denny

State House, Salem, Or., Jan. 18.—A bill providing for the payment of \$100,000 to the widow of Judge O. W. Denny, widow of the late Judge O. W. Denny, for expenses of approximately \$4500 incurred in gathering, caring for, transmitting and maintaining in Oregon a large number of Mongolian or Chinese pheasants, was introduced in the house Monday by Representative E. C. McFarland of Multnomah county.

The bill sets forth that the food value of these pheasants now amounts to more than \$7000 per annum to the people of Oregon, and that the state owes a debt of obligation to Mrs. Denny for her valuable services while her husband was consul general of the United States.

It provides that Mrs. Denny is one of the few survivors of the Whitman massacre in 1847 and is of the advanced age of 84 years.

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FISHERMEN'S BILL IS ATTACKED BY GRANTS PASS MEN

Salem, Or., Jan. 18.—The Rogue river fish controversy, ancient enemy of peace, stuck its head into a meeting of the state fish and game commission held in the governor's office and backed out again snorting defiance at compromise.

The commission took up for consideration a so-called "compromise" bill, now in both the senate and house, and called Senator Smith and Representative Johnston of Josephine county into conference. Rodney Macleay, owner of the Macleay cannery, was also on hand.

Senator Smith opposed the opening season dates fixed in the bill, contending that "it looked like they wanted to keep the Grants Pass fishermen from fishing until Macleay started up and then there would be no fish for them to catch."

Macleay came to bat with the statement that he "could not stand silent after hearing the remark of Senator Smith." He argued that "the senator got all his information from a paper in Grants Pass which knew nothing of the facts." He said there were 200 fishermen on the Rogue river and only 10 at Grants Pass, so that the difference in the dates made but little difference to the fishermen, particularly in view of the fact that all of them came to the lower river to fish anyway.

Senator Smith answered this by the remark that the Grants Pass fishermen had to go to the lower river or get no fish.

It was finally decided to let the bill take its course through the house, pending further conference with Henry O'Malley, in charge of the federal fish hatchery, at whose instance the closed season dates named in the bill were fixed.

SIMILAR TO COMPROMISE
The commission also put the stamp of its approval upon the bills drafted under its direction for the creation of a new and distinct fish commission on the one hand and of a game commission on the other.

These two measures provide for a fish commission to represent the commercial interests of three members and of a game commission composed of five members, all appointed by the governor. Both bills further confer with Henry O'Malley, in charge of the federal fish hatchery, at whose instance the closed season dates named in the bill were fixed.

FISH CODE APPROVED
It is also provided that the attorney general shall act as arbitrator in case of any difference of opinion or contention over jurisdiction which may arise between the two commissions.

These measures were introduced and will be introduced within a day or so. They probably will supersede the compromise bills when they reach the committee for consideration.

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Gordon Offers Plan For Investment of Bridge Toll Funds

State House, Salem, Or., Jan. 18.—Investment of certain funds of the Columbia River Interstate bridge commission is provided for in a bill introduced Monday by Representative Herbert Gordon of Multnomah.

Amending the existing law on this subject, it provides for the creation of a sinking fund for the reconstruction of the bridge and that whenever funds from tolls are available for investment they shall be invested in securities of the state of Oregon or any municipality or subdivision thereof; that no reduction shall be made on the amount of tolls to be collected until all bond issues for the building of the bridge shall have been fully paid; that the commission shall receive salaries of \$50 a month each, to be paid out of the gross receipts from bridge tolls, as other expenses are paid, and that the Multnomah county auditor shall perform all the duties of auditing the funds of the bridge tolls, but shall receive no separate salary or compensation for such service in connection with the Interstate bridge.

The commission on revision of laws has recommended its passage by the present session, as it had also at the special session.

The executive veto was sustained in the case of senate bill No. 5 by Siray, providing for exemption of small mine-owners from the payment of license fees under the engineers licensing law.

State House, Salem, Jan. 17.—Without a single dissenting vote the senate this afternoon sustained Governor O'Connell's veto of four bills passed by the special session last January.

The first of these vetoed measures to come up for reconsideration was the bill of senate bill No. 18 authorizing the Port of Astoria to raise by taxation \$100,000 for the purchase of a site for a naval base. The governor had disapproved of this measure because of the presence of the emergency clause and for the further reason that it also extended large powers to the Port of Portland.

PROBLEM IS SOLVED
The people of Astoria have now made provision for the necessary funds through voluntary subscription rendering the bill unnecessary, it was explained in moving to sustain the governor's veto.

Senator Moser's bill validating contracts entered into by the county commissioners of Multnomah county in the construction of the Vista House was also permitted to remain on the shelf where it was placed by executive veto.

The governor's veto of another bill by Senator Moser relating to the maintenance of kindergartens in Multnomah county was also sustained by unanimous vote.

Senator Lachmund's bill changing the statute relating to mutual insurance companies was also permitted to remain on the shelf, by unanimous vote.

The bill provided that mutual insurance companies might change their by-laws by a majority vote of at least 50 per cent by the membership present and voting. A bill along similar lines, it is understood, will be introduced at the present session.

Airplane Regulation Is Contemplated in Washington Session
Olympia, Wash., Jan. 18.—Regulation of airplane flying is contemplated at the present session, according to some legislators. The presence of Major John E. Carroll, Seattle city councilman, about the state house last week, and his interest in the matter. The proposed bill will provide for the examination and licensing of airplane pilots in order to safeguard life and property. The low

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PART OF VETOED BILLS REPASSED; OTHERS SUSTAINED

State House, Salem, Or., Jan. 18.—Governor O'Connell's veto administered to measures passed by the special session of 1920 was overridden this morning by unanimous vote of the senate in revising senate bill 34 by Moser permitting the attachment of property of non-residents in actions to recover damages for violation of contract.

Speaking in defense of his bill this morning, Senator Moser pointed out that it was aimed at Eastern corporations which came into this state, entered into contracts and then repudiated the same. This bill, it was stated, would make possible the prosecution of such actions in the courts of Oregon.

PASSAGE RECOMMENDED
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