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The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Slays Us; No Fear Shall Awe" From the First Statesman, March 23, 1851.

WEATHER

Cloudy and unsettled today; light rains or mist; Normal temperature Saturday 47; Min. 38; River 1.4; No rain.

SEVENTY-EIGHTH YEAR, NO. 279

Salem, Oregon, Sunday Morning, February 17, 1929

PRICE FIVE CENTS

KEY ISSUES OF SESSION STILL IN BACKGROUND

Real Action on Tax Relief and Government Reorganization Delayed

Start Made on Telephone Rates and Auto Licenses, But End Not Yet

Tanked piles of bills foreign to the central issues facing the 35th legislative assembly of Oregon, are yet interposed between the two houses and those central issues, even though the session in the ordinary course of events would close at the end of this week.

The house, to all appearances, has disposed of all telephone regulation matters in sight, but the senate has yet to consider the Burdick "home rule" bill, and is reported as likely to treat it less kindly than did the lower house.

Automobile license reduction has also been pushed through the house, but an aftermath is noted in the introduction of measures looking toward relief for the used car owner.

Issues Pointed Out As Vital Still Wait

But property tax relief, solution of the state deficit problem and reorganization of the state government, pointed out at the opening of the session as the key issues, have not been touched on the floor of either house, and will not be for several days yet.

The three proposals for new sources of revenue, excise, income, sales and intangibles taxes, are still being tossed about in the great game of battledore and shuttlecock, with predictions as to their eventual passage widely at variance.

There is a persistent story that the excise tax idea will be smothered, the sales tax likewise and legislators will switch to the income tax as a final resort, with little indication yet appearing as to the general reaction on the intangibles tax plan; but that all depends on who is questioned.

Many legislators say the income tax hasn't a chance, while others simply throw up their hands when the question of revenue is raised, and swear that the Almighty may know what is going to happen, but they don't.

Bills of Interest Here Up Monday

Two measures closely allied to this question of taxation are due to come up for third reading in the house Monday. One is H. B. 232, creating a board of review for county and municipal bonding proposals, and the other is H. B. 237, described as "strengthening the local budget law," the principal provision being that the governor shall appoint county budget committees and the county court appoint the budget committees for municipalities within the county.

Another bill of interest in connection with state finances is Senate Bill 115, which is ready for third reading Monday. It proposes repeal of the guarantee of principal and interest on irrigation and drainage securities.

PROSECUTOR OF ASA KEYS COMING HERE

Buron Fitts, prosecutor for the county of Los Angeles, will be one of the prominent visitors to attend the department convention of the American Legion to be held in Salem next August, according to information received by local legion officials.

Mr. Fitts, who resigned as lieutenant governor of California to oppose Aaa Keyes for election to his present office has recently been actively engaged in prosecuting his predecessor in connection with charges of corruption. Fitts has been active in legion affairs in his home state having served as department commander of California at one time. During the World war he was an officer in the Ninety-first division.

Other leaders are coming from California to attend the legion gathering. Local legion committees have been requested to reserve six rooms for visitors from the sunny state. Local legion estimates that more than 20,000 people will be in Salem during the three days of the veteran's convence.

Used Cars Get Lower Rates In New Proposal; Salaries In Counties up for Change

Last Minute Bills Entire New Schedule Made up for Officers In House Bill 522

Two measures, to be submitted for ratification by the people at the next general election, were introduced in the house Saturday, as the finish of the automobile program that has occupied much time during this session.

The bills take care of the "used car" situation, which has been an obstacle since the very start of work along these lines. The preliminary work had to be scrapped, since it was decided that any laws on used cars would not be valid, and would have to go before the people before they could be made legal.

Entire System Revamped In Next Proposal

The new legislation bears house bill numbers 519 and 520, and provides not only for a lower rate for used cars, but also for a whole new system for passenger cars and freight vehicles as well.

It is understood by the act that this applies to pneumatic tires, and under the provisions of the house bill passed Friday, all solid tires will be eliminated from the highways by January 1, 1931.

Proposed For Cars

The proposed scales, to be voted on by the people, are as follows: Class A fees—All motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers with pneumatic tires will pay 70 cents per hundred pounds weight.

Class B fees—An excise tax of 20 mills to the dollar, on factory price is to be collected on all motor vehicles, except chassis, on which an additional charge of 25 per cent will be levied.

Portland Kennel Club Show Will Be March 2 and 3

PORTLAND, Feb. 16—(AP)—Date of the seventh annual show of the Portland Kennel club has been announced as March 2-3. Letters to 1500 breeders in the Pacific northwest and California have been mailed by the club.

Building Topples Over; 4 Persons Are Nearly Killed

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 16—(AP)—Two truck drivers and two pedestrians narrowly escaped death when a three-story brick building on the edge of the business district collapsed today. Motor and trolley service was temporarily delayed. Heavy snow on the roof coupled with a nearby excavation is believed to be the cause.

Bus Driver Held Up; \$16 is Taken

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 16—(AP)—R. A. Harris, Portland-Astoria bus driver, was held up and robbed of \$16 early today by an unidentified robber who boarded the stage three miles south of what is known as the Wilby Loops on the lower Columbia highway. There were no other passengers on the bus. Harris told police the robber leaped from the bus and entered a parked automobile driven by an accomplice.

Man Shoots Own Brother as Deer

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 16—(AP)—Antone Smejkal, 35, of Buxton, Ore., was in a hospital here today suffering rifle wounds in his shoulder and jaw received when he was mistaken for a deer by his brother Ernest. Ernest told hospital attaches he and his brother had been hunting near Buxton when the accident occurred.

2 SOLONS RUSH FORWARD WITH AID FOR O. S. C.

New Statement on State Schools Submitted by Elliott, Johnson

Rep. Angell Rushed "Official" Report Through, Is Charge

Charges that the report to the ways and means committee on the University of Oregon, written by Representative Angell, was "unfair and containing unsupported accusations" were hurled Saturday by Senator Elliott and Representative B. W. Johnson, college champions. Angell is a graduate of the university.

A sub-committee of the ways and means committee consisting of Angell, Smith, Westenspoon, Johnson and Elliott submitted a report but Elliott and Johnson offered minority reports covering several phases. Elliott and Johnson sent a new report to the ways and means committee saying Angell wrote the report and submitted it for signatures without giving copies for study and that the report was applied with the report before the committee. The report of Angell consisted chiefly of a comparison between the University of Oregon and Oregon State college with many figures and statements not before the sub-committee.

Statements Twisted, Senators Assert

The college champions declare that some important data is accurate and misleading; that the report contains reflections on the college administration and in one matter makes accusations against both university and college that a study of the facts proves to be entirely unjustified.

Recommendation that the continuing appropriations for experimental stations and extension service be discontinued in the Angell report are objected to by Elliott and Johnson.

"The most astounding and indefensible charge in the report prepared by Angell," says this new protest, "is that both university and college have been deliberately cheating themselves and violating their mutual agreement by permitting out of state students to register without paying the non-resident fee fixed by joint action of the two schools."

Charges Against School Men Repeated

"The report presented as the findings of the sub-committee contains unsupported accusations against the integrity of the registrars and other officers of the university and college. It makes the unfounded charge that the directors of the experiment station and extension service have made no detailed reports available to the committee. It gives out as facts data that is unreliable and inaccurate. These statements have been published in the newspapers throughout the state and doubtless have been accepted as the deliberate utterances of one of the impartial committees of the legislature."

"The report is not a report upon the sub-committee's visit to the state agricultural college. It contains little reliable or useful information."

Whatever its merits as propaganda provides no aid to those who desire to study the problems of higher education without prejudice or partisanship.

New Champ Is Meanest Of Them All

Gross lack of chivalry to the fair sex is charged, along with the more punishable offense under the law of larceny, to Adolph Voigt, aka "Shorty" Rogers, convict, who was arrested in Salem Saturday.

According to information given to police at the time the complaint against Voigt was filed, the former convict, employed as a restaurant cook, was living at a rooming house conducted on Court street near Front by two women, a mother and daughter.

The rooming house business falling to prove sufficiently prosperous, the women purchased a washing machine on the installment plan and started to take in washing.

Now, all this time Voigt, according to the story, had been tardy in paying his room rent. Then one day when his landladies were ill, they entrusted to him \$10 to make a payment on the washing machine. They didn't find out that he had failed to carry out their instructions until the next statement came around, showing that month's payment in arrears. Meanwhile Voigt had moved away without paying his room rent, the women declared later.

Voigt was arrested by Inspector Lou Olson of the local police. He once served a term in the Oregon penitentiary for forgery.

First Photos as Tortal Met Death



Here are the first photos from Mexico City, rushed to Central Press by airplane, and snapped just before and after the execution of Leon Tortal, convicted slayer of General Alvaro Obregon, president-elect of Mexico. Top, left, Tortal's sister with Tortal's boy, making an attempt to see her brother a half hour before the execution; right, the ambulance carrying the body of the executed man passing through Mexico City streets as his followers cheered; below, crowds gathered before the Tortal residence waiting for the arrival of the body; left, inset, Ignacio Jesus Flores, with glasses, the priest who aided the slayer during execution, talking to a newspaper man after leaving the jail; and, inset, right, Mrs. Tortal, mother of the executed man, arriving at the jail a few minutes before her son faced the firing squad, to say goodbye.

Bitter House Debate Preface To Passage of Burdick Bill

"Home Rule" for Portland Wins by 33 to 24 Votes; Discussion Lasts for Hours; Dunne Memorial Goes Through

CULMINATING the most protracted and bitter debate of the present legislative session, the house of representatives late Saturday afternoon passed with 33 affirmative votes the Burdick "home rule" bill permitting Portland to fix its own telephone rates. Discussion had lasted from 11 a. m. until after 4 p. m. except for the noon intermission. Twenty-four votes were cast against the measure.

Representatives voting for the bill were Anderson, Burdick, Carlin, Clark, Fisher, Ford, Goldstein, Hazlett, Henderson, Howard, Johnson of Benton, Johnson of Clatsop, Knapp, LaFollette, Lockwood, McAllister, McCourt, Peters, Potter, Robison, Rushlight, Russell, Scott of Umatilla, Scott of Morrow, Settlemier, Smith, Snell, Stewart, Swoppe, Tompkins, Wells, Winslow and Yates. Representatives Norvell, Swoppe and Goulet were absent.

To make the gesture for regulation of telephone rates complete, the house in the forenoon had passed the Dunne memorial asking congress to pass Senator Hiram Johnson's bill for a congressional investigation of telephone rates.

Upton Bill Held Up

In the senate the Upton bill directing the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company to reduce its rates 25 per cent throughout the state was posted for consideration Monday. It was returned from the railroads and utilities committee with a divided report, the majority being against passage.

Demand that Governor Patterson should request the resignation of H. H. Corey, member of the public service commission, was made from the floor in the course of the debate on the "home rule" bill. It was charged that Corey had worked in the interests of the Southern Pacific railroad in recommending passage of the Goldstein bill requiring certificates of convenience and necessity for bus lines using public highways.

Defenders of the "home rule" bill

(Turn to Page 2, Column 4.)

Wallace Leads Salem Drive For Willamette; 13 Men to Speak in Churches Today

Tuesday, February 19 has been set as the opening day of the Salem campaign for completing the Willamette university endowment contract. For several days Paul B. Wallace, who is leading the Salem campaign, has been organizing a group of Salem business and professional men to solicit funds worthy.

This morning there will be special speakers in 13 churches, who will present the need of the local campaign. There are: W. S. Lyons, First Methodist; R. A. Harris, Leslie Methodist; H. W. Swafford, United Brethren; Joseph Banner, Cheleketa St. Evangelical; Dr. L. A. Steves, Center st. Metho-

SCATHING TALK ON PROHIBITION MADE BY REED

Fiery Attack on Law Enforcement Methods Are Launched in Senate

Man Who Posed as Dry in Last Stand Against AI Smith, Again Wet

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16—(AP)—A torrent of scorn and derision for prohibition and the disciples of prohibition was loosed in the senate today by Senator Reed of Missouri.

Delivering one of the few extended speeches of the session which he seemed to miss the stage of public service, he turned upon those who voted dry and drink wet with a fury which he even has seldom approached in the historic years of his turbulent senatorial career.

So scathing was his attack that the long-awaited Reed-Borah debate on prohibition, the dream of those who love to listen, to sharply turned forensic thrusts and counter thrusts, became a possible oratorical treat for next week. At the request of Senator Borah the senate agreed to remove the limit on debate, but whether the Idahoan will decide to reply directly to Senator Reed Monday was not fully disclosed.

"Reign of Hypocrisy" Missouriian Shouts

The Missouri democrat contended that the United States is in "reign and hypocrisy and cant, of violence, chicanery, false pretense and fraud" and predicted that the time would come when the American people would awaken to the view that "the prohibition law is the worst crime that has ever taken place."

He shouted that a man who voted dry and nevertheless drinks is "a coward—a knavish coward," and said he might in time make public the names of members of congress whose personal habits are contrary to their sentiments as registered by their votes on prohibition proposals.

The Jones bill to increase penalties for prohibition law violators was the order of business in the senate and under a previous agreement debate on the measure would have been limited after 4 p. m. Monday. At the request of Senator Borah, four additional hours of unrestricted discussion was provided.

End of Prohibition? Statutes Predicted

As Reed warned to his subject he said that in time the country will see the prohibition law come "to an ignominious end."

"The day will come" he thundered, "when the man who votes for prohibition and who himself violates the letter and the spirit of the law will be held in that kind of contempt which ought to be visited upon the knavish hypocrite who makes himself behind pretended virtue and who seeks to hold office by virtue of his false pretense."

"The day will come when judges who have made malfeasures of decency by men will sink into that oblivion which is the just reward of cruelty, oppression and wrong. Voice of People To Be Heard Again, Claim

"The day will come in this country when organized government will no longer conduct the government by its own voice and the voice of the people will be heard and that voice will pronounce that knell of those who have violated that thrift might follow naming."

The senator asserted he had no criticism of those men who themselves observe the doctrines they would force on others, but he declared: "I hold in an abhorrence and contempt that cannot be painted in any tongue that man has ever possessed the creature who, to keep his place, in this body or in the house of representatives."

(Turn to Page 2, Column 1.)

CABINET FORM OF GOVERNMENT ASKED

Salem Grange No. 17, in session Saturday, passed a resolution in favor of "submitting to the voters of the state a constitutional amendment providing for a cabinet form of government in the state of Oregon." The resolution copies of which will be sent to the Marion county delegation, urge that senators and representatives from Marion county support and vote in favor of submitting such an amendment to the voters.

Seymour Jones, state manifest agent, gave a talk on the work of the legislature at the afternoon program; Miss Elisabeth Baughan played a piano solo; and Horie Tennigan, Sr., talked on a topic which he and Mrs. Dunning recently made through southern California.

Sixteen officers' badges, the gift of an unknown friend of the Grange, were presented. Two candidates, Ernest E. Tripp and Frank McFarland, were initiated.

(Turn to Page 2, Column 1.)

Season of Lifting Rime and Sunshine Here; June Agrees

Spring is here for the third time this winter. Weather prophets forecast spring in the immediate offing after each drop in the temperature. It has been properly heralded in by "Old Man Flaming himself" this time and is officially predicted to stay until summer detronizes it.

Salem has gone through 19 or 20 days of winter in the last stretch that will long be remembered for the cold winds and freezing temperatures. The minimum temperatures since January 27 have been below freezing. Forty-two was the highest reported until Tuesday when 49 was reached.

Saturday showed a gain of nine points over Friday in minimum with 47 degrees above registered. The maximum was close to 47 at the airport, where the official thermometer is situated. In town the mercury went over 50 for most of the afternoon and was not greatly lower Saturday night.

ICE JAM IS TAKING OUT RAILROAD SPAN

MARCUS, Wash., Feb. 16—(AP)—An ice jam in the Columbia river which already has claimed one life tonight had apparently doomed the Great Northern railroad bridge here and threatened to isolate this section, despite efforts of rail crews to dislodge the great pile of ice chunks.

Virgil Whaley of Spokane, a pile driver engineer was drowned when a rock slide hurled him into the river. His body was believed to have been swept down stream under a huge floe.

The crew of 100 men who had been working since last night, today abandoned hope of breaking the jam and concentrated their efforts on saving two of the eight bents in the mid-section of the bridge. If these were destroyed the entire bridge would be torn away, engineers feared.

Legion Men Will Help Build Home

Members of Capital Post No. 8, American Legion, will play the Good Samaritan today and construct a home for the parents of a Legion man. The parents, who reside in West Salem, lost their home by fire about two weeks ago. The Legionnaires will meet at the Kingwood service station in West Salem at 9 o'clock sharp this morning, armed with tools to proceed to the task.