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Capital Journal

THE WEATHER
OREGON: Rain tonight and Friday. Slightly colder in the west and in extreme northeast.
Local: Max. 55; min. 45; rain, .81; river 12.8, rising; atmos. cloudy.

FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR No. 25

SALEM, OREGON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1925

PRICE THREE CENTS ON TRAINS AND NEWS STANDS FIVE CENTS

PROBE OF PRISON PROBABLE

\$1,500,000 SOUGHT FOR FARM RELIEF

Governor in Special Message Asks Financial Aid For Farmers and Slams Service Board.

Legislation extending aid to the most stricken farmers of eastern Oregon by appropriating to their use as a loan fund the sum of \$1,500,000 from the soldier bonus sinking fund, and utter reconstruction of the public service commission were urged upon the legislature today in a special message from Governor Pierce, delivered at a joint session at noon.

The governor declares that the service commission should be appointed by the governor and asks legislation to that effect. He asserts that the commission appears to him to be a servant of the utilities rather than the people, and that the commission seems to be "utterly helpless in considering the point of view and legitimate interests of the public."

He declares that in 1924 not a single rate reduction was made in the interests of the people. Another law is asked by Pierce declaring telephone and telegraph companies to be common carriers. More equitable distribution of the tax for burden hydro-electric development and reforestation are urged.

Strenuous opposition to the proposed manner of financing relief for the wheat farmers is anticipated on the ground that the state's credit is already strained in the eastern financial centers and the dumping of this amount of bonds, in which bonus sinking fund is tied up, would further aggravate the situation.

The governor's references to the public service commission had the same appreciable effect upon the legislature as salt massaged into an open sore.

His message in part follows: "I wish frankly to state my firm belief that the commission should be appointed by the governor and removable at his pleasure in order definitely to fix responsibility for its proper functioning in the public interest, and that furthermore it should be supported by a tax on gross earnings of public utilities rather than by a direct charge to the taxpayers of the state amounting to \$130,000 each biennium, the present cost of the commission. "In this connection I wish to say that the public service commission has often appeared to me as being the servant of the public utilities rather than of the public."

COMPULSORY GRADING OF POTATOES SOUGHT

Compulsory grading of potatoes to certain standard before offering them for sale in Oregon would be provided for in accordance with house bill 211, introduced today by Buchanan of Benton county.

BILL TO TAKE PORT BOARD FROM PIERCE

Reply of Legislators To Governor is Measure to Remove Appointive Power; Rename Men.

The first of the big Berthas constituting the main battery of the legislative forces attacking the stronghold of Governor Pierce exploded in the senate this morning. It was a direct reply to the executive action in replacing the five members of the Port of Portland commission whose terms expire June 1.

By the terms of a bill introduced by the Multnomah county delegation, minus Senator Joseph, the power of appointment of the port commissioners is taken out of the hands of the governor and vested in the legislature. The bill names the five commissioners proposed by the governor, including Frank M. Warren, present chairman of the commission, to succeed themselves, and if passed completely annual.

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ARGUMENTS IN FORBES TRIAL BEING MADE

Chicago, Jan. 29.—(By Associated Press.)—Assistant Attorney General John W. Crim began the final argument for the prosecution in the veterans bureau conspiracy trial today. Following an hour of argument and the instructions of the court the case will be presented to the jury soon after the opening of the afternoon session. A quick verdict is anticipated by counsel.

Charles R. Forbes, former director of the United States veterans bureau and J. W. Thompson, wealthy building contractor of Chicago and St. Louis went to trial before Federal Judge George A. Carpenter, November 24 last, charged with conspiracy to defraud the government.

The proceedings grew out of charges of corruption, collusion and loose management in the veterans bureau under Forbes in 1921 and 1922, related before the senate investigating committee in 1923 by Elias H. Mortimer, Washington agent, and self-styled "sniper of official red tape."

Thirty-three overt acts were charged in the indictment on which the trial was based, among which the trial was based, among them conspiracy to prevent free competitive bidding, favorites for certain contractors in the announcement of contemplated projects, and the passing of confidential information relating to selection of sites.

Mayor Outlines Plans to Secure Concrete Bridges

The second step in Mayor J. B. Giesey's campaign for permanent bridges within the city limits of Salem will be taken at the council meeting Monday night, when he will appoint a special bridge committee to work out plans for the building of concrete bridges in the future. The regular council committee on bridges will form the nucleus of this committee, says Mayor Giesey, and additional members will be named by the mayor.

Two ways to finance the bridges will be the voting of bonds, avers the mayor. In any event a special election would have to be held, providing the building program was started at once, as Mayor Giesey desires, and as dozen of

(Continued on Page Four)

ESCAPED CON AIDED HI-JACKER TO ESCAPE JAIL

San Francisco, Jan. 29.—Theodore Eggers, who escaped from the federal prison at Atlanta, Ga., is believed by federal officials to have come to San Francisco to plot the escape of his two brothers, Milo and Arnie, suspected liquor pirates, which led yesterday to the shooting and killing of Arnie Eggers and the escape of Milo Eggers.

Comparison of the handwriting of "James Callahan," who rented the automobile in which Milo Eggers escaped, with that of Theodore Eggers disclosed many similarities, the federal officials said. They had other evidence, they said, that Theodore Eggers, supposed leader of the sensational hi-jacking ring that operated off the coast of British Columbia came here from his place of concealment and worked out the plot to free his brothers.

Mrs. Erna Brown, believed by investigators to be the sister of the Eggers brothers, is being closely questioned today concerning the identity of the woman who drove Theodore Eggers to freedom from the gates of the Atlanta prison after the tires of the police automobile in which he was being brought to that prison exploded mysteriously.

The federal authorities believe that Milo and Theodore Eggers are together, and are hastening to get out of the country, presumably to Mexico.

MATRICIDE TO BE TRIED IN CRIMINAL COURT

San Francisco, Jan. 29.—Dorothy Ellingwood, the 16 year old matricide, is to be tried by the criminal court in the juvenile court, it was decided today by Superior Judge Frank Murasky. Juvenile court judge, when the girl was brought before him for arraignment, Judge Murasky said that the case was so extreme and grave in its nature that it was not one that could be tried in his jurisdiction.

GASTON MEANS FATE RESTS IN JURORS' HANDS

New York, Jan. 29.—The case of Gaston B. Means, former agent of the department of justice, and Thomas B. Flender, once Means' attorney, who are charged with conspiracy to bribe government officials, went to a federal court jury after 3 p. m. today.

ASK LINVILLE TO REPLY TO ACCUSATIONS

Author of Tilly From Tillamook Relates Tale of Officialdom.

"Things have been said on this witness stand that Dr. Linville must admit or refute, and I insist that he be served with a subpoena to come and testify before this committee."

So spoke Representative Frank Loneragan of the special committee investigating the state prohibition department yesterday afternoon. Loneragan was speaking of Dr. J. A. Linville, federal prohibition director for Oregon, and was led to make his remarks by testimony that had been offered a few minutes previously by Virginia B. Washburn, woman writer, social worker and detective of Portland. As a result of Loneragan's stand Chairman Garland last night dispatched Joe Singer, sergeant-at-arms of the house, to Portland with a subpoena for Linville.

Garland declared last night that Mrs. Washburn was the best witness he has ever seen on the stand in all his legal practice. "If half she said is true," said Garland, "the corruption in the federal prohibition department for Oregon is amazing."

Loneragan probably was spurred to insist upon the calling of Linville by a statement, reluctantly given by the witness, that she had been advised by bootleggers, during her detective work, to use Loneragan's name as a password to get liquor, a statement that appeared to amaze Loneragan. It seems possible that the statements made by Mrs. Washburn, together with the determination of Loneragan and other members to probe as far as state authority will permit into the federal office may cause the investigation to reach much farther than contemplated prior to yesterday.

Mrs. Washburn gave the names of men whom she said were big bonded liquor dealers in Portland, the names and soubriquets of bootleggers and highwaymen, both men and women, and told how she had worked herself into their confidence so that they considered her one of them. If her testimony was true, she gave her hearers a peep into a protected sphere of vice and crime in Portland that is appalling. For nearly two hours she held the stand, impassionately giving testimony that was startling in the extreme, and including a story of how Leonardo M. Pierce plotted to blackmail George L. Cleaver.

LIMIT EXPENSES OF CONGRESSMEN

Washington, Jan. 29.—The senate today adopted as a rider to the postal salary bill a corrupt practices act strictly limiting campaign expenditures by congressional candidates.

In addition to limiting expenditures of a candidate for the house to \$2500 and of a senator to \$10,000, the measure would require detailed periodic reports from every political committee and, in certain cases, from individual contributors.

Wallowa Fair Premiums Appropriation of \$4,000, half for 1925 and the balance for 1926, to aid in providing premiums for the Wallowa county fair is sought in house bill 216 introduced by Representative C. A. Hunter and Senator Dennis, Union and Wallowa counties, today.

LIST OF CHARGES REQUIRE INQUIRY

Oregon Brief In School Law Case Filed In Court

Washington, Jan. 29.—Oregon today filed in the supreme court, through its attorney general, Isaac H. Van Winkle, a brief in support of its appeal from the decision of the federal district court of Oregon enjoining enforcement of the compulsory education law. The litigation is the first test to reach the supreme court on the right of states to require the education of children in public schools.

DOGS RACE TO BRING CURE FOR NOME EPIDEMIC

Nome, Alaska, Jan. 29.—(By Associated Press)—No new diphtheria cases were reported the last 24 hours and a few of the patients have shown improvement after the injection of anti-toxin units four to five years old, according to a daily report on an epidemic raging here made today by Mr. Curtis Welch and Miss Morgan, public nurse.

Leonard Zeppalla, sweepstakes winner, left yesterday with a fast Siberian team of twenty dogs to meet relay teams from Nenana which are carrying 300,000 anti-toxin units sent from Anchorage by Dr. J. B. Heason. Zeppalla has to drive 800 miles, going nearly 400 miles toward Nenana and then returning on the same route.

Most of the deaths have been among eskimos, whose families are afflicted in many instances. The results obtained from the old anti-toxin, which is used sparingly by Dr. Welch were pointed out as remarkable for the serum was generally found good for only six months. Exceptional cold weather or failed to affect the quality.

The board of health declared the epidemic conditions were somewhat better.

ASQUITH KEEPS LEADERSHIP OF LIBERAL PARTY

London, Jan. 29.—(By Associated Press)—Rumors widely prevalent since the announcement of former Premier Asquith's elevation to the peerage that he would relinquish the active leadership of the liberal party to David Lloyd-George were set at rest for the time being at least when speaking at the opening of the great convention of the liberal party here today he said: "I have not resigned my post. It is therefore in that character that I presume once more to speak to you."

Mr. Lloyd-George, who followed the new Earl of Oxford, in addressing the convention also let it be known emphatically that he did not seek the long time leadership post.

The new earl received an ovation all the 1800 delegate joining and singing "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow," as the leader entered the hall.

The convention has as its business the discussion of the report of the reorganization committee, whose recommendations for reconstruction of the party organization and its finances were submitted at a private session today.

Inefficiency and Incompetency Alleged—Escapes Break Records—Trustees Rob Stores—Discipline Reported Lax—Charges of Nepotism and Use of State Materials by Relatives of Warden

A Bill Will Be Introduced In The House This Afternoon Taking Control of the State Prison Out of the Hands of the Governor and Placing It With the Board of Control

Legislative inquiry into the manner in which the state penitentiary has been operated during the past two years, particularly under the direction of Warden A. M. Dairymply, named to succeed and correct the mistakes of mismanagement under Warden Johnson Smith, who was forced to resign, drew one step nearer today when members of the legislature interested in restoring the prison to a status of efficiency as a penal institution began study of a multitude of charges relative to the conduct of the institution and various in charge of it that have come into their hands from various sources.

What form the inquiry may take—whether it be a formal investigation by a special committee following the line of the Cleaver probe, or in the form of hearings upon a bill to take control of the prison out of the hands of the governor—has not been decided. But some action, and that within the next few days, is promised.

There are several matters in connection with the prison that those legislators who have interested themselves in the question to the extent of hearing complaints want explained.

BILL CUTTING OUT SPEED TRAPS PASSES SENATE

Senator Hall's bill excluding evidence obtained by speed traps in the trial of criminal cases arising out of traffic law violators was passed by the senate. Under the bill all officers would be in uniform. It does not affect officers of the state traffic department who have never used speed traps. There was no opposition to the measure.

A bill by Senator Butler, providing that in Wasco county 25 or more voters may call an election in any precinct on the question whether livestock shall run at large was passed by the senate. Senator Joseph's bill, providing for a jury commissioner in Multnomah county, was passed by the senate today. Joseph said the bill was desired by all the judges in Multnomah county. The vote was unanimous.

The bill introduced by the Multnomah delegation in the senate providing that the construction of bridges in Multnomah county shall not be under the supervision of the bridge engineer was passed. Supervision is transferred to the county bridge engineer. The vote was unanimous.

SENATOR TAYLOR AND REP. MAHON

SENATOR SAM BROWN THE BERRY KING OF GERVAIS

GLIMPSSES OF THE LEGISLATORS AS CAUGHT BY MURRAY WADE

