

DOINGS AT THE CAPITOL

News in Brief of the Doings of Oregon's Law-makers During the Past Week

Amount of First Week's Work Small, as Usual—Incipient Mutiny in House—Two Prohibition Bills Introduced—May Regulate Commission Houses—State Horticultural Commissioner Proposed—Tax Measures Numerous.

Salem.—Just as in previous sessions, the first week of the twenty-eighth session passed with very little accomplished aside from organization. When organization was completed, instead of getting promptly down to work considerable time was wasted in oratory over the number of clerks and stenographers to be employed. Some of the lawmakers, in view of the economy talk which prevailed, thought it would be a good idea to begin with cutting down the running expenses of the session by getting along with fewer clerks, but after the flow of talk ceased both houses concluded the usual number of clerks would be necessary.

In the senate, with Senator W. Lair Thompson, of Lake county, as presiding officer, the legislative wheels appear to be running smoothly, but in the house, as a result of dissatisfaction over Speaker Ben Selling's committee appointments and an antagonistic spirit which arose against the Multnomah county delegation, a well-defined mutiny against the house organization developed. A few hotheads even talked of deposing the speaker, nullifying his committee appointments and substituting others nominated from the floor of the house.

Number of Important Bills Introduced
While much of the first week of the session was taken up with organization, inauguration of the Governor and useless oratory over clerkships, when the legislature did get down to law-making a number of the important questions to come before the session appeared in the shape of bills. These included measures to amend the tax laws, consolidate departments of the state government for economy, to make effective the prohibition amendment and revision of the game laws.

The economy spirit manifested itself in the senate when that body voted to eliminate appropriations for the state accountability board and the state immigration commission and by authorizing the suspension of the decennial census, effecting an approximate saving of \$170,000.

At the close of the first week the house had 102 bills before it and the senate 49. All passed second reading.

Dry Measures Pending in House.
While there is no universal agreement on the prohibition question, it is certain that a measure will be passed strictly in accordance with the provisions of the constitutional amendment adopted by the people at the November election. Two prohibition bills now are pending in the house. The committee of One Hundred's bill was the first measure introduced in that body. It has been referred to the committee on alcoholic liquor. D. C. Lewis, of St. Johns, is the author of another measure now in the hands of the same committee. Yet another measure may be introduced this week. Ora R. Porter, representative from Douglas county, is the author.

Representative Lewis declared that he introduced a bill on the subject because he was dissatisfied with the committee's bill. His measure is radical in the extreme. The legislators are determined to enact an effective prohibition law. If the committee of One Hundred's bill is amended it will be to make it more drastic. Estimates for institutions may stand that the estimates made by the state board of control for appropriations for 1915 and 1916 will not be materially changed, if changed at all, is the belief after the first week's session of the legislature. Estimates were made first by the superintendents and considerable reductions made by the board in several instances.

The committee on ways and means of the senate is probing thoroughly the management of the institutions and has visited the blind school, the

mute school and the state insane asylum. After spending a day at the latter institution and the cottage farm, an adjunct, committee members announced that they were well pleased with the management of all institutions visited and were especially well pleased with the management of the insane asylum.

Strict Regulations to Protect Farmers
Rigid regulations for commission merchants are prescribed in a bill introduced in the house by Representative Blanchard, of Josephine county. The bill amends the present law relating to commission merchants, and provides for the transfer of jurisdiction over them from the state railroad commission to the secretary of state. Provision is made that before a commission merchant can engage in business he must obtain a license and give a bond that he will faithfully report to all persons consigning horticultural, agricultural and viticultural produce and farm products to him, and promptly pay to each the proceeds of all sales after deducting a commission of not more than 5 per cent on carload lots, and 10 per cent on smaller lots, and actual disbursements connected with the sale of the produce.

Horticultural Bill is Up.
The bill providing for the creation of a state horticultural commissioner, prepared by the state horticultural society, was introduced in the house by Representative Vawter, of Jackson. The measure aims to regulate the fruit and orchard industry of the state, prescribes uniform inspection systems and requires owners to spray their trees and otherwise protect them from insects and various other forms of pests.

The measure proposes to abolish the present board of horticulture and place a commissioner to be appointed by the governor in charge. His salary is fixed at \$3000 a year. It also provides for the appointment of fruit tree inspectors in those counties of the state that care to appoint them at their own expense. Such inspectors, however, are to be subject to the regulations of the proposed law and report to the state commissioner.

Imported Eggs Got Attention in House
Three bills striking at imported eggs were introduced in the house by Representative Allen, of Marion county. The first provides that all eggs imported and sold in the state shall be marked "imported" the second that all food products in packages in which eggs are an ingredient shall be marked "imported eggs used," the third provides that drink dispensers who use imported eggs in any drink they sell must have a sign posted in their establishment advising the public of this fact.

Woman Legislator Introduces Bill.
Miss Marian B. Towne's first bill to be presented to the house was introduced Friday. The only woman in the legislature has a measure to punish conspiracy, the present laws, she says, having nothing to cover the point. She would punish by a fine of from \$100 to \$10,000 each person who accomplishes any part of the conspiracy or would imprison him from 30 days to one year in jail or in the penitentiary from one to five years.

Tax Bills Are Introduced.
Senator Smith of Coos and Curry introduced a bill for a new tax law. It changes the date for which assessments should be made from March 1 to January 1, and provides that the first payment shall become due on November 1, of the year in which the assessment is made and the second payment shall become due April 1 of the following year. No penalties are provided.

Senator Barrett, of Umatilla, also introduced a tax bill in the upper house, and members of the Multnomah county delegation have another measure in course of preparation. It probably will be introduced in the lower house within a few days. These measures are similar in some particulars, but differ in other essential provisions. Both provide for semi-annual payments. The Multnomah county bill allows a discount for all payments in excess of 50 per cent made at the first

period, while the Barrett bill does not. The Multnomah county bill attaches a penalty of 12 per cent per annum against delinquent payments, while the Barrett penalty is fixed at the rate of only 8 per cent. The payments dates also differ.

Legislative Nuggets.
Indications are that Senator Dimick's bill to abolish the Oregon naval militia is going to have easy sailing in the senate.

A bill designed to keep heavy freight automobile trucks off unpaved highways at certain seasons of the year was introduced by Senator Vinton. It provides that they shall not go on unpaved highways between October 15 and April 15 following.

Surgical treatment and hospital care for indigent, crippled and deformed children of the state are provided for in a bill introduced by Senator Garland of Linn county.

A bill providing that persons liable by statute for inmates of the state insane and feeble-minded hospitals, if able, pay to the state \$15 a month for the maintenance of each inmate was introduced in the senate by the Marion county delegation.

Provision is made in a bill introduced in the house by Representative Schuebel for the abolition of the present state fish and game commission, and the substitution therefor of a commission to consist of the governor, master fish warden and state game warden.

Resolutions providing for submission to the people of constitutional amendments designed to put an end to frauds in connection with the circulation of initiative, recall and referendum petitions were introduced by Senator Day. It is planned to bar persons from signing petitions who are not registered voters.

WIFE DIVORCES PREACHER.
Says He Deserted Her and Four Children For Another Woman.

Los Angeles, Cal.—Joseph H. Moore, a preacher, forsook his wife, Clara M. Moore, for the charms of another woman. This was fifteen years ago, and the other day Mrs. Moore was granted a decree of divorce by Judge Monroe on the ground of desertion. She testified that he eloped with the other woman from Odell, Neb., in 1899 and shortly afterward he wrote her from Kansas.

Mrs. Moore was thrown on her own resources with four children. She communicated with the brother of her husband's alleged companion, who replied that the news shocked him. "It certainly would not be very pleasant for my sister if I should meet her," he said.

The Moores were married at Scotland, S. D., June 7, 1887. The last known address of Mr. Moore was Hutchinson, Kan.

FARMERS FLUSH WITH CASH.
If You Don't Want to Sell, Don't Bluff or They'll Snap You Up.

Hutchinson, Kan.—If you don't really want to sell anything don't flash any offers around these Kansas farmers out here in the wheat belt.

A Hutchinson man left his automobile standing in front of the Elks' club. A farmer came up. "What'll you take for your car?" he asked. The city man thought he was joking. "Oh, \$400," he replied. The farmer whipped out a roll as big as his fist, peeled off four \$100 spots and forked them over.

A farmer stepped into a Hutchinson music house. He heard a music box grinding away in a corner. He was told it was worth \$650. He pulled out a check book and bought it on the spot.

SWIFT SOCIAL PACE IS KILLING AMERICANS

Dr. Fisk Says Vitality Is Below Standard of Foreigners.

Philadelphia.—Dr. Eugene Fisk, director of hygiene at the Life Extension Institute of New York, in an address before the American Association for the Advancement of Science, asserted that the swift social and industrial pace in the United States has reduced the vitality of Americans to a point far below the standard of Great Britain and the other nations of Europe. Supplementing this statement, Assistant Statistician Kopp of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company of New York said that the infusion of Slavic blood, nearly always unhealthy, had been an important factor in lowering the vitality of the people as a whole.

"The American of 1914 is far below the physical standards of his progenitors," said Dr. Fisk. "It is easily imaginable that 50 per cent of the men examined by life insurance companies and hospital physicians would have to be rejected in a physical test for military service."

"We have taxed our vitality too greatly in our industries and in our social pace and have too readily ignored the common rules of health and physical well being. Now we are beginning to see how great a price we must pay."

"As many persons die annually in the United States from preventable diseases as have been killed thus far in the entire European war," declared E. A. Winslow of the New York state department of health in an earlier address. "More than 600,000 have fallen in the war, and as many die annually here from illis that can be prevented and that are therefore much more tragic and deplorable."

"The most fearful thing about this European war is that it seems to us at this distance so wantonly useless," said Mr. Winslow, "yet the deaths of 40 per cent of 1,500,000 persons in the United States each year are equally unnecessary."

"Fully 90 per cent of the 250,000 babies who die each year before passing their first birthday could be kept alive by applying the merely elemental principles of hygiene."

HELD JOB FORTY-FOUR YEARS

Civil War Veteran's Continuous Term as School Board Clerk.

Marshall, Minn.—For forty-four years Jacob Rouse has been clerk of the school board of district No. 1, in Lyon county. He was first elected in 1870 and has held the office ever since. He has seen the district grow from a small one room log schoolhouse with but a few scattering pupils to a four room consolidated school with four teachers in charge of 135 pupils, who have the advantages of domestic science and manual arts. Mr. Rouse lives in the Camden valley of Lynd township, where in 1870 he took a claim in Section 22. He was for one term treasurer of Lyon county and is a veteran of the civil war.

May See From Trenches.

London.—Safety for the men in the trenches on the firing line is enhanced by a new device called a hyperscope, which operates similarly to the periscope on a submarine. By means of the hyperscope an observer may survey the surrounding country without exposing himself to the enemy's fire by raising his head above the level of the trench.

CONVICT AUTHOR WELCOMED AT HOME

Made \$1,800 While in Prison by Writing Short Stories.

Jackson, Mich.—Frank Goewey Jones, who during the past year has written a number of short stories of high quality while serving a sentence for forgery in a penitentiary at Ionia, Mich., has received his pardon from Governor Ferris and a big welcome at Muskegon, Mich., where he was convicted of the crime in July, 1911.

After a leading magazine had printed in November "A Problem in Eugenics," written by Jones, the editor wrote to H. M. Nimmo, editor of the Detroit Saturday Night, asking for information about the remarkable prisoner. The letter was forwarded to Warden Otis Fuller of Ionia, who wrote:

Jones was sentenced to this institution on July 4, 1911, for a minimum term of four years and a maximum term of fourteen years on a forgery charge. Something more than a year ago he submitted to me a couple of manuscripts with the request that I read them and advise him whether or not I thought he could write stories. They were couched in such unusually clear and crisp English, and he had invaded such a new and original field, that I assured him I thought he could write, or at least that his stories had made such an impression upon me that I could not see why they should not make a hit with the average reader, especially among business men.

Jones has certainly been a rapidly rising star on the literary horizon. During the past year he has received more than \$1,800 from stories that have been accepted. He has a fine mind, a good education and an unusual fund of optimism and good humor.

The magazine editor wrote another letter to Nimmo saying that after the sifting of 10,000 manuscripts, which had been submitted in a prize short story contest, the story by Jones had been seriously considered for one of the twelve prizes. It received no prize, but the magazine bought it and printed it. The editor wrote:

"Incidentally it is worth noting that one of the things which I observed in looking into his writings and which impressed me particularly was a note of cheerfulness and optimism. This, to



MONEY SAVING PRICES

WHEN WE SELL YOU SOMETHING FOR THREE DOLLARS MARKED FOUR DOLLARS WE SAVE YOU ONE DOLLAR OF SURE-ENOUGH MONEY. OUR GOODS ARE WORTH, ALL THE TIME, ALL WE ASK FOR THEM AT FIRST.

WE DO NOT WANT TO CARRY OVER OUR WINTER GOODS FOR ANOTHER YEAR. THAT'S WHY WE ARE CUTTING PRICES TO CLEAR THEM OUT. COME WHILE THE "PICKING" IS GOOD.

Will continue Clearance Sale Prices on certain lines of goods during the remainder of the month. Time is short, Come Now.

N. SELIG.

gether with the accuracy of his underlying knowledge of human nature, are marked characteristics of his writings."

Kangaroo Is Regiment Mascot.
Cairo.—Several bush kangaroo and rock wallabies have been brought along as mascots by the Australian troops who have been sent here and room about the camp amid the pyramids.

The Tasmanian troops have brought as a mascot a "Tasmanian devil," a sort of tree bear.

Another regiment has a pair of the birds known as "laughing jackasses," whose hysterical shrieks carry a long distance on the desert at night.

Cost of French Living Not Up.
Paris.—There has been no noticeable change in the cost of living in France, although there have been five months of war, the mobilization of 3,000,000 men and the feeding of 2,000,000 Belgian refugees and many German prisoners.

"BEAUTY ON BUSINESS BASIS"

New Slogan For Making National Parks Self Supporting.

Washington.—Development of the economic, as well as the aesthetic value of the national parks of the country, is the policy of Mark Daniels, newly appointed superintendent of national parks in the department of the interior.

Through the operation of a carefully worked out plan Mr. Daniels believes that not only can the national reservations eventually become self supporting, but that the picturesque value will be enhanced rather than destroyed by the placing of "beauty on a business basis." Briefly, the plan of the new superintendent contemplates the establishment of a "model village" in each of the large parks or in so many of them as the patronage will justify. In discussing his plan Mr. Daniels said:

"There is no doubt in my mind but that the national parks should be placed on a self supporting basis. The people will in time refuse to support the parks, and we should therefore take advantage of the revenue producing elements of the national reservations."

"My plan is simply to broaden the field for concession and to lay down simple building regulations to be followed by the concessionaries, which

will preclude the possibility of the erection of buildings not harmonious with the scenic beauty of the parks."

LIVE SNAKE IN HER STOMACH

X Ray Reveals Reptile—Removed Without Operation.

Madison, Wis.—One of the most unusual cases in the history of local medicine was revealed at a local hospital, when physicians, submitting a woman from Waunakee, Dane county, to an X ray examination, discovered that her stomach contained a live snake six inches long.

The woman had not suffered any pain up to the time of the discovery, but was greatly distressed when told of the result of the examination. The snake was removed without operating. It proved to be a reptile commonly known as the grass snake, nearly pure white. The hospital authorities refused to make any statement regarding the case.

HORSESHOEING BIG PUZZLE

How Can 2 Animals Wear 12 Shoes Like "How Old Is Ann"?

Oregonian

How can two horses wear 12 shoes? This is a puzzle which accountants in the city service are trying to solve. It has come up as a result of an investigation of requisition for horseshoeing service put through prior to the establishment of the present Municipal Purchasing Bureau.

Among requisitions found is one which provides for the placing of 12 shoes on two horses. "Must have had queer horses in olden days," reflected one of the accountants yesterday. "Must have used centipedes," suggested Purchasing Agent Wood.

Street Car Companies are howling long and loud over the "jitney bus" that is making serious inroads in their business.