

The Cottage Grove Sentinel

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER WITH PLENTY OF BACKBONE

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UNDER THE BIG DOME AT SALEM

Selling and Eaton Clash Again.

Speaker Selling and Representative Eaton of Lane got into another clash Friday when the Speaker refused to let the doughty Lane County man rise upon a question of personal privilege. This excuse for gaining the floor is such a broad one that a man is seldom refused the right of the floor when asked for on that ground, but Eaton was not allowed to speak. Many believe that Eaton is endeavoring to hector Selling because of the former's defeat for the speakership, but this is probably not the case. Eaton is better versed in parliamentary practice than Selling and in addition likes a scrap. His defeat for the speakership does not appear to have had any effect upon him. What brought on the verbal sparring match was Selling's accusation that in asking for a Saturday session Eaton had been playing to the galleries.

Bingham Having Warm Time.

Between being accused on one side of playing with the big paving companies and being accused on the other side of being unfair to the same concerns, Senator Bingham of Lane is having a real warm time with his bill No. 158. The proposed act declares the state's policy in relation to competitive bidding for the improvement of public roads and highways and provides that in cases before the State Highway Commission or any County Court where any patented paving is specified there must also be a bid on at least one kind of non-patented paving. By the provisions of the proposed act 51 per cent of the abutting property may stop the improvement for one year. Seventy-five per cent of the abutting property may petition for the kind of paving desired and such petition will be given due consideration in the final determination. No royalty may be paid above 5 per cent of the lowest bid.

Amends Fruit Inspection Law.

S. B. No. 143 by Senator Cusick of Linn and Lane amends Section 5482 in relation to fruit inspection. The proposed act provides that upon the petition of twenty-five resident fruit growers the County Court may appoint a fruit inspector who must be certified to as competent by the Commissioner of the State Board of Horticulture and this officer shall hold the position at the pleasure of the County Court and of the Commissioner of the State Board. The bill provides for the appointment of Deputy Inspectors in the same manner and defines the duties of the Inspector and his deputies. The bill provides that common carriers must notify the Inspector or one of his deputies of the arrival of nursery stock and seeds and that such shipments cannot be delivered without proper inspection.

Salaries for Lane County Officials.

H. B. No. 338 by the Lane County delegation fixes the salaries of Lane County officials as follows:

The salary of the County Judge is left at \$1200.

The salaries of the County Commissioners are raised from \$3.00 to \$4.00 a day for each day used in the transaction of business and allows expense money of \$200 per year each. The salary was reduced from \$5.00 to \$3.00 at this session.

The salary of County Treasurer is raised from \$1200 to \$1500 because of the extra duties imposed upon that officer as tax collector.

The salary of County Clerk is reduced from \$2000 to \$1800. The salary of the Sheriff is reduced from \$2000 to \$1800 because of the work taken from that officer by giving the tax collection business to the Treasurer.

No change is made in the salaries of Assessor and School Superintendent, which are now \$1500.

Would Buy Fair Grounds.

H. B. No. 361 by the Lane County delegation, requiring the purchase of a site for the Lane County Fair, levying a tax of \$20,000 upon the property of Lane County for the purpose and authorizing a tax of \$1000 a year for permanent improvements, has passed the House.

Eaton Has Constructive Bill.

H. B. No. 428, the only measure introduced by Representative Eaton personally at this session, is considered by him the most important piece of constructive legislation he has ever attempted. The proposed act would create a Bureau of Labor Statistics, Inspector of Factories and Workshops and provide for the establishment of labor exchanges in commercial centers. There would also be an advisory committee of nine. The purpose of the proposed act is to make a thorough investigation of the present unemployment problem of the State and in a systematic manner arrange to connect the man with the job at no expense to him. No other agency would be permitted to engage in the employment agency business without getting a permit and paying an annual license fee of \$25. The proposed act carries an appropriation of \$20,000 to put it into effect. The proposed act makes no provision for relieving the legislator of the burden of his work and shifting it onto

some of the unemployed that hang about the capitol.

Grist Is Grinding Slowly.

With but two weeks remaining of the session less than a dozen bills of importance have been passed by the Legislature. The most important pieces of legislation so far enacted are the Senate Bill abolishing the office of State Immigration Agent, effecting a saving of \$50,000, and the House bills abolishing the State census, prohibiting signs along the state highways, a permanent registration bill, and the bill to prohibit fishing with nets at or near Willamette Falls.

The Legislature is at present suffering under two disadvantages; one is the usual one of a great mass of bills and the other a false idea of economy.

The disadvantage of a great mass of bills has always been one of the greatest, if not the greatest, of the legislative session. Members seem to feel that their usefulness will be determined by the number of bills they present, rather than the quality of their bills, or their attention to those presented by others. However, fewer bills have been presented than in the last session, and several members have had the good judgment not to introduce a single measure. The responsibility for the majority of unimportant measures may be fairly charged to the lawyers of the House, who easily lead in the number and unimportance of measures introduced.

The attitude of the membership of the House toward appropriations seems to be a little more reasonable than in the early part of the session, when bills were passed upsetting the policies established by former Legislatures and making it necessary for the introduction of a number of new bills upon subjects that never should have been disturbed. The tentative decision of the Ways and Means Committee to do away with the State Industrial School for Girls has met with such vigorous public protest that it seems likely now that the Committee will reverse itself and come to a sensible and considerate conclusion on this matter. If the Legislature attempts to make a record for money saving without regarding the real needs of the State it will be the most serious error within its reach.

One pleasing feature of the present session of the legislature is the improbability of any freak laws getting by.

Senator Cusick of Linn and Lane is one of the quiet members, but while he does not play to the galleries, he is given credit for being one of the influential members. He is not making the mistake that new members frequently do of trying to be the whole show.

A suggestion that might spur legislators to greater and more economic efforts is that each legislator receive as compensation for his service half of the money he saves the state.

That the tone of the newspapers of the state is pretty high is evidenced by the fact that the legislative committee of the State Editorial Association has, by making no protest, given its endorsement to the bills prohibiting the advertising of liquors and prohibiting lawyers from advertising for divorce cases. The Portland papers are about the only ones that will be affected by the first act, but probably not even they will be affected by the latter one.

A good suggestion has been made by Senator Perkins of Multnomah, chairman of the Committee on Taxes and Assessments. He suggests that some plan be worked out for the election of the Speaker and President immediately after the full elections so that they could at once appoint their committees and give the members thereof sufficient time to prepare themselves for their work at the session. A number of the committees are handicapped because they have had to gather all their information since the session began.

A sensible permanent registration law will be one of the results of this session. The act should have gone further and provided that it would not be necessary for voters to register where they are so well known to the election officials that there would be no question in the minds of such officials of their right to vote.

Representative Weeks of Marion County has four children and is considering changing his name to Month.

The House has had the good judgment to indefinitely postpone five constitutional amendments which it was proposed to put upon the next referendum ballot. So far but one measure has been submitted to the people by the Legislature and that is the single item veto by the Governor, for which there is a genuine demand.

The plan for the consolidation of commissions which has been prepared by Senators Day and Barrett will undoubtedly be presented before the end of the session, but unless it is forthcom-



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ing soon it can hardly be expected that it will be passed by the Legislature, which already has much more than it can possibly do in the remaining days.

The greatest opportunity that the Legislature has is to segregate the important from the unimportant measures and concentrate upon the former, in the hope of getting something important done. It will be apparent within a few days whether or not this opportunity will be embraced.

Because of the fact that many pioneers of Oregon were from slave states, a provision was inserted in the constitution denying to negroes the right to own real estate. At nearly every session of the Legislature an attempt is made to repeal this worthless provision, which is at variance with the national constitution, but such attempts have never been successful. A bill for this purpose was voted down at this session.

S. B. No. 144 by Senator Cusick of Linn and Lane amends several sections of Lord's Oregon Laws relative to the establishments of county roads, makes provision for a County Board of Road Viewers composed of the County Court and County Engineer, defines methods for locating and establishing roads and defines the duties of the Board of Road Viewers.

S. B. No. 140 by Senator Bingham of Lane, providing additional regulations for the transaction of insurance business and S. B. No. 141 by the same Senator, providing additional requirements for fire insurance rate making, have been indefinitely postponed.

S. B. 157 by Senator Bingham, a drastic measure for the protection of domestic fowls from injury by dogs, is meeting serious opposition from dog owners.

S. B. No. 162 by Senator Cusick of Linn and Lane, relating to trust companies, makes correction in a similar measure passed by the 1913 session. The proposed act defines the trust business and provides what companies may engage therein, etc. It is one of the most important pieces of legislation being considered.

S. B. No. 193 by Senator Bingham of Lane amends Section 3965 relating to the duties of school superintendents and makes minor changes.

H. B. No. 268 by Representative Dillard to punish persons escaping or attempting to escape from jails, etc., has been indefinitely postponed.

H. B. No. 278 by Representative Fenwick, to prevent the desecration of burial grounds, was passed by the House, reconsidered and re-referred to the Committee on Revision of Laws. The proposed act provides that all abandoned graveyards shall become public charges of the City or County wherein situated and makes it the duty of such Cities or Counties to protect them from desecration. The cause for reconsideration was the argument that owners of graveyards

might sell all the land, pocket the money and leave the expense of keeping the property fenced, etc., to the Cities and Counties of the State.

H. B. No. 339 by Representative Dillard to amend Section 6345, providing common use of telephone, telegraph and other public utilities' poles, has been indefinitely postponed.

H. B. No. 358 by Representative Fenwick, providing for district game and fire wardens, defining their powers, duties, etc., has been reported back from committee with the recommendation that it do pass.

IMPROVING POTATO CROP SUGGESTIONS.

Few farmers realize that crops are subject to the same laws of improvement or deterioration as any class of animals on the farm. Crops of every

kind can be improved by selecting and using for parent stock only the best individuals produced each year.

For those who have not selected their seed from the hill, now is the time to sort over the bin and pick out the best for next spring planting. Too many will wait until planting time—after having sold most of the good ones or after picking them out during the winter and cooking the best of them. The little ones, irregular ones, and oversized ones are all equally good when cooked and mashed, but for seed none but the smooth, shallow-eyed, regular shaped, seven to eight ounce potatoes will do. At least pick out enough of these to plant a seed plot. Use the seed plot method for producing your seed potatoes each year. Set aside a few rows in one section of your potato field and plant only the best you can find in last year's crop. The market calls for eight ounce potatoes; by planting only eight ounce potatoes each year a comparative-

ly uniform strain of this size can be established.

Various opinions exist as to the size of seed to plant. Try a half acre seed plot using whole eight ounce potatoes, planting in rows 36 to 42 inches apart and 18 inches in the row. There is little difference in the production from whole seed and seed cut in halves, where the soil is free from disease, but for the seed plot there is decided advantage in using the whole seed so that each individual potato will be able to produce its best and next full selection from the hill can be made intelligently. I will be glad to spend a half day with any farmer or group of farmers in Lane County who wish to start the improvement plot, assisting them in the selection of seed. R. B. COGLAN, County Agriculturalist.

You'll find a lot of things you haven't heard about in every issue of The Sentinel.

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