

PLAN TO STOP SACK GRAFT.
Palouse Farmers Will Carry Their Wheat to Elevators.
Waverly, Wash., Feb. 26. — The farmers and wheatgrowers of this district have decided to do away with the "sack profit," and elevators for handling wheat in bulk will be built all along the Spokane & Inland Electric road. A very enthusiastic meeting was held here recently and the matter thoroughly discussed by the farmers. The meeting was addressed by a representative of the elevator company, who explained the advantages to be derived from the farmers handling loose instead of sacked grain. The company will be organized to enable the wheatgrower to handle his grain in the most economical manner, and thereby save the price of sacks, which sell for from 10 to 11 cents each. The farmers feel that they have been imposed upon by the "sack grafters" long enough, and they have decided to stop buying sacks and handle their wheat in bulk. Wagon boxes that will hold 100 bushels of wheat to haul to the elevators will cost the farmers but \$15 each, and these boxes can be used from year to year. All elevators will be equipped with the most modern machinery for the handling and cleaning of grain in the most economical manner. Wheat can be handled fully a cent a bushel cheaper than through the warehouses in sacks. Wagon dumps and shipping scales will be provided at every elevator. These elevators will probably be built all through the Palouse country this season, as farmers all over Eastern Washington are anxious to do away with sacks.

PROCEEDINGS OF OREGON LEGISLATURE
Saturday, February 23.
Salem, Feb. 23. — The legislature which adjourned today went down in history as the most lavish Oregon has ever had. A grand total of \$3,500,000 has been appropriated. The senate's business to adopt the house bill changing the brush fire law. The house reconsidered a vote of yesterday and passed two bills giving laborers and threshmen liens on crops for money due them. Indorsed by nearly every assessor in the state, the bill providing for an equitable system of assessing the timber lands of the state went down to defeat in the senate. The house finished up its business at 11:30 but it was 2 o'clock before the senate was through, and it was necessary for the house to continue in session until that time. It was announced to the members of the legislature that it would be more convenient to buy tickets at the depot than to pay fares on the train. Passes would not do, as the new anti-pass law is in effect. Friday, February 22. Salem, Feb. 22. — The bill creating the state board of tax commissioners was killed in the senate by failing to pass. President Haines was presented with an elegantly framed photograph of the members and officers of the senate. The senate banking bill was passed by the house. Several unimportant amendments were made. The senate disposed of all business but 12 bills which will be taken up tomorrow morning. The normal school question is the only vexation they have on the table. The house bill appropriating money to pay interest on certificates issued in 1905, when the appropriation bill was held up, was passed by the senate, amended so that interest is not to be paid on such certificates as were discontinued. The senate passed the house bill extending the law regulating hours of female labor to mercantile establishments. Another house bill passed by the senate gives conductors and engineers authority of sheriffs on trains. Eight hours is to constitute a day's work in underground mines according to a bill passed by the house, which the senate has already approved. A together the senate passed 68 bills today and the house 26. Thursday, February 21. Salem, Feb. 21. — The Normal school question is still unsettled and may be passed up to the next legislature. Both houses passed a bill providing for a discontinuance of two normals, but this was vetoed by the governor. Both houses have passed appropriations for Weston and Ashland, and the senate for Monmouth. The house passed a bill allowing farmers to burn brush before June 1 or after October 1 without obtaining permits. The house indefinitely postponed the senate bill for the purchase of the half block east of the capitol grounds. The irrigation code bill was indefinitely postponed by the house. The senate passed the locks bill appropriating \$300,000 for co-operation with the Federal government in purchasing the Oregon City locks. Land barons were successful in the senate today securing the defeat of the Coos bay grant bill. The proposed tax laws have passed the house and were favorably reported to the senate. The house changed the provision for taxes to be paid the county treasurer to sheriff as at present. The senate committee made minor changes in this measure that the house overrode. All bills looking to the creation of new counties have been killed. The house passed the senate reappropriation bill and shortly afterward the senate passed the house bill appropriating \$20,000 for new buildings at the state fair grounds. The passage of the two bills was in the nature of a trade. Today the house passed 27 bills and the senate 13. Wednesday, February 20. Salem, Feb. 20. — The bill for an appropriation of \$2,500 for the importation of song birds was defeated by the house. House bills for free text books in public schools were killed in the senate. The senate by indefinite postponement killed the house bill annexing Baker county a part of Grant county. The same disposition was made of the bill proposing to create Nesmith county. The bill abolishing the 3 per cent tax rebate was indefinitely postponed by the senate. The house defeated the bill appropriating \$25,000 for the construction of a bridge across Snake river near Ontario. Hart's bill to found a state library at Pendleton met a hasty death in the house. The senate passed the house bill appropriating \$10,000 for maintenance of the portage road. Wallawa Enjoys Good Winter. Wallawa — While the outside papers have been carrying the news of blizzards, cold snaps, fuel famines, floods and wastouts, all Wallawans have suffered the inconvenience of railway transportation, owing to the many wastouts on the main line of the O. R. & N. The winter has been very pleasant, with the exception that the ground was scarcely frozen sufficiently to make stock feeding from stacks as successful as is generally the case. The first snow did not come until midwinter, and remained but a short time. State Railroad Commissioners. Salem — Oregon's three railroad commissioners will be Oswald West, of Salem, now state land agent; Clyde B. Aitchison, of Portland, now attorney for the Title Guaranty & Trust company; and Thomas K. Campbell, of Cottage Grove, a lumberman of the firm of Campbell & Alexander. These selections were decided upon by the state board, which is given the appointment under the Chapin law. West is a Democrat and the other two Republicans.

HOUSE MEMBERS AND ATTACHES TODAY PRESENTED SPEAKER DAVEY WITH A GOLD WATCH AND CHAIN.
An adverse report has been made in the senate to compel Southern Oregon land barons to sell their land at \$2.50 per acre as provided in the grant. The house passed a bill for the repair and maintenance of the fishway at Oregon City. The joint resolution providing for a recall of public officers was indefinitely postponed by the house. Thirteen bills were passed by the house today. The senate passed 20 and killed 13. Tuesday, February 19. Salem, Feb. 19. — Veto of the \$125,000 appropriation for the State university was overridden in each house today. Compulsory passes for public officials was carried over the governor's veto in the senate tomorrow. Two additional appropriation bills were reported to the house by the ways and means committee. One carries \$1,000 for making an exhibit of fruits and vegetables grown in this state under irrigation at the National Irrigation congress at Sacramento next September. The other bill carries \$66,552 made up of small items such as caring for escaped inmate patients. The bill to establish two or more state hospitals for tuberculosis patients was killed in the senate. The senate refused to pass the Smith normal bill over the governor's veto. The senator will endeavor to secure a reconsideration. The senate bill for the purchase of voting machines passed the house. The house passed the senate bill appropriating \$100,000 for the purchase of a site and erection of a house for feeble minded. Agricultural college improvements was cut from \$75,000 to \$60,000 for 1907, and \$65,000 for 1908 by the senate. The house is working from early morning until midnight in an endeavor to get its calendar cleared by time of adjournment. Today 31 measures were passed, only three failing of passage. PASSED IMPORTANT BILLS. What the Legislature Accomplished During the Session. Salem — Many important bills passed both houses of the Oregon legislature at the session just ended, and a considerable number were defeated. The appropriations are very large — amounting to some \$3,500,000 — and no bills passed raising any considerable amount of revenue by new methods. Several bills for new revenue were defeated. Among them was that of Representative Beals to tax timber holdings on the basis of cruising submitted to assessors by their owners. Another was that prepared by the late tax commissioner and introduced by Representative Freeman taxing public service corporations on their capitalized net earnings. A third was that of Representative Settler for collection of taxes on land that had escaped taxation in the last six years. One of the defeated measures of large moment was that of the Portland board of trade, for control of the water powers of the state. Another was that for a \$60,000 appropriation for extension of the portage road to The Dalles. PORTLAND MARKETS. Butter — Fancy creamery, 32 1/2 @ 35c per pound; second grade cream, 2c less per pound. Eggs — Oregon ranch, 21 @ 22c per dozen. Poultry — Average old hens, 13 1/2 @ 14c per pound; mixed chickens, 12 @ 13c; spring, 13 1/2 @ 14 1/2c; old roosters, 10 @ 11c; dressed chickens, 14 @ 15c; turkeys, live, 16 @ 17 1/2c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 18 @ 20c; geese, live, 10c; ducks, 17 @ 18c. Wheat — Club, 69c; bluestem, 71c; valley, 69c; red, 67c. Oats — No. 1 white, 22 1/2; gray, 22 1/2. Barley — Feed, 22 1/2 to 23; brewing, 32 1/2; rolled, 23 1/2 @ 24.50. Rye — 1 1/2 @ 1.50 per cwt. Corn — Whole, 24.50; cracked, 22.50 per ton. Hay — Valley timothy, No. 1, \$14 @ 15 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, 17 @ 18; clover, 9; cheat, 9; grain hay, 9 @ 10; alfalfa, 14. Apples — Common, 75c @ 1.25 per box; choice, 1.50 @ 2.50. Vegetables — Turnips, \$1 @ 1.25 per sack; carrots, \$1 @ 1.25 per sack; beets, \$1.25 @ 1.50 per sack; horseradish, 7 @ 8c per pound; sweet potatoes, 3 1/2 @ 4c per pound; cauliflower, 22.25 per dozen; celery, 33.75 per crate; onions, 10 @ 12 1/2c per dozen; parsley, 25 @ 30c; sprouts, 9c; radishes, 25 @ 30c; rhubarb, 1.75 per box; asparagus, 20c per pound. Onions — Oregon, \$1 @ 1.25 per cwt. Potatoes — Oregon Burbanks, fancy, 1.35 @ 1.50; common, 90c @ \$1. Veal — Dressed, 5 1/2 @ 6c per pound. Pork — Dressed, 6 @ 9c per pound. Timber Notice Pickups Ending. Wallawa — The past year has been a fortunate one for the newspaper men of Wallawa county, owing to the great number of timber locations. Every available strip of land, chiefly valuable for its timber, has been taken with great activity that very little now remains for the taking. The adding to forest reserves in this county has taken the remaining sections of merchantable timber. The newspaper men, are now realizing the fact that their business must emanate from the merchants of the county. Timber Becoming Scarce. Albany — So great has the rush for timber land claims become in this part of the state that many people are now using their timber entry right to secure persons the right to take 160 acres, but having one filed on a smaller amount he can take no more. The entrymen realize this, but since timberland values have risen so remarkably in the past few months they are content to take a vacant 40 acre well timbered.

SUB-TREASURY ROBBED.
Two Hundred Thousand Dollar Theft Uncovered in Chicago.
Chicago, Feb. 23. — The Tribune today says:
One of the largest—if not the largest— thefts from the United States treasury has been unearthed in Chicago. Somewhere between \$175,000 and \$200,000 was stolen from the local sub-treasury last week. The money has disappeared as completely as if it had vanished from the earth. The authorities here and in Washington have been working night and day on the robbery since it was discovered. Chief Wilkie, of the United States Secret Service, has been keeping informed by telephone and telegraph of every development, and, according to telegraphic advice, he will leave Washington today to take personal charge of the investigation. Secretary Shaw, of the Treasury department, was told of the big theft when in Chicago last week, and was in conference with Sub-Treasurer William Bodenwick and secret service officials. The money was stolen either a week ago Saturday, the next day or Monday. The chances are it was abstracted on Tuesday. The loss was discovered Tuesday. All the money taken was in large bills—bills of the denomination of \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000. Just who discovered the loss the sub-treasury officials would not admit last night. Neither would they tell from what department the money was taken, nor how the loss was discovered. DANGER TO HARBOR BILL.
May Be Killed Entirely to Avert Big Treasury Deficit.
Washington, Feb. 23. — Since Chairman Tawney, of the appropriations committee, called attention to the probability of a deficit of \$100,000,000, in consequence of the large appropriations made this session, there has been considerable talk around the capitol about defeating the river and harbor bill, thus removing the possibility of such deficit. The river and harbor bill as passed by the house carried \$83,000,000. As amended by the senate, it carries \$92,000,000, and the prospects are that, if the conference committee agrees, it will report a bill carrying in the neighborhood of \$90,000,000, or approximately the amount of the deficit predicted by Mr. Tawney. Friends of the river and harbor bill, since the rumor started, have become active in urging prompt agreement on the bill in conference, so that it will not run the chance of being talked to death in the last day or two of the session. If the report is delayed until the middle of the week, and a few senators determine to kill it, they will have the bill entirely within their power. STOP FOREST RESERVES.
Fulton Would Give Congress Authority to Create.
Washington, Feb. 23. — Senator Fulton has offered his amendment to the agricultural appropriation bill, prohibiting the creation of further forest reserves in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming and Colorado, except by authority of congress. Senator Lodge, who threatened to raise a point of order against the amendment, withdrew his objection, and it was generally agreed that the amendment would be permitted to go in the bill if it was not debated. This is satisfactory to Mr. Fulton, and he expects to have the amendment accepted by the senate when the bill is taken up. Western men in congress are thoroughly aroused at the Forest service for its attempt not only to regulate all government timber land but public range land as well, and in consequence legislation recommended by the president, looking to the leasing of the public range and the reservation of all public timber land now in reserves, will be tabled. Japanese Will Investigate. Seattle, Feb. 23. — The Japanese association of Seattle has appointed a committee of five to make a full and impartial report on conditions existing in the Pacific Northwest, as regards their countrymen. The result of the committee's investigations will be sent to the government at Tokio, through the Japanese ambassador at Washington. A. Hattori, president of the association, declared that the meeting was not called as a government function, but merely through a sense of national pride to investigate conditions. Put All on Same Footing. Washington, Feb. 23. — The postoffice appropriation bill, as passed by the house, differentiated between salaries paid letter carriers and clerks in first and second class offices and those of the third class. At the suggestion of Senator Fulton, the bill was amended placing clerks and carriers of all presidential offices on an equal footing, so that the same salaries will be paid in third class offices as in the two higher grades. This is in the interest of the cities of the Pacific coast, which would have been discriminated against. Alaska Losses by Much Wrangling. Washington, Feb. 25. — All important Alaska legislation now pending before congress will fail because of disagreement among the Alaskans now here. The most Alaska can expect is the passage of the bill creating land offices at Nome and Fairbanks, a new game law, a bill requiring the recording of assessment work on mining claims and the bill relieving the Tanana Mines Railroad company from the payment of taxes. No Hope for Seattle Fair Bill. Washington, Feb. 25. — Senator Piles has about abandoned hope of securing the passage through the senate this session of Senator Ankeny's bill appropriating \$700,000 for the Seattle exposition. Senator Hale refused to withdraw his objection. As the bill cannot pass the house this session, the whole matter will go over to the next congress, when it stands a fair chance of passing.

TRIAL TO CONTINUE
Judge Stafford Refuses to Dismiss Hermann Case.
LETTERS TELL OF CONSPIRACY
Prosecution Has Two That Hermann Wrote to ex-Register of Roseburg Land Office.
Washington, Feb. 26. — Justice Stafford today overruled the motion of the defense in the trial of Representative Binger Hermann to take the case from the jury and dismiss the charge on the ground of fatal variance between the indictment and the evidence before the grand jury. Hearings were resumed. The trial was halted last Thursday, when Mr. Worthington for the defense made a motion on the evidence submitted by Hermann's former secretary, Hough, as to his testimony before the grand jury. Mr. Worthington also argued that the prosecution could not adduce evidence of conspiracy on the part of Mr. Hermann with others to defraud the government out of public land in order to show a motive for the destruction of records, as alleged by the prosecution, on the ground that Hermann was not on trial for conspiracy. After hearing the argument on Thursday, Justice Stafford adjourned the trial until today, in order to consider the points made by the defense. J. T. Bridges, ex-register of the land office at Roseburg, testified that he had received many letters from Hermann of a private character that he had destroyed. Two were found in his desk when the desk was broken open at the time he was suspended in 1905. One of these mentions the name of Agee, who is identified by the government with what has been designated as the "Agee conspiracy." It was identified by Mr. Bridges, District Attorney Baker stating that he desired to show the intimately friendly relations existing between them. He further said that this transaction in which Agee was involved took place while Hermann was at the head of the land office, and that he should have knowledge of it. WATCH SEVERAL SUSPECTS. Secret Service Men Have No Clue to Identity of Thief. Chicago, Feb. 26. — Although a score of detectives are at work on the case, the theft of \$173,000 from the sub-treasury in this city last Wednesday seems as far from solution as the day on which the robbery was committed. The general impression prevails that the thief must have been a government employe, and several of these men are being closely watched, but, as far as known tonight, no tangible evidence has been discovered. Among those under surveillance is George W. Fitzgerald, who was in charge of the teller's cage from which the money was abstracted, but he insists that he has no knowledge of how the money disappeared. MAY STOP FIGHTING. United States or Mexico Threaten to Intervene in War. Washington, Feb. 26. — Unless Nicaragua and Honduras speedily agree to arbitrate their difficulties in response to the suggestion of the United States and Mexico, it is not improbable that intervention will be resorted to in order to bring an end to the present hostilities. It became known today that within the last day or two a second note was sent to the presidents of Nicaragua and Honduras, in effect conveying this threat. No replies have been received and, while in official circles the hope is expressed that further bloodshed may be averted, there is an underlying belief that it will be necessary for either the United States or Mexico to step in and force an arbitration. Can't Find Mayor Schmitz. San Francisco, Feb. 26. — Judge Dunne this morning set next Tuesday, March 5, as the day for the commencement of the trial of Abraham Ruef on the charge of extortion. The case against Mayor Schmitz was continued until next Thursday, after Judge Dunne had directed the district attorney to ascertain where Mayor Schmitz is at the present time, and when he is likely to return. He stated that if the mayor had not returned by next Thursday some proceedings should be taken to compel his return. Steamer Empire at Old Gams. Washington, Feb. 26. — Advice received by the State department today through Minister Corea of Nicaragua to the effect that the small steamer Empire, which in the past has figured conspicuously in filibustering expeditions, is being utilized for the transportation of munitions of war from Salvador to Honduras. Minister Corea will request this government to have the steamer Newport intercepted by the cruiser Chicago, believing that she carries supplies ultimately intended for Honduras. Big Air Ship Ready to Fly. San Francisco, Feb. 26. — The Examiner says a new flying machine, arranged to carry 15 persons, is now ready at Pleasanton to start on its initial voyage. This machine measures 225 feet in length, and has a diameter of 40 feet. The frame of the structure is built of 18,000 feet of aluminum. The six propellers are moveable and adjustable. The engines located within the ship drive the propellers, which are eight feet in diameter. Bandits Get Big Plunder. El Paso, Tex., Feb. 26. — Bandits raided the hacienda of Jesus Urangan Salazar in the village of Durango, Mexico, Sunday night. After making prisoners of Salazar and his servants, the bandits robbed his safe of \$7,000 in gold and gathered up many thousands of dollars' worth of jewelry and plate, destroying all they could not carry off. Officers are searching the mountains for the robbers. Chamberlain a Physical Wreck. London, Feb. 22. — An interesting authoritative statement concerning the health of Joseph Chamberlain is published here today. Although it does not confirm the worst rumors, it shows that Mr. Chamberlain is completely broken physically, although he is mentally alert.

HUNDREDS LOST.
Big Steamer Wrecked and Passengers Washed Overboard.
London, Feb. 22. — The worst disaster for many years in the history of the busy cross-channel traffic between England and the continent occurred during a violent gale shortly before 6 o'clock this morning, when the Rotterdam mail steamer Berlin, from Harwich to Hook of Holland, having satisfactorily weathered the hurricane, was wrecked as she was entering port. Altogether 143 persons are either dead or clinging hopelessly to the wreck. The terrific sea broke upon the steamer with such awful suddenness that attempts to save life appear to have been utterly hopeless. Late tonight it is reported that a few survivors were clinging to the wreck, but as the heroic efforts all day of the lifeboat crews had failed to reach them, little hope that they will be saved remains. The cause has not yet been assigned for the disaster and it probably never will be known how the steamer came to misbehave. It is conjectured, however, that some derangement of the engines or steering gear may have rendered the vessel uncontrollable. Captain Precious has a good record of 14 years' service. The list of passengers was lost, and all the names of those who were on board has not yet been learned, but as far as has been ascertained there were no Americans among them. A terrific southwest gale was blowing inshore, and drove the steamer on a sand bank close to the northern jetty as she was trying to enter the new waterway. Heavy seas quickly pounded the vessel to pieces. She broke in two, her fore part sinking immediately, while the doomed passengers and crew clustered upon the after part. PLAYGROUNDS FOR CHILDREN. Roosevelt Endorses Movement to Acquire Them in Cities. Washington, Feb. 22. — Municipal playgrounds within easy walking distance for every boy and girl in the large cities were advocated tonight by President Roosevelt in a letter, and by Representative Boutell, of Chicago; E. E. Brown, United States commissioner of education; Henry S. Carlis, superintendent of Washington playgrounds, and other speakers at a "playgrounds banquet" given under the auspices of the Washington Playgrounds association. Mr. Boutell explained the object of his bill now pending in congress. The president in his letter expressed hope that Mr. Boutell's bill for playgrounds in Washington will pass congress, that sites may be secured before prices become prohibitive, saying: "I regard this as one of the most important steps toward making Washington the model city which we all feel that the capital should be." He praises the work in this direction done by Chicago and the High School Athletic league of New York, and calls attention to the inclusion of games in the curriculum of German and English schools and several noted private schools in America. GREAT REJOICING IN UTAH. State Legislature Congratulates Senate, Smoot and Sutherland. Salt Lake City, Feb. 22. — Among the active Republicans and the leaders of the Mormon church there was great rejoicing when the news came from Washington that Senator Smoot had been sustained. By unanimous standing vote the lower house of the Utah legislature adopted the following joint resolution, which was also introduced in the senate: "Be it resolved by the legislature of the state of Utah, that, in determining that Hon. Reed Smoot is entitled to his seat, the United States senate has stood for constitutional rights against powerful influences and has avoided a dangerous precedent. "Therefore, the thanks and the congratulations of the state of Utah are hereby extended to the senate for its final action in this case. "Personal congratulations are sent to Senator Smoot and his colleague, Senator Sutherland, and to the other senators who spoke and voted in protection of the rights of the state of Utah." Committed to the Asylum. Seattle, Feb. 22. — Esther Mitchell, who since July last has been confined in the county jail here, was sent to the state asylum for the insane at Stella-toom today. Superior Judge Frater, who called a lunacy commission to examine into the girl's mental condition, signed this commitment this morning. The killing of George Mitchell by his sister was the result of the reign of Holy Rollerism in Oregon. George Mitchell killed Franz Edmund Creffeld, the Holy Roller leader, in this city last May. Boers Will Rule Transvaal. Johannesburg, Feb. 22. — According to the election returns thus far, the Boers will have a majority in the next parliament. Eighteen Progressives, six Nationalists, sixteen Dutch party candidates, one Independent and three Laborites have been returned. The returns from a number of country districts have not yet been announced, but these districts distinctly favor the Dutch party. The Dutch party, the Nationalists and the Laborites are allied. It is said that General Botha will be invited to form a cabinet. Montana, Too, in Line. Helena, Mont., Feb. 22. — The Railroad Commission and Warehouse bill is now a law. The bill went to Governor Toole today, who immediately referred it to the secretary of state with the notice that he would allow the measure to become a law without his signature. He objected to the power and policy of the legislature naming the commissioners, saying he was convinced that the method was wrong in principle and would be bad in practice.