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\$1.50 PER YEAR

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SESSION AT SALEM RUNS OVER 40 DAYS

Lawmakers Unable to Com-
plete Labors Within Con-
stitutional Limit.

Salem.—The constitutional 40-day period prescribed for legislative sessions expired with the important questions of consolidation, taxation and income tax unsettled, so it was necessary to extend the session over into this week. Even the appropriation bills did not make their appearance until Saturday.

The pay of members ends, they work for nothing, and the legislators can remain as long as they please, without expense to the state insofar as the pay of the senators and representatives is concerned. The compensation of the house and senate staffs, which include everything down to the stenographers and pages continues until sine die adjournment.

The question of consolidating various departments of the state government was in a chaotic condition and many believe nothing will be done at this session.

When the legislature adjourned over Sunday the Carlin bill was the only consolidation measure pending, as the Hall bill had been killed in the senate and the senate compromise bill was defeated in the house. The Carlin bill was lying on the house table and even if it is sent over to the senate it is very doubtful if it will get through that body.

626 Bills Introduced, 117 Approved.
At the close of the sixth week of the session a total of 626 bills had been introduced. A total of 227 bills originated in the senate and 399 in the house. In all, 117 bills had been approved by both houses and signed by the governor. One bill has been vetoed. There remain 75 bills which have passed both houses and which await executive action. Of these, 36 are senate bills and 39 are house bills.

The joint ways and means committee, upon concluding its work approved appropriations for the present biennium aggregating \$6,120,085, or \$669,357 less than had been recommended by the state budget commission. The budget commission had recommended appropriations in the amount of \$6,789,542, after lopping off \$440,000 from the amounts requested by the state departments, boards and commissions.

Appropriations authorized by the ways and means committee two years ago aggregated more than \$8,000,000. Several members of the committee had a change of heart and rescinded their previous action with relation to the desert land board and the sealer of weights and measures department. The desert land board had requested an appropriation of \$8500, which was declined at a previous meeting of the committee. The committee allowed this activity an appropriation of \$5000.

The request of the sealer of weights and measures for \$10,000, turned down at a previous meeting, was allowed by the committee.

Finance Body Bill Passed.
After a bitter debate the senate passed a bill authorizing the creation of a state finance commission. This bill originated in the house and was one of a number of measures based on the report of the state tax investigating committee, appointed following the last session of the legislature.

The bill contemplates the appointment of a commission of five members to pass on all bonds proposed to be voted in the state, arrange for a sinking fund to liquidate the obligations, supervise the certification of evidences of indebtedness with the secretary of state and otherwise lend their services to the end of tax reduction in Oregon. None of the members of the commission will receive any salary.

The governor has power to appoint the members of the commission with the exception of the secretary of state.

Banking Code Passed.
With the threat of the governor's veto hanging over the banking code, unless amended, by giving the governor the power to appoint the bank superintendent, the house failed to react to the threat, and passed the bill without a dissenting vote and without a solitary amendment.

The senate passed the bill by a vote of 26 to 4.

Senator Brown's sterilization bill passed the house with only two dissenting votes. Keeney and Kubil were the only two members to vote against it. Differing from the former sterilization bill, it applies generally rather than to inmates of state institutions alone, and has for its purpose the sterilization of any person who may pro-

TAXPAYER OPPOSES CITY BOND ISSUE

Estacada Oregon,
February 21, 1923.

EDITOR NEWS:

It looks to the writer that the proposed scheme of voting bonds to the amount of \$14,000.00 for the purpose of building a surfaced road to connect with the highway that is yet to be built, is premature, uncalled for at the present time and, considering the already crushing high taxation, is almost criminally foolish; the more so when we realize that only a few will be benefited while the bulk of the taxpayers will be taxed to help out half a dozen who see gain to themselves in having this fine road run near them and indirectly add a few dollars to the value of their property. It does not seem possible that sane men would even think of pulling off such a raw deal as this on the tax payers of Estacada, but the notice that such an election has been called shows that they do.

Does any one suppose that if the average owner of village property realized that to carry out this scheme it will require 6 mills to pay the interest on the \$14,000 bonds, besides taking \$3,000 from the general fund, he would go to the polls and vote this extra tax on himself? Why is all this sudden need to spend this amount of borrowed money to build this costly road while the side roads in all directions that are used by the residence property owners are mud and dirt roads that for the greater part of the year are impassable? It will take 6 mills to create a sinking fund to pay off the indebtedness of these bonds and half of this sinking fund for wear, tear and upkeep of the road, and then what will we do with the added expense of cross roads and laterals running into this bonded road? This will take another 10 mills for building and maintenance of these roads, something not mentioned by these boosters.

Stop and think what it means to you people to be taxed to improve the property of some one else, besides letting the contract to the beneficiaries and promoters of the improvement. Do you want to be taxed 6 mills for interest on a \$14,000 bond issue, another 10 mills for improvements taking care of street crossings and other general street improvements over the city, 6 mills for a sinking fund and a further 3 mills to keep up such improvements?

What every body needs is good water. Nothing speaks so well for a city as good water. You offer to the public water which is a swimming pond for germs of all diseases at times and the people have to submit while the money which should be used to provide pure water is used for a \$14,000 road which means at least \$23,000 before the debt is paid and \$3,000 to be put in the up keep. How much of this improvement will be in existence at the end of 20 years? Get good water first and then the street.

VOTER AND TAXPAYER.

Board Election

The annual meeting of the stock holders of the Estacada Packing Co. was held in the hotel lobby on Friday evening. Earl Day called the meeting to order and stated that the purpose of the meeting was to elect a board of directors for the ensuing year. The following were elected: C. A. Jacques, J. S. Ostorn, T. J. Reagan, W. R. Woodworth and J. J. Marchbank. Directly after the regular meeting the board called a special session to elect officers. The following were elected: C. A. Jacques, president; T. J. Reagan, vice president; J. G. Hayman, secretary and treasurer.

Is Your Name Written Here?

J. K. Ely, P. S. Stamp, A. W. Botkin, Mrs. Edna Wilcox, A. D. Burnett, T. W. Jubb, Mrs. C. A. Illig, George C. Cook.

LOCAL BREVITIES

The High School will give a play on Friday, March 2. Neal Bronson is building an addition to his residence.

Mrs. Grover Kiggins, who has been very ill, is now improving.

G. P. Rose is beginning to show signs of recovery, but is yet confined to his bed.

Trade may be dull in some lines, but the Estacada Feed Co. finds there is a great demand for corn. They are unloading their second car this month, of yellow Dent.

Remember the W. C. T. U. entertainment at the M. E. church next Tuesday night, Feb. 27. The program will include a lecture on "California" with pictures, sketch, readings, vocal solos and selections by a male quartet. Admission 25 cents.

The card party given by N. O. W. ladies last Friday evening, was quite well attended, there being six tables. "500" was the game enjoyed for a few hours, at the conclusion of which light refreshments were served. Mr. and Mrs. C. Coonrad held the high scores.

Mrs. G. E. Lawrence delightfully entertained a few ladies for lunch last Tuesday, in honor of worthy grand matron Mrs. Castner. The other guests included Miss Maud Sturgeon, worthy matron of the Estacada chapter, Mrs. Mary Smith, associate matron, Mrs. Mae Reed and Mrs. Elizabeth Sparks, past matrons, and her house guest Mrs. A. E. Scott of Forest Grove.

Social Affairs

Mrs. H. C. Gohring was the charming hostess at a prettily arranged luncheon at her home last Monday afternoon. It was not until the guests were seated at the table to partake of the delightful menu, that the hostess announced that her mother Mrs. Blauch was the guest of honor, as it was her birthday. Some victrola music enlivened the occasion. Those enjoying Mrs. Gohring's hospitality were Mrs. John Blauch, Mrs. J. C. Duns, Mrs. Upton H. Gibbs, Mrs. A. E. Sparks and Mrs. N. B. Ecker.

Official Visit

Mountain Chapter No. 108, O. E. S., had the pleasure of a visit from the Worthy Grand Matron, Mrs. Therese Castner, of Hood River, at its regular meeting last Tuesday night. Ladies from the Garfield Grange served a six o'clock dinner at the hall, preceeding the meeting of the chapter. The spacious dining room was attractive with pretty decorations for the occasion and over fifty members and friends of the Masonic and Eastern Star orders enjoyed the delightful repast, served so royally. A vocal solo by F. J. Trickett, with Mrs. T. Ahlberg as pianist, was the first arrangement of the program. Other musical numbers greatly enjoyed, were contributed later by Mr. and Mrs. Ahlberg. H. C. Stephens acted as toastmaster and among the speakers were the distinguished guest Mrs. Castner, T. Ahlberg, worshipful master of the Masonic order, Mrs. A. E. Scott of Forest Grove, Miss Maude Sturgeon worthy matron, and C. E. Norris worthy patron of the O. E. S.

Following this most entertaining part of the program, was the regular meeting of the chapter, at which time the degrees of the order were conferred upon Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Gohring. The remarks by the worthy grand matron were much enjoyed as well as helpful to all present. The other guests of honor were Mrs. A. E. Scott of Forest chapter, and Mrs. L. E. Townsend of Sandy chapter, both past matrons.

More Than Pleased

Sylvester Lawrence who recently sold four of his full blooded Jersey heifer calves of the St. Mawes strain, has received word from their purchaser, who has a large herd of Jerseys in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. He writes that he is more than pleased with the calves and that if Mr. Lawrence has any more he will take them all.

CURRINSVILLE ITEMS

Mrs. J. A. Kitching was a visitor in Portland Saturday, on business.

David Ankrom of Portland, visited the Currinsville Community Sunday school last Sunday, in the interest of the Pilgrim Boys' chorus.

The much thought of, long talked of community supper, postponed because of the snow storm, will be given Saturday evening, March 3rd. Please keep the date open.

Mrs. R. S. Coop and son Arie went to Portland, Saturday, to attend their church conference.

There was a valentine party at the school house Friday. Arthur Boyer won the highest number in the search for hearts.

Wilbur Wade came home last Wednesday, for a short visit. He reported that the snow fall was very heavy in the mountains.

Clarence Bullard has returned home after an absence of more than three years in the far east. His parents are overjoyed at his safe arrival, especially as his life was many times despaired of during his absence.

The Schroeder family is moving to Sandy. Mrs. Schroeder and her little son left last Sunday for their new home.

Mrs. Fred Herman is visiting her sister, Mrs. Chas. Kitching.

Spencer Amann has been very ill with blood poison and neuritis but is showing some improvement.

SCHOOL NOTES

Miss Ivy C. Peterson, teacher of English and history in the High School, resigned last week and has gone to Walla Walla, Wn., to accept a similar position at a more remunerative salary. The vacancy has been filled by the appointment of Miss Bernice Lane, a graduate of the O. A. C.

Owing to the fact that the work in the manual training department is not up to standard, the contract between the department and the W. C. T. U. has been canceled. The contract was entered upon without the knowledge of the School Board or the Superintendent.

If at some future time, the work in this department can meet the regular requirements, contracts for outside work may be considered. Until then school work must come first.

KARLE EINARSON, Supt.

GERALD WILCOX,
Chairman of Board.

Bond Issue to Be Discussed

Everybody, whether a member or not, is invited to attend the meeting of the Community Club tomorrow, Friday, evening at the I. O. O. F. hall. The bond issue for general street improvements and the water system will be presented and opportunity for discussion afforded, so the people will have a clear idea as to what is contemplated and be able to express their views on the subject. The proceedings will be preceded by a basket supper at 6:30. Everybody bring a basket of provisions and coffee will be furnished by the ladies of the club. If you intend to vote on Tuesday be sure and attend this meeting. During the evening there will be songs by Fred Johnson and Miss Ruth Dillon, a reading by Mrs. N. Zimmerman, and a piano-forte duet by Misses Irma Gates and Edna Wilcox. Community singing will be led by the Rev. H. W. Mort.

Don't forget the Grange pie social and entertainment, at the Grange hall at Eagle Creek, tonight.

TO PAVE OR NOT TO PAVE?

That is the question to be voted on next Tuesday. The council seeks authority through amendment to the city charter to issue general obligation bonds not exceeding \$14,000, for street improvement purposes. The reason for doing this at this time, is because the county road between Barton and the north end of Main street in Estacada will be paved this summer, leaving a strip between the road and town of about a mile in length. It would not speak well for the town if it failed to connect up with the paved county road. Besides the work could be done cheaper now than later, because the same contractor who did the paving on the county road, could do the work on the town street, and having his outfit on the spot he could do it at less expense than one who had to come out especially to do it.

The town is now only bonded for \$10,000 on an assessed valuation of \$168,000. This was for the old water system, the bonds becoming due in 1931. To meet these there is already a sinking fund, which amounts to \$7,000, invested in liberty bonds. With the accruing interest the full amount of the bonds will be met when due, without any difficulty.

The benefit to the town by having a paved road to Barton, and a year or two later clear to Portland, is obvious. The neighboring town of Gresham built up after it got its paved road to Portland; before that its development lagged, and so it will prove with Estacada. The fear that trade will go to Portland from Estacada if the road is paved, is groundless and contrary to experience elsewhere. Improved facilities for transportation with important trade centers, are always beneficial to the smaller places.

Some fear that if the town is thus bonded for street purposes, it will indefinitely postpone the improvement of the water system, which they think is more imperative for the good of the town than the street pavement. They need not worry, as has been shown the sinking fund has been taking care of the old bonds, and the income from water rents now amounts to \$3,000, which will enable the council to pay the interest and form a sinking fund to provide for any sum which would be necessary to put in an adequate new supply. This year the council contemplates some improvements at the intake to insure a greater supply for summer use, and to keep it in a sanitary condition. The two matters of street paving and water supply need not interfere with each other. The latter need not be kept back when the time comes, because of the former.

That the cost of the street improvement should be placed on the whole town is also obvious, for the cost would be confiscatory to the adjacent property owners along side of the street. Whereas the whole town benefits it would not be fair or just to place the burden on a few who would not be able to realize the extra expense from the increased valuation of their property, and the sum total if spread over the whole town, would not work hardship on any. It is estimated the cost will only take an 8 mill tax which would be \$8.00 on each \$1,000 of the present assessed valuation. And as the bonds would run for a twenty year period, and the assessed valuation of the city be constantly increasing this rate could be cut down in the future.