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REVIEW OF WORK OF OREGON LEGISLATURE

Solution of State's Financial Difficulties Overshadows All Other Legislation.

Governor Has Finance Program—Split Session Proposed—Old Age Pension Bill Introduced—May Abolish Voters' Primary Pamphlet—Would Re-establish Poll Tax.

Salem. — When the legislature assembled for the fourth week of the session there was little to its credit in the way of important measures passed up to the governor for his signature aside from the bills turning over the management of the penitentiary to the state board of control.

Apparently the question which overshadows all others is that of taxation. Although a number of revenue bills have been introduced no concrete program affecting the state's finances has been evolved. Among the important revenue measures before the house are those providing for a tax on corporate excess; a 5 mills tax on intangibles—money and credits; for readjustments of assessments on property; the "tithing bill" taking 5 per cent of the gross revenue of money making boards and departments, and three income tax bills.

Representatives of the public utilities and farmers conferred in Salem last week in an effort to solve the taxation problem, and a committee was appointed consisting of Earl Fisher, state tax commissioner; R. A. Shumway, representing agriculture, and John A. Laing, representing the utilities.

Submits Finance Program

Governor Patterson took a hand in the matter last week when he announced that he would send a special message to the legislature submitting a finance program for their approval. It was the general belief when the governor made his announcement that he favored a tax on intangibles, a corporate excess tax, a motion picture tax and diverting a percentage of the money collected by boards and commissions to the general fund.

It is quite possible that before the session ends a resolution may be passed referring to the people the repeal of the 6 per cent tax limitation, which is now a handicap in raising revenue. The house has already passed a joint resolution to submit the matter to the people and it is believed the senate will adopt the resolution.

A bill proposing to replace on the assessment roll all household furniture was killed by the house.

It is believed that most of the appropriation bills will be in shape to dump into the legislative hopper this week. This would insure passage of these bills during the fifth week of the session.

The special committee to investigate the state textbook commission will probably return its findings in a few days on the basis of testimony received at the public hearing last week. A complete acquittal of the commission is expected.

Would Abolish Parole Officer

An administration bill requested by Governor Patterson providing for abolition of the state parole board probably will be introduced in the house this week. If this bill is approved, applications for parole will be considered by the state board of control. The bill also would abolish the office of state parole officer, which carries a salary of \$125 a month.

Plans for a split session of the legislature will be outlined in a bill presented to the legislature during the week by Representatives Olson and German of Multnomah county. The measure will provide two weeks during which bills which it is desired to consider may be introduced. Then the session will adjourn for two weeks and members will come together again for a month following the recess.

The house adopted a house joint resolution providing for appointment of a committee to confer with similar committees from Washington and California legislatures on a uniform income tax for the three states.

An annual tax of 50 cents per kilowatt on all hydro-electric power manufactured and sold in Oregon is required in a bill which Edward Schumacher of Washington county introduced in the house.

Senate Memorial Adopted

The senate voted to adopt a memorial introduced by Senator Joseph urging congress to act favorably upon pending legislation which would authorize early development of the Uma-

illa rapids project. Copies of the memorial were ordered sent to Oregon's delegation in Washington.

Attorney-General Van Winkle, in a letter to President Corbett of the senate, held that either house of the legislature has authority to order investigations. It was held that the legislature has authority to appropriate funds for the cost of such investigations.

The attorney-general said that the authorities were divided on the question of whether the legislature could compel the attendance of witnesses. He said that in cases of investigations authority should be conferred by statute.

Would Create District Courts

Following a compromise reached between members of the house seeking and opposing an increase in the salary of circuit judges from \$4000 to \$6000 a year, the house by a vote of 40 to 17 passed a bill providing for a salary of \$5000.

The house indefinitely postponed Representative Swan's resolution providing that no bills increasing salaries during the incumbency of the official be considered.

Governor Patterson, during his inaugural message, insisted that the salaries of public officials ought not to be increased during the terms for which they had been elected.

Creation of district courts in counties of more than 1500 and of less than 100,000 population is proposed in a bill introduced in the senate. The court would consist of not less than one judge, to be elected for a term of six years.

An old-age pension bill introduced in the house provides that the pensioner must be at least 65 years old and without any income or property, directly or indirectly; must have been a resident of the United States for at least 15 years and of Oregon for 10 years.

A resolution introduced in the senate authorizes the election of a lieutenant-governor who would serve as president of the state senate. He would receive compensation at the rate of \$15 a day while serving in this capacity.

Free Counties From Road Costs A state song, "Oregon, My Oregon," would be adopted officially under a resolution offered by Senator Butler.

Counties through which state highways pass would be relieved of all expense in connection with construction or maintenance of the same if a bill introduced into the senate as a roads and highways committee bill is enacted by law.

In two bills passed by the senate counties are relieved from any expense connected with the construction of bridges and overhead and underground crossings on state highways.

The house committee on roads and automobiles is adverse to making any change in the present law covering the fees or taxes assessed against bus and truck line operators. The committee voted unanimously to report "do not pass" on a house bill which would change the present scheme of taxation by levying a 2 per cent tax on gross revenues of the operators and also give a certificate of necessity and public convenience to such operator.

The voters' pamphlet circulated throughout the state to all voters preliminary to primary election will be discontinued if the step taken by the house members is followed through.

Movie Tax Proposed

Every theatre, motion picture house, or concert hall in cities or towns of over 1000 population would be forced to pay a minimum license fee of \$100 if house bill 252, introduced in the house, becomes a law. An additional \$100 would be levied for every increase of 250 in seating capacity. The bill would exempt school houses, libraries, lodges, halls and other places used principally for religious, educational, fraternal or public purposes.

In a house luxury bill, theater tickets are taxed direct, along with lipsticks, boxes of candy, tickets for professional athletic events and other things.

The house approved with only ten dissenting votes the bill for the state highway department to go into the business of building a toll road to Tillamook over the Wilson river route.

The house adopted a house joint resolution which would repeal that section of the state constitution permitting the state to guarantee interest on irrigation district bonds for a period of five years. The measure, if adopted by the senate, must be submitted to the people.

Appointment of this official will be left entirely in the hands of the governor.

Commercial Car Tax Continued The house defeated a senate bill which would have repealed the peddlers' license tax. The vote was 39

THORNTON PINS BEN BLAISDELL TO MAT

It was a whirlwind match and plenty rough which the cash customers saw at the Liberty theatre Tuesday night, Bill Thornton of Portland taking the best two from Ben Blaisdell of Eagle Creek.

The wrestling logger took Thornton by surprise for the first fall in 9 seconds with a reverse hammerlock. After 43 minutes of rough and tumble, in which neither could gain an advantage, although both applied several holds, Thornton clamped on a body cradle which caused the logger to beat the canvas.

Coming back for the third in splendid condition, the boys mixed it freely for 18 minutes when Thornton pounced on Blaisdell amidst a barred some 99 per cent of the wind out of him. Then with the primitive bear hug, he held the local boy for the count.

Fans were not backward in expressing dissatisfaction over the lack of attention on the part of the referee, holding that several times Blaisdell used his great leverage in a reverse wristlock, and had Thornton's shoulders on the mat. They ask for another chance for the Eagle Creek boy and Blaisdell offers to tackle the Portland brasser again on a "winner take all" basis.

The preliminary was a poor show. LeFevre took a fall out of KoKomo in about 9 minutes.

PARKER GETS NEXT CHANCE AT THORNTON

After watching Bill Thornton do up Ben Blaisdell Tuesday night, W. E. Parker, who is working for the Dea logging outfit, issued the Portland man a challenge for February 22 at the Liberty. Thornton, agreed and fans are expecting a lively match. Parker recently held the middle-weight championship of Washington but is now in the light heavyweight class. He was brought out by Ted Thy who describes him as one of the limber, tricky kind, and a hard man to handle. Parker has only lost one match since he entered the light heavyweight division, that to Billy Edwards. Tarr, Mayaki, champion jiu jitsu wrestler, gives Parker great credit for his mat work. Thornton wants to post a side bet that he can handle Parker, but all Parker has to say is bring him on and let him do his stuff.

ARTISAN SOCIAL ENJOYED

A well attended party was given last night by the Artisans after a short business session. Prizes were won at 500 by Mrs. Wm. Cary and C. F. Knowlton. Mrs. Archie Yocum and Tim Brownhill were congratulated on their low scores. A noodle supper was served.

The party was well finished off with a dance with Mrs. Ahlberg at the piano.

DR. MIDFORD AGAIN TO RECEIVE PATIENTS

After an illness of two months, during which time he was operated upon for a stomach disorder, Dr. G. F. Midford is again able to be out. He says he is still a little shaky but will be able to attend to office practice next week. This will be welcome news to the many who know him as their family physician.

TO STIMULATE INTEREST IN GROWING GARDENS

A meeting of the Garden club is called by Mrs. W. J. Moore for 3 pm. Saturday at the library. The club is composed of all men and women interested in the subject of gardening and will be able to give help to those who need information as to the kind of plants which do well in this section.

to 19 for indefinite postponement.

Immediately on killing the senate bill the house passed a bill which would continue the 50 per cent additional license tax on commercial cars operating beyond a radius of five miles from an incorporated city, but would relieve traveling salesmen from paying the additional fee.

A poll tax would be re-established in Oregon under a bill introduced in the house. All residents would pay a head tax of \$3 under the terms of the La Follet bill. The bill fails to specify any penalty for violation.

The house joined the senate in adopting a resolution providing for observance of the 200th anniversary of George Washington.

Repeal of the federal inheritance tax law was urged in a memorial approved by unanimous vote of the senate.

COOPERATION IS CLUB KEYNOTE

Forest Service and New Industries Are to Have Club's Aid

The amount of constructive business passed on by the community club at last Friday night's session would put most legislatures to shame. And the subjects of discussion were almost as varied as the lawmakers deal with even including matters of revenue.

The speaker of the evening was Ranger A. W. Armstrong of the forest service who gave interesting facts concerning the fire hazard his branch of the government has to cope with in the summer time. He asserted that forest fires are caused by man to the alarming extent of 70 per cent and stressed the need for a mobile force to gain action on fires as soon as discovered. A volunteer force was suggested for each of the communities of Springwater, Dodge, George, Garfield and Estacada.

Henry Beers, A. F. Cadanau and Archie Yocum were delegated by President A. G. Ames to make plans for cooperative effort by the club in securing for the forest service the help needed in lining up such volunteer units.

Community House

Mrs. W. J. Moore for the Auxiliary and Bob Cooke for the Legion spoke upon the interest taken by the Legion in a community house. Their talks indicated that the strengthening of the community spirit among the young folks and the protection that supervised entertainment would give are felt by the Legion to be much needed. Pledges of support from that source were assured.

The ladies of the club through motion made by Mrs. H. C. Stephens placed the responsibility for the next public entertainment sponsored by the club upon the men and specified that it must take place within a month. They reported \$38.25 in the bank as a nest egg toward a community house, and dared the men to beat it. They also called attention to the fact that J. O. Tunnel's name had been omitted in the list of merchants who contributed to the social last week.

Would Have Factories

W. F. Cary spoke on the possibility of increasing prosperity here through payrolls. He said that community aid in the way of free taxes, building sites or bonus loans would bring industries here which would use our raw products and aid both town and surrounding country. Alder for furniture, boxes and plates, oak and other woods not now being utilized, clay for pottery, waste fruit for alcohol, milk for cheese and cream for butter were mentioned as a few of the sources from which we may expect factory revenue. W. F. Cary, A. N. Johnson and J. M. Moore were appointed to canvas the matter.

Highway Named

A resolution was passed urging the county court to officially record the north side of the Clackamas river at the time of its dedication last fall. The name of Clackamas Valley Highway was approved by the club.

This matter and other road matters was placed in the hands of a committee composed of H. C. Stephens, Douglas Johnson and J. W. Moore who were instructed to go with it to the county court.

Road Signs Secured

J. W. Moore reported that he had secured a sign for the top of the grade between Estacada and Springwater and asked that the club give posts to erect the sign. Bob Cooke volunteered the services of a truck for its transportation.

Musical Numbers Enjoyed

Violin duets by R. O. Baker and Theo Ahlberg, accompanied by Mrs. Ahlberg, solos by Miss Alta Kershner and Mrs. Sam Barr and recitations by R. E. Beck and Betty Barr were greatly enjoyed.

A lucky thirteen new members were reported.

QU, HOW BEAUTIFUL!!



The Garden Club will give visitors something to talk about.

CO-OP FIRE MEETING TO BE CALLED FEB. 11

The committee appointed by the Estacada Community Club to confer with Ranger Armstrong relative to organizing a fire fighting unit in Estacada, met at the residence of Henry Beers last Monday evening. Each committeeman will sign up the available material in his district during the next week, and all those signifying their willingness to co-operate in this community affair will be asked to meet at the band hall at 7:30 pm., February 11.

If sufficient signatures are secured to warrant organizing, equipping and training the unit, officers will be selected later and Mr. Armstrong will give them the training and instruction necessary to make them 100 per cent efficient.

The committee, consisting of Archie Yocum, Henry Beers and F. N. Cadanau, urge anyone who is interested to attend this meeting, even though he is unintentionally overlooked in the preliminary canvas.

TO STAGE A DOUBLE SHOW

In addition to the feature picture "Bobbed Hair" the Rebekah lodge in their benefit show on Monday and Tuesday, February 7-8, will put on a local talent farce entitled "How the Story Grew." There will be eight characters in the play which deals with an episode not uncommon in the life of a small community.

GETS PEN OF PRIZE BIRDS

Edwin Shearer, superintendent of the poultry department of the state fair since 1916 received 14 Barred Rocks from his old time friend, Ben F. Keeney, Eugene, Oregon.

Mr. Keeney is the assessor of Lane county and as a recreation breeds and exhibits Barred Rocks, having been in the game for 40 years.

As an exhibitor he has no equal in the West, sending birds and winning in all the leading shows from Chicago to Los Angeles.

The birds sent to Shearer are some of Keeney's choicest matings and are to be used by him as the basis of an exhibition flock.

AGED RESIDENT PASSES

A. H. Anderson, 71, died this morning at his home in Eagle Creek at 5 o'clock. His death was due to valvular heart trouble which had kept him confined to his bed for the past month.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 1:30 pm. at the Eagle Creek church. Interment in the I. O. O. F. cemetery at Estacada.

Born in Sweden, Anderson came to America some 40 years ago. He was highly respected in his community. Surviving him are his wife, Anna, and three sons, Fred, Ben and Elmer, all living at Eagle Creek. He was a member of Woodmen lodge 7 at Portland.

WHERE TO WORSHIP

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Arthur A. Harriman, Minister Bible School at 10 am. Christian Endeavor at 6:30 pm. Evening preaching at 7:30.

We have entered into a contest in the Bible School which covers the entire school. We are hoping that this will increase interest in attendance. We are looking forward for completing plans for the addition to our building to care for the Bible school and Ladies' Aid. We aim to preach and live a gospel which is sound to the Bible in doctrine and filled with spiritual power. You are invited to worship with us and we will make you feel glad that you came.

SPRINGWATER CHURCH

Thomas I. Kirkwood, Pastor Sunday School at 10 am. Mr. Shearer, superintendent.

Service of worship at 11. The theme, "The Spirit of Evangelism" will be discussed. During the month of February, the major emphasis will be upon evangelism which is the supreme task of the church.

The Christian Endeavor meets at the church Sunday evening. The topic is "Fellowship through Christian Endeavor." Ephesians 4: 1-6

W. C. T. U. Cook Book sale, Saturday, February 12 at Drug store.

Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Darrow are rejoicing over the arrival of a 9 1/2 pound son, on Thursday, January 27. Mother and son are getting along nicely.

OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Brief Resume of Happenings of the Week Collected for Our Readers.

Fire caused by an overheated oil stove destroyed the Star mill at McMinnville, last week, causing a loss estimated at \$3000.

The Coos Bay Logging company's camp on Cunningham creek closed last week for an indefinite period. Three hundred employes are out of work.

There were 480 industrial accidents reported to the state industrial accident commission during the week ending January 27. No fatalities were reported.

A movement is on foot to reopen the Cove State bank. Stock at \$150 a share is now on sale and if enough is subscribed for, the bank will resume business.

A financial statement prepared by the city recorder shows the total assets of La Grande to be \$1,233,501.01. The corporation business last year totaled \$515,448.50.

Japanese truck gardeners of Hood River estimate that their tonnage of asparagus for the coming spring will reach 24 cars, an increase of 10 cars over the yield of 1926.

James William Park of Astoria has been designated by the war department as second alternate for Senator Stanfield's appointment to the United States military academy at West Point.

Fire loss in Cottage Grove during 1926 was \$2825, according to a report compiled by S. L. Macklin, city fire chief. This is divided into \$1325, the loss on buildings, and \$1500, the loss on contents.

While sliding down the banister at Gladstone school last week, Arden Dumfrie, 10, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Dumfrie of Fernridge, was impaled by two large splinters which entered his abdomen.

James Edward Nichols, three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Nichols of Riddle, was brought to a Roseburg hospital suffering from a long gash in his side caused by falling on a pair of pruning shears.

One of the few remaining landmarks in La Grande must go. The old Grady home, built in 1877—constantly the home of the Gradys during the last half century—will be wrecked to make way for local progress.

More than 2000 Deschutes county registered voters failed to vote in the last general election, J. H. Hauser, county clerk, said recently, in announcing that notices of lapses of registration were being mailed out.

Oregon monthly pensions have been granted as follows: Anson B. Willis, Portland, \$40; George L. Harding, Portland, \$30; Edwin M. Barnett, Hermiston, \$20; Charles B. Arthur, Toledo, \$25; Edwin E. Stillwell, Cottage Grove, \$20.

Quail and China pheasants have been killed near Wapinitia in considerable numbers by the recent cold weather. With temperatures ranging from 30 to 40 degrees below zero at the peak of the storm, cattle have suffered greatly.

A survey of the broccoli fields of Douglas county indicates that but little damage to the crop was occasioned by the recent freezing weather. During the cold spell growers were greatly worried for fear that there would be a heavy loss.

The Florence State bank was robbed last week by a lone, unmasked man of about \$12,000. Miss Harriet Weatherston, cashier, was alone in the bank at the time and was locked in the vault after the robber had taken all the money in sight.

Charles Cleveland of Gresham was appointed by Governor Patterson a member of the state fair board to succeed Horace Addis. Mr. Cleveland is mayor of Gresham and chairman of the building committee of the Multnomah county fair board.

The new ski course has been completed at Swim, one-half mile beyond Government camp, according to word received in Portland recently. The course is 12 feet wide and more than one-quarter mile long. It has a jump near the end of the course.

Registration of men and women at the University of Oregon is nearly equal, according to the report of Virginia Judy Estery, dean of women. The total number of women registered amounts to 1356, only 168 less than the number of men enrolled.