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REVIEW OF WORK OF OREGON LEGISLATURE

Senate Holds Governor's Financial Measures For Action.

Last Week of Session is Entered—House Adopts Raise in Legislators Pay—Soldiers' Bonus Time Extended—Repeal of Motor Vehicle Law Extended—Senate Approves Wilson River Road.

Salem.—When the legislature convened Monday for the last week of the session attention was focused on the senate, where the governor's financial bills were held for action. Governor Patterson's financial measures passed the house last week with little opposition, but it was believed that considerable opposition would develop in the senate.

In addition to passing the titling bill, so-called, which takes 5 per cent of the gross earnings of all state boards and commissions for the general fund, the house passed the governor's income tax bill. The income bill passed the house after brisk debate with 49 voting for, nine against and two absent.

Shortly after word of the passage of the income bill by the house reached him Governor Patterson issued a statement, regarded as a warning to the senate, in which he said that "it would in my opinion prove unfortunate if the bill should be mutilated by its discriminate amendment before its final passage."

While this should be the last week of the session, it is generally believed that it will be impossible to clear up the calendars within the prescribed 40 day limit and the session may extend into the following week.

House Passes Textbook Bill

The house passed the so-called free textbook bill after considerable argument, the vote being 35 to 21, with four members absent.

The bill provides for the vote of citizens who may levy a special tax by school districts, and those who elect may purchase texts for school pupils, the cost to be borne by the special levy, not to exceed \$1.50 for each pupil of elementary schools, each year.

Districts of the first class, which means Portland alone, may choose the texts for school children to use in their studies. Other districts of the state will follow recommendations of the state text book commission as to the books chosen. One district or more may take advantage of the new law and other districts may still elect to have books bought by individuals as at present. There is no compulsion in the measure for any district to use the new method if it does not desire it.

With only two dissenting votes, Senator Eddy's educational bill, providing for a state board of education of seven laymen, passed the senate.

The measure would give the board of laymen authority to prepare the course of study. It differs from bills introduced in 1923 and 1925 by Senator Eddy in that the former measures prescribed the course of study.

Rustling Bill Defeated

Encountering strong objection from western Oregon representatives, a house bill, desired by eastern Oregon interests to combat cattle rustling was defeated in the house. The measure would have provided that a vendor of livestock or hides would have to furnish a vendee with a bill of sale for each animal or hide.

Construction of 100 miles of the central Oregon highway, between Burns and Ontario, asked for in senate concurrent resolution 5, was approved by the house.

A senate joint resolution providing for a constitutional amendment to raise the pay of legislators from \$3 to \$10 a day, was adopted by the house. The matter will be referred to the people at the next election.

The house also adopted a senate joint resolution calling for the adoption of "Oregon, My Oregon," as the official state song.

By indefinite postponement the senate killed the bill providing for old age pensions under a state commission administration.

The senate postponed indefinitely a bill authorizing an appropriation of \$50,000 for a woman's building at the old soldiers home. This bill was sponsored by the Women's Relief corps.

Motor Regulations Opposed

Strenuous opposition to additional regulations affecting motor vehicle owners was voiced in the senate when a bill providing for inspection of tourist camp grounds was defeated.

Sixteen senators voted against a bill to provide for distribution of automobile license plates by the sheriffs of the various counties instead of through a centralized office as now handled.

The legislature of Washington has refused to appoint a committee to confer with a committee from the Oregon legislature with relation to fishing legislation on the Columbia river, according to a letter received by the chief clerk of the senate.

A bill extending the time for obtaining the state soldiers' bonus or loan, was passed without opposition by the house. It provides that one may apply for cash benefits up to June 30, 1930, and for the loan to June 30, 1945.

Representative Pierce's bill permitting dancing after midnight and until 3 A. M. in counties of the state of lesser population, failed to pass.

Repeal of the motor vehicle certificate of title law which was sought in a bill introduced by Senator Upton, was defeated in the senate after a lengthy and somewhat heated debate. Twelve senators voted for the repeal of the certificate of title law, while 15 senators voted against the repeal.

Voters to Pass on Salaries

Voters at the next general election will pass on a proposed constitutional amendment prohibiting salary increases for both state and county officers during the terms for which they were elected, under a resolution introduced by Senator Brown and approved by 22 of the 30 senators.

By 31 votes, the house passed Representative Graham's bill, which does away with the personal liability of automobile owners or drivers for injuries to their guests. The bill carries an emergency clause. It was opposed by most of the lawyers of the house, who urged it was throwing down the bars for negligence and that it would be declared unconstitutional.

A bill introduced in the house by Cramer, to prohibit livestock from running at large in precincts through which a state highway runs came in for a severe roasting in the senate, and failed to pass.

The senate reconsidered and approved a bill repealing the present law making it incumbent on men desiring to obtain a marriage license to first submit to a medical examination.

The senate indefinitely postponed a resolution providing for a constitutional amendment creating the office of lieutenant governor.

Governor May Be Budget Officer

The senate approved a measure sponsored by Governor Patterson providing that he shall be the state budget officer. Twenty-one senators voted for the bill and nine opposed. It previously was passed by the house.

The budget bill gives the governor power to appoint a budget master, and appropriates \$25,000 for the administration of the budget department.

It was one of the principles set out in the Patterson platform when he sought nomination and election to office, and the senate vote grants to him the power which he told the voters he would seek of the legislators and would use, if given to him, to reduce state expenditures.

The senate, by a vote of 19 to 9, with two members absent, approved a house bill introduced by the Tillamook and Washington county delegations authorizing construction by the state highway department of what will be known as the Wilson river toll road.

Senate Opposes Phone Investigation

Twenty-four members of the senate recorded their votes as opposed to adoption of a memorial introduced by Senator Dunne requesting a federal investigation of the telephone rates now effective in the state. The memorial was indefinitely postponed.

Senator Upton has introduced a bill abolishing the state fish commission and placing the duties of the department under the state board of control.

Creating the office of superintendent of the Oregon state penitentiary was provided in a bill introduced by Senator Moser. The superintendent would have authority to appoint a warden and deputy warden.

This bill is part of the administration program to place the various prison industries on a profitable basis. Members of the board of control said the superintendent would act as executive officer of the institution and would be held responsible for the management of the penitentiary industries. He also would have general supervision over the entire prison plant.

Salesmen Exempt as Peddlers

The senate passed a road and highway committee bill eliminating commercial salesmen from the operation of the so-called peddlers motor vehicle license tax. Under this law commercial travelers were compelled to pay a motor vehicle license fee 50 per cent in excess of the license fee assessed against other vehicles.

ESTACADA FOOD IS CAREFULLY HANDLED

After completing a close checkup on all sources of food supply for people in this section, L. S. Leach of the state bureau of food and dairy inspection, stated yesterday before he left for Salem that he found sanitary conditions here in excellent shape. Stores, hotels, restaurants, markets and dairying equipments were inspected and, aside from a few minor suggestions, Mr. Leach found everything in good order.

One establishment here should be given special credit, according to Inspector Leach. The George Lawrence and Son dairy is conducted on as high a standard as any dairy in the state and is much superior to those generally found in cities of this size. The equipment is thoroughly modern and the greatest care is being taken to insure Estacada a clean milk supply. Sylvester Lawrence, who is the manager, was trained for his work at O. A. C.

TIMBER MOVEMENT NEAR LOADING CAPACITY

During the past week the movement of logs from the Eastern Clackamas section has approached the capacity of the loading facilities. The L. DeDee Logging company is piling the logs into the pond east of Estacada as though a time limit were set upon their cutting. The Bear Creek outfit is also operating at full steam. C. B. Tuggle, car inspector for the P. E. P. company reports that over 300 cars were loaded out last week. This timber is all milled in Portland. Several cars of sawed lumber from the mills located here went forward also.

FISH PLANTING IS NEARLY COMPLETED

T. J. Cralg and W. R. Kincaid of the state fish and game commission will finish their work of distributing fish from the hatchery at Delph Creek this week. The fish now being liberated are a year old and nearly ready for the pan. A report of the season's output of the Delph Creek hatchery will be published in the News. J. C. Moreland is superintendent of the plant.

ESTACADA HI IN THIRD PLACE IN BASKETBALL

Estacada Hi, after her defeat by Standy this week, is in about third place in the county, according to Coach Robert Manning. And having beaten Oregon City twice and being defeated by only a small margin in the last moments of play by Sandy, the champions of the valley, the boys have made a very good showing. The score in the Sandy game Friday night was tied until the last minute when the loss of Jennings on a mistaken count and a sudden spurt of the opponents rolled in the winning basket for the wrong team.

Outlook for sports next year is very encouraging to the coach. For football there will be twelve letter men back and basketball and baseball have good chances also.

ESTACADA ALL-STAR HUMBLED BY CHECKS

Estacada went down to defeat before the Checkerboard team from Portland Monday night by a score of 39 to 35. With a short line up for the evening, the local basketballers found the invaders too much for them. Van Slyke and Hayden were out for the game.

It was a fast and hard fought game, nevertheless. Ray Lovelace of the All-Stars being high point man of the game with 14 points.

Jim Abbot of Salem was here on business Saturday.

The new bill in addition to repealing the peddlers' license tax, fixes the first half of the year for securing motor vehicle licenses as of June 1. Under the present law the last half of the year begins July 1. The last half license fee under the new act would be based on 50 per cent of the total license fee.

Senator Bailey has introduced a joint resolution referring to the voters of the state a constitutional amendment making the provisions of the workman's compensation act compulsory as affecting all hazardous occupations. Under provisions of the proposed amendment, all employers and employees engaged in hazardous occupations would be brought under the act without any opportunity for election or rejection.

SECRECY ATTENDS CARNIVAL PLANS

Boys As Close-Mouthed As Sewing Circle Women About Event

The News reporter has been unable to get a complete line on the affair which will be put on by the men of the community club at the high school gym on February 28. There is considerable secrecy about the preparations. It seems that this fellow and that has a brilliant idea, and he is going ahead with his stuff but for fear it might be used by some one else, he won't tell the reporter. As if a reporter couldn't be trusted with a confidence. Absurd.

One thing we gained from a slip H. C. Stephens made yesterday. He said there would be plenty of money on hand and he should know since he runs the bank. Bob Cooke has been pretty busy too with this affair and perhaps we may look for a Ford to be setting up among the kewpie dolls as a prize for the winner of a raffle-dazzle.

We shall try to find out something for next issue.

MOUNT HOOD FOREST NEWS

Ranger Armstrong talked fire cooperation and prevention at the monthly meeting of the Springwater grange on February 12. The arrangements have been made for him to meet with the Dodge community club this coming Saturday evening.

The Western Forestry and Conservation Association, forest service officers and national park officials met in Tacoma Wednesday. Reducing forest fires caused by carelessness and active cooperation with the press were two of the objectives of the meeting.

That national forest land is being used by the people of Oregon and Washington is evidenced by the report recently issued by the assistant district forester. There is a total of 215,000 acres covered by permits for city watersheds, pastures, summer homes, schools, cemeteries, fur farms, trappers' cabins, sawmills, corrals and other business enterprises.

A recent fire slogan contest by Boy Scouts developed some original and clever ideas. The winning slogan submitted was "Save Tomorrow's Forests Today."

Slim Baughman, P. E. P. Co.'s clock man, reports 44 inches of snow on the divide between Intake and Big Bottom and 30 inches at Big Bottom. The wonderful forest cover in the Clackamas watershed insures the release of this stored up moisture at the time it will be most needed.

The timber from 7500 acres of land is required each week for America's Sunday newspapers. Canada is now supplying us with three fourths of our newsprint material, yet we still allow fires to burn over as much land as we cut.

INCREASES LIGHTING OF FORD SALESROOM

The Cooke Motor company has made a great improvement in the lighting of its office and salesroom by the installation of floodlights. Besides adding to the efficiency of the plant, this improvement is appreciated by the city because of the favorable impression it will make upon visitors who travel the highway at night. Good business men everywhere recognize the advertising value of sufficient illumination.

HOW THE STORY GREW

Here is a story from the Portland Telegram:

"Oregon City, Oregon, Feb. 14 (Special)—Mrs. Nellie Gardner teacher at Estacada, is at her home in Portland recovering from a fall down the 16 steps of the school. Her face was badly bruised, but she escaped other hurts."

What happened was that Mrs. Gardner had the misfortune to step on a dust pan at the top of the stairs at her home in Portland and was bruised about the face in the fall. This happened during a week-end visit and she was back at her school Monday without loss of time.

Tim Brownhill enjoyed to the "fullest" extent and capacity an excellent dinner at the table of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Manning, Wednesday evening. Coach Manning and Brownhill were in school together in McMinnville.

H. C. Stephens president of the Estacada State bank, was a business visitor in the county seat, yesterday.

ILLUSTRATED TALK FOR CLUB MEET

Forests As Recreation Grounds for All People to Be Exploited

Following the interesting talk of Ranger Armstrong at the last community club meeting, considerable comment was heard to the effect that the residents of Eastern Clackamas really know very little about the great national forest within the boundaries of their own county. It is often true that large interests like this are better known at distant points. The committee on program felt that more information should be gained by the club members about the forest as our greatest local asset and they have secured a lecturer for the meeting on February 25, who will illustrate his subject with lantern slides showing many of the forest service activities. The speaker will be George E. Griffith, of the department of public relations of the forest service.

Music will be furnished by the community chorus and Mrs. Harry Kitching in a solo number. Mrs. Harry A. LaBarre will give a reading. Everyone is cordially invited. The meeting will be held in the Estacada Hotel at 8 p. m.

AS THE GOVERNMENT SEES

The Department of Agriculture in its recently released outlook on the agricultural situation, makes it plain that farming will not be any better for the coming year than it has been in the past unless acreages are reduced and less products raised. Following are the condensed findings:

A continuation of low returns for most crops unless acreages are reduced; domestic demand will be about the same as in 1926; some improvement in foreign purchasing power, also larger foreign production to offset; some increase in farm labor and wages may be lower; no change in the prices of building material or farm machinery; flax seed prices are not likely to be higher; lower prices for corn are in prospect as south will increase corn and decrease cotton; livestock must be held at present basis if present prices are to hold; hog producers have favorable outlook as also have egg producers; wool market appears firm at present prices; dairy industry is on a stronger basis than last year; potato prices cannot hold unless overplanting is guarded against; lower prices for cabbage will result unless production is held down; onion production should be reduced sharply; bean acreage should be reduced from last year; caution should be exercised not to increase strawberry production; the apple industry indicates a more stable condition.

The O. A. C. report states that the general level of farm prices continues to decline; that the December figure was 16 points below that of the same month a year ago.

Dr. G. W. Midford, who was thought to have been recovering from a serious stomach trouble and who was operated upon some time ago, became worse and Monday was taken back to Portland. He was operated upon again yesterday.

Sunday's nice weather brought out a number of people from Portland and Oregon City who enjoyed the day in the park and motoring over the loop road.

TEMPERANCE UNION IN ALL-DAY MEETING

The W. C. T. U. will hold an all day session at the Methodist church Friday, at which the chief speaker will be the county president, Mrs. E. V. Andrews of Oregon City.

Everyone is invited. A pot luck lunch will be served at noon.

EWALTS ENTERTAIN

An enjoyable 500 party was given Wednesday evening by Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Ewalt. Those invited were Mr. and Mrs. Norman Linn, Mr. and Mrs. Cleve Heiple, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Earl McConnell, Mrs. R. H. Currin, Miss Elsie Poole and Kenneth Ewalt from Portland. High honors were won by Mr. and Mrs. Norman Linn. A most unique score card was used and a "wonderful" feed served.

Mrs. May Younce and son Virgil of Oregon City were in Estacada Sunday to attend the funeral for Fred Bannister.

OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

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

The Old Oregon Trail association held its annual meeting in La Grande this week.

A volunteer fire department to serve as an auxiliary to the paid city department has been organized at Albany.

Taxes to be collected in Washington county this year total \$1,183,834, of which amount \$239,493.62 goes to the state.

J. W. Little, warden of the Oregon state penitentiary during the past two years, was reappointed to the office by the state board of control.

Farmers in the Alpine district of Morrow county organized a farm bureau of 50 members at a meeting last week at the Alpine high school.

Ground squirrels were reported coming out in large numbers in many parts of Walla Walla county, and farmers have been forming rodent control districts.

Suffering from an attack of hiccoughs for the past seven days, Ed Meyers, 77, civil war veteran, was near death at his home in Lebanon last week.

Influenza cases reported in Oregon for the week ending February 5 number 204, according to the report of Dr. Frederick D. Stricker, state health officer.

On order of its directors the Ontario National bank closed its doors last week. The institution is the oldest national bank in that section of Oregon.

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Leach, who have resided in Coos county since 1878, have just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at their home in Myrtle Point.

The total sales of stamps and stamped envelopes at the Sandy post office during 1926 was \$15,133, which showed an increase over the sales in 1925 of \$148,76.

The city of St. Helens has purchased 1520 acres of land comprising the watershed adjacent to Salmon and Milton creeks to protect the city's water supply. The price paid was \$7.50 per acre.

An Eastern Oregon basketball tourney will be held in Pendleton February 24, 25 and 26, according to present plans, with teams from Umatilla county, Morrow and Gilliam counties competing.

Fire losses in the state exclusive of Portland during the month of January aggregated \$197,654, according to a report prepared by the state fire marshal. There were a total of 48 fires reported.

Governor Patterson last Tuesday announced appointment of Vine W. Pierce of Madras as district attorney for Jefferson county to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Francis Marsh.

The Marcella school district will get from the fund to be received as back taxes on the O. & C. grant lands in Lane county the sum of \$658.95 to rebuild its grade school, which burned two weeks ago.

Gillnet fishermen are making good catches, running up to 150 pounds to the boat. Thus far the net has not been sufficiently heavy to indicate any packing of salmon before the winter season closes March 1.

Portland, with a total value of \$9,522,810 for building permits issued in January, ranked in third place among the cities of the Pacific coast in value of building, and was but \$26,345 behind San Francisco, which ranked second.

The Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company has filed application with the public service commission for permission to construct a highway in the city of Astoria to connect with its proposed new ferry route between Astoria and Imbler.

An airplane landing field, a necessity of Pendleton for some time, has been secured through the work of the commerce committee of the Pendleton Commercial association. A tract of 120 acres, three miles east of the city, has been leased for five years.

The McKay reservoir, southwest of Pendleton, is now about one-third full, according to C. L. Tice, superintendent. Tice estimates the basin now contains 27,000 or 28,000 acre feet of water and believes the basin will be filled for the first season of its use.