

PROCEEDINGS OF OREGON LEGISLATURE

Friday, February 8.

Salem, Feb. 8.—The house this morning passed a bill revoking all franchises in cities granted by the state, and placing the power of renewal entirely in the hands of the various municipalities. Hopes of Hood River for the creation of a new county in its territory went glimmering when the senate this afternoon indefinitely postponed the bill creating Cascade county.

Among the bills passed by the senate today were: For voting machines, making it a felony to entice a child under 18 years for immoral purposes, and appropriating \$15,000 for the experiment station at Union.

The proposed change in the primary election law will be referred to the people for their decision according to a clause today inserted by Bailey, its author.

By just one vote the house today granted the request for the people to again vote on the woman suffrage question.

The remainder of the session will be strenuous for the lawmakers. No other legislative session in years was further behind in its work than the assembly now doing business at the capital city.

President Haines was presented with a gavel today similar to that given Speaker Davey a few days ago.

In the senate today five new bills were introduced. The senate has received 207 bills and the house 369.

Thursday, February 7.

Salem, Feb. 7.—The senate today voted to create a board of regents to select two normals to be continued and to abolish the others. As the house has turned down two similar bills it is doubtful if the senate bill will get through the lower house. The joint committee on ways and means has decided to favorably report appropriations for the Ashland, Weston and Monmouth schools.

The Jones bill appropriating \$300,000 for free locks at Oregon City, contingent on the United States increasing the same to enough either to buy the present locks or build new ones has warm support in the house and the prospects of its passing are bright.

The senate today refused to adopt a minority report adverse to an amendment to statement number one. This indicates that Bailey's bill to amend the statement number one section of the direct primary law will be passed by the senate, for the 16 votes are enough to carry the bill. Bailey's bill provides for a change in statement number one so as to make it pledge the signer to vote for that candidate for United States senator who shall receive the highest vote for the party to which the signer belongs.

During the day the house passed four bills and at a session tonight 33 were passed. Thirteen new ones were introduced.

Representative Jones, of Polk, introduced a proposed constitutional amendment providing that the people again vote on woman suffrage at the June, 1908, election.

A house bill creating the Twelfth Judicial district of Gilliam, Wheeler and Sherman counties was passed.

Wednesday, February 6.

Salem, Feb. 6.—The bill appropriating \$150,000 for the Seattle fair has been amended to make the amount \$100,000.

Seventeen new bills were presented in the house and but three in the senate. Huntley's corrupt practices bill, to regulate elections, was given a knock-out blow today in the house by indefinite postponement.

Land grabbers have descended upon the legislature and are determined to have measures passed which will compel the state to issue deeds upon the fraudulent land sale certificates and also compel the state to pay interest upon the money paid to the state by the persons who procured the certificates.

Normal schools are very much unsettled in the legislature and nobody has a clear foresight as to what will be done. It seems probable, however, that Drain and Monmouth will be abandoned. The question will come up in the house next Wednesday.

The ways and means committee of both houses this afternoon voted to appropriate \$125,000 annually for the next two years for the University of Oregon. This is about \$45,000 more than appropriated two years ago.

The appointment of three railroad commissioners by the governor, two to serve until 1908 and one to serve until 1910, and their successors to be elected by the people, is the substance of an amendment which the joint committee on railroads agreed upon today, and which will be inserted in the Chapin bill before it is reported back to the house. The committee also decided to reduce the salaries of commissioners from \$5,000 to \$4,000, and to provide for the payment of traveling expenses, instead of having the commissioners pay their own expenses.

Among the senate bills passed today were: To give laborers prior lien on logs, lumber, etc.; raising to \$7,500 the

amount that may be recovered for acts causing death; for punishment of wages of public officers and employees.

The senate killed seven bills and the house ten today. The majority of the bills were covered by other measures that had been previously introduced and considered in committee.

Tuesday, February 5.

Salem, Feb. 5.—Another bill has been introduced to compel holders of land grants from the government to sell the land at \$2.50 per acre and in tracts not exceeding 160 acres.

The house passed a bill prohibiting the granting of a liquor license to any one who has been convicted of selling liquor to minors.

Another house bill passed prohibits any but members from wearing badges of secret orders.

A new bill in the senate makes the Associated Press a common carrier.

A new house bill provides that officers must not wink at violations of state laws and provides for punishment of such officers.

A gavel presented to Speaker Davey today contained five kinds of wood: Oregon grape, the state flower; apple, from a seedling planted at Vancouver in 1825; cherry, from a seedling started in Iowa in 1845 and transplanted to Oregon in 1847; service berry, from near Oregon City, the first territorial capital; yew, from Champeo, the site of the first American civil government on the Pacific Coast.

The bill for the transportation of convicts by prison guards instead of sheriffs was defeated in the senate.

Twenty-one new bills were introduced in the house today and eight in the senate.

Monday, February 4.

Salem, Feb. 4.—By a vote of 24 to 1 the senate adopted the house joint memorial asking congress to submit to a vote of the people a proposition to elect senators by direct vote.

Two constitutional amendments were adopted by the house today. Originally they were those of the state tax commission providing for taxation of property by classes of subject.

The senate passed the house fertilizer inspection bill over the veto of the governor. This is one of the bills vetoed at the close of the 1905 session and has already passed the house.

A bill to repeal the anti-scalping law was defeated in the house by a vote of 28 to 26, six members being absent.

Two bills were killed in the senate by indefinite postponement. They were: Giving effect to unrecorded deeds, and creating Clark county.

The senate passed a joint memorial demanding that granted lands be sold for not more than \$2.50 per acre.

The senate sustained the governor in his veto of the board of control bill of the 1905 session. All the other vetoed senate bills were indefinitely postponed.

Clatsop Courthouse Contract.

Astoria—John Hastie, of the firm of Hastie & Dougan, of Seattle, has been here and signed a contract with the county court for the completion of the new courthouse for the sum of \$9,599. Work is to be commenced about March 1 and finished on or before December 1.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Fruits—Apples, common to choice, 50¢ to 75¢ per box; choice to fancy, \$1.25 to 2.50; pears, \$1.10 to 1.50.

Vegetables—Turnips, \$1.10 to 1.25 per sack; carrots, \$1.10 to 1.25 per sack; beets, \$1.25 to 1.50 per sack; horseradish, 7¢ to 8¢ per pound; sweet potatoes, 3½¢ per pound; cabbage, 2½¢ per pound; cauliflower, \$2.50 per dozen; celery, \$3.50 to 4¢ per crate; pumpkins, 2¢ per pound; squash, 2¢ per pound; sprouts, 8¢ per pound.

Onions—Oregon, \$1.10 to 1.35 per hundred.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, fancy, \$1.40 to 1.50; common, \$1.10 to 1.25.

Wheat—Club, 68¢; bluestem, 70¢; valley, 66¢ to 67¢; red, 66¢.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$2.29; gray, \$2.28.

Barley—Feed, \$2.22 per ton; brewing, \$2.33; rolled, \$2.44 to \$2.50.

Rye—\$1.40 to 1.45 per cwt.

Corn—Whole, \$2.26; cracked, \$2.27 per ton.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$14.40 to 15 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$17.15 to 18; clover, \$9; cheat, \$9; grain hay, \$9 to \$10; alfalfa, \$14.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 32½¢ to 35¢ per pound.

Butter Fat—First grade cream, 36¢ per pound; second grade cream, 2¢ less per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 39½¢ per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 12½¢ to 13¢ per pound; mixed chickens, 11½¢ to 12¢; spring, 13½¢ to 14¢; old roosters, 9¢ to 10¢; dressed chickens, 14¢ to 15¢; turkeys, live, 17¢ to 17½¢; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20¢ to 21¢; geese, live, 10¢ to 12¢; ducks, 16¢ to 18¢.

Val—Dressed, 5½¢ to 9¢ per pound.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 2¢ to 3¢ per pound; cows, 4¢ to 5¢; country steers, 5¢ to 5½¢.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 8¢ to 8½¢ per pound; ordinary, 6¢ to 7¢.

Pork—Dressed, 6¢ to 8½¢ per pound.

Opposes Assistant Attorney General.

Salem—Three is one thing the secretary of state went after he is not going to get from the ways and means committee. A bill was brought to the ways and means committee providing for another assistant attorney general. This came directly from the attorney general's office, but on investigation it was discovered that the attorney general did not especially care about this increase in his staff, but that the request came from the secretary of state's office.

OPPOSES CONTRACT PLAN.

Chief Engineer Stevens Wants to Dig Panama Canal.

Washington, Feb. 8.—Chief Engineer John F. Stevens wants to dig the Panama canal, and if he cannot dig the big ditch without the medium of a contractor, there is likely to be another vacancy at the head of affairs on the isthmus. This is understood to be the secret of the mysterious holding up of the award of the Panama canal contract that has excited interest and curiosity for the last two weeks.

Everybody has been wondering why the administration has been delaying action on the Olliver bid for digging the canal. One theory has been that it was due to a fight between rival financial interests, those represented by the contractors underbid by the Olliver firm being credited with the efforts to throw out the lower bidder and take the prize. There have been tangles regarding Mr. Olliver's partners. Finally a positive decision from President Roosevelt, Secretary of War Taft and Chairman Shonts, of the Canal commission, has been postponed for two weeks longer, ostensibly to complete a full examination of the Olliver bid, but in reality, it is believed, to solve the problem presented by Mr. Stevens' position.

OPPOSED TO DISCRIMINATION.

Los Angeles Chamber on Separate Schools for Japanese.

Washington, Feb. 8.—The president today received a telegraphic copy of a resolution adopted yesterday by the Los Angeles chamber of commerce upon the Japanese school question, which expresses the belief that the public sentiment of California, especially of the southern part, upon the question of the exclusion of the Japanese from the general public school system of the state has been to some extent misrepresented and is largely misunderstood. The sentiment is expressed that on the main question, whatever may be the diversity of opinion upon the constitutional and legal phases, the board is assured that "the general trend of public opinion in Southern California is decidedly adverse to any discrimination against the Japanese as a people in the matter of public school privileges, and the belief that this opinion is based upon consideration of equity and justice is held altogether independent of any attitude which the Japanese government has assumed or may assume in regard to the question."

CALLS BOOKER SENATOR.

Foraker Takes a Fling at Activity of Negro Leader.

Washington, Feb. 8.—Five witnesses were examined today in the Brownsville inquiry by the Senate committee on military. All were members of the discharged battalion of negro soldiers except ex-Sergeant Luther Thornton, of company B. He testified that, when aroused by the firing on the night of August 13, he was under the impression that the barracks were being fired upon by the people of the town.

The next witness called for by Senator Foraker was Winter Washington, and Senator Overman asked if he had said Booker Washington.

"No," said Mr. Foraker, "Booker Washington is too busy attending to his senatorial duties to come here." He referred to the interest of Booker T. Washington in the question of having a negro appointed to a Federal position in Ohio, patronage which has been regarded as belonging to the senators from Ohio.

Washington's idea of the Brownsville affair was that "Mexican Greasers" and "Texas cowboys" had done the shooting in order to make trouble for the negro soldiers.

Mauers Smuggled as Books.

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 8.—Mail advices from Shanghai state that, owing to an accident at the wharf there, the discovery has been made that arms and ammunition have been smuggled through Shanghai to the disaffected districts where rebellion is in progress. A Chinese newspaper reports that 50,000 Mauser rifles and 5,000,000 rounds of ammunition have been imported into China from Japan by the revolutionary party. Dr. Sun Yat, who is one of the prime movers of the rebellion, is at Tokio, as head of the rebel junta there.

Will Tackle School Furniture Trust.

Chicago, Feb. 8.—The Tribune today says: Federal investigation of the American School Furniture company, reorganized nearly a year ago as the American Seating company, is to be undertaken by the grand jury now in session in Chicago. Fully 100 witnesses have been summoned from all parts of the United States, and it is understood the campaign will be waged along the lines followed by the government in the Standard Oil and beef trust cases.

More Money for Pacific Lights.

Washington, Feb. 8.—The senate's commerce committee reported the house omnibus lighthouse bill with amendments added giving \$20,000 for rebuilding the lighthouse at Cape Arago and \$120,000 for a lighthouse vessel at Oxford Reefs.

Right of Way Across Fort Columbia.

Washington, Feb. 8.—The senate today passed Senator Fulton's bill authorizing the Ilwaco railroad to build across the Fort Columbia reservation and quarantine station grounds on its way from Ilwaco to Knappton.

Earthquakes Change Island.

Montevideo, Feb. 8.—A report has reached here by passengers on the steamer Elka that earthquakes have changed the appearance of New Year's island and that a portion of the island has sunk several meters.

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