

OREGON LAWMAKERS' WORK AS REVIEWED

Date of Final Adjournment Is Still Undecided

Governor Refuses to Accept Bills—McArthur Orders Members Arrested—House to Retaliate on Senate—Panama Fair Appropriation Passed—Women Not Compelled to Serve on Juries.

Salem.—At the close of what is usually the final week of the legislative session complications came up which makes it difficult to tell just when final adjournment will be taken. The understanding that virtually had been reached for the legislature to adjourn for five days after it had cleaned up its work and to come back for the sole purpose of considering the vetoed bills is presumed to be responsible for the action of the governor and his private secretary in absenting themselves from the executive offices.

Governor West dropped out of sight Saturday and received no bills from the legislative assembly, and it was said will receive none and will not appear at the state capitol until after the legislature has finally cleaned up every bill that is on the desks of the respective houses. This much became known from an authoritative source. Governor is Criticized.

West was severely criticized Saturday by members of the senate and house, as well as by attaches and employees, whose salaries have been held up by his failure to sign the general appropriation bill.

The governor declared during the week that Saturday being a holiday, the senate and house had no right to remain in session, but lawyers in both branches of the legislature declare that it is a legislative day and that the legislature could work and be well within the law.

It was believed to be the plan of the governor, in order to circumvent the legislature in its determination to remain here until all vetoed bills are acted upon, to force receipt of all bills this week. This will make possible the holding of all bills in his office until Friday or Saturday of this week, as he has five days on each bill to veto or sign or send to the secretary of state without signature one way or the other.

Houses May be Swamped. In event that the governor should hold in his office all of the bills yet to be passed by the legislature, together with those already passed, he could turn in such a bunch of bills late in the week that both houses would be literally swamped and in as bad a condition then as they have been at any time during the session. Should the governor do this, it is believed that the legislature will remain here and act upon all bills, no matter how long it takes. That is the sentiment of many members, who began to scent a scheme by the executive to "get even" for their action in deciding to remain here another week.

Viewed from any standpoint, it is certain that a big fight is coming between the governor and the legislature. Speaker Orders Arrest of Members. Speaker McArthur Saturday threw the house into a fever of excitement by refusing permission to any member to leave for home, ordering the doors locked and instructing the sergeant-at-arms to go out and arrest every member who had left the session without permission.

The trouble started when it was discovered just before the 4 o'clock train pulled out for Portland that there was but a bare quorum present. Some of the members, who live too far away to be able to get home over Sunday, raised objections to remaining over unless there was to be a session of the house. The house adopted a resolution to the effect that any member who leaves the house without the permission of the speaker is to be fined \$5.

House Irritated by Senate. Senate bills which have passed the house and in which senate members are particularly interested will be recalled by the house, taken into that body and laid upon the table until the senate agrees to stop slaughtering house bills, according to an agreement which is being formulated among a coterie of the house members.

Some of their pet bills have been put to sleep in the senate and they are incensed. In a spirit of retaliation for the wholesale slaughter of house bills in the senate, the house Saturday turned on the senate and began slaughtering bills from the upper house.

Novel Procedure in Bill Selection. The senate indulged in a novel procedure when it agreed to allow each one of the 30 senators to select from the vast list of house bills, which is before that body, one bill each, to be given preference and receive immediate action.

The procedure itself appeared to be no more novel than some of the selections made. Some of the bills, which seemed to be of first import to the

senators included such as those governing the running of stock at large or providing for expediting the payment of witness or juror fees.

1915 Fund is \$175,000. Agreeing to the report of the conference committee and concurring in amendments made in the house, the senate passed the Panama-Pacific appropriation bill, and Oregon will appropriate for its share in the exposition \$175,000. The senate intended to stand pat on \$200,000 and the house on \$150,000, but from the very nature of the stubborn opposition from both sides it was apparent there could be no solution but a compromise.

Jury Duty Still Optional. Women in Oregon do not have to do jury duty unless they wish to. The house refused to pass a bill amending the law so that women would be compelled to serve on a jury when summoned, the same as men.

A number of the members of the house expressed the belief that regular jury duty is not for a woman to perform and the measure therefore went down to defeat.

House Votes Home for Girls. The bill for a state industrial home for girls and women went through the house and was passed by a vote of 39 to 2. The bill appropriates \$50,000 for the two-year term, which is to be used in establishing and maintaining the proposed home. Women and girls are to be sent there as a corrective. The bill was introduced in the senate and passed that branch without a dissenting vote.

Report Upholds Prison Policy. Governor West was upheld as to his prison policy and the management of the state penitentiary was praised in a majority report filed with the house by Senators Hollis and Ragdale and Representative Laughlin. No censure whatever was given, the nearest thing being that some prisoners were found who complained of having no underwear sufficient to their needs, and this condition, it was pointed out, was easily remedied.

Representatives Lewelling and Smith submitted a minority report, in which several severe charges were made as to the management of the prison, and Governor West was censured for his official actions in a number of instances. The house filed both reports.

General Appropriation Bill Passed. Without making a single amendment, the senate passed the general appropriation bill for state offices and boards just as it went through the house.

Further expediting business, so far as appropriation bills are concerned, the senate passed all the University of Oregon and agricultural college bills, 11 in number, aggregating \$317,833 for the university and \$305,500 for the agricultural school, these sums being in addition to the annual continuing appropriations.

Scarcely had the bills been passed before it was announced that referendum petitions will be circulated to keep the schools from receiving the money the legislature has voted, except one bill for each institution carrying an additional maintenance fund of \$50,000 for each institution.

Eight Hour Bill Now Dead. The minimum wage bill, which has now been signed by the governor, played an important part in the defeat of Lawrence's bill providing for an eight-hour working day for women, with a limit of 48 hours a week.

The committee returned three reports on this bill, one the majority report, being that it do not pass, signed by Kiddie, Fay and Wood. They reported back adversely on the ground that a minimum wage bill had already been signed by the governor and that this bill was unnecessary and uncalled for under the conditions.

Revised Assembly is Plan. Under the provisions of a constitutional amendment which the legislature is asked to put on the ballot for the next general election in a resolution introduced in the house, the Oregon legislature, after 1916, would consist of 34 senators, one from each county, and 69 representatives.

The amendment proposes to change the whole system of legislative representation. It would place it on a proportional basis, with each county entitled to one senator and no more, and to at least one representative.

Irrigation Bill is Passed. With only slight opposition, the senate passed the big \$450,000 appropriation bill for the Columbia Southern irrigation project in Crook county. This bill will enable the state to take hold of the work of reclaiming the lands under the original Carey project, where private capital has failed.

All of those who have tried the project and failed have made quit claims to the state. Under the bill the state will take over the entire burden of reclamation, and will get its money back from the settlers in 10 years by the installment plan after it has been made ready for productive farming.

Trust Companies to be Examined. A senate bill by Kiddie was passed by the house regulating trust companies and giving the state bank examiner the authority to inspect them and to have the same jurisdiction over them as he does over state banks. There was no opposition.

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Events Occurring Throughout the State During the Past Week.

BIG COOS BAY LAND DEAL

3500 Acres, 1600 City Lots and Franchises Included.

Marshfield.—W. J. Wilsey has purchased the holdings of Major L. D. Kinney in North Bend. The deal involves over \$1,000,000, and papers will be exchanged as soon as abstracts are prepared. Mr. Wilsey says he is operating for an English syndicate, and will invest other millions in property on the Pacific coast, this purchase being but a starter.

The transfer includes the franchises of the Belt Line Railway and the Rapid Transit company, 1300 acres of land on the peninsula adjoining Marshfield and North Bend, 1000 acres on the lower bay and over 16,000 lots, besides railway rights, which consist of city franchises and war department permits, also included with the city limits are additional tracts of 640 acres in one piece and 600 acres in another. All of the land is platted, and some tracts are improved and streets being laid.

Nehalem Valley to Have Railway. Veronia.—Work on the Columbia & Nehalem Valley railroad, to be built by the Kerry Timber company of Portland, will commence at once. The builders expect to have the road in operation within 10 months.

The road will be built from Wood's Landing on the Astoria & Columbia River railroad, then down Fishhawk creek, striking Nehalem river at Fishhawk. From there it will keep up Deep creek for several miles, ending in Clatsop county.

Lumber Camps to be Busy.

Astoria.—Activity in the logging industry promises to be more pronounced in Clatsop county this year than ever before in the history of the county. Several new camps are to be opened and camps established, and it is estimated that within the coming few months not less than \$3,000,000 will be expended in betterments, extensions and equipment.

SILETZ HOMESTEADERS WIN

Squatters Finally Beaten in Hearing Before Federal Officials.

Portland.—Final and absolute vindication for the struggling Siletz homesteaders, after 11 to 13 years of strife, hardship and anxiety, has been forwarded to the commissioner of the general land office. This vindication came as a result of a week's testimony in Portland, on charges preferred by Oliver L. Hull, and a number of other squatters.

It is assumed that this is the very last impediment that can be put in the way of the remaining Siletz homesteaders. They had filed their affidavits, complying with the Hawley law. Hull and some of the other squatters who are trying to take the land away from the original entrymen, and get it on their own locations, sent charges to the general land office, accusing the homesteaders with perjury. The homesteaders are vindicated of the perjury charge, and also their good faith in doing their very best to comply with the law is declared.

Relief in Sight for Sheepmen. Enterprise.—Wallawa county sheepmen are beginning to breathe easy again after coming through one of the most severe winters known in years on the Snake and Imnaha rivers. The snow, which fell to unusual depths and remained on the ground several weeks, has melted off the south hillsides, the ground is free of frost and there is an abundance of grazing.

Bend May Develop New Industry.

Bend.—The first pulp ever manufactured from central Oregon timber has reached Bend and the glowing reports of its excellence and the possibilities for manufacturing it opens up are greeted here with enthusiasm.

On January 6 two carloads of "lodge pole" pine, a small black pine that grows upon thousands of acres of land in the upper Deschutes valley, were sent to the pulp mill at Camas, Wash.

The sample of pulp is accompanied by a letter which says that the pulp is of a promising quality and that thorough tests will be made immediately in manufacturing it into paper. It is intended to use the first paper made from Deschutes timber in a leaflet that will describe this territory.

Runaway Convict Captured at Gervais. Salem.—Junior Thompson, one of the two men who saved their way through the bars on a window at the Insane Asylum, where they were working, was captured at Gervais, by the city marshal, Jack Clark, the other man is still at large.

BRIEF NEWS OF OREGON

Starting March 1, the curfew in Junction City will ring at 9 P. M. during the spring and summer.

Plans are being considered by the engineering staff of the O. W. R. & N. for the electrification of the line between Portland and Spokane.

The dairy men of Smith River and the Lower Umpqua have formed a creamery association and have purchased the property of the Townsend Creamery company at Reedsport.

The Portland Lumber company has established a logging camp west of Houlton and expects to cut 200,000 ft. of logs daily. It is building four miles of railroad to connect with the Columbia City road.

More than two miles of hard-surface street pavement will be laid in The Dalles in the spring, which will be marked by much progress in the way of substantial and permanent improvement in that city.

The people of Canyon City and vicinity are fostering an irrigation project to put water on a tract of 20,000 acres of fertile land lying west of the city. The water supply is to be taken from Upper Canyon Creek.

Work has been commenced on a furniture factory at Houlton. Concrete is being put in for the engine bed and the building is being generally put in shape for the machinery that will be ready for installation in a few days.

Robert Walker, the 16 year old brother of Rev. C. L. Walker, pastor of the Methodist church of Nyssa, Or., was accidentally killed. Alone he had gone duck shooting on an island in Snake river two miles north of town.

Directors of the Lane County Fair association set September 24 to 27, inclusive, as the dates for the annual fall fair. E. M. Warren was designated as the "Lane county delegate to the meeting of the district fair board at Roseburg."

The most effective slaughter of rabbits ever made in the history of Lakeview was at the drive west of town, showing the enormous total of about 12,000. The total estimated number of rabbits killed during the winter is 32,000.

The St. Paul Commercial Club expresses itself in favor of an electric line from Aurora to St. Paul, via Fargo and Champego. They believe such a line possible and want to interest President Strahorn, of the P. E. & E., in its construction.

In a communication from the offices of the state superintendent of schools, the information is given that the Portland Union Stockyards will give a Shetland pony to the boy or girl having the best exhibit of poultry or farm animals at the 1913 state fair.

James Huffman, who was working on the A. E. Tully ranch each of Wallawa, was gored by a bull and injured so severely that he died. He had tied the animal into a stall. As he turned the bull made a lunge, one horn piercing Huffman's lungs and pinning him to the partition.

Captain Edward Anderson, formerly master of the steamer Sue H. Elmore, who was wanted at Astoria on a charge of forgery, was brought from Seattle by Sheriff Burns. Anderson is accused of forging the name of B. L. Miller, engineer on the steamer Elmore, to the latter's pay check and then getting it cashed.

Seside has a new two-story building being equipped with up-to-date machinery for making cheese. Experienced workmen will have it in charge and the cheese manufactured here, as well as good milk, will be supplied to summer guests. Milk will be sold in bottles only and handled in the most sanitary way.

Lying half buried in the soft mud in the basin of Young's bay, the body of a logger, thought to be named Stone, a recent arrival from Portland, was found at low tide by Hans Larsen, keeper of the bridge, who waded in the mud up to his hips to the drowned man and secured the body to the bridge by passing a rope under the arms.

Relief for settlers in Wallawa county in the vicinity of Enterprise is promised in an action taken by the general land office, ordering an examination of the townships in that locality with a view to their restoration to entry because of alleged overlapping in survey lands which were withdrawn in 1906, and settlers since have been denied the right to make entry.

At a recent Commercial club meeting at West Stayton it was decided to go in for making that town a loganberry center. The plan is to sell the berries dried, as there is a rapidly growing demand for the same, and the states where this berry can be raised are very limited. With irrigation available in dry seasons the success of the loganberry business is assured.

The chief of engineers at Washington, D. C., has approved the report of Major McIndoe to the effect that the reversion on the Willamette river near Independence has more than fulfilled expectations, but he holds that damage to the river banks farther down, where the river has cut into valuable hop lands, should be repaired by local interests and not by the government.

NEWS FROM OUR NATIONAL CAPITAL

Non-Intervention Plan Adhered To But Precautions Are Taken

Washington.—The war department has ordered the mobilization of the Fifth brigade of the army at Galveston for possible embarkation on transports. The order is the result of a conference between President Taft and Secretary of War Stimson.

Although it was emphasized that the government contemplated no change in its non-intervention policy, it was admitted that nearly 5000 troops would be held in Galveston, in case of untoward developments.

Despite assurances from various American consuls in Mexico that the governors of Mexican states are rapidly declaring their loyalty to Provisional President Huerta, Secretary of State Knox believes the present quiet is only the calm before a storm.

Net Weight Bill Passed. Plain labeling of food packages with the net weight and contents before they are sold to the public is required by a bill passed by the senate, which already had passed the house. Slight changes made by the senate will require a conference committee of the two houses before the measure is sent to President Taft for signature.

The proposed law would require the net weight and measure of the food product to be conspicuously displayed on the outside of each package.

Webb Bill Not to Affect Individual. The right of an individual residing in a "dry" state to import liquor for his own use will not be restrained or interfered with if President Taft approves the Webb liquor-shipment bill which recently passed both houses of congress. According to the advocates of the bill, the individual citizen living in "dry" territory will have all the privileges he had prior to the passage of this bill, so long as he does not attempt to import liquor for sale contrary to the law of the state within which he lives. This being true, as the friends of the bill assert, this measure has been greatly misunderstood.

Women Worry Congressmen. It is a serious job to be a member of congress these days, according to complaints that are resounding throughout the capitol. The burden of the legislators' trouble is the suffragist and the anti-suffragist controversy. All congressmen have been invited to march with the votes for women advocates on March 3. All have likewise been quietly informed by the anti that close watch will be kept on their suffrage activity. The situation does not bother members from equal suffrage states, but it is giving those from other commonwealths a lot of trouble to decide which camps they will favor.

The anti-suffragists are conducting a "lobbying" campaign at the capitol which adds to the woes of the legislators.

Deficiency is Biggest in Many Years. Preparation of the biggest general deficiency appropriation bill in many years was begun by the house appropriations committee. It will carry about \$25,000,000, against \$7,000,000 last year.

Deficits in appropriations of pensions of \$15,000,000 will be included in the forthcoming bill. This deficit is caused by the operations of the new Sherwood \$1-a-day service pension law. Another huge deficit is in the preliminary operation of the parcel post.

National Capital Brevities. Both houses listened to the reading of Washington's farewell message on Washington's birthday.

The death of the commerce court March 4th was decreed by the conference report on the legislative bill.

High officers of the navy department have recommended to Secretary Meyer that the battleship Oregon be "scrapped," or sold for junk. The senate interstate commerce committee voted to report favorably the La Follette-Adamson bill for the physical valuation of railroads and all interstate commerce carriers.

Laurence O. Murray, controller of the currency, has announced that he intended to stop the practice by national banks of paying dividends when their earnings did not warrant it. Judiciary committee favorably reported a bill making it a prison offense to destroy irrigation ditches and another increasing bonds of U. S. marshals from \$40,000 to \$100,000.

Supreme Court of the United States. The chief of engineers at Washington, D. C., has approved the report of Major McIndoe to the effect that the reversion on the Willamette river near Independence has more than fulfilled expectations, but he holds that damage to the river banks farther down, where the river has cut into valuable hop lands, should be repaired by local interests and not by the government.

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