

RITNER SHOWS MUCH ABILITY AS EXECUTIVE

Budget Work During Coming Legislature to Benefit.

APPROPRIATIONS BIG

Veto Axe Can Be Wielded But Little Without Doing Real Damage to State — Institutional Needs Are Seen

(Special to The Bulletin.)
SALEM, Dec. 21.—It has been a long time since Eastern Oregon has had a republican governor, so long in fact that some people have gathered the idea that that section of the state doesn't hold real republican gubernatorial timber. But events should disabuse the minds of those people, for during the past few weeks they have had an opportunity of seeing a real Eastern Oregon republican governor in action, and the consensus of opinion among people who have had a close up on his action is that he is a genuine governor.

Roy Ritner of Pendleton, by virtue of his office as president of the senate, became governor when Governor Olcott left for the governors' conference in the east. When he took hold of the reins, the old horse of state knew that someone was pushing on the lines.

Ritner has had a legislative experience which has stood him in good stead in his comparatively brief period as governor. He knows something, considerable, in fact, about state affairs and state needs.

Experience Aid to State

It just happened that when he stepped into the office, the new budget law was coming into actual and active operation for the first time and this is an important phase of executive work, one of the most important in fact. It was doubly a happy thing that Ritner happened to have a crack at the budget just at this time, as it is highly probable he will be a member of the senate ways and means committee and his work with the budget commission will link in admirably with what he has to do in that capacity.

He hopped into the budget work like an old stager. Making the rounds of the state institutions, he poked his nose into every crack and cranny, went over a line of questions that kept the superintendents and their aides hopping, and applied the acid test to every one of the demands made upon the treasury for improvements and betterments. Ritner knows something about institutional needs at first hand, as the Eastern Oregon hospital, one of the finest in the nation, is located in his back yard, as it were, at Pendleton, and he always has kept a weather eye out for that institution and its affairs.

Sensible Budget Foreseen

The upshot of Ritner's work here, along with that of Sam Kozler's, is that the legislature is going to have laid on its collective desk one of the most carefully worked out financial and budgetary programs that ever aided a bunch of legislators. It will be some aid, too, and if the legis-

five assembly pays proper attention to it, it will be a material aid in putting up a sensible program of institutional and departmental appropriations for the executive to pass upon.

If the legislature follows out the budget commission's program, it is going to be a hard thing for Governor Pierce to wield the veto axe very strongly without doing some real and material damage to the state.

Of course, the budget commission is confronted with the fact that there are a large number of appropriations provided for by law, which it cannot touch, and which it must include in the budget whether it wants to or not. If the legislature allows these appropriations to stand, they might make juicy meat for the executive axe. But they cannot be charged up against the budget committee, as they have nothing to do but to include them in the budget under mandate of the law.

To Recognize Needs

As far as the institutions are concerned, and as far as the care of their wards is concerned, the budget committee is going to see that every essential is taken care of. It is not going to allow any holler to affect the real needs of the state. So if the incoming governor tackles the institutional appropriations with the veto, providing those appropriations are along the lines of the budget commission's recommendations, he is going to cause suffering and hardships for the helpless and the afflicted. Anyone who goes over the budget a few moments and is at all familiar with the state's needs can spot that fact in a moment.

As a matter of truth, anyone who knows anything about state affairs whatever, knows that tax savings cannot be made to any material degree by attacking institutional and departmental functions. No doubt, or beyond the question of a doubt, some money can be saved in the departments of state. Beyond a doubt, in the minds of those who know, no money can be saved by hitting at the institutions. It is not considered true economy in the minds of those who have the real interests of the state at heart, to lop off the necessities of life from a helpless, insane man or an imbecile in the feeble minded institution. As well as our institutions are operating, it is apt to study them for any length of time that they are not running well enough, simply from the fact they never have had enough money. There are hundreds of feeble minded children about the state, hundreds of feeble minded adults, who are not in the state institution because there is no room for them. The result is that these types are procreating their kind, rolling up more potential criminals and imbeciles for the state to care for in the future, and while the state is saving pennies in refusing to place its institution on a basis of adequate facilities, it is laying up against coming generations a heavy tax charge, and a series of crimes. This class of people is certain to produce a large percentage of criminals and degenerates. As long as they are loose on society they will indulge in their practices and more than one child now lying in its cradle will be the victim of such degeneracy when the time comes.

Commission Conservative

It need not be argued from these statements that the budget commission has indulged in any riot of extravagance for the state institutions. Because it has not. It has outlined a sober, sensible policy which provides for a fair share of progress, at

POST SELECTS 1923 OFFICERS

Commander and Chaplain Only Uncontested Honors in Election

Election of officers for the coming year, and preparations for Christmas in the way of assisting any ex-service men who might be found to be destitute, constituted the chief business to come before Percy A. Stevens, Nost No. 4, American Legion, at its meeting at the gymnasium last week. All offices were contested, with the exception of commander, for which Dr. L. W. Gatchell was the only nominee, and chaplain, with Rev. F. H. Beard as the only member qualified to be a candidate.

S. R. Brown was chosen vice commander, M. Connolly adjutant, John Runge finance officer, and Roy Van Vleet, F. H. Beard, Jack Wright, E. H. Kennedy and Craig Coyner members of the executive committee.

Luncheon was served following the business session.

WEDDING IS HELD ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Miss Isabel Smith and Alfred Hunnell, both of Bend, were married on Sunday evening at the Methodist parsonage by Rev. F. R. Sibley. They will make their home in Bend. Hunnell is employed at the Bend Garage, and Mrs. Hunnell has been employed at Stockton's variety store.

the same time guarding against any unwarranted expenditures. If anything, it has cut off some warranted expenditures for the sake of holding down expense.

In addition to his budget commission duties, Governor Ritner has had a busy few weeks of it, tackling the various problems confronting him with all of the ardor of an Eastern Oregon buckaroo. The few weeks have developed the fact that he is a man of executive ability and capacity, with a quick thinking, analytical mind, a mind which is not particularly swayed by what other people are saying or thinking as long as he happens to think he is doing the right thing, and when he decides to do a thing he does it and that is the end of it. He then hops along to the next one and does that.

He has used the executive prerogative to pardon offenders in a number of instances. Each of these has been upon the recommendation of the judge and district attorney who tried the case, and in each instance if you ask the prison officials who have been in close touch with the man pardoned, they will tell you he did a good job. And these self same prison officials are not a soft hearted set by any manner of means. They are about as hard boiled as they make 'em when it comes to analyzing convicts and their attributes.

All told, Eastern Oregon has demonstrated quite forcibly and certainly, within a few weeks' time, that it has the climate, the soil and the possibilities for producing good gubernatorial timber when called upon to do so. And that isn't said for the purpose of opening a Ritner gubernatorial boom. It is just a simple fact.

Recorder Scores Hung Jury; Declares Results Of Cases In Bend A Public Scandal

"Results secured in criminal cases in Bend have become a public scandal," Recorder Ross Farnham told the jury in the John Turner case Friday night after the six men hearing the evidence had remained out for five and one-half hours and then come in to report a three to three disagreement. Turner had been charged with permitting minors to gamble in the back room of his Wall street establishment.

Farnham recalled to the jury that in the last four cases tried in Bend courts, disagreements or acquittals had resulted, and allowed it to be plainly understood that he considered the evidence against Turner sufficient to warrant a conviction.

Turner, on the stand, admitted that boys had played cards in the rear room of his shop, the winners securing chocolate bars. The boys were not gambling, however, he contended. He just didn't seem to be able to keep the boys away from the place, he declared, stating that at one time no less than 38 had been crowded into the tiny back room.

Other testimony was to the effect that gambling for money had gone on, but that the players had been cautioned against passing currency over the table.

Members of the jury were L. B. Baird, W. H. Staats, J. J. Klein, R. H. McCann, George Hoover and P. B. Johnson.

SCHOOL NEEDS IN U. S. GREAT

Country Far Behind in Education, Declares Commissioner

(By United Press to The Bend Bulletin.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—This country is so far behind in providing educational facilities for its children that "it is letting the school that was good enough for our fathers suffice for the children of today," according to John J. Tigert, United States commissioner of education.

"The present school building shortage is nothing short of a disgrace to the nation," Tigert said.

Among the defects cited by the

commissioner in an appeal for better school buildings are: Old, dilapidated structures, half of them dating back more than 25 years; lack of fire proof construction; serious congestion; lack of necessary adjuncts for a rounded education, such as gymnasiums, shops, science and cooking rooms.

"One school building of every four now in use was built more than 34 years ago," Tigert declared.

"Hundreds of thousands of children are housed in portable, rented buildings, stores and lofts. Thousands more are sitting for four or five hours a day in badly lighted, inadequately ventilated basements, three feet or more below street level.

"Only 5 per cent of all the school buildings are of fire proof construction. Every week in the year a school building is burned or partly destroyed.

"Seventy-five per cent of the cities

in 1920 reported congestions. Hundreds of thousands are on half time. "These are unpleasant facts. But they are facts that need to be stated because the crisis is serious."

ISMET PASHA ASKS MANDATE

Turkish Envoy Would Hasten Negotiations to End War

(By United Press to The Bend Bulletin.)

LAUSANNE, Dec. 26.—When the peace conference resumed its deliberations after the Christmas recess, Ismet Pasha sent a message to the Angora government asking for a mandate, declaring unless he is released from flat orders not to give ground on disputed points, peace is impossible.

Settlement of some disputed points is expected before the new year, but the conference desparts of signing any document before mid January.

Scotch "Howlers"

Here are some new "howlers" quoted in the Provincial, the magazine of the Edinburgh Provincial Training college: "Socrates died of an overdose of wedlock." "A marmoset is an animal with a pouch in its stomach, into which it retired when hard pressed." "An epitaph is a short, sarcastic poem." "Beckett met Henry on the altar steps and said, 'What ho, King!' Henry severely massacred him."

Some Fail to Recognize Truth.

Thou dost give audience everywhere, O Truth, to all who ask counsel of thee, and at once answerest, though on manifold matters they ask thy counsel. Clearly dost thou answer, though all do not hear.—St. Augustine.

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