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County Official Paper
FOR
Harney County.

The

Times-Gerald.

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(CONSOLIDATED JULY 22, 1896.)

BURNS, HARNEY COUNTY, OREGON, OCTOBER 5, 1896.

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Synopsis of Governor's Message.

As our space is somewhat limited we cannot give the message Gov. Lord presented to the legislature last week, but the following is a very complete synopsis:

Our country has reached a critical period in history. The next few years will mark an advance or retrograde movement in its destiny. Momentous issues have grown out of the Spanish war. The construction of the Nicaraguan canal has become imperative, and the disposition of the Philippines, Cuba and Porto Rico is a question demanding the best brains and the wisest statesmanship.

The Pacific coast is vitally interested, and Oregon needs a senator at Washington of experience, capacity and courage. These matters will probably be passed upon this winter, so the election of a senator should not wait until the regular session.

The failure of the legislature to organize in 1897 left the state without appropriations, and forced it to run on credit. Consequently many warrants were drawn, vouchers issued and claims filed. This business should be disposed of and not left for the regular session, when two appropriation bills would afford a chance to raid the treasury with dicker and robbery.

The business of the supreme court has grown so rapidly that the docket is behind two years. A law is recommended authorizing the supreme court to appoint three commissioners, for a term of four years to assist the court in hearing and deciding cases.

Attention is called to the invitation of the French republic to participate in the world's fair in 1900.

The governor states that a contract was made in 1895 with J. Loewenberg and the Northwestern stove foundry, for the sale of convict labor and lease of the state stove foundry, but Loewenberg has defaulted in payments, and immediate attention is necessary to secure the large amounts due.

GENERAL CONSIDERATION.

I have purposely refrained from recommending any new legislation except the organization of a commissioners' court, which the exigencies of the public service require without delay. In this case I have done so because I know there are few evils which affect the people of the state so seriously and injuriously as delay in the administration of justice. The bill of rights of our state, and of every free state, recognizes the evils resulting from such delay, and the necessity of their prompt removal, whatever may be the source from which they spring by declaring that "justice shall be administered openly and without purchase, completely and without delay." I do not wish, however, to be understood as being averse to new legislation, or as doubting your authority to enact it, whether general or special.

Owing to a senatorial contest, which only ended with the election of a senator in the expiring hours of its session, the legislative assembly of 1897 failed to enact much remedial legislation demanded by the people in the platforms of their different parties, and needed to correct existing evils, and the legislative assembly of 1897 failing to organize, there has been but little opportunity for legislation, and practically none of importance has been enacted, though the public interests have greatly suffered in consequence thereof since the legislative session of 1897. Much legislation especially of a remedial character, which properly belonged to those sessions, and still is needed for the protection of the public interests, must be considered by your body at its next regular session, in addition to its own legislative belongings, thereby greatly increasing your

labors and responsibilities. It is always desirable that legislation affecting large classes of society in person or property should be examined with deliberation and discussed with fullness, before enactment into law. In this way whatever defects lurk within the terms of a statute are likely to be discovered and eliminated, and whatever amendments are necessary for its improvement or efficiency may be suggested and added.

The vicious habits sometimes indulged by legislative bodies, of hurrying important measures through their different readings, and especially appropriation bills containing obnoxious clauses, without investigation or discussion is subversive of the time-honored custom of open debate, and injurious to the public good.

To afford you time and opportunity for the full consideration of all important matters, the regular session ought to be relieved of those urgent matters of public interest, which need prompt legislative attention by extra session.

The Legislature.

The special session of the Oregon legislature organized in both branches on Monday Sept. 26, Joseph Simon was elected president of the Senate and E. V. Carter, of Jackson county, speaker of the house. The other officers of the senate are: chief clerk, S. L. Moore; head of Junction, assistant chief clerk, J. F. Yates, of Multnomah; reading clerk, J. D. Lee of Multnomah; calendar clerk, Frank C. Middleton of Multnomah; sergeant-at-arms, J. S. Purdon, of Grants Pass. The other officers of the house are: chief clerk, A. C. Jennings; assistant chief clerk, A. V. R. Snyder; sergeant-at-arms, Frank Matter; doorkeeper, A. D. Griffin; calendar clerk, M. P. Eisenberg; clerk, D. B. McKay.

Pingree's anxiety to be Senator did not prevent his reaching out for the gubernatorial nomination.

Any old doctor can tell how our soldiers get typhoid fever, but telling how to get rid of it is another matter altogether.

"Teddy" Roosevelt will find his rough riding experiences useful as he tackles the rough places in the road to the governorship of New York.

If you want a piano or organ write the Jacobsen Book and Music Co. The Dalles, Oregon, for prices, raised in Burns.

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Everything Cheap for Cash.

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