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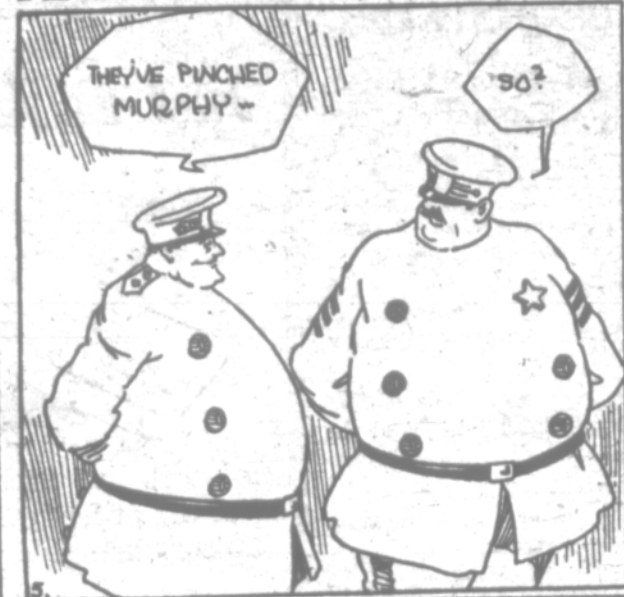
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REVIEW OF WORK OF OREGON LEGISLATURE

Income Tax and Tithing Measures Sponsored by Governor Patterson.

Tithing Bill Hits Game and Highway Funds—Requires Schools to Teach 180 Days—Pneumatic Tires for All Trucks Proposed—Congress Memorialized to Protect Crops.

Salem.—As a result of Governor Patterson's message to the legislature last week outlining his plan for solving the state's financial difficulties, practically all revenue bills have been sidetracked and attention centered on the revenue bills sponsored by the governor.

In his message the governor suggested an income tax with a graduated rate, the maximum not to exceed 3 per cent. To meet the present emergency until an income tax can operate he advised that 5 per cent be taken from the revenues of self-sustaining boards and commissions during 1927 and thereafter 2 1/2 per cent.

When the legislature assembled Monday bills to carry out the governor's ideas were ready for attention. The income tax bill provides exemptions of \$1,000 for single, and \$2,000 for married persons and corporations and \$400 for each dependent, with a graduated schedule from one to three per cent. The measure is to be referred to the people at a special election this year. The bill is expected to raise \$2,000,000.

Income Tax Reaction Favorable
Generally speaking, the reaction to the income tax recommendation is favorable among the members both of senate and house.

Under the tithing bill, which levies 5 per cent on the revenues of state boards and commissions during 1927 and 2 1/2 per cent thereafter, it is believed that the fish and game funds and the highway funds would contribute most of the income of \$1,000,000 fixed by Secretary of State Koser as the probable charge during 1927 and 1928. There will undoubtedly be some objection among highway enthusiasts over the prospect of using highway

money for general state purposes. Some members fear the proposed tithing tax, as far as the highway department was concerned, might result disastrously, as the greater part of the highway funds already were obligated for new construction, and for that reason, virtually the entire 5 per cent tax, as it affected the highway department, would fall upon that portion of the receipts available for new construction.

Building Program Totals \$2,200,000
The building program of the state of Oregon for the current biennium, as far as approved by the joint ways and means committee, aggregates \$2,200,000. This figure does not include a number of other proposed improvements such as additions to existing state buildings and necessary repairs.

The number of holidays that may be celebrated by schools of the state would be limited by Representative Paulson's bill, which requires that all public schools throughout the state shall hold at least eight months of classes and must teach 180 days exclusive of holidays.

All lands registered under the Torrens land act are restored to the regular method of recording titles, under provisions of a house bill introduced by Representative Clark. The bill provides that all records of deeds are directed, without payment of any fees therefor, to proceed immediately to record in the regular deed and mortgage records all deeds, leases, assignments and partial releases thereof and other instruments in their offices registered under the provisions of the Torrens act.

Portland State Building Proposed
A state office building for Portland, to cost \$600,000, and to be a substitute for the proposed structure of the same cost provided for at Salem in another bill, is the object of a house bill introduced by Loneragan, Rushlight and Olson. It is proposed that the building be financed by borrowed funds from the industrial accident commission's reserve.

Fearing there might be the result of harming the highway program wrapped up in Senator Eddy's bill to relieve counties of a share of the cost of constructing highway crossings over railway lines, the house recalled it from the senate, after having passed it.

As is done at practically every legislative session a committee made up of house and senate members will confer with a like committee from the Washington legislature relative to fishing rights on the Columbia river between the two states.

The secretary of agriculture, under a memorial introduced by Senator Miller and adopted by the senate, would take steps to have the state of California complete unfinished federal highways. It was explained that the state has completed its main trunk lines, but that the connecting roads in northern California remain unfinished. The house adopted a senate concurrent resolution by Senators Eddy, Corbett, Banks, Beale, Davis, G. W. Dunn, Hall, Upton, Joseph and J. E. Dunne, requesting congress immediately to repeal the federal tax on inheritances and leave that field entirely to the various states of the Union.

Auto Licenses Cut
The names of Senator Upton and Speaker Carlin of the house are on a senate bill providing that after an automobile has been licensed three consecutive years the regular license fee on the vehicle shall be cut in half.

The judiciary committee of the senate introduced a bill which would repeal the law requiring that men receive physical examination when securing marriage licenses.

New requirements for teachers before certificates to teach shall be issued to them, and higher standards for the profession, are sought to be established in a house bill. A bill was introduced by Representative Howard removing trucks with solid tires, having a rated capacity of more than 3 1/2 tons, from highway of the state. This would permit operation of such trucks until after January 1, 1929, the interim giving opportunity to make the desired changes by owners of vehicles affected. Such trucks after the date set must be equipped with pneumatic tires by the terms of the bill.

Would Increase Members' Pay
An increase in the salary of members of the legislature is proposed in a house joint resolution calling for a change in the constitution to permit the payment of \$8 daily instead of \$3 as at present. The lawmakers at this session have voted \$6 daily to each member in addition to the legal \$3 per diem for "expenses." The senate rejected a house resolution providing for appointment of a committee of the Oregon legislature

to confer with similar committees from the Washington and California legislatures with regard to a uniform income tax.

A state motor vehicle department independent of the secretary of state's office was proposed in a bill introduced by the roads and highways committee of the senate. The bill authorizes the employment of a motor vehicle commissioner at a salary of \$3500 a year.

Motorists who invite their friends for a ride but who later face suits for damages if they have an accident and injure their guests may not be sued for personal liability if the bill introduced in the house by Representative Graham becomes a law.

Complete Roosevelt Highway
Forcing the state highway commission to sell sufficient bonds to finish the Roosevelt highway and expedite completion of that road along the coast, is the purpose of a senate joint resolution fathered by Norblad and Hall.

County judges from many sections of the state appeared before the house roads and highways committee and protested against the passage of house bill 150, providing that cities should receive 70 per cent of the taxes levied within their boundaries for road purposes.

The senate by a vote of 17 to 9 favored submitting to the electorate of Oregon a resolution introduced by Representative Collier providing that all persons who vote at an election in this state shall be registered. The resolution was previously adopted by the house.

Representative Cramer's proposal to authorize the county commissioners of the various counties to fix the salaries of all county officers and employees except their own failed to meet ap

proval of the senate committee on judiciary which reported it out unfavorably. The senate accepted the report and killed the bill without debate.

Eggs may be sold by weight by the terms of a bill introduced in the house by the Marion county delegation. The present law requires grading of eggs.

Textbook Report Adopted
The textbook commission last November "were in all respects regular and free from any fraud or bad faith on the part of either the state commission or any member thereof or any representatives of any of the publishing companies," according to a report of the special senate committee named to investigate the textbook situation. The senate adopted the report of the committee.

A memorial urging congress to enact legislation for the protection of agricultural products along the line of the McNary-Haugen bill has been adopted by both houses.

The early morning hours until 5 o'clock may be spent in dancing in the counties of smaller population will be the effect of a house bill introduced by Peirce. The present law prohibits this pastime after midnight. The administration measure to raise salaries of the governor's secretary, chief clerks in the office of the secretary of state and state treasurer on the pay of the state tax commission passed the house.

An able statistician has figured out that the morning's milk supply, lined up in bottles on both sides of the road, would reach from New York to San Francisco. And if the statistician happened to be a father of a new baby his bottle would be the one flush up against the Golden Gate.

U. S. PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCE FAVORED

President Coolidge Asks Appropriation to Attend Geneva Economic Meet.

Washington, D. C.—American participation in the Geneva economic conference called by the league of nations was recommended to the senate by President Coolidge.

Requesting an appropriation of \$15,000, for the expenses of delegates to the conference, which will begin May 4, the president said that "this country should stand ready to aid in the study of means to promote economic progress." His recommendation went also to the house, and with it Mr. Coolidge forwarded a copy of the invitation from the council of the league of nations and called attention that delegates to the conference "cannot in any way bind their governments and will not be qualified to act as spokesmen of an official policy."

The president said that the preparatory committee which laid plans for the conference set forth its purposes as "intended to organize a general consultation, in the course of which the various programs and doctrines may be freely exposed without the freedom of discussion being restricted by any immediate necessity to transform the conclusions of the conference into international engagements."

High Above Sea Level
Measurements made of the heights of clouds at Melbourne show the highest cirrus clouds to be from 20,000 to 42,000 feet above sea level.

W. C. BRYANT

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