

The Aurora Observer

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Geo. E. Knapp, Editor and Publisher



EDITORIAL
Opinions of the
Observer.

It is hard to prophesy what the world is coming to when we read of such orgies as that recently taking place in Portland, when the police broke into a residence and arrested four boys and four girls, all of whom had been freely indulging in moonshine. The conditions were such that even the police, who are accustomed to come upon vice in its worst form, declared them "Unspeakeable." Just what can be done to remedy the evil already done no man can say. But it is not over this particular case that we have to worry; it is the cause and conditions which give rise to this sort of thing; there is evidently something radically wrong in our system of education. Human kind is like a flock of sheep, always ready to follow the bellwether. The precept of the parent, the example of the elders may do much, if properly exercised through out the youth of the child, but a direct law or series of laws and penalties would be without avail. One must build up the morals of the entire community. It is eminently important to shunt aside all forms of fast life and extravagance. The enforcement of a law prohibiting the use of liquor is inadequate. The provision excluding the sale and use of cigarettes to minors would be alike useless. One must go deeper than the surface and build up a morale amongst all the people which shall cause them to think well and long of the ultimate outcome of tendencies to vice and crime developed in early years, which will lead every right thinking man and woman to demand the curb on all forms of entertainment or pleasure which may by any chance lead to the taste for loose thoughts and unworthy acts. The churches can be of great help in building up this morale, but it will take the utmost efforts of the church and all other beneficial organizations to route the devil from his present stronghold.

The Joint Ways and Means Committee at the State Legislature last Thursday evening made a beginning toward tax reduction along certain lines. It is true the amount lopped off from budgets proposed, 28,000, is a mere bagatelle when compared with the whole amount sought, but now they have set their hands to the wheel, perhaps they will find other places where retrenchments can be made without absolutely crippling the efficiency of the service. Following is what was done: \$7,522.28 cut from the budget commission's recommendation for the Oregon Agricultural extension service under the Smith-Lever act after a battle of nearly two hours. Cut \$2,540 from the request for the state department of education. Cut \$7,500 from the budget commission's recommendation for the state library after acrimonious fight. Approved full amount of \$469.50 asked for the state board of higher curricula. Approved full amount of \$6,500 asked for publication of Oregon Blue Book. Approved full amount of \$20,231 asked for State Historical Society. Cut \$10,500 from budget recommendation for dairy and food commission. Allowed full amount of \$12,000 asked for the state board of horticulture, approved two appropriation bills of \$5,000 each and disapproved one of \$4,000 pertaining to that department. Allowed full amount of \$876 asked State Horticultural society. Total cuts made \$28,062.

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Prosperous Year Ahead

Employing over two million people at good wages, spending millions each week for materials and supplies, the railroads are a good barometer of business. The number of freight cars ordered for use in the United States in 1922 amounted to 180,154, the largest total since 1912, contrasting with only 23,346 and 84,207 cars in years 1921 and 1920 respectively.

Locomotives ordered for domestic service in 1922 totaled 2,600, the largest figure since 1918 as compared with only 239 in 1921 and 1998 locomotives in 1920.

Altogether, it is estimated that the railroads contracted for the expenditure of more than \$471,224,000 during the year for freight and passenger cars and locomotives combined. The average cost of freight cars is now said to be about \$1,700, passenger cars about \$22,000 and locomotives about \$50,000.

Orders for equipment for 1923 are still larger than for 1922, and with no national shop strike, coal strike or Big Four Brotherhood strikes ahead, our country may expect increasing prosperity.—Ind. News Bureau.

Notice of Final Account

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned administratrix of the estate of Carl Louis Bernicke, deceased, has filed her final account, as such administratrix, in the County Court of Marion County, State of Oregon, and that the Court thereof has fixed Monday the 19th day of February 1923 at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m., at the Court room of said Court, in the County Court house at Salem, Marion County, State of Oregon, as the time and place for hearing of objections to said final report and the settlement thereof.

ALMA CAMPBELL,
Administratrix of the estate of Carl Louis Bernicke, deceased.
Napoleon Davis, Aurora, Oregon,
Attorney for Administratrix.
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Public Sales

We have purchased 122,000 pair U. S. Army Munson last shoes, sizes 5½ to 12 which was the entire surplus stock of one of the largest U. S. Government shoe contractors.

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NO CHANCE TO AID SEEN BY AMERICA

Washington, D. C.—Administration officials have seen no sign in European advices to the government that the time has yet come when the United States could be helpful in the reparations crisis. Both at the White House and the state department emphasis was laid on the tenseness of the situation in the Ruhr.

It was pointed out by authorized spokesmen for the government that while the French purpose to proceed by forcible means in the Ruhr remained unchanged, and the German resolve not to discuss the situation in any way with France while the forces of occupation remained in Germany territory was unshaken, outside proposals of any sort were futile. The administration, it was asserted, has no intention of becoming involved in any project doomed to failure from the start.

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16 BILLS PASSED IN 4 WEEKS AT SALEM

With But Two Weeks of Session Left Legislature Must Speed Up.

Salem.—Both houses resumed work Monday after the usual week-end adjournment with but two weeks in which to accomplish most of the real work. While the various committees have been busy whipping proposed legislation into shape and a number of measures of minor importance have received attention in either house, the consolidation program and income tax legislation, the two most important issues to be acted upon at this session, had not been passed upon by either house.

After being in session four weeks only sixteen bills had passed both houses, all of minor importance, with the possible exception of the Roosevelt highway bonding bill, a measure sponsored by the coast counties, which in effect continues the Roosevelt highway act of 1921. It will require diligent work on the part of both houses if their calendars are cleared before the forty day constitutional limitation expires.

Hall Bill Tabled

With the tabling of the Hall bill in the senate the issue of consolidation of state departments stalled in the senate last week. The Hall bill, passage of which was urged by Governor Pierce, was laid on the table by a vote of 17 to 11, and it is generally believed this action means the death of the bill, so far as the senate is concerned.

Senator Corbett introduced a consolidation bill, which in effect brings all the functions of the state government under the supervision of the governor, secretary of state and state treasurer, who sit as a commission of three to administer state affairs. Representative Carlin, who joined with Senator Johnson in the introduction of a consolidation bill in both houses, has prepared a consolidation bill of his own, which differs radically from the Corbett bill, in that it leaves the secretary of state and state treasurer out of the scheme entirely and divests these two constitutional officers of all the authority and duties they now have in connection with the administration of state business as members of the board of control.

The sentiment in both houses seems to be in favor of rearrangement of the state government, and efforts will be made to harmonize the conflicting views.

Income Tax Compromise Likely.
Income tax legislation made no progress during the past week, but a compromise measure is in the making and it is believed the various factions will be able to get together on a bill that will be acceptable to the legislators.

The McMahon bill, which was the administration income tax measure, is being used as the basis for the compromise. Amendments have been drawn which are said to have the approval of Governor Pierce.

Many bills dealing with assessment and taxation have been introduced and they are still in committee. There are 35 such measures in the hands of the house committee and 16 in the senate committee, so that in the joint committee on assessment and taxation there are 51 bills. These include all the measures intended to remedy some of the ills of the taxpayer. And more are promised.

There is little prospect of a severance tax, such as Governor Pierce suggested in his campaign. The governor wanted a severance tax on timber on land not now on the tax roll. The severance tax bill which has appeared in the house places a tax on all natural resources in the state, above or under ground and in the water. It goes far beyond anything the governor wanted.

Road legislation has received little attention so far and irrigation, which was expected to be a center of interest, has scarcely been mentioned.

Allen Land Bill Passed.

With only one dissenting voice raised in objection the American Legion's anti-allen land holding bill passed the house.

Representative Fletcher of Polk county opposed the passage of the bill on the ground that it would drive out a valuable type of farm laborer which could not be replaced by Americans, since they will not do the menial labor now performed by Japanese.

The bill prevents the owning or leasing of land by aliens not eligible to citizenship.

By an emphatic negative vote, the house killed a house bill providing for the retirement of judges of the supreme court of Oregon and payment for the remainder of their lives of two-thirds of the salaries they draw at the time of retirement. The retirement qualifications were that the retiring judge should have served at least 25 years as a judge, of which time 10

years must have been as a supreme court justice.

Hurd's bill to prevent motion picture distributors from forcing contracts on exhibitors of motion pictures fixing the price on films passed the house.

Hurd said the bill was designed to protect the small movie man, who, he declared, is unable to keep his house open and maintain the charges often demanded by distributors.

The house by unanimous vote gave its approval to house bill 231, which in effect provides that where places handling foodstuffs are found by the dairy and food commissioner to be unsanitary, changes shall be ordered and the inspector shall post a notice upon such establishment, truck or vehicle to the effect that it is condemned for further use because of such unsanitary condition, "which notice shall not be removed from any such establishment, place, truck or vehicle until the same has been put in a sanitary condition."

Marriage Bill Defeated.

By a vote of 18 to 11, the senate defeated the Klepper bill providing that persons desiring to marry should file a written application with the county clerk at least ten days before issuance of the license. The bill originally provided that the application should be filed 30 days prior to the issuance of the license, but this section of the measure was amended to read ten days.

One of the administration law enforcement measures, the Eddy bill creating a fund for use of the governor, passed the senate with only Ellis and Hare voting against it.

The bill provides that 75 per cent of the fines collected from violations of the prohibition law go to the counties for law enforcement purposes and 25 per cent to the state treasurer for use of the governor in employing special agents and for other expense of law enforcement.

The bill has the emergency clause. Senator Eddy's bill making farmers liable for damage to highways by moving farm machinery over them has passed the senate. Under the bill, the farmer may obtain consent of the county court or the highway commission and if he complies with the rules laid down by them is not liable for damages. Also, he may use the highway for moving his machinery without asking permission, but in that case he is liable for damage.

Market Commission Proposed.
A state market commission of three members to be appointed by the governor, two of whom shall be real farmers, is provided for in a bill sponsored by Senator Zimmerman.

The commission would be entrusted with the dissemination of information on marketing conditions, would be required to co-operate with existing agencies in the promotion of marketing of farm products and would have jurisdiction over all warehouses, commission merchants and other agencies engaged in the distribution of farm products.

Senators Smith, Taylor, Lafollette, Strayer and Zimmerman introduced a bill that would make the millage tax levy for Oregon Agricultural college and the University of Oregon cover various extension and experiment activities of those institutions as well as the institutions themselves. For the Oregon Agricultural college, the bill would set aside \$238,099.37 annually for this purpose as a continuing appropriation and for the state university the sum of \$185,528.75, the amounts to be subtracted from the millage levy proceeds. The annual millage levy for the support of the two institutions is 1.2 mills.

Appropriations totaling \$1,177,585.28 have so far been approved by the joint ways and means committee of the state legislature. Cuts in requested appropriations that have been made by the committee total \$40,053.23, including a recommendation that the department of weights and measures, that asks an appropriation of \$10,000, be abolished.

Legislative Brevities.

The Roosevelt highway bill was signed by Governor Pierce.

The house committee on assessment and taxation reported without recommendation the Lewis bill, which would tax all church property.

Governor Pierce signed Representative W. F. Woodward's anti-sectarian garb bill. The measure inhibits the wearing of a sectarian garb by teachers in the public school.

Armistice Day, Columbus Day and Lincoln's Birthday will be added to the list of legal holidays in Oregon if a bill which has been passed by the senate banking committee becomes a law.

The Oregon legislators will journey to Mary Hill farm, on the Washington side of the Columbia river, 100 miles east of Portland, Sunday, February 11, where they will be the guests of Sam Hill, well known good roads enthusiast, in a trip over the Columbia highway and an inspection of the power possibilities of the Columbia river. Acceptance of the invitation followed immediately upon its extension by Mr. Hill, who was introduced to the lawmakers by Governor Pierce as "the world's most noted private citizen."



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NORTH BOUND

No. 16 (on flag) 7:49 a. m.
No. 28 (Stop) 10:15 a. m.
No. 18 (Stop) 2:30 p. m.
No. 24 (Stop) 8:13 p. m.

SOUTH BOUND

No. 23 (Stop) 9:09 a. m.
No. 17 (Stop) 2:41 p. m.
No. 27 (on flag) 6:10 p. m.

Dr. C. Ammeter DENTIST

Has established his Dental office in the Aurora Bank Building, where he will be present each Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, from 9 a. m. to 6 p. m.

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