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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager

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SWORN CIRCULATION. Daily average for six months ending December 31, 1910, 2721.

GRANTS PASS TO EXTEND PAVING

With Coming of Spring Petitions are Being Circulated in Neighboring City Asking That Hard Surface Streets Be Increased.

GRANTS PASS, Feb. 11.—During the past week property owners in the First ward have been busy filling in and circulating petitions to the city council for various street improvements.

It is conceded that nothing short of a first-class hard-surface pavement will do for the downtown blocks, but B street from Sixth to Merline road, Fifth street from F to Evelyn avenue, Third from F to Evelyn and a portion of Fourth street are being considered for some kind of macadam.

City Engineer Holson, who recently spent some time making examination of about 20 kinds of pavement and macadam in California, is preparing plans and specifications for the kind of improvement best adapted to our conditions, so that when the question comes up to his office no time may be lost in preparing for actual work.

WANT SUPERVISOR TO ASSIST SCHOOL HEADS

SALEM, Or., Feb. 11.—Supervisors to assist county school superintendents by visiting county schools and instructing the teachers is provided for in a bill which passed the senate yesterday.

SENATE COMES TO AID OF FAMINE RIDDEN CHINA

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 11.—The senate today adopted a joint resolution authorizing the secretary of war to use an army transport to forward Red Cross supplies to the famine sufferers in China.

Can Play Sunday Ball.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 11.—Sunday baseball has received legislative approval. A bill making the playing of the national game on the Sabbath optional with city councils and county commissioners has been passed by the state legislature.

SEVEN HUNDRED BILLS IN FORTY DAYS

THE present legislature has not done much to justify its existence. If we had quadrennial sessions instead of biennial, the state would probably be as well off—perhaps better.

A large part of the legislature's time has been taken up with peanut politics—a frantic effort to embarrass the administration instead of calmly considering the real needs of the state.

But five days more remain—and none of the really important measures yet passed. The appropriation bills are still to come.

Some seven hundred and more bills have been introduced, for consideration and action, in the forty days of the session. How many of these 700 bills get the time and attention needed?

Last fall the people, after some four or five months consideration, voted upon 32 measures, and we are asked to pity the poor people with such a gigantic task on their hands. Yet we expect the legislature to consider 700 measures in 40 days and no one thinks it a great task.

The legislature is lacking in leaders and ability. This is to be expected. Every new political movement brings untrained minds to the front. Lawyers of skill and eloquence are lacking—that is because most lawyers, by their training, are reactionaries and stand patters.

If leaders of acknowledged ability will not champion progressive measures, the people will elect unknown men who will, it is the principle rather than the man in Oregon. If the newly elect do not measure up to standard, they will be replaced, until the ability is developed—and the man is always ready when the occasion arises.

Trained politicians of Oregon are nearly all in the standpat element, but by refusing to heed popular desires, they are getting on the shelf to stay and a new school will gradually arise to replace them.

LOW COLONIST RATES

AN army of home seekers will take advantage of the colonist rates this year and the railroads are preparing for the greatest influx on record to the northwest.

Low rate tickets will be sold from March 10 to April 10, from as far east as Boston, as far north as Winnipeg and from all intermediate points. From Missouri river points, the rate will be \$25, from Chicago \$33, from Boston \$49.50.

The immigration from the east to the northwest grows heavier with each year, due largely to the splendid publicity work of the communities and the railroads.

Colonist folders will soon be issued for distribution from Medford and other towns, part of the publicity campaign inaugurated by the Southern Pacific.

FOUR SENATORIAL DEADLOCKS

FOUR deadlocks exist in legislatures of four states over the election of United States senators—in New York, Colorado, Iowa and Montana.

Each of these deadlocks will be accompanied by more or less scandal, corruption and ill will. Each involves a great loss of time on the part of the legislators and a loss of money to the public.

All this would be avoided by popular election of senators. All of it has been avoided under the "Oregon plan." Legislation election of senators has been out grown and should be discarded, just as congressional election of presidents has been long since thrown overboard.

Text of Pierce Rogue Fish Bill

The following is the text of the amended Pierce bill, House Bill No. 218, which nullifies the initiative bill closing the Rogue river to commercial fishing.

For an Act to amend an act entitled "an Act to protect fish in Rogue river; to punish those who violate this act, and to repeal all laws in conflict herewith," adopted Nov. 8, 1910, and became effective on proclamation of the governor Dec. 3, 1910.

Be it enacted by the people of the state of Oregon.

Title—That the title of an act entitled "An act to protect fish in Rogue river; to punish those who violate this act, and to repeal all laws in conflict herewith," be amended to read as follows: "An act to protect fish in Rogue river, and to prohibit the catching of steelheads, providing a closed season for salmon fishing, and regulating the size of net mesh used in fishing in Rogue river, to punish those who violate this act, and to repeal all laws in conflict herewith."

Section 1—That section one be amended to read as follows:

Section 1—It shall be unlawful for any person to take or attempt to take any fish of any kind whatsoever from the waters of Rogue river or any of its tributaries, above the steel bridge that crosses said Rogue river at the foot of Sixth street in the city of Grants Pass in Josephine county, with a seine, net, trap, fish wheel or by any other means except with hook and line commonly called angling, and it shall be unlawful for any per-

son to take or attempt to take any fish known as or commonly called "steelheads" from any of the waters of said Rogue river or any of its tributaries with a seine, net, trap, fish wheel or by any other means except with hook and line commonly called angling.

THE LIMIT OF PRESUMPTION

(Portland Telegram.)

About as big a bit of presumption as ever characterized a legislative body was that of the house yesterday, when a majority of the members voted to override the popular vote on an initiative law.

In Oregon the people claim and have exercised the right to initiate laws. When those laws have been passed by a majority vote of the people, it is just as ridiculous for the legislature to intervene and attempt to override the act as it would be for the same body to override the popular declaration that a certain man had been elected governor.

UNDOING THE PEOPLE'S LAWS

(Portland Evening News.)

The first successful blow aimed at the people's initiative law was delivered yesterday in the lower house of the legislative assembly.

Forgetting its pledge that no attempt would be made to meddle with initiative laws, the house of representatives put itself on record as being superior to the people of Oregon by completely wiping out one of the popular measures passed at the November election.

The passage of Pierce's bill amending the initiative measure for the river law, slams the voters of Oregon in the face, and drives the entering wedge into the whole Oregon system of law making.

The Pierce bill was introduced to protect the selfish interests of the millionaire Humes of San Francisco, who have taken possession of the entire fishing industry at the mouth of Rogue river. When it was first introduced in the house it was immediately referred to a friendly committee which was brought under complete influence of the wealthy non-resident packers.

COMMUNICATIONS.

To the Editor:

In your issue of the tenth instant there occurs under the head lines "Horses trample garden truck" accustomed to trample small unfenced garden patches on Capitol Hill and upper Siskiyou Heights.

The horses referred to do not belong to any man by the name of Taylor. I own horses but they are not running at large and have not during the winter months.

JESSE TAYLOR.

TOLO, Oregon, Feb. 9th, 1911.

To the Editor—I see in your paper under the head of "A Never Ending Dispute" concerning the Rogue River fish bill that was passed by the people at last election.

I have read direct legislation by Rittenhansen of Switzerland, the father of direct legislation and no where in his works does he allow the peoples representatives to use that power, but on the contrary by the referendum gives the people the right and the power to if they chose to set aside and law that is enacted by the legislature.

From the above it will be seen that fishing in the upper river as far as Grants Pass is permitted from April 15 to August 15, and in the lower river from April 5 to August 15 and from September 5 to November 1.

No provision is made to prevent the stretching of nets across the channel or for other safeguards contained in the old laws repealed by the initiative.

WALTER SMITH.

HUNGER CRAZED CHINKS ROB THE FOOD DEPOTS

AMOY, China, Feb. 11.—Hunger-crazed coolies from the famine districts in Hunan province flocked into the country adjacent to Amoy today and robbed the food depots.

Authorities beheaded four men in an effort to check the robberies.

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