

### AMENDMENTS TO MOTHERS' PENSION LAW SCHEDULED

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 18.—With a view to making the mothers' pension law a real instrument for the preservation of the home, the Oregon Congress of Mothers and the Parent-Teacher association have prepared a set of amendments to correct defects in the present law. These amendments, in the shape of a bill, are scheduled to be presented to the senate this afternoon.

To meet the situation arising from a recent decree of the supreme court, giving judges no discretionary power in the administration of the mothers' pension law, the new amendments would make the wording of the law exceedingly specific. If a judge is to be allowed no discretion, say the framers of the bill, they will make the provisions of the law such that he will need no discretionary powers.

#### When Relief Granted.

The most striking of the proposed changes is the provision that relief shall be granted to a mother only when in the absence of such relief she would be required to work regularly away from her home and children, and when by means of such relief she will be enabled to remain at home.

An exception is made that a mother may be absent for work a definite number of days each week, to be specified in order of court, when such work can be done by her without the sacrifice of health or the neglect of home or children.

#### Other Changes Proposed.

Other proposed amendments to the law are that income of immediate members of a family shall be taken into consideration in determining the amount of a pension, that the applicant's home shall not exceed in value \$1,000, that the amount of a mother's income shall be subtracted from the amount of pension she should receive if she had no income, and that a father mentally or physically incapacitated from work must be removed from the home if he is judged a menace to the health or morals of the children.

### PRESIDENT CONFERS ON POWER LAWS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—President Wilson went to the capitol today and conferred in his room there with senators on the water power legislation, which he is anxious to have passed at this session of congress. One of the first he talked with was Senator Bankhead. Yesterday he conferred with house leaders and indicated he would call a conference of senators and representatives interested in the legislation.

There are some radical difficulties to be adjusted in the water power legislation now being framed.

### PORTLAND DEALERS FIX BUTTER PRICES

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 18.—Following open charges that the Portland produce exchange fixed the price of butter and butter fat, regardless of the law of supply and demand, Oregon country creamery managers in session here today started an investigation of the situation. A committee of three was named to wait on the Portland concern and other "qualified interests," and attempt a plan to harmonize the country and city creameries. The country creamery men say if the city managers do not meet them half way, war would be declared. The meeting was attended by John D. Mickle, state dairy and food commissioner, who advised the creamery men that they represent three-fourths of the butter output in the state. "Under present conditions," he told them, "you have a right to doubt whether you will stay in business a year or two longer."

### USE MAIL INSTEAD DEPUTY SHERIFF TO SERVE JURORS

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 18.—A bill was introduced in the house of the Oregon legislature today to prohibit secret sessions of any or all state boards and commissions. Representative Jones said some boards were meeting behind closed doors and he desired to have the law read that all such meetings should be open to the public.

Representative Conrad Stafrin introduced a bill in the house, authorizing the sheriff to summon jurors by registered mail. He offered it as an economy measure, declaring that many hundreds of dollars is paid out annually in mileage to deputies, who serve jurors in certain parts of the state.

### GRIST OF BILLS STILL PILING UP IN LEGISLATURE

SALEM, Jan. 18.—The following bills were introduced in the house yesterday:

- H. B. 111, by Martin—Extending lien laws to horse-hoeing debts.
- H. B. 112, by Martin—Extending lien laws to harvesting debts.
- H. B. 113, by Martin—Extending lien laws to labor performed in harvest fields.
- H. B. 114, by Anderson—Providing new code for building and loan associations.
- H. B. 115, by Stott—Making non-support of wife or children a felony.
- H. B. 115, by Stafrin—To permit summoning jurors by registered mail instead of personal service.
- H. B. 117, by Clark—Increasing bounty on coyotes to \$3.
- H. B. 118, by Deschutes delegation—Fixing salary of district attorney—Deschutes county at \$1,500 a year.
- H. B. 119, by Thomas—Making failure to pay alimony contempt of court.
- H. B. 120, by Thomas—To prohibit commercial fishing in Rogue river.
- H. B. 121, by Gore—Making school attendance of children between ages of 7 and 16 years of age compulsory.
- H. B. 122, by Gore—Fixing capital stock of title guaranty companies and title insurance companies according to population.
- H. B. 123, by Rowe—Empowering county courts to establish sinking fund for payment of municipal bonds when municipalities fail to do so.
- H. B. 124, by Rowe—Providing for extension of district port boundaries beyond county limits.
- H. B. 125, by Rowe—Limiting time during which action may be brought to test validity of port district organization.
- H. B. 126, by Childs—Advancing salary of state printer from \$1,800 to \$2,400 a year, and providing for employment of secretary of state printing board at \$2,400 a year.
- H. B. 127, by Tichenor—Penalizing exposure of paroled prisoners.

### BEAN ROAD BILL FOR BONDS FAVORED

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 18.—The roads and highways committee of the house is solidly back of the Bean bill to provide funds by bond issues with which to make up any deficiency that may arise in the road fund of the state over and above the amount needed to meet the federal aid offered by the Shaeckelford bill.

The Shaeckelford bill, under its terms, will furnish about \$1,800,000 for the consideration of Oregon roads under the coming five years, provided Oregon meets it half way and spends dollar for dollar with it in joint road construction.

The Bean bill provides in substance that, should the state highway commission, or whatever body is entrusted by law with the handling of road work in Oregon find at any time that not sufficient funds are available, so that the state could meet the terms of the Shaeckelford bill, the board of control would be authorized to meet the deficiency by the authorization and issuance of sufficient bonds.

The house committee on road and highways held a meeting this afternoon and unanimously voted to report the Bean bill at tomorrow morning's session.

### COMPENSATION LAW FOR OREGON COUNTIES

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 18.—Amendments to the Oregon workmen's compensation law, making it compulsory for the state, counties, school districts, irrigation districts and ports to operate under its provisions, and giving the industrial accident commission absolute power to fix rates in accordance to the degree of hazard, will be introduced into the legislature soon, according to statements made here today by members of the accident commission, which favors the action. Attorney General George M. Brown is now engaged in drafting the amendments.

### SPANELL ON TRIAL FOR KILLING WIFE

SAN ANGELO, Tex., Jan. 18.—Testimony was begun today in the case of Harry J. Spanell of Alpine, charged with killing his wife and Colonel M. C. Butler while the three were automobile riding last July.

### ASKS UNITED STATES TO INVESTIGATE DEATH OF HUSBAND, AMERICAN ATTACHE IN MEXICO



The United States at request of Mrs. Luis d'Antin, has ordered investigation of the mysterious death of her husband in Mexico. D'Antin was formerly chancellor of the United States embassy at Mexico City. Mrs. Luis d'Antin and her late husband are shown here.

### U-BOAT FORCED SHIP TO FOLLOW

LONDON, Jan. 18.—Lloyd's announces that the British steamship Auchenar, 3916 tons; the sailing ship Kinnurey, and the Danish steamer Omsk, 1574 tons, have been sunk. It was also announced that the Garfield, a British steamer of 1574 tons, had been sent to the bottom.

A steamer has arrived in port with eighty-four members of the crews of the Auchenar, Omsk and Kinnurey. The steamer was forced to follow the German submarine from January 3 to January 16, when the vessel was ordered to discharge her cargo.

With the exception of four members of the crew of the Auchenar the crews of the vessels sunk were saved.

### CONSULTS KAISER ON AUSTRIAN FOOD CRISIS

LONDON, Jan. 18.—A Vienna dispatch to Reuter's by way of Amsterdam says that Premier Clemens von Austro, and Major General Hofer, head of the Austrian war feeding department, have left for Berlin to discuss the food question with the German authorities.

### SHORT HARVEST "SIGN OF GOD"

LONDON, Jan. 18.—Dr. Roesike, president of the German Farmers' union, is quoted in an Amsterdam dispatch to Reuter's as saying in an address to the Seldeswig-Rolstein union:

"God has given us a hint. He caused the harvests of the world to be so bad that Great Britain itself is difficult to feed herself. Therefore, if we do not prevent the wheat-laden ships from Australia and India reaching Britain it is doubtful whether God will again give us such an opportunity, because He demands that the hand shall be seized which He stretches out to us."

### LAND WITHDRAWN FROM THREE STATES

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—A resolution ratifying agreements between the government and the states of South Dakota, Idaho and Montana for selection of public lands for those withdrawn for forest reserves on approval by the secretary of the interior, was adopted today by the senate.

### WRENN SUPPORTS ELIMINATION OF PAID AMATEURS

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—Robert D. Wrenn, four times national lawn tennis champion and formerly a president of the National Lawn Tennis association, gave out a statement today endorsing the proposed amendments to the amateur rule to be voted upon at the annual meeting of the association on February 9. Mr. Wrenn says in part:

"For a number of years there has been a growing tendency for prominent tennis players to enter the sporting goods business. This is disputed, although persons who think such a tendency entirely proper offer ingenious explanations of it, in the effort to evade the conclusion that such an alliance between sport and business is wholly undesirable. They say, for instance, that more people play tennis now than formerly, that this increase requires an increased sale of tennis goods to supply them and that this increased demand makes jobs for tennis goods salesmen. All this strengthens the argument of the executive council that this is a growing evil, which must be curbed before it thoroughly commercializes the game.

"Employment of prominent tennis players by sporting goods houses is fundamentally wrong, because in most cases they are paid for one thing, while in reality their value to the employer comes because they do something entirely different. In other words they are hired as salesmen, but their value arises primarily from the advertisement which the sporting goods house gets out of the player's name. This is commercializing athletic fame, pure and simple."

### PROBE MOVIES AS SOURCE OF TAXATION

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—A legislative inquiry to determine whether the moving picture industry is a proper subject for state tax was begun here today by a committee of state senators and assemblymen. Attorneys for film interests protested against the investigation on the ground that it was discriminatory. While all information possible has been given, they said, they felt that the inquiry was only for the purpose of finding out how much money was made and of taxing the industry accordingly. They held that it would be just as fair to investigate newspapers, magazines and groceries.

Lee Ochs, president of the Motion Pictures Exhibitors league, was called as the first witness. He testified there are about 1,400 moving picture theaters in the state. When questioned regarding his profits, the witness said they could be ascertained in the corporation tax records. He asserted the business is less of a money maker than is generally supposed.

### ASKS \$300,000 TO FIGHT PINE RUST

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—Charles Lathrop Pack of Cleveland, O., was re-elected president of the American Forestry association here today. New vice-presidents elected are: Mrs. Frances Folsom Preston of New Jersey, and T. Coleman DuPont

of Delaware. The treasurer re-elected is John E. Jenks, editor of the Army and Navy Journal. The creation of a national forestry reserve, embracing a highway between Washington and Baltimore, was advocated. Secretary Houston of the department of agriculture sent a communication to the senate urging an appropriation of \$300,000 for eradication by the department of the white pine "blister rust" infection. Much timber on northwestern forest reserves is open to the infection.

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