

WILL CUT APPROPRIATION.

Ways and Means Committee of Which Merryman is a Member, Determined to Save State Being Mutilated.

The Ways and Means Committee of the state Senate is expected to use the knife freely on all bills carrying appropriations which are referred to it. Senator Merryman is a member of this committee, and it was because it was known that he had no axe to grind that he was selected by President Bowerman. It is said that Bowerman selected his Ways and Means Committee with a special view of cutting down appropriations this session.

Nottingham wants nothing, as he comes from Multnomah, and the same is true of Coffey. Wood represents a district of farmers who do not want to see the state's money wasted. Hedges is from Clackamas, and needs nothing; neither does Schofield or Merryman. With a committee made up of men who have no axes to grind, it is possible to hold down the final appropriation bill to reasonable limits.

When Senator Kay appears before the committee to ask for appropriations for the state institutions, he will be reminded of his complaints against the engaging of clerks. Smith of Marion has been offering Portland a normal school, the bill carrying an appropriation of \$100,000, but his offer has been declined with thanks by the Multnomah people, who have informed the Senator from Marion that Multnomah is not asking for anything in the way of state grants. To this Smith has replied that he is not asking for anything this session, either. Smith, however, is expected by his constituents to work with Kay in securing generous help for the state institutions, and this is about the only common ground on which the Marion County Senators are able to meet.

Senator Schofield says he doesn't intend having an unnecessary appropriation bill go through if he can prevent it, and Senator Merryman echoes this sentiment. Schofield believes in legitimate and substantial appropriations where they are necessary, but says that if every bill carrying an appropriation were passed, the state would have to go into the hands of a receiver. Therefore, he is determined to sit on the safety valve and hold things down. Nottingham has been scanning the list of appropriations already requested, and says he sees where it is possible to knock out at least \$1,500,000, and maybe \$2,000,000. So far as the Ways and Means Committees are concerned, the

state will not be mutilated, and the only danger is when the House and Senate, noting on the several items which are stricken out, try to have them reinstated in the bill.

WILL FIGHT BEAL'S BILL.

Timbermen Throughout the Entire State Will Strongly Oppose the Passage of the Bill.

It seems that the timber men of Klamath County are not the only ones who are protesting against the passage of the Beal's bill. The Portland papers state that practically every resident owner of Oregon timber lands in Portland met at the Commercial Club to form a protest against the bill and representatives will go to Salem to fight it when it comes up in the Senate.

The Portland Telegram says: The measure, which is now before the state senate, provides in effect that each owner of timber lands in the state be compelled to file with the auditor of the county in which the land is located the reports of cruisers as to the true quantity and quality of timber, together with a sworn statement attesting to the accuracy of such reports. To provide means for the assessment of the properties in their true value is the purpose of the bill.

Owners of timber lands object to the bill mainly because of the publicity such filing would give to the true value of their properties, maintaining that such publicity would mean the loss of thousands, and perhaps millions, of dollars to them.

"Oftentimes it is necessary for us to keep the real value of timber properties out of the limelight," said Lewis Montgomery of the firm of Mann & Montgomery, who is one of the fathers of the movement antagonistic to the bill. "We do not intend making public information which has cost us large sums of money to secure; we do not intend giving it to our business rivals free of charge.

"We will fight the bill at every turn, and if it is passed we will take the matter into the supreme court."

These were generally the sentiments of all those who attended the meeting.

"If the different counties want to find out the value of our timber lands so they can assess them with regard to their true value, let them send cruisers out and get their own reports," said one.

The timber men assert that their antagonism toward the bill is not caused by reason of the fact that their assessments under the Beal's law, based on the cruisers' reports, might be somewhat higher than now.

WELSH COMPLETELY EXPOSES GANG

Accompanies Officers to Scene of Operations of Stock Rustlers and Shows How and Where Work Was Done

It is reported that Walter Welsh has made a complete confession in regard to the horse stealing case and has given full information as to every member of the gang implicated.

Welsh went to the Dairy country yesterday in company with Deputy Sheriff Sam Walker and Wm. Shook, and it is said exposed the entire system used by the gang in their rustling operations. He showed the officers where the fences had been cut and the corral that was used to round up the bunch.

It is claimed that the officers now have a complete string of evidence from the time they were finally sold in California, and that they will be able to convict every member of the gang. The people of the upper country are elated over the success of the officers and it is stated that many will be ready to testify with further evidence when the cases come up for trial.

The stock thieves were getting so bold in their operations that they were a menace not only to the prop-

erty but to the lives of the farmers. Prospective settlers, as soon as they learned of the depredations which were prevalent, would refuse to locate and would leave the country. In this way the development of the upper country has been greatly retarded. It is stated on good authority that the members of the gang were so bold, that even when a man saw another man riding one of his horses he was afraid to protest. If he entered a claim to the animal he was given a warning which was usually sufficient to keep him quiet.

Welsh will be brought back to the city tonight and tomorrow he will appear before the Grand Jury to give his testimony in the case. The trial which will come up within the next two weeks will attract the greatest attention throughout the entire county. The conviction of the gang, it is believed, will wipe out cattle and horse stealing in this county. The country is fast settling up and the opportunities for this kind of work are not as great as when the country was more sparsely settled.

CAPITAL REMOVAL SERIOUS.

Determined Effort Will be Made to Have Fair Grounds and All the State Institutions Located at Portland.

The resolution introduced by Senator Bingham for the amendment of the constitution providing for the removal of the seat of government from Salem to Portland, is not considered a joke. The purpose of the resolution was to allow the people to vote on the question of removal at the next election. If this is done it is believed that the voters of Multnomah County will see that the change is made.

This is believed to be a good time to make a fight for the removal as the state house and other state buildings are in very bad condition, and it will necessitate either new buildings or a big appropriation for repairs and improvements. The Multnomah County delegation has a very strong argument against wasting money in repairing old buildings, and if a new state house has to be built they want it built in Portland.

It appears to be the plan to clean Salem off the map as far as state institutions are concerned and move everything to Portland. Senator Bailey has introduced a bill to instruct the State Board of Agriculture to sell the Fair Grounds property in Marion County and purchase lands in Multnomah County for state fair grounds and exhibit. Soon to come will be a measure transferring the Asylum for Insane, and it now looks as if all these resolutions will pass the Legislature, and the people will vote on the question at the next election.

AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

Tonight—The great feature film, "The Call of the Wild," or the sad plight of the civilized red man; "The Orphan," melo-dramatic; "He Got Soap in His Eyes," comic. New songs.

Emma Liskey, a sister of Chas. Liskey, who is confined in the county jail, came in from the ranch yesterday to see her brother. After a conference with him she sent the team home by another party and went out on the boat this morning.

FIRE BOYS ELECT OFFICERS.

Plans Being Made For the Annual Fireman's Ball on March Seventeenth.

The members of the Fire Department held their regular annual election of officers last evening. The new officers elected are: President, W. W. Baldwin; Sec'y and Treas., C. I. Roberts; Fire Chief, Herb Baldwin; Sergeant at Arms, J. C. Mongold.

A committee was appointed to make arrangements for the Annual Firemen's Ball, which will be given on the evening of March 17. O. B. Gates and D. A. Kenyon were elected members. The department is now composed of 45 members.

INTERESTING NEWS

DAIRY AND YONNA VALLEY.

On Wednesday evening the stage which runs from Bonanza to Klamath Falls was delayed for some time near the Dairy school house, where it got stuck in the mud.

J. G. Wight and Manuel Vierra returned from the Reservation Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Wight and Mr. Anderson returned to the Reservation Thursday. They report that the Sprague River is very high.

Manuel Vierra is helping Chas. McCumber butcher hogs this week.

The telephone wire was blown down by the high winds of last Wednesday night near Mr. Vierra's place.

Walter Simpson made a business trip to Dairy Wednesday.

It is reported that Wm. Wight, of Dairy is quite sick.

Jeff Kirkpatrick and Wm. Norton, who have been trapping on Saddle Mountain, returned to Yonna this week.

The dam belonging to Geo. Ritter and Jasper Bennett, of North Yonna, has more water in it than at any time last year.

Joe Welch has completed his shed which he has been building for his horses.

Jesse Drew mired his wagon with a load of straw on it near John Lind's place last week.

Last Sunday a party of thirteen persons were entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Pearson. An excellent dinner was enjoyed by all, and some very good music furnished part of the entertainment. In fact, it was a musical party, as there was music on the violin, cornet and man-

dolin. Among those present were Miss May Robinson and Harrison Gray, and Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Simpson.

Those on the Roll of Honor of the Hildebrand school for the past month were: Henry Stanley, Joe Sterzl, Nellie Elias, Bertha Beck, Lizzie Vierra, Willie Beck, Theresa Sterzl. Those having the most perfect lessons as shown on the star board were 1st grade, Maude Kirkpatrick, 2nd, Earl Allred, 4th, Ward Rueck, 5th, Louisa Flackus, 7th, Nellie Elias, 8th, Joe Sterzl and Henry Stanley, a tie.

Mr. and Mrs. John Pool and family are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sey Pool, of Yonna, this week.

Willie Jonas is working at Fred Beck's place.

Buck Creek is so high that the road supervisor is around the valley looking after the bridges. He is afraid the high water will wash them out.

Wm. Shook was in Yonna on business Wednesday.

J. H. O'Brien was in Bonanza last Tuesday.

Chas. Wagar went to the Falls on Tuesday.

Chas. McCumber, who has been on the Grand Jury, returned home last Thursday.

Manuel Vierra bought some grain of Chas. McCumber this week.

John Logue, who has been in the Falls on business, returned home on Tuesday.

C. C. Pearson is doing Wm. Wight's work as Mr. Wight is sick.

Chas. Drew, of Yonna, was looking for some of his horses north of Bonanza last Thursday.

Harrison Gray is making a watering trough for Henry Stoeshler.

Arthur Langell with two other men, who are taking about 150 head of cattle belonging to Louis Gerber, from the Reservation to Merrill, stopped at Mr. Vierra's place Thursday night. The cattle are in very good shape for this time of year.

Mrs. L. M. Fitch went to Dairy Wednesday.

TO HELP UNLUCKY INDIANS.

Secretary of Interior Would Guarantee Them Good Land.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—The Secretary of the Interior has urged Congress to pass a bill in the interest of reservation Indians who have taken allotments, and said allotments have turned out to be valueless, or of little worth. He urges the passage of a bill providing that where the surplus lands of any Indian reservation have been thrown open to settlement, Indians on said reservation who have been allotted lands unsuitable for allotment purposes may relinquish their allotments and select in lieu lands of equal area from the unappropriated portion of the reservation. The Secretary says it often happens, through error or ignorance, that Indians are allotted worthless lands, and he insists that they are entitled to the best lands of the reservation, prior to the opening.

GOVERNOR BENSON.

No Important Changes Expected when He Takes Office After March 4—Have two Votes on Board.

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 25.—Secretary of State Frank W. Benson, who will succeed to the governorship when George E. Chamberlain resigns, about March 4, to take his seat in the United States Senate, expressly stated in an interview that in all probability there would be no changes in the administrative departments that have been filled by appointments under Governor Chamberlain, because the unexpired term is so short.

It is the intention of Mr. Benson not to disturb the boards that have been appointed by Governor Chamberlain or to make any changes in the management of any state institution by putting in new superintendents or other officials, unless investigation should reveal urgent need of such steps.

The secretary of state does not know of any change that will take place upon his coming to the governorship. The office of secretary of state will remain in charge of Chief Clerk S. A. Kozer, who is regarded as qualified to take charge of all details of the office.

Mr. Benson is not yet ready to announce who will occupy the confidential position of private secretary to the governor, to succeed W. N. Gatens, or whom he will install in the clerical department of the executive office.

The responsibilities of Mr. Benson will be uncommonly great in his new position, as it is recognized he will have two votes on the executive board ordinarily composed of the governor, the secretary of state and the state treasurer. This board has charge of each and every institution provided for under the laws of the state of Oregon and practically directs the government of the state as provided by the constitution and the laws.

Mr. Benson will serve out the unexpired term of Governor Chamberlain, or until the first Monday in January, 1911.

Engineer Rankin, of the Southern Pacific survey, left this morning accompanied by his wife and son for the surveying camp near the Agency. Mr. Rankin states that his crew is now working this way from the Agency. They encountered snow to the depth of four and a half feet on the Klamath marsh and were finally compelled to break camp and finish the work on this end of the line.

E. Egert has purchased \$2 head of cattle of Godfrey Beck.



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