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BY HOFER BROS.

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TO REGULATE LOANING OF STATE FUNDS.

President Kuykendall, of the Oregon state senate, has prepared a bill to regulate the loaning of state treasury funds. It is, in some respects, the most important bill of the session.

The intention of the bill is to derive revenue from loaning surplus public funds to banks, upon approved collateral, in the form of bonds or other security.

The bill makes it a felony to loan out funds otherwise than under the terms of this act.

It is believed that on an average there is more than half a million of unused treasury funds that the state under a proper system might get interest from.

It is a well-known fact that the better class of banks pay two and three per cent interest on daily balances in large amounts, and there are many states that derive large revenues from this source.

The old constitution allowed the treasurer only \$800 per year salary, and it was assumed that the steward of the state revenues would derive additional income from the handling of the funds.

If the flat salary bill passes, as is now expected, it would be manifestly wrong to allow the treasurer also to have the income from the interest on the public funds, and hence the justice of the Kuykendall bill, which does not go into effect until 1907.

STATE WATER SUPPLY.

The resolution by Graham of Marion to investigate the water supply of state institutions has been referred to the standing committee on resolutions, of which Kay is chairman.

It provides for an official report on the nature of the water supply, the quality and character of same, the cost, and whether sufficient for fire protection.

It is a well-known fact that during the drought of summer several of these institutions were almost without water supply. The Deaf Mute School had no water in its supply tank at night. The Reform School had to haul water in barrels from a spring at some distance.

Some of the institutions obtain water from springs that are drying up. The water supply for the asylum cottage farms has exhausted several springs and is not believed to be adequate for fire protection.

Many of the institutions have reservoirs, pumping stations, and some have

gravity systems. The total expense for water is very large.

New reservoirs are to be constructed at several institutions. At one time in the past two years \$200,000 worth of livestock at the state fair grounds was in danger of being without water supply at any time. At the Reform School a new spring is to be purchased and a new reservoir constructed.

Now comes the report of the state biologist and finds that nearly all the water supply of the state institutions is more or less infected with bacteria. It shows that the Mill creek ditch water, used by inmates and stock at several institutions, is unfit for consumption and highly impregnated with bacilli. The state biologist is paid by the state, and his report will not be disputed.

It is doubtful if there is a single state institution that has a sufficient supply of pure water, unless it be the state capitol building and the state fair grounds. If the Graham committee would ascertain what is being paid out in salaries, machinery, reservoirs and pumping stations, the same would be found surprisingly large, and, considering the character of the water supply, highly unsatisfactory.

While Salem city water has been criticised by the state board of health, and is criticised by the report of the state biologist, it is shown to be far superior to the supply of some of the state institutions.

NORMAL SCHOOL REFORM.

The first step in the right direction is to put the normal schools under one board of regents, and give them an uniform course of study.

A bill to accomplish this end has been introduced in the house by Vawter, of Jackson, chairman of the ways and means committee.

This bill strikes at the great defect in these schools at present—each one having a board of twelve regents, nine be local.

The new bill makes the state board of education three of the regents, and adds one from each county having a school, or seven in all.

This removes local pressure from the legislature, but insures each school support upon its merits, and as a state institution.

The Vawter bill has been carefully revised by the state board of education and is the right step to take to make the normal schools worthy institutions, and insures a business administration for each one.

X-RAYS

A Portland lawyer talked five hours to the supreme court the other day. There ought to be a law protecting unfortunate men who sit on that court.

Department Commander R. E. Pike, of Umatilla county, is in the city. He

is a farmer and would make good timber for a governor if the Republican politicians could so far forget themselves as to put up an old veteran of the Grand Army.

Capron, of Multnomah county, has introduced another insurance bill to prevent discriminations in premiums charged by life insurance companies, to prevent rebates or any special favors or advantage or inducement whatever not specified in the policy. It is a copy of the New York law, and Mr. Capron believes it should become so in Oregon.

M. V. Rork, formerly Unitarian minister at Salem, is the author of a book, "Who Is the Criminal?" He is also organizing the California co-operative society of 2000 members. His book is a clear, lucid and diaphanous exposition of all theologies and isms since the days of the French revolution, and Brother Rork is broad-gauge on all these things. He does not forget his ancient enemy, the national banks, but raps them good and hard. There is only one thing we regret, he has no address on his book, or we would advertise it for him.

Representative Kune is the Grand Army member and humorist of the house. On the multiplicity of bills introduced to regulate the fishing industry, he has this take-off and parody, introduced as a local measure to protect fish in a county that hasn't a salmon in it: A bill for an act to protect fish in Sherman county, Oregon:

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

That it shall be deemed unlawful for any person to catch by use of lasso, dog, or any other means, any fish which may be found crossing the country between the John Day and Des Chutes rivers, in Sherman county, Oregon.

Any person violating the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof shall pay a fine of \$10, or in place thereof shall be confined in the county jail of said county for a period of five days.

Large Sum Involved.

J. P. Rogers has filed complaint in department No. 2 of the circuit court against Henry Duennwald and Mary Duennwald, his wife. The complaint states that for value received defendants gave ten promissory notes to Tilly DeWenter, the first for \$500, due September 15, 1904; the second, \$1000, January 1, 1905, and the rest for \$1000 each, due January 1st of the years 1906, 1907, 1908, 1910, 1911, 1912 and 1913. The complaint also states that defendants gave a mortgage on 293 acres of land in section 1, township 9 south, range 1 west. The sum prayed for will amount to \$10,400, exclusive of the amount of the interest on the notes. Carson & Cannon are attorneys for the plaintiff.

STATE WATER POWERS

Rights of the Commonwealth to Be Protected for Future Generations

Prof. McAllister, of the State University, who has made surveys of the McKenzie and Santiam rivers, was present, by invitation, and, after a thorough discussion, the committee decided to take step to secure to the state title to any water powers on public lands.

Killingworth's special committee to retain to the state title in water powers on public lands met last night and again at 8:30 today. Messrs. Richie, Colwell, Hermann and Smith were present.

The committee asked Attorney-General Crawford to draw a memorial to congress, ceding to the state all water powers on public lands, with enough adjacent land to develop same. This committee will also submit a report to the legislature covering the subject.

Real Estate Transfers.

The following real estate transfers are recorded at the court house:

C. E. Brown to A. M. Davis, lot 8, block 3, Annex No. 1, George Hollister's addition to Stayton, \$30.

T. Holman to School District No. 24, lot 7, block 3, Salem, except right of way, \$1825.

A. Olsen to O. O. Molberget, land in Marion county, \$1.

J. H. Campbell to Orville Ballou, land in block 25, Salem, \$800.

T. N. Crane to C. W. Sweeney, 15 acres in tp. 5 s., r. 1 w., \$550.

Mat Butsch to John Uhlenkott, 16 acres in tp. 6 s., r. 1 w., \$900.

E. Sappingfield to O. Sappingfield, 106 acres in tp. 7 s., r. 2 w., \$1000.

G. A. Landon to Lottie McKee, 166 1/4 acres in tp. 5 s., r. 1 w., \$1.

Lottie McKee to David McKee, 166 1/4 acres in tp. 5 s., r. 1 w., \$1.

George A. Landon to David McKee, 1 acre in tp. 5 s., r. 1 w., \$1.

David McKee to George Landon, 1 acre in tp. 5 s., r. 1 w., \$1.

D. A. McKee to George A. Landon, 166 1/4 acres in tp. 5 s., r. 1 w., \$1.

Mary Barrows to A. C. Barrows, undivided half interest in 84.04 acres in tp. 8 s., r. 1 w., \$1500.

O. B. Veley to E. P. Maine, 40 acres in Marion county, \$3900.

David McKee to Lottie McKee, 1 acre in tp. 5 s., r. 1 w., \$1.

It is estimated that the wear and tear on American railroads pulverize 427,000 tons of iron annually.

FOREST FIRES BILL

Draws Fire From the Opposition and is Re-committed

H. B. No. 55, to regulate forest fires, was the subject of a hot discussion. It was attacked by Sonnemann, of Douglas in a forcible, maiden speech. His first appearance on the floor showed that he was capable of using plain English in an effective manner.

Sonnemann said the people of Douglas county could not clear their lands under this bill. They wanted no strings to their coat tails in this matter. Once the county was open and clear when fire ran through often. He wanted no restrictions on clearing up lands.

Miles, of Yamhill, explained the bill in some of its features, and was ably seconded by Bingham, of Lane. West, of Tillamook, opposed the bill, declaring that the permit feature was an iniquitous proposition. To clear lands a permit must be secured. Richie, of Marion, said it might be very windy on the date of the permit, and not safe to burn. What could be done then?

Vawter moved that the bill go over to Thursday, and be made a special order, and that was done. After a hot debate, Miles saved the bill by getting it back to the committee on public lands for further amendment.

A sidelight on Chinese immigration or importation into South Africa is cast by the following remark in the South African Press-Bulletin: "Quarrels and fights with drawn knives between Kaffirs and Chinese are of almost daily occurrence in Market Square, Johannesburg."

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STEINER'S MAIDEN SPEECH

Made for a Fund to Hunt Down Criminals in Oregon

Steiner, of Klamath, made his first speech for a bill to give the governor a fund to hunt down criminals in sections of the state where for any reason the laws could not properly be enforced without He said it was a deplorable condition that existed in some parts of the state. The moral sentiments of the state were opposed to lawlessness. In some counties there were feuds and rivalries, beside which the family feuds of Kentucky were insignificant. Kay asked that the bill be referred to the committee to strike out the provision for a special fund of \$10,000, and make it general.

Settled Out of Court.

T. W. Rutherford, supervisor of road district No. 19, in Marion county, filed a complaint in Judge Turner's court September 17, 1904, against Jacob Moser for the sum of \$3, so today he appeared in the justice court and settled, paying the \$3 and costs of the action, which amounted to \$7.30.

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