IN THE LEGISLATURE.

VISITING COMMITTEES REPORT ON STATE INSTITUTIONS.

University Should Be Given All the Money That Can Be Spared—Words of Praise for the Normal Schools—Bills Passed for the Protection of Forests Against Fire.

OLYMPIA, March 1.—Special.—The senate met at 12:30 o'clock, and after working industriously till 6 p. m., adjourned. The reports of the committees that recently visited the several state institutions were read, approved and ordered printed. There was a debate on the deficiency judgment bill. Senate bills 188 and 237, to protect the forests of Washington from fires, were passed. Lesh and Edmund S. Meany, president of the Washington State Forestry Association, have worked untiringly for these bills, and their passage is quite a triumph for them. These two bills were modeled after the law of Minnesota. The enforcement of these two laws will, it is thought, do away to a large extent with the fires that each year destroy so many millions of timber. The house, it is expected, will take immediate action and pass the bills, as they are of great importance to the well-being of the state.

SENATE.

OLYMPIA, March 1.—Special.—As soon as the senate convened a petition was read from thirty-eight residents of Pullman requesting the passage of the Cline dispensary bill. Referred.

H. B. 375, relating to the adoption of legal heirs, was favorably reported. Adopted.

H. B. 175, relating to the Pullman college appropriation, was reported back favorably from committee. Calendar.

S. B. 174, providing for the winding up of the affairs of irrigation districts, was reported back from committee favorably. Adopted.

S. B. 55, providing for a state orphan asylum, was reported by committee in favor of its indefinite postponement. Placed on file.

S. B. 37, reported back from committee without recommendation. Adopted.

S. B. 240, relating to wide tires on wagons, was reported back by committee with a recommendation that it pass. Adopted.

S. B. 220, for relief of Union Savings bank, reported back from committee favorably. Adopted.

S. B. 262, relating to building and loan associations, was reported back from committee favorably. Adopted.

H. B. 417, to fix railroad rates, was reported back from committee with a recommendation that it pass. Crow and Runner filed a minority report requesting that the maximum rate be $3.75 per ton, instead of $4 per ton, while the majority recommended that the maximum rate be $4 per ton. Report adopted, and 500 copies of the bill ordered printed.

Report on State University.

The report of the committees appointed to visit the state university at Seattle, Normal schools at Whatcom, Ellensburg and Cheney, Soldiers' Home at Orting, insane hospital at Medical Lake were read and ordered printed.

The committee to visit the university reports that it arrived at Seattle Friday evening, February 20, and early the next morning proceeded to the new grounds. The report says:

"Here we thoroughly inspected the buildings of the university, as follows: The gymnasium and drill hall building we found a very commodious structure, the main portion of which covers 165x80 feet. In addition to this there are dressing rooms, company rooms and offices, making it a most useful and convenient structure. It cost the state, including all equipment, a little less than $7,000.

"The next building inspected was the solid stone observatory, in which the instruments used at the old university were placed. A visit was made to the power house on the shores of Lake Washington, which we found in such perfect surroundings that little could be added by way of improvement. The Seattle & International railroad passes along the shore of the lake at this point, from which a spur has been constructed over the coal bunkers, which lead directly into the power house by a system of chutes. In this way the fuel is placed at the door of the furnace with the least possible trouble and expense for handling.

"Lake Washington furnishes an inexhaustible supply of good water. The power house is a plain brick structure, and its equipment consists of two 100 horse power boilers; one large Buffalo pump, and two auxiliary pumps; a 45-horse-power Ball automatic engine; one Westinghouse dynamo. Steam is led to the buildings for heating purposes, and the dynamo furnishes electricity for power and for charging storage batteries in the main building.

"We next inspected the main university building. This we found to be a large and beautiful structure, made almost entirely of native material, comprising pressed brick from Spokane county, sandstone from Pierce county, granite from Snohomish county, terra cotta and lumber from King county. We found the laboratories in the basement of the building equipped with the most substantial and latest improved apparatus. * * *

"We then inspected the museum, the heating and ventilating apparatus, the various lecture rooms, the assembly hall and finally the library. The last we found to contain about 6,600 volumes, of which fully two-thirds are United States government reports, excellent works in their line, but failing to fulfill the requirements of a university library. This library certainly needs a generous equipment of works of reference in the several departments of instruction.

"The records and accounts of the institution we found carefully preserved in the secretary's vault, a duplicate voucher being preserved for every expenditure, the originals being filed in the office of the state auditor.

"We then examined the old grounds and buildings of the university, in the city of Seattle. The buildings are old and of little value, but the grounds comprise ten acres in the center of the city, which may be sold upon the revival of business for a sum sufficient to reimburse the state for the outlay in new buildings and equipment.

"Your committee then attended a meeting of the board of regents of the university, at which were discussed the condition and needs of the institution.

"As a result of the visit and inspection, we beg leave to make recommendations as follows:

"First—That in providing for the maintenance for the institution for the next two years an allowance be made just as liberal as the finances of the state will permit.

"Second—That house bill 334, providing for the proper investment of fees, bequests and gratuities, as amended by the house committee, be enacted.

"Third—That house bill 321, providing for the proper preservation of the public documents of the state in certain libraries, be enacted.

"Fourth—That house bill 322, providing for the location of a state museum in the museum of the University of Washington, as amended by the house committee, be enacted.

"Fifth—That the legislature grant relief to the widow of the late H. C. Ashenfelter, of Spokane, contractor on the new main building of the university, for we have found after a thorough investigation that granting said relief would be an act of simple justice on the part of the state.

"Respectfully submitted,

"J. A. DAVIS, Chairman,
"F. C. HARPER,
"DANIEL PAUL."

Medical Lake Asylum.

The committee sent to investigate and report to the senate the condition of the Eastern Washington hospital for the insane made the following report:

"Your committee arrived at the hospital for insane at Medicine Lake Tuesday, February 16, passing the afternoon of the 16th and all of the following day and part of the morning of the 18th at the institution. We feel, therefore, that we are in a position to make a full and impartial report as to the management and condition of the same. We feel it incumbent upon us to jointly praise the efficiency, honesty and economy with which this institution has been directed, and desire here to state that the people of Washington, and especially the inmates of the asylum, are extremely fortunate in possessing such a well qualified, humane and gentlemanly servant as Dr. Semple, the superintending physician.

"The health of all inmates appeared excellent, and a happy and contented disposition seemed to be evident. The discipline of patients and officers and employes was model, and neatness and cleanliness seemed to be a maxim at all times practiced in every detail. After fully considering all matters appertaining to the welfare of the hospital and the conditions, your committee would recommend as follows:

"Some provisions should be made in providing for the safekeeping of insane patients sent there from the state penitentiary. They should either be provided for at the penitentiary, or safer provisions made at the asylum. They are a serious menace to the safety of all others at the hospital, and life and limb are at all times in jeopardy, as some of them have been sentenced for murder, and are of an ugly disposition. Dr. Semple kindly placed before us some special legislation, which we herewith attach and make a part of this report. We deem his recommendations of great value, and feel that they should be adopted.

"We also recommend the following amounts for appropriation for maintenance and other expenses, and attach the same herewith.

"In justice to ourselves as a committee, we deem it necessary to apprise the legislature of the following facts concerning the present requirements, should the present annual increase continue:

"In 1891 this institution was opened with 122 patients, and the present year closes with 252. This is an average gain of 26 per annum, and this average is likely to be raised, as our increase last year was 34. Our capacity is 350, which will probably afford accommodations for all we are likely to receive until 1898. But if the matter of providing additional room be deferred until the legislature of 1899 takes action, we shall have 50 patients more than we can accommodate by the time the building is ready for occupation. It takes at least a year to complete a wing of the size needed after the appropriation is available.

"Your committee would therefore recommend that an appropriation should be made at the present session for an additional wing. We make this recommendation with great reluctance, and only an imperative duty forces us to do so.

"We earnestly recommend that the boiler house be removed to a safe distance away from the main building. In its present condition it is a continual menace to life and property. For this purpose we recommend an appropriation of $4,000, and we further recommend that the following sums be appropriated for the purposes set forth, for the improvement of the institution, viz.:

Library	$ 100
Dynamo and fixtures	1,000
Windmill and cistern	300
Telephone system	500
Repairs and improvements	1,000

"W. E. RUNNER, Chairman,
"F. G. DECKEBACH,
"J. C. VAN PATTEN."

Cheney Normal School.

The special committee appointed to view the Cheney normal school reported as follows:

"We, your committee, who visited the state normal school at Cheney, Wash., beg leave to present the following report:

"Your committee arrived at Cheney on Thursday at noon, February 18, and spent Thursday afternoon and Friday making as thorough an examination of the condition of the school and other affairs appertaining thereto as the limited time as our disposal enabled us to do.

"We found the school at present occupying the new building erected by the trustees during the past two years. It is our opinion that the same is exceedingly well adapted for the purpose intended, and that the state has acquired a model building for the money which was appropriated for that purpose. We feel that the trustees during the time of the construction have earnestly devoted much time to this work, and have at all times shown a devotion to the state's interests that reflects not only credit on themselves as trustees, but which is also evident in every transaction requiring the spirit of economy in public affairs.

"In protecting the interests of the state the trustees may have inadvertently and unintentionally caused hardships upon claimants for material and labor furnished to the contractor of the building during the erection, but we deem their conduct proper and their actions in the matter unavoidable at the time.

"The trustees built the normal school building so far as completed within the appropriation, and should be commended for their earnest work.

"In reference to the present and past management of the school proper, your committee feels hardly able to offer an opinion, but is of the belief that the changes made by the trustees in the faculty were in their opinion for the betterment of the institution. The present faculty are held in the highest respect by both students and the board, and matters are now in such a favorable condition that the school will surely prove to be a valuable acquisition to the educational institutions of the state. We believe and would recommend that in order to keep up the present high standing of the institution no reduction of salaries would be advisable. The trustees during the past year have already greatly reduced many, if not all, salaries.

"Your committee would recommend that a stricter or more rigid qualification be adopted for the admission of students to the school, and also that a proper fee for each and every term be charged to students.

"W. E. RUNNER, Chairman,
"J. C. VAN PATTEN,
"F. G. DECKEBACH."

Orting Soldiers' Home.

The report of the committee on Soldiers' home at Orting is as follows:

"We visited the home on the 19th and spent the succeeding day there, examining the grounds, buildings and management. We found the institution well managed and the buildings kept in a neat manner. The hospital is nearly full and the number of inmates is constantly increasing, so much so that it will soon be necessary to engage nurses on salaries. At present a few of the able-bodied inmates are paid a small sum to act as nurses.

"Under the present law any discharged soldier or sailor who is a resident of this state is admitted to the home. Quite a number of them receive pensions from the government. From the report of the officers of the institution we find that a large amount of the money thus received is used in dissipation. We attach here a letter from one of the managers.

"We recommend the passage of S. B. 172, to compel pensioners not having wives or minor children dependent upon them for support to pay 75 per cent. of their pensions to the state for their support. By so doing the number of inmates of the home will be decreased, and those who do avail themselves of its hospitality will contribute in part to their support.

"We found the water supply inadequate for fire purposes, and as some insurance policies have expired and others will soon lapse, we recommend that the expired policies be renewed and that the policies about to expire be renewed upon their expiration. Respectfully submitted,

"E. C. KEITH,
"Chairman.
"J. G. MEGLER,
"C. M. EASTERADY.

The letter attached cites instances where inmates have squandered their pensions.

Whatcom Normal School.

Davis, Paul and Harper, the committee appointed to visit the state normal school at New Whatcom, reported substantially as follows: They found the site and the building admirable. The ground dimensions of the building are 50x86 feet 6 inches. The foundation is of sandstone and the superstructure of brick. The interior is finished with Acme cement plaster and steel laths in the basement and first story and the auditorium in the second story. The balance of the building is not finished. The committee commends the faithful and industrious work done by Major Eli Wilkins, R. C. Higginson and John J. Edens, members of the local board, who cheerfully gave their time and energy to the erection of the building without compensation, and the services of O. H. Culver, clerk of the board.

The sum of $32,463.90 has so far been expended on the building, leaving an unexpended balance of $7,536.10. Under the terms of the contract, providing for the retention of 20 per cent. of each and every estimate until the final completion of the building, so far as contemplated by the contract and its acceptance by the trustees, there is yet to be paid to the contractor, William B. Davey, approximately $6,500, making allowance for certain credits due the state as agreed by the contractor, and for certain other deductions recommended by the architects in their final report, for work omitted or imperfectly done. The contractor has given orders upon the board, which have been filed with the clerk, amounting to $13,028.16. Other claims, not covered by orders but represented to be for material furnished, have been filed with the clerk to the amount of $608.90, making the total of all claims to date $13,637.06.

In conclusion, the committee recommended that the legislature provide as generously as the state will permit for the maintenance and equipment of the school.

Other Business Transacted.

A message was received from the governor to the effect that he had approved S. B. 76, 131, 13, 16, 157.

Range introduced S. B. 280, providing for meetings of the superior judges prior to legislative sessions, to prepare bills necessary, judiciary committee; S. B. 281, by Baum, relating to service of process, judiciary committee; S. B. 282, by Deckebach, providing that the Pacific ocean beach may not be sold, and that contracts already made by the tide land commission be canceled by refunding the money to the purchasers.

Bills placed on general file: H. B. 398, relating to constitutional amendment on taxation, committee on constitutional revision; H. B. 56, relative to time of electing road supervisor, committee on roads and bridges; H. B. 126, for the relief of the Ilwaco Railroad and Navigation Co., state granted and tide lands; H. M. 13, by Caywood, committee on memorials; H. B. 281, relative to exemption of life insurance, placed on general file; H. B. 473, relative to constitutional amendment in regard to non-interest-bearing state warrants, committee on constitutional revision; H. B. 113, relative to dissolution of cities of the third and fourth classes, municipal corporations; H. B. 291, relative to qualification of city officers, general file; H. B. 439, relative to cruelty to children, etc., public morals; S. B. 283, by Range, providing for a state road from New Whatcom to the headwaters of the Cowlitz river and providing appropriation, committee on roads and bridges; S. B. 284, by McReavy, defining the crime of fornication and providing a penalty, public morals; S. B. 285, by Runner, for the relief of H. T. Winn, claims and auditing.

S. B. 148, by Cole, an act for the regulating of the sale of property under execution and decrees, which was Saturday ordered engrossed, passed by a vote of 24 to 7. Deckebach voted against it because it had been amended clear out of shape. Easterday voted yea because it did not appear that a better bill could be enacted at this time, though this one was crude. Houghton explained that he did not like the bill very well, but would turn himself wrong side out and vote aye. Plummer said that some of the house members had an idea that the senate wasn't passing enough house bills and asked that house bill 281 be taken up. Crow and Easterday objected and the regular order was followed.

S. B. 151, by Runner, requiring railroads to fence their right-of-way, construct crossings, etc., which was on Saturday ordered engrossed, failed to pass, 15 to 12. Paul said that he could not see where the bill was going to be of any benefit. Any one who had stock killed never had any trouble receiving pay for the same. Deckebach spoke against the bill and Hill also spoke along the same lines. High also opposed the bill. Crow and Runner spoke in its defense. Dorr gave notice that he would move to reconsider the vote.

Lesh moved to reconsider house bill 117, by Nelson, relative to log booms in rivers. Motion carried. After considerable discussion the bill was placed upon final passage and passed, 31 to 0. Warburton gave notice that he would move to reconsider. He was ruled out of order. The bill is directed especially at the log booms which clog up the Skagit river.

S. B. 116, by Crow, relating to deficiency judgments was next taken up. It provides that hereafter in all foreclosure proceedings and judgments rendered thereon, the remedy of the mortgagee shall be confined to the property described in the mortgage, and repeals all acts or parts of acts in conflict. Wilson moved to strike the section relative to striking conflicting acts. Taylor moved to amend by specifying the acts to be repealed. Plummer said that the bill would not fulfill the expectations of its authors for the reason that the holder of a mortgage would sue on his note instead of the mortgage, and evade the law. Dorr said that the bill attempted an impossibility. Easterday spoke against the bill because it eliminated one of the elements of credit upon which the business of the country was done. He offered a bill which he claimed would accomplish the result desired by Crow, although he said he would vote against it. Dorr moved to make the bill a special order for Thursday. Ruled out of order on the ground that no special orders would be allowed. Dorr appealed from the decision, believing that the senate was larger than the sifting committee, whom, the president held, should fix the time for considering the bill. Plummer acquiesced in Dorr's remarks. The chair was not sustained in his ruling. Wilson renewed his motion to make the bill a special order for Thursday at 11 o'clock. Taylor, the chairman of the sifting committee, objected to the special order, and said the committee would put the bill on the calendar wherever the senate wanted it. Range offered an amendment that the act should apply to all promissory notes given in security of mortgages. The amendment caused considerable amusement by its ridiculousness. Deckebach moved that all attorneys be excluded from the room in order that a good law might be enacted. Plummer offered a substitute for Range's amendment. Crow offered a substitute for both.

Crow's substitute was adopted. It is as follows:

"That in all proceedings for the foreclosure of mortgages hereafter executed or on judgments rendered upon the debt thereby secured, the mortgagee or assignee shall be limited to the property included in the mortgage."

Plummer said he thought the framers could fix up the bill so that it would stand the law. The bill was sent to the engrossing committee.

S. B. 141, by Lesh, relating to exemption of personal property, was next in order. It provides an exemption of $1,000 on personal property. Passed, 25 to 5. Wilson gave notice that he would move to reconsider.

S. B. 194, relating to contracts on insurance, was taken up and sent to the engrossing committee.

S. B. 172, by the committee on state charitable institutions, which provides that all honorably discharged Union soldiers, mariners, sailors, veterans of the Indian wars of Washington and Oregon, members of the state militia disabled while in the line of duty, who are bona fide residents of the state, may be admitted to the Soldier's Home, was taken up. It provides that those who are not married, who receive pensions while inmates of the home, shall turn into the state 75 per cent. of the pension money received. The other 25 per cent. shall be turned over to the inmates when they leave the institution.

Easterday moved that the word "indigent" be inserted so that only the poor can be admitted to the Soldier's Home.

Range and Cole fought the amendment for the reason that the name pauper should not be associated with the veterans of the late war.

Megler said that he fought for four years during the war and had as much sympathy as anyone with the soldier, but he found during his recent visit to the Soldiers' Home that there were thirty or forty able-bodied men among the 120 there, who as soon as they got their pensions left the home and went on sprees, and when they returned they were often sick and broken down and had to be nursed back to health at the state's expense.

Easterday's amendment was carried, and after some slight amendments, the bill was sent to the engrossing committee.

S. B. 252, by Miller, was the next taken up and discussed. It provides that all moneys received from the United States for the maintenance of soldiers' homes shall be used for no other purpose and shall be kept in a fund designated as the United States fund for the maintenance of the Soldiers' Home. The bill was finally sent to the engrossing committee.

S. B. 188, by Lesh, creating a board of forest commissioners and defining its powers and duties, was taken up and passed, yeas 29, nays 0. It provides that the board of forest commissioners shall be made up of the governor, treasurer and commissioner of public land, the professors of forestry in the University of Washington and the Washington Agricultural college, and that they shall serve without compensation. It shall be the duty of the board to collect and report to the legislature, information concerning forests and trees and to see that the laws relating to the protection of forests shall be enforced. The commissioners are empowered to employ during the months of July, August and September forest wardens to patrol the woods to prevent fires. The salaries of the wardens shall not exceed $75 per month.

S. B. 237, by Lesh, for the protection of forests and suppression of forest fires, was taken up, and after being amended, passed, yeas 32, nays 0.

The senate adjourned till tomorrow at 10 a. m.

HOUSE.

OLYMPIA, March 1.—Special.—Under suspension of the rules this morning the house passed Hooper's bill, 420, reducing passenger rates to 3 cents per mile. The bill was transmitted to the senate at once.

During the session of the legislature the citizens and representatives of Spokane have earned a reputation for industry, nerve and acute acquisitiveness not equaled by those of any town in the state. Notwithstanding this fact, the house was hardly prepared for the introduction by Johnston this morning of a memorial asking the legislature to investigate and recommend to congress a proposition to build, by government aid, a six-track elevated electric railroad from some point on Puget sound (any old point will do) to New York, via Spokane and Chicago. The scheme is to have the government issue low interest-bearing currency bonds. The memorial, which is an evidence of the superior rustling qualities of the Spokanites, is signed by Mayor Belt, Sheriff Dempsey, Treasurer Mudgett, County Assessor Daniel, County Superintendent Hopson and others. The proposition to issue bonds "in time of peace" will of course commend itself to the Populists in the legislature.

The memorial is a very lengthy document. When the clerk had read one-quarter of it Johnston moved that further reading be dispensed with, but that "as it was a very important matter," it be spread in full upon the journal. This was done and the memorial was referred, without more than three or four members understanding its purport.

The signers of the memorial say that they can see no reason why, if the scheme is carried out, it would not be "possible to make the run from Puget sound to New York in twenty-four hours"(!)

Wilkeson asked that the rules be suspended and that his joint resolution calling for the appointment of a committee, which, with the aid of the attorney-general, shall institute an investigation into the legality of the Northern Pacific railway's claim to its grant of land in this state, be taken up and passed. Wilkeson made a long plea for his resolution, in the course of which he said:

"Under this resolution it is expected to restore to the public domain 8,670,000 acres of land now illegally claimed by a Wisconsin corporation named the Northern Pacific Railway Company."

The speaker then read from the charter of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, section 3 of which grants to the company its land grant along the line. He laid especial stress on the meaning of the section, which provided that the Northern Pacific Railroad Company and none other should select these lands.

Proceeding further, the speaker quoted section 4 of the charter, providing for the confirmation of the right of the company to its land as its line of road was completed; the purpose being to show that the government had deeded the land to the Northern Pacific Railroad Company under certain conditions, and to no other corporation.

"The state of Washington is a party to this charter," said Wilkeson with great force. "This state has an active interest in the disposition of public lands which lie within its boundaries, and to protect our interests we can rightfully insist that the Northern Pacific Railroad Company should have lived up to the terms of its charter, and one of the terms of that charter is that the patents for the lands granted to it shall be issued to it, not to its successor."

The speaker quoted from section 10 of the charter of the old company as follows:

"And no mortgage or construction bonds shall ever be issued by said company on said road, or mortgage or lien made in any way except by the consent of the congress of the United States."

Continuing, Mr. Wilkeson said:

"The Northern Pacific Railroad Company was authorized to make one issue of bonds by this act, and did so. This mortgage was foreclosed in 1875. Congress did not again authorize the Northern Pacific Railroad Company to issue bonds. From the date of the foreclosure of the mortgage in 1875 the Northern Pacific Railroad Company has had no power, that is, no lawful power, to issue mortgage bonds, because that power had been exhausted, no legislation having been obtained from congress authorizing other issues of bonds. Therefore the Wisconsin corporation, known as the Northern Pacific railway, which in 1896 attempted to purchase the property of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company on the foreclosure of illegal and invalid mortgages, got no valid title to the franchises or lands of the original company, and cannot legally claim title to the land granted by the charter to the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, 8,670,000 acres of which are in Washington. To avoid this difficulty J. P. Morgan & Co., the backers of the Wisconsin corporation, are attempting to keep the breath of corporate life in the practically defunct Northern Pacific Railroad Company, and are trying to have congress approve of the alleged reorganization and to permit them to steal 34,000,000 acres of land, of which 8,670,000 are in Washington.

"The Northern Pacific Railway Company is endowed with perpetual life by its Wisconsin charter, but under the laws of the state of Washington it cannot legally carry on its business in Washington, for the reason that it is contrary to the laws and constitution of the state to allow a foreign corporation to transact its business on more favorable terms than are prescribed to similar corporations organized under the laws of this state. According to Hill's Code, railroad corporations cannot be incorporated to exist for more than fifty years.

"The predatory scheme is to steal 8,670,000 acres of the public lands lying in this state and to so arrange matters financially as to acquire vested rights, and so enable this Wisconsin company to absorb the increment of four generations of people; every blow struck in creative industry, every tree planted, every irrigating ditch dug, every furrow turned, every child born, all seed cast on the ground, shall be so struck, planted, dug, turned, born and cast to the enormous profit of this corporation. They boldly assert that they and their successors, virtually their children, have a vested right to fully gather where you and your children shall sow; that they have the right to oppress and impoverish us for the next 150 years, to thrust their predatory hands into our pockets and to extract from them the meager profit of our agriculture and manufacturing industries."

Roberts said that as Wilkeson had exhausted the subject and had spoken "wisely and well," he moved that the resolution pass. The rules were suspended and the clerk ordered to engross the names of the members for the resolution.

Witt's bill submitting a constitutional amendment reducing the salaries of all state officers and members of the legislature was amended and then defeated, yeas 49, nays 20, the bill not receiving the necessary two-thirds.

H. B. 334, by Land, empowering the board of trustees of the state university to receive bequests, was passed, yeas 68, nays 0, absent 10.

At this point the noon recess intervened.

At the afternoon session the house passed H. B. 367, by Wolf, regulating the practice of pharmacy. The bill is intended to correct errors in the present law in order to make it opefative.

H. B. 318, by Winsor, was passed, yeas 63, nays 5. The bill provides:

"That in all cases where the treasurer or treasurers of any county in this state has heretofore collected, or may hereafter collect, taxes, penalty and interest levied and assessed for road purposes on the taxable property of any road district, or any portion thereof, which has been included within the limits of any municipal corporation organized subsequently to said road district, said funds realized from said taxes, penalty and interest so collected, or so much thereof as has been collected, from the taxable property within the territory subsequently included in a city or town, which funds shall not have been paid out or expended before the organization of said city or town shall, upon demand of said city or town, be paid over to said municipal corporation, and shall be applied by the authorities of the same for street purposes."

The house passed, yeas 59, nays 6, H. B. 224, prepared by Land Commissioner Bridges and introduced by Way, amending the act relative to state lands. The commissioner of public lands, the secretary of state and the superintendent of public instruction are constituted a board of appraisers, harbor line and arid land commissioners. A reduction of from 50 cents to 10 cents per acre is made on leased lands, and it is provided that the state cannot sell during the pendency of the lease.

H. B. 221, by Likens, was passed, yeas 55, nays 11. The bill authorizes the organization of the National Educational Association college in Whatcom county.

The house adjourned till 9:30 o'clock tomorrow.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

OLYMPIA, March 1.—Special.—Bills were introduced in the house today as follows:

H. B. 607, by Warner—Creating a board of railroad, steamboat and warehouse commissioners and fixing maximum rates.

H. B. 608, by judiciary committee—Prescribing a penalty for coercion, intimidation and persuasion of voters.

H. B. 609, by De Mattos—Fixing compensation of receivers.

H. B. 610, by Lusher—Creating a temporary library commission.

H. B. 611, by De Mattos—Amending the act relative to justices of the peace; fixing salaries of same in cities in the third class at $900 per annum.

H. B. 612, by Lindstrom—Amending the road act.

H. B. 613, by Williams—Supreme court judges shall call a meeting of superior and supreme court judges thirty days immediately preceding session of the legislature for the purpose of discussing matters of legislation.

H. B. 614, by Lindstrom—Amending the revenue law.

H. B. 615, by Gerry—Prohibiting stallions from running at large.

H. B. 616, by Hanson—Amending the practice act.

H. B. 617, by Williams—Reducing salaries of justices of the peace in cities of the first class to $1,000, and constables to $720.

H. B. 618, by Williams—Amending the practice act.

H. B. 619, by Williams—Reducing salaries of municipal court judges to $1,500, clerks to $720.

SUPREME COURT DECISIONS.

Kittitas County Wins the Suit Against Treasurer's Bondsmen.

Olympia, March 1.—Special.—The supreme court today handed down decisions in the following cases:

Dennis Keeler, appellant, vs. Commercial Printing Company et al., respondents—King county; affirmed.

County of Kittitas, respondent, vs. John F. Travers et al., appellants—Affirmed.

"The foregoing case was an appeal from a judgment obtained by the county upon the treasurer's bond. A default was occasioned by the failure of a bank in which the treasurer had deposited county funds, one ground of the contention being that the money was deposited in the bank with the knowledge and consent of the county commissioners. The supreme judges do not think this fact makes any difference, as the treasurer, and not the commissioners of a county, is responsible for the public money.

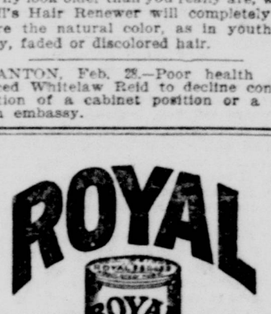
It is further contended that the three appellants who signed the bond as sureties were married women at the time, and that the court erred in entering a personal judgment against them, for which their separate estates would be liable, and that in order for them to incur a charge against their separate estates an intention to do so must be declared in the contract, or a consideration obtained for the benefit of the estate itself, neither of which appeared in this instance. It is contended that their joining in the contract did no more than to subject the community real estate to liability for the judgment obtained upon the bond.

The supreme court holds that while a married woman has not an unlimited right to contract with reference to community property, she has that right with reference to her separate estate, and that the effect of this contract is to subject the entire property, community and separate, to the satisfaction of a judgment.

Why look older than you really are, when Hall's Hair Renewer will completely restore the natural color, as in youth, to gray, faded or discolored hair.

CANTON, Feb. 28.—Poor health has forced Whitelaw Reid to decline consideration of a cabinet position or a foreign embassy.

ROYAL



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Absolutely Pure.

Celebrated for its great leavening strength and healthfulness. Assures the food against alum and all forms of adulteration common to the cheap brands.

Royal Baking Powder Co., New York.

The good-will that goes with good tea is part of the profit—that is why some grocers are glad to sell you *Schilling's Best*.

But there is more profit, take it all in all, in *Schilling's Best* tea—for you, for the grocer, and for us.

A Schilling & Company
San Francisco 294

Econ-omy

And strength are combined in Hood's Sarsaparilla. One hundred doses one dollar is peculiar to and true only of Hood's Sarsaparilla. This is why a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla contains more curative power than any other. The great merit of Hood's Sarsaparilla, proved by its wonderful cures, has placed it not only in the front rank of medicines, but has given it a place alone and unapproachable as the One True Blood Purifier. It has accomplished thousands of cures of scrofula, rheumatism, dyspepsia, neuralgia, salt rheum and other troubles. It is the great building up medicine.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier.

Hood's Pills are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Hosiery Department

EXTRA VALUES FOR LADIES AND CHILDREN.

Ladies' Fast Black Seamless Cotton Hose, double heel and toe, all sizes	12 1-2c a Pair.
Ladies' Fancy Cotton Hose, colored tops and black boot, double heel and toe, regular value 25c	At 19c a Pair.
Ladies' Black Cotton Hose, Hermsdorf dye, double sole, extra high spliced heels, elastic top	At 25c a Pair.
Children's Tan Cotton Hose, double heel and toe, full finished seams, fast color	At 15c a Pair.
Children's Extra Heavy Black Bicycle Hose, double heels, seamless, all sizes	At 15c a Pair.
Children's Heavy Seamless Hose, both black and tan, fast colors, wide and fine ribs, all sizes	At 12 1-2c a Pair.
New Shades in Ladies' Hose—leather, oxblood, chocolate and brown	At 25c, 35c a Pair.

KID GLOVE SPECIAL.

Ladies' Five-Hook Kid Gloves, embroidered backs, all sizes, black and colored, worth $1.00	At 49c a Pair.

Assortments of New Spring Goods in Every Department.

E. W. NEWHALL & CO.

Cor. Second Av. and Madison St.

NEWS FROM TACOMA.

POPULISTS FIGHTING THE CIVIL SERVICE INVESTIGATION.

Court Asked to Prohibit Further Proceedings of the Council—The Commissioners Temporarily Suspend the Work of Changing the City Employes—Chamber of Commerce Takes Action in the Matter of City Government.

Tacoma Bureau of the Post-Intelligencer, 1123 Pacific Avenue.

TACOMA, March 1.—Special.—Today's developments in civil service affairs show that every step in the proceedings tending toward investigating the conduct of the civil service commissioners will be bitterly contested by the Populist obstructionists. Not only every effort will be made to prevent their trial on the charges of malfeasance, but the commissioners, by their adverse action, have shown what is considered a direct antagonism to the best interests of the city. A prominent attorney said today that such action is tantamount to an admission that the charges are true.

The council met at 10 o'clock this morning to begin the investigation, and hoped to be well along. But the talking of John Paul Judson, city attorney under Fawcett, foreman of the Populist vigilance committee and lawyer for Teats and his civil service colleague, took up nearly the entire day. Judson persisted in advancing technicalities as to why the investigation should be stopped. He claimed that the council had no jurisdiction, notwithstanding that Assistant City Attorney J. S. Whitehouse, in his counter-arguments, showed from the charter that the council had authority to try and remove city officers who were charged with wrongdoing. Bulger and Hartman moved that all proceedings in the case be suspended, but they were promptly voted down. The investigation will be taken up further Thursday.

Attorney C. P. Bennett, this afternoon, representing Richard Bond, one of the commissioners, applied to Judge Williamson for a writ of prohibition to the city council to stop the investigation of the commissioners. The complaint recites that no charges under the sanction of oath have been made; that the charges are of a criminal nature, and must be made by the mayor to the city council, grand jury or prosecuting attorney, and that the mayor has not brought any charges. The application will be argued this morning.

Owing to the investigation, the commissioners this morning postponed the examinations scheduled for today for a week.

Commissioner Teats said today that the eligible list of policemen would probably be ready for submission to the mayor today.

Harbor Master's Report.

TACOMA, March 1.—Special.—The February report of Harbormaster Clift is as follows:

Imports—	Value.
From China and Japan	$613,018 85
Previously reported	778,310 26
Total for two months	$1,391,329 11
Exports—	Value.
1,212 bushels wheat	$1,633 00
22,420 barrels flour	94,250 00
7,698,669 feet lumber	68,461 00
26,113 tons coal	86,980 00
Merchandise to China and Japan	361,653 00
Merchandise to British Columbia	31,710 00
Total	$644,087 00
Previously reported	599,128 67
Total for two months	$1,243,215 67
Inward registered tonnage	37,144
Inward cargo tonnage	4,740
Outward registered tonnage	39,528
Outward cargo tonnage	46,470
Deep sea arrivals	27
Deep sea departures	31

Tacoma News in Brief.

TACOMA, March 1.—Special.—Fishing steamer Edith arrived from the northern banks yesterday with a good catch of halibut.

Steam collier Mineola sailed this morning for San Francisco with coal.

Schooner Dashing Wave arrived from San Francisco last night to load lumber.

All the evidence in the Bardsley warrant suit is in, and argument will begin Wednesday.

ADVICE TO THE CITY.

The Chamber of Commerce Offers Sensible Suggestions.

TACOMA, March 1.—Special.—At the annual meeting of the Tacoma Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade held this afternoon and tonight, the long expected report of the committee on city and county affairs was made.

For several days this committee had been considering the proposed amended city street railway franchise, and recommends that street railway companies be compelled to pave between the tracks of their lines and one foot on each side. The matter of license fees is covered with the advice to collect 1 per cent. of all gross receipts between $200,000 and $300,000; 2 per cent. on from $300,000 to $400,000; 3 per cent. to $450,000; 4 per cent. to $500,000, and 5 per cent. on all in excess of $500,000. It is recommended that no fee be collected on gross receipts of less than $200,000, as that amount would be needed to pay operating expenses. The committee also recommends that 1 per cent. be collected on all gross receipts of the freight branch of the business, and that the city council be empowered to increase this to 5 per cent. The committee is composed of R. G. Hudson, P. Tillinghast, L. W. Hoys, C. W. Morrell and Frank H. Graham.

The annual report of the secretary shows the association to be in a most prosperous condition. There is but $300 due from members, and rentals of the building enable the chamber to have its quarters free. The membership dues collected for various years ending March 1 are given as follows: 1892, $1,901; 1893, $1,7[illegible] 1894, $1,521.60; 1895, $1,674; 1896, $2,673.20; 18[illegible] $3,255.60.

During the last year forty-two meetings were held by the board of trustees and [illegible] by the association. The entire list of officers was re-elected.

More Examinations.

Examinations were held yesterday [illegible] the civil service commission for engineer for the pumping station and pipemen, truckmen and drivers in the fire department. Those taking the examination were: Engineers, F. W. Bird, Gilbert Brooks and F. K. Dunlop; driver, F. [illegible] Smith; pipemen and truckmen, Aubrey Seavey, John B. Corbin, Charles E. Murray and J. N. Longfellow.

The technical questions for engineers were prepared by J. M. Colman, S. [illegible] Shuffleton and E. L. McAllaster. Following are sample questions:

"How many gallons of water will a double-acting pump, with water cylinder four inches in diameter and eight-inch stroke, making 100 strokes per minute throw per hour?

"How can we determine by experiment the pressure of steam in the cylinder at all points of the stroke?"

The spelling test words were: "Eccentric, piston, cylinder, valve, crank, shaft, lubricator, diameter, duplex, pressure."

PERSONAL.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Smallman, of Snohomish, are stopping at the Diller.

Douglas Allmond, of Anacortes, was registered at the Butler yesterday.

C. D. Matheney, of Mosher, is in the city on business and is at the Diller.

J. A. Russell, of Vancouver, B. C., was registered at the Rainier-Grand last night.

F. J. Holman and H. C. Barrell, mining men of Spokane, are among the Butler guests.

William Bell, one of Wenatchee's leading business men, was at the Butler yesterday.

C. W. Walker, of Toronto, was at the Northern yesterday. He is on his way to Boundary creek.

Capt. L. Willey, of the Seattle and Olympia Steamship Company, was at the