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## THE LEGISLATURE.

### A Number of Important Measures Up for Consideration.

Boise, Ida., Jan. 22.—The eighth session of the legislature closed its third week yesterday, and so far but one law has been enacted, which appropriated \$50,000 for the expenses of the present session. The house has passed several other bills, but the senate is still struggling with all the measures sent from the lower house. It is thought that the present week will see a number of important bills passed. There is a tendency in both houses to make haste slowly, which to most people is a refreshing sign after the experience had of former legislatures, which enacted illy considered bills hastily, that the people of the whole state might repent of their precipitancy at their leisure. The present legislature is determined apparently to be cautious in its enactments, and although it is almost a certainty that every pledge of the republican party to the people will be fulfilled, these laws will be enacted only after a thorough study of both their form and substance.

During the coming weeks, the laws against immorality, providing for the punishment of those guilty of adultery and polygamy will undoubtedly come up for discussion, and in all probability will pass. These laws have been in the hands of the republican caucuses of both the house and senate, and by these caucuses were referred to a joint committee, which has framed up an adultery and polygamy statute which should meet with widespread approval.

Governor Gooding, it is well understood is insistent in his request that laws be enacted for the adequate punishment of offenders charged with either or both of these offenses, and a large majority of the members are of the same mind with him.

Both state and county depository bills, which are measures urged by the administration will receive careful consideration this week, and an effort will be made to push both bills to passage as early a date as possible. The state depository bill, introduced by the finance committee in the senate, has been referred to the committee of the whole, and will be reported favorable early in the session. It provides for the loaning of the state funds to banks at interest not less than two per cent on daily balances. It is claimed that the state's average daily balance is not far from \$75, which at even two per cent would give an income of \$15,000 a year more than is now received. The county depository bill, which will be introduced in the house, will make practically the same provision for the disposal of county funds, that is aimed at for the state funds. Naturally it is expected that each measure will be hardly fought, but from the statements of a large number of the members it is apparent that both bills will pass. This form of disposal of public funds was constantly advocated by Governor Gooding in his campaign, and the administration it is understood is back of both measures.

Still another administration measure that will come up for discussion and early action in the legislature, is the reorganization of the state land board, which was the object of one of the governor's recommendations in his message. The board has held a number of meetings during the past three weeks, and it is claimed that it has been clearly determined that under the present form of control of state lands that during the past two years the state has suffered great loss. In the blanket filing on sixty thousand acres of land in Idaho county, made about two years ago, and 45,000 acres of which it was afterwards attempted to relinquish, it is claimed the state has lost probably fully \$500,000. When the effort to relinquish was made the commissioner of the general land office in refusing to accept the relinquishment stated that it would be accepted if the state could show that the selection had been made through error, conspiracy or fraud, or in case the land taken was mineral land. Although an effort is still under way to secure the approval of the relinquishment, it is regarded as entirely possible that those efforts may not succeed. Measures which are expected to come up this week are the appro-

priation bills for the various state educational institutions. The president of the state university and of the two state normal schools are here for the purpose of urging the claims of those institutions. The university asks for something more than a hundred thousand dollars, for maintenance and improvements, the Lewiston Normal \$90,000 and the Albion normal \$75,000. A knotty question has arisen in regard to these matters, which may compel deferring action on these appropriations until a decision can be obtained from the supreme court. The Morrison administration, acting under instruction of late Attorney General Bagley, held that Section 5 of the enabling act refers not only to the funds of common schools from the sale and lease of school lands, but also to all lands granted to public educational institutions. Under this decision all such funds were held to be irrevocable, and that the land granted for endowment could not be held as the basis for the issuance of bonds for either improvement of such institutions or their maintenance, the interest from such funds only being available.

### Making Washington Beautiful.

Washington is beautiful already, but when the improvements that have been planned are completed it will be a city more beautiful and better laid out than Paris, which is today the city par excellence of the architect and the landscape-gardener. There will be nothing around the Capitol and the White House except public buildings. The strip of ground from the Capitol to the Washington Monument will be one great Mall, almost park-like in its vast spaciousness, resembling indeed the great Champs Elysees; and on either side of it rises magnificent public buildings. The bluff on which the monument now towers will be a park connecting with the grounds of the Executive Mansion. Many of the old structures, such as the Post-Office, the Land-Office, the Treasury and State Buildings, will fall into the new scheme. The departments which have outgrown their present quarters will be provided with new ones. To begin with the most practical, and the one which is not governmental there will be a Union Station, up to date, commodious and convenient. On the long Mall will rise a new and more beautiful National Museum, to replace the old Smithsonian, and opposite this will be a line of magnificent structures devoted to the agricultural and kindred departments. The blue Potomac in its great sweep around the city will be spanned by the Lincoln Memorial Bridge, costing five million dollars, while on the Washington Common and Playground it is proposed to erect a theater, baths, gymnasium and athletic buildings, all arranged for the public interest and comfort.

These improvements are now to be seen only on paper. They will require years to perfect; they will require hundreds of millions of dollars to bring them to a conclusion.—February Woman's Home Companion.

### Heyburn's Bill for Relief of Settlers on Arid Lands.

Senator Heyburn introduced in the Senate last week a bill that is of interest to Idaho on account of the large amount of desert land being reclaimed. The bill provides, that all qualified entrymen who have heretofore, or shall hereafter make bona fide entry upon lands proposed to be irrigated under the provisions of the act of June 17, 1902, known as the National Irrigation Act, may upon application, and a showing that water is not available for the irrigation of their lands, obtain leave of absence from their entries for a period not to exceed six months during any one year, until water for irrigation is turned into the main irrigation canals on the land to be irrigated.

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## THE HEPBURN BILL

### To Regulate Freight Charges is Now Before Congress.

Representative Hepburn has introduced his bill amending the interstate commerce act which has been under consideration some time and which has been submitted to the president and attorney general and other members of the administration.

Upon complaint the interstate commerce commission shall declare and order what shall be a just and reasonable rate, which order shall take effect in 60 days, the carrier having an appeal to the court of commerce to have the order of the commission reviewed. Pending the review the court may suspend the order requiring a bond from the carrier for the payment of all damages incurred by shippers.

The commission is also authorized to fix a joint rate in case two or more carriers fail to agree or orders affecting these rates being subjected to review by the court of commerce. The president is authorized to appoint an assistant attorney general for the enforcement of the act.

The interstate commerce commission is authorized, during a judicial review of its order, to modify or suspend the order under review.

Carriers refusing to obey an order of the commission are subjected to a penalty of \$5000 a day. An appeal from the court of commerce can only be taken in the supreme court of the United States.

The present interstate commerce commission is abolished and a new commission created, composed of seven commissioners, at \$7000 a year. The terms of the commissioners shall be 10 years.

A court of commerce composed of five circuit judges of the United States is created which shall hold four regular sessions each year in Washington. It shall have exclusive jurisdiction over cases brought by the interstate commerce commission. The chief justice of the supreme court of the United States is authorized to designate on the first of each year five circuit judges who shall constitute the court of commerce. The president is authorized to appoint an additional circuit judge for each of the judicial districts of the United States, who are authorized to perform the duties of the judges of the circuit court.

The bill consists of 21 sections, much attention being given to the details and methods of procedure under which the commerce commission and court of commerce shall proceed.

### Swayne Impeachment Trial.

The effect of the Swayne case upon other Federal and Circuit judges has been for some time a topic for discussion among representatives and senators, and it has just become known that a series of impeachment trials is a possibility, owing to certain information obtained from the Treasury department concerning the manner in which some of these gentlemen have made out their expense accounts. It is generally conceded that the prime charges against Judge Swayne, of Florida, is that he charged the government \$10 per day for his expenses, when as a matter of fact his expenses did not come to this large total. A number of other judges have been charging the government \$10 per day for their expenses, and this has led to the inference that other judges than Swayne have swollen their expense accounts unnecessarily, and this inference is what makes it possible that other impeachment trials will follow.

### Senator Mitchell's Defense.

Last Tuesday Senator Mitchell of Oregon rose to a point of personal privilege in the Senate, and declared that he was innocent of any attempt to defraud the Government. He denied that he had ever received any money from S. A. D. Puter or any one else to use his influence with the Commissioner of the General Land Office to expedite fraudulent claims. He declared, further that he was held upon the evidence only of "self-confessed thieves, forgers, and perjurers, in an attempt to gain immunity for their own crimes." Senator Mitchell was listened to with the closest attention and at the conclusion of his speech he was congratulated by senators on both sides for the excellent showing he had made.

### The President an Expert Boxer.

"Mike" Donovan dean of boxers has just returned from Washington, where he boxed the president an hour every afternoon for four days. It is the first of the series of bouts to continue next week and the week following. Donovan said:

"It is the first time I had boxed Roosevelt since he was governor. If anybody tells you that he's an easy mark don't believe it. He knows how to use his head, too. Neter saw a man pick up faster than he in these four days.

"Don't mind hitting me," the president said at the start. "I want you to hit me as often as you can. Don't mind how hard, either."

"We started off in good fashion and every time we hit each other he laughed good naturedly. 'Not any tapping, I tell you.' They were good hard blows.

"I never saw a pleasanter man. He's a fighter and knows how to give and take blows. He keeps me busy. I was not running into any of his blows, either. He can hold his own with the best of them in the clubs. I know few men who box regularly in athletic clubs who can worst him, says a New York dispatch.

### Ricks Academy Notes.

The first and the second year students have combined to give an entertainment in Flamm's hall on February 4. Both classes have prepared a short play. The first year class will present a two act comedy entitled "The Auction of the Bachelors." The second year students will give a one act farce called "Who's to Win Him." In addition there will be class songs and recitations.

Prof. Kirkham and the choir are working hard upon an opera entitled "Phyllis," the solo parts so far assigned are, Mary Hollstrom, David L. Smith and Leo Jacobs. Not all the parts are chosen. The opera will be given in the near future.

The second year English class is doing some very good work in original stories. They also have a class paper.

The winter course students have done excellent work considering the length of time they have been at the academy. Some of these students have done no school work for a number of years.

Next Thursday February 26, is visitor's day. An excellent program has been prepared by the eighth grade class. On visitor's day the program is given after three o'clock, the closing time for regular classes. The public is cordially invited to visit the Academy on other days than visitor's day.

Great progress has been made in the musical department. Music is taught to all. The spirits of the students are kept up by the cheerful and inspirational singing. Nearly every class has its song and are united by this medium. The missionaries are always singing. So there will be no trouble in this regard.

A sensation has been created in Portland by the mysterious disappearance of Carl Phelps, secretary of the federal grand jury, which is investigating the land fraud cases. Phelps asked to be excused from the jury room for a few minutes on Friday afternoon. He has not been seen since by the members of the jury or by the agents of the government. Detectives have been unable to trace Phelps' movements since leaving the court room.

T. H. Carter was Tuesday, elected United States Senator from Montana, for the term beginning March 4, to succeed Paris Gibson, on the sixth ballot of the session. All but one of the Republicans, Representative Linderman of Madison county, voted for Carter, while one Fusionist, Coleman of Silver Bow, voted for the senator.

### Biggest Water Suit in the World.

The big water case, in which you and I and everybody else who owns water stock on the upper Snake river are interested still continues to be heard in sections, says the Blackfoot Republican. They are at Teton Basin this week and will go from there to St. Anthony, then to Idaho Falls and Blackfoot. Last week the court was in session at Rexburg, and James H. Hawley, of Boise, J. A. Bagley of Montpelier, S. F. Dietrich of Pocatello, Wm A. Lee of Salt Lake, J. F. Hansborough, Sam Rich, Eph H. Watson and J. W. Jones of Blackfoot, D. Worth Clark, Harry Holden, J. Ed Smith and O. E. McCutcheon of Idaho Falls, Col. Hamer and Jas. G. Gwinn of St. Anthony, and few other legal lights were in attendance. The attorneys did a very commendable thing to reduce the time and expense by having a stipulation committee appointed to formulate plans by which all superfluous work and expense should be cut out. The following named gentlemen were appointed on the stipulation committee:

Hawley, Bagley, Dietrich, Hansborough and Gwinn.

They spent the day on the matter and saved the irrigators of this valley thousands of dollars expense by simplifying the work of the suit, reducing it really about one half. While Judge Stewart is hearing evidence in the case in the localities where it is the most convenient for witnesses to get together a lot of draughtsmen in the state engineer's office are making maps of the farms in this section showing every man's land, his ditches, cultivated land, high places, low places, sage brush, willows and sloughs, and as fast as they are finished they are forwarded to the court to be used in adjudication of rights. There are large maps showing relative positions and big canal systems, and there are smaller sections showing subdivisions and details, and when the water rights have all been adjusted the storing of water, and the further settlement of the valley can proceed on an intelligent basis.

People who have been referring to the wonders of the Nile all these years or pointing to Utah for examples of irrigation may leave those pony systems and turn to Idaho to find systems so comprehensive they will form great correlated empires compared with which the Nile is old and slow.—Blackfoot Republican.

### Brady's Visit at the Capital.

A very prominent and interesting visitor in the city of Washington last week was Hon. Jas. H. Brady, of Pocatello, Idaho, Chairman of the Idaho Republican Central Committee. The record that Mr. Brady made in politics was something marvelous, and has excited a great deal of interest outside of Idaho. He is recognized as a factor to be reckoned with in Idaho politics in the future. While here Mr. Brady called at the White House and had an extensive conversation with President Roosevelt on the political situation in Idaho.

Mr. Brady came here to testify in the Smoot case, and in his testimony he took advantage of the situation and told the committee a few things about the last campaign in Idaho that was quite startling, especially to Senator Dubois. He denounced the statements made by Chas. H. Jackson that the Mormon church controlled the politics of Idaho, and said further that the people of Idaho are republicans because they believe in the principles of the republican party, and not because of any Mormon question.

The worthy gentleman on the "make-up" last week, presumed that Parker and St. Anthony were so close together that the Parker news might just as well be "run" with the St. Anthony locals, consequently the Parker communication was mixed up with the local happenings of the county seat. We offer this with apologies to our Parker correspondent.

## RUSSIAN UPRISING.

### Patient Subjects Rebel Against Oppression of Centuries.

An uprising, lacking only a leader to amount to revolution, occurred in St. Petersburg, Monday, in which hundreds of unarmed workingmen were killed and probably 2,000 wounded, by Russian troops. The trouble arose over the determination of the working classes to present a petition to the czar, asking for enlarged privileges. They had been warned by the military authorities not to attempt to do so, under penalty of being fired upon. The warning was unheeded, and, led by two priests, one of whom was killed by the first volley, several thousand people began a march to the palace, to present the czar a petition. Without further warning they were fired upon by the troops. At the first volley the population became enraged, and the troops were assaulted with stones and anything that came to hand, but little injury was inflicted by such means. The fight was kept up all day and late into the night, before anything like quiet was restored. The impression throughout Europe prevails that only a leader is needed to repeat the tragedies of the French revolution. The strictest censorship possible is being exercised, but the conflict is being waged with such fury that it is impossible to suppress all news of what has transpired, and the danger of a general uprising is not yet past. After the assault by troops the workingmen deliberately set about making weapons, utilizing anything that came to hand. They have very few fire arms, which places them at the mercy of the troops.

St. Petersburg has often witnessed rioting, clearing the streets of demonstrations and Cossack charges with whips and sabers, but the bloodshed of yesterday is unparalleled in its history and the many stories of brutality told by the populace seem to have convinced them that a program of deliberate blood-letting was planned to overawe the strikers. This is most indignantly denied by the authorities who protest earnestly that they regret that the situation compelled such stern measures. They say order had to be restored or the city would have fallen into the hands of the mob.

The sale of petroleum has been forbidden by the police to prevent the possibility of the strikers attempting to destroy the city by fire.

### Public Building for Moscow.

The sub-committee of the Committee on Public Buildings and grounds of the house has recommended the passage of the bill introduced by Congressman French appropriating \$5,000 for the erection of a post office and court house at Moscow. This action on the part of the sub-committee practically assures the passage of the bill. Mr. French has now set himself to work in an effort to have public buildings erected at Lewiston and Pocatello. It is feared, however, that he will experience a great deal more difficulty in this than procuring the Moscow building. Moscow is a very steady conservative town, while both Lewiston and Pocatello are growing so fast that the members of the committee fear that in case a public building were erected in each place they would in a few years be inadequate and would have to be supplanted by large and costly buildings.

District court has been in session this week, taking evidence in the big water suit, which involves the rights of every user of water in Bingham and Fremont counties. Among the attorneys present are J. W. Jones and S. H. Rich, of Blackfoot; O. E. McCutcheon, D. Worth Clark, B. J. Briggs and E. H. Holden, of Idaho Falls; W. A. Halzheimer, of Pocatello and Wm. A. Lee, of Salt Lake.