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ARIZONA LEGISLATURE

Work Accomplished During the Week—
Next Thursday Last Day of the
Session—Bills to be Passed.

The following bills were introduced into the house: By Mr. Woolf (by request) for the protection of water users. It requires that canal companies shall keep an open record of the users of water under their systems, with the amount of water each has contracted for and the amount that has been delivered to each. There shall also be a record of the flow of water for every day; by Mr. Marlur, to prohibit bawdy houses within 200 yards of any railroad depot in a town of 3,000 or more. A violation of the provisions of the bill is to be made a penitentiary offense; by Mr. Herr, authorizing the repair of the territorial bridge across the Gila at Florence at a cost not exceeding \$10,000; by Mr. Barrow (by request) to prevent the introduction and spread of scab among sheep. The bill contemplates the appointment of a sheep inspector whose compensation shall be five cents a head for inspection and fifteen cents for inspection and dipping; by Mr. Webb, amending the water laws by providing that the banks of a canal shall be understood an area on each side equal to half the width of the canal; by Mr. Webb, providing for the payment of interpreters in criminal cases; in justices courts supervisors may authorize their employment at a salary of not more than \$5 a day; by Mr. Ingalls for the care of dependent and delinquent children under the age of sixteen. The bill provides among other things for the establishment of a juvenile court and the appointment of probation officers. They shall have jurisdiction over dependent and delinquent children and the children of cruel or depraved parents; by Mr. Herr regulating the hours of labor on public works. The hours are fixed at eight and any violation except in cases of emergency shall be regarded as a misdemeanor; by Mr. Morrison, for the protection of employes who are members of labor unions; it is made an offense to discriminate against an employe because he is a member of a union; by Mr. Morrison (by request) for the encouragement of railroad construction by exemption from taxation for period of ten years.

The following bills were introduced in the council: By Dr. Whiteside, authorizing the governor to appoint a commission to the St. Louis exposition and making provision for an exhibit; by Dr. Whiteside, fixing the salary of the territorial treasurer at \$2,500 a year; by Mr. Burson, amending the law with reference to appeals from the boards of equalization; by Dr. Whiteside, providing for the election of clerks of courts. The only measure finally disposed of was the house bill providing for the holding of meetings of stockholders and directors of corporations outside the territory. It was indefinitely postponed.

The following bills have passed both houses: House bill 89, providing for the display of the United States flag on school houses; council bill fixing a punishment for stealing rides on railroad trains; a council bill prohibiting trespassing on railroad property; a

house bill fixing the limitation of time in damage suits; a house bill fixing the limit of time in which a contest of will may be instituted; a house bill defining grand larceny; a house bill amending the divorce laws; a house bill providing for the appointment by county officers of deputies.

The business now more immediately before the council consists of the bills carrying appropriations for the educational institutions. These institutions are located in seven counties of the territory. A councilman represents each of these counties and each councilman wants all that he can get for his county. Without harmony among the seven councilmen none of them can get anything. In order that one of them may have what he wants it looks now as if all would have to be satisfied. No reports have been made yet on any of these appropriations, but it is believed that they will all be favorable with perhaps some unimportant amendments.

The house gave the local option law another lease of life by the defeat by a tie vote of Mr. Gonzales' bill for the abolition of the law. The bill had been amended so as to make the law more easily applicable. The amendment did not meet with the approval of all the friends of the present law and it was defeated. Then the bill itself was taken up and put out of the way for the present session. It had been on the books to pass this bill. The bill amending the military code was passed by a majority of 16 to 7. It provides for the addition of a regimental band. It changes the title of the adjutant general from brigadier general to colonel. This was done at the suggestion of Adjutant General Leavell. It fixes his salary at \$300 and provides for the expenses of the guard in a sum not exceeding \$600. A bill was passed amending the game laws of the territory in a few unimportant particulars. The law with relation to the sale of property for taxes was also slightly amended for the purpose of preventing delinquents from availing themselves of delays intended to result in compromises. A bill requiring insurance companies to furnish blank forms of proof of loss was passed. Council bill 34 relating to change of venue from justices' courts was passed. It allows one change of venue and no more.

A council bill was passed authorizing the governor to appoint a board of managers with ladies as honorary members of the St. Louis exposition. The house bill providing for the closing of barber shops on Sundays and holidays was defeated, and also the house bill making the office of county assessor elective. All this was done by indefinite postponement.

Judge Kibbey introduced two bills, one empowering cities to own drive-ways and the other extending the power of supervisors in laying out public roads. The house bill appropriating \$175 for the payment for 500 copies of the report of the governor to the secretary of the interior was passed, also the house bill changing the name of the insane asylum to the territorial asylum for the insane. The house bill contemplating the levying of a tax on dogs was destroyed. A house bill authorizing the members of the national guard to visit the St. Louis exposition

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FOREST RESERVATIONS

Policy of the Administration Regarding
Forest Reserves—Statement From
the General Land Office.

Commissioner Richards of the General Land Office, who is the special representative of the President in all matters pertaining to lands, irrigation and forestry, and who was for four years Governor of Wyoming, has the following statement respecting the present and future policy of this administration relating to the establishment and control of forest reserves:

"The President's purpose and desire is to protect and preserve the remaining forests upon public lands from the devastation and destruction which has been the fate of those in large portions of the Appalachian Mountains and other forest sections of the country. In doing this a supply of timber will be preserved for future needs, and natural sources of water supply will be so protected as to prevent flooding of the streams during the springtime, and the melting of the snows, and to insure water for irrigation and other purposes during the dry season. The establishment and proper maintenance of forest reserves is indispensable to any extensive reclamation or cultivation of lands in the arid region under the recent act of Congress, which appropriated for that purpose the proceeds of the sales of public lands.

It is and has been the President's policy to encourage the settlement of home builders in every way; to see that actual settlers within the forest reserves are accorded every reasonable protection, and those living within the immediate vicinity of those reserves who are dependent upon them for grazing cattle and horses, and for necessary timber for building and fuel, accorded access to the reserves for these purposes, under such reasonable restrictions as will prevent waste and destruction. It has been so conclusively demonstrated that uncontrolled sheep grazing in forest reserves is injurious to the forest growth, and to the natural water cover that the great migratory flocks of sheep are necessarily kept out of the reserves, but even this policy is pursued with cautious attention to the prevention of injury to those engaged in sheep raising.

"The preservation of wild game, such as moose, elk and deer, which is only a minor feature of the control of the forest reserve, is authorized by an act of Congress which direct that those employed in the forestry service shall in all practicable ways aid in the enforcement of the game and fish laws of the State or Territory in which the forest reserve is located. The law of the State or Territory upon this subject is to be the sole guide of these officers.

The United States has interposed no law of its own and the administration has given no directions to its forestry officers other than the local laws shall be enforced. In some of the Western States and Territories, notably Wyoming, the government forest rangers are by the law of the State made assistant game wardens of the State.

"The work of establishing and maintaining forest reserves will have

such a vast and beneficial influence in the settlement and development of the Western States and Territories that it must be controlled by a fixed policy, in which matters of minor consideration must give way to final and general permanent good. The one guiding purpose of the administration in dealing with forestry, pasturage, irrigation, and with the land generally, is to help and make easy the path of the home builder, the small ranchman, and not to let the land be exploited and skinned by those who have no permanent interest therein, and who do not build homes or remain actual residents."

Death of D. St. Clair.

David St. Clair died this morning at his home in West Prescott. He leaves a wife here, and a sister, Mrs. Charles Waugh, and a father in St. Louis, and a brother employed in the civil service at Washington, D. C.

Born on the banks of the Shenandoah in Virginia, Dec. 24, 1860, he was reared in a typical southern family, his father being a prominent citizen and officer in the Confederate army.

He came to Prescott in 1900 for his health and for a time was greatly improved. He married in September of that year Miss Ella Hunter, who was engaged here in teaching music.

During the last year he has been gradually failing until the end finally came this morning at 6 o'clock when he passed peacefully away.

The funeral will be held Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Logan undertaking parlors, Father Bennett conducting the services.

Mrs. St. Clair will remain here for a time for she feels she is among true friends and deeply appreciates the extreme kindness which has always been extended to her by the people of Prescott, and especially in this hour of sad affliction.—Prescott Herald.

Miss L. R. Hunter of the Flagstaff Normal is a sister of Mrs. St. Clair and left Monday for Prescott to attend the funeral.

Warning to Gold Hunters.

There have been many wild and exaggerated stories sent out from Douglas about exceedingly rich gold strikes in Sonora and the great rush to these fields that is going on through Douglas. As stated, all these stories are greatly exaggerated, and some of them lie pure and simple. They were started by the bringing to the front of the El Tigre mine. To listen to all the reports about this mine one would imagine that it is a huge mass of gold. Such is not the case. Like all gold mines, some phenomenal rich specimens have been taken from it, but they do not represent the value of the average ore in the property. Nevertheless it is a great prospect, and under intelligent management, can be developed into a great mine and a splendid paying proposition. Northern Sonora is a splendid mineral field, new discoveries are constantly being made, but there is no extraordinary rush through Douglas, as described in the dispatches, and people who contemplate going into Sonora on the strength of these stories had better make careful inquiries before taking a jump in the dark.—Douglas International.