

THE STATE CAPITAL

Joint Railroad Committees Listen to Arguments.

ATTORNEYS GIVEN ATTENTION

Condition of the Various Railroads Set Forth by the Ablest Men Connected Therewith.

The railways had an inning before the joint railroad committees of the legislature. Some of the ablest men connected with the railways were present, and all were given respectful attention.

W. W. Cotton, attorney for the Oregon Railway & Navigation, gave the early history of his road, and the many reductions made in rates, compulsory and otherwise. Since 1889, wheat shipments had not increased to any extent from Portland and Sound points, he said, but new roads had divided up the freight haul. The reductions in rates from 1887 to 1893 would have paid the fixed charges of the old indebtedness, which amounted to \$1,300,000. Stock, once worth \$1 a share, he said, is now selling for 13 cents. The present bonds bear only 4 per cent, and the present bondholders' debt is only \$17,500 a mile, and on this the road only asks to be allowed to earn 6 per cent. He said wheat today was 20 cents a bushel higher in the Palouse than it was when the W. & N. bill passed. He showed by figures that the Walla Walla farmer was getting more profit out of wheat than the farmer of Iowa. He said the railroads had been treated unfairly, while the farmers were fairly prosperous. He called attention to the fact that his road could only operate one passenger train a day, and for this it had to keep agents all along the line, and a majority of its cars were half empty, while the Pennsylvania line out of New York runs thirty-one trains daily, all crowded. The fare in the East, he said, is 3 cents flat and higher, and he asked if it would be fair to put the same rate on roads in this country.

He then further explained that the Miller bill would put a blanket rate of \$3 all over the Palouse. "We would be entitled," he said, "to \$3.75 per ton from Eastern Washington under the Miller bill, but would be compelled, out of self-protection, to haul for \$3. A few years ago that rate was \$6."

President E. McNeil, of the Oregon Railway & Navigation Company, presented a volume of figures, showing the deficit of the Washington business of the Oregon Railway & Navigation Company, amounting to more than \$39,000. The average freight rate in the state per ton per mile is 1.7 cents, and the average passenger rate of the year's business is 8.3 cents, and the local rate of conductor's collections is 4.16 cents a mile.

Attorney Albert Allen, of Spokane, offered a copy of the interstate commerce report of the Spokane & Northern road, showing the business during the fiscal year, including the net earnings, which showed a net profit of \$31,027. There is a debt of \$465,000, he said, money advanced to keep the road out of the hands of receivers during the last five years, and if the road be left alone, it would take over fifteen years to pay off that debt. Competition with the Canadian Pacific lines, aside from legislation, he said, made his one of the hardest-fought roads in the state, as all cuts had to be met. If the Miller or the Canutt bill passed, it would prevent the extension of the Spokane & Northern into the Okanogan country. He proposed an amendment, making the law inoperative as to railroads organized in this state not over 150 miles in length, or on extensions to be built, or on roads now in the hands of receivers.

Attorney Thompson, of Seattle, representing the Great Northern, said every railroad in Washington had lost money for five years, and this is due solely to the fact that they had operated in this state. "Some of you may say," said Thompson, "that they need not have come here; but they did, just as some of you people came, and perhaps with the same motive." His road, he said, had never earned a cent on its investment in this state. He made an argumentative talk without figures or facts, and said such legislation would prevent building of a road into the Kootenai country. He denounced the fellow-servant act, which passed the senate Thursday. He said the proposed farm-crossing bill would cost his road \$200,000, and named numerous other bills which he said showed a desire to cripple corporations or a lack of knowledge of what the railroads were already suffering from in this state. A little over 75 per cent of the gross earnings of the Great Northern, on business originating in this state, was paid out to labor in this state, he said.

President Tyler, of the Washington & Columbia River road, said if these rate bills were passed there would not be enough of his road left to wad a gun with. It had passed through the hands of two receivers, and with the Miller bill would soon be in the hands of another. The road is 163 miles long, and the present bonded indebtedness through reorganization is less than \$15,000, the bonds bringing 4 per cent. S. G. Grosscup, of the Northern Pacific, said he was not alone representing his road, but 40,000 persons in the state who are dependent upon the railroads for a living.

Representative Gilkey, of Chehalis, has introduced a bill authorizing the fish commission, which was created in 1895, to establish a fish hatchery on the Chehalis river, or one of its tributaries. For the maintenance of the hatchery, the bill asks for an appropriation of \$5,000.

The wheelmen of Olympia will try to get a bill presented providing that the county commissioners may grant to any bicycle association the right to the use of from four to six feet of the unused outside portion of any public highway for preparation and use as a bicycle path, all the expense of putting in condition to be borne by the association, but when once constructed to be under the protection of the public. Another bill will seek to compel common carriers to check bicycles free.

Animals living in absolute darkness have no eyes whatever.

But One Bill Passed the Senate.

The lower branch of the legislature convened Monday morning at 10 o'clock and the senate at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

The house passed several bills, none of which are very important. The greater part of the day's session in the house was devoted to routine matters. The senate passed but one bill, the house bill providing for the appointment of county sheep commissioners, and it now goes to the governor for his approval.

The main feature of the day was the postponement in the house of consideration of the bill abolishing fishtraps, wheels, etc., and the passage of a resolution in the senate, providing for the appointment of three holdover senators as a committee to investigate the fishtrap question and report at the next session of the legislature.

Sensors Cole, Dorr and High were appointed a committee to visit the school for defective youth and to investigate the fish industry at the Cascades. Senator Taylor inquired whether there would be a committee appointed to investigate the governor's charges against the penitentiary, saying if there would not, a visiting committee should be appointed in order to get information necessary for the appropriations desired. President Daniels replied that a committee to investigate would be appointed.

Houghton's sugar bill, giving a bounty of 1 cent a pound for sugar manufactured during three years from sugar beets, for which at least \$4 a ton may be paid, was called up as a special order. Houghton made a speech for the passage of the bill, giving an exhaustive statement of the industry in other states, and said he had been assured that if the bill passed that at least three factories would be started in the state at once. After full consideration the bill was ordered engrossed.

House Bills and Memorials.

The following house bills passed the house:

By De Mattos, establishing a board of pardons composed of the secretary of state, state auditor and attorney-general; Kittinger, allowing mining companies to establish tramways and waterways across the property of others; Kittinger, extending the right of eminent domain to mining companies; H. S. Smith, compelling the attendance of witnesses in behalf of accused persons in criminal actions; Johnston, fixing the per diem of witnesses in criminal actions at \$1.50 and mileage at 5 cents a mile; Merrifield, fixing mileage at 3 cents for state, county, and municipal officers, witnesses and jurymen; Warner, relating to auditing cost bills of Snohomish county.

The following memorials and resolutions passed the house: By Warner, to recognize Cuban independence; Mathiot, praying for the election of United States senators by a direct vote of the people; Gilkey, praying for the establishment of a lifesaving station on Gray's harbor.

The Cline Dispensary Act.

Washington is on the verge of wiping out all her saloons and wholesale liquor houses by adopting a prohibitory law similar to that governing the sale of liquors in South Carolina. The dispensary act, known as the Cline bill, passed the house Tuesday by a vote of 47 yeas to 30 noes. The proposed law puts the full control of the liquor traffic in the hands of the governor, but eliminates from the South Carolina law the profit system that brings that state an enormous revenue. The Washington bill provides that the governor shall appoint a state commission, which in turn shall appoint county commissioners, and they in turn appoint local dispensers, all liquor being handled through the state commission, with a sufficient profit attached to pay all of the expense of the different boards and dispensaries. No liquor is sold at retail to be drunk upon the premises, and minors and drunkards are prohibited, under penalties against state agents, from receiving it. Liquor is to be sold only in quantities of not less than half a pint nor more than five gallons.

The bill passed without amendment, and its promoters are now confident it will pass the senate.

Initiative and Referendum.

The entire morning session of the house Tuesday was devoted to consideration of the bill for a constitutional amendment to submit the initiative and referendum to a vote of the people. The bill passed.

Sugar Bounty Bill Passed.

The senate passed eight bills, two of which are house bills, as follows: By Powell, allowing \$100 exemption of personal services on garnishments; by Roberts, giving a married woman power to act as administratrix. Among the senate bills passed are Houghton's, by a vote of 22 yeas and 3 noes. The bill allows a bounty of 1 cent a pound for all sugar manufactured for three years after factories are established, but limits any one year's bounties at \$50,000, and requires that at least \$4 a ton shall be paid the producer for sugar beets on which the bounty is paid.

De Mattos' house bill, for the reduction of jury fees to \$2, and mileage to 5 cents, brought out great opposition from the rural members, while the city members fought for it eagerly. After much discussion it was tabled until action was had on the contingent fund bill.

The following senate bills passed the senate at the afternoon session:

By Taylor, relating to estates of infants and incompetent persons. The bill requires a guardian to accept claims within thirty days to prevent judgment being taken, and provides that no judgment, except foreclosure of mortgage or lien, shall be a lien against the estate of the ward, but shall be paid as are other claims.

A bill by the judiciary committee, allowing municipal corporations to begin actions without giving bonds.

A bill making it unlawful and punishable by fine and imprisonment to cut, tap, or take electric currents from electric wires or cables, passed.

The house has occurred in the senate amendments to Land's bill regarding street car companies, and the bill was sent to the governor for approval. It provides as follows: "Hereafter, street-car companies, or street-car companies, or street-car corporations, shall employ none to operate or assist as conductor, motorman or gripman on any operating cars or dummies upon any street railway or street car line in the state."

HOUSE AGAINST TRAPS.

The Bill Abolishing Them Went Through the Lower Branch.

After a discussion lasting nearly the entire day, the house late Wednesday afternoon passed the substitute house bill, by Hansen, Edwards and Day, abolishing fishtraps, poundnets, weirs, fishwheels, purse seines and other fixed appliances, and providing that only setnets, gillnets and seines shall be used within the public waters over which the state of Washington has exclusive or concurrent jurisdiction. The minority report, which merely prohibited traps in fresh-water streams and within four miles of the mouths thereof, was indefinitely postponed by a vote of 58 yeas to 17 noes, several members voting for its defeat under the impression that the remaining bill would be amended to permit traps to remain in Puget sound. After the minority bill was killed, however, the majority arbitrarily refused to permit any such amendments to be made to the Hansen-Edwards-Day bill, and it passed just as presented by a vote of 50 yeas to 23 noes.

The bills introduced in the house are: By Powell, to prevent adulteration of candies; Powell, relating to chattel mortgages; Williams, providing for compulsory arbitration and award; Williams, providing for verification of claims presented to administrators of estates of deceased persons; Williams, providing for the manner of commencing civil actions; Barlow, prohibiting the sale of liquor on state university grounds; Rader, repealing the law creating the state board of land commissioners; Canutt, relating to telephone and telegraph companies; Phelps, making an appropriation for a state wagon road; Phelps, reducing the salaries of county officers; G. W. Baker, to prevent spread of diseases among sheep; Roberts, relative to county printing; J. M. Edwards, to establish a board for examination of surveyors; C. P. Bush, relative to exemptions of personal property; Mitchell, to prohibit the adulteration of honey; Moore, relating to improvements on school lands; Couch, providing for connecting lines between railroads; Hansen, to prevent wagging on elections; DeMattos, protecting food fishes; Roberts, relating to payment of delinquent taxes; Lusher, providing for a uniform system of common schools.

In the Senate.

Johnston's house bill, fixing witness fees in civil actions at \$2 and mileage at 5 cents, was indefinitely postponed in the senate Wednesday, by recommendation of the senate judiciary committee.

A petition from Douglas and Okanogan counties was read, asking that they be combined in one judicial district and divorced from Lincoln county.

On the call for reports of committees, a number of unimportant or conflicting bills were reported on adversely, and generally ordered indefinitely postponed by the senate. The session of the senate was very short and an early adjournment was taken.

The State Capital.

The feature of Thursday's legislative proceedings was the devotion of the entire morning session of the house to the consideration of two bills relating to the seat of government at Olympia. One measure was the bill of Mohundro, to provide for the appointment of a legislative commission to select a location for a state capital, the location to be voted on by the people at the next general election. After an animated debate, participated in by the members of all political factions the bill was killed.

Warner's bill for the repeal of the act of the last legislature providing for the erection of a \$1,000,000 capitol, the foundations of which are completed, passed.

This action of the house is considered a partial victory for Olympia in the strife over the capital question. While it is true that the capitol will not be completed, as desired by the former legislative sessions, the summary death of the measure providing for preliminary steps to remove the seat of government may reasonably lead to the belief that the present legislature will not assist in taking from Olympia its one great source of profit. Aside from the capital question, no work of importance was transacted by either branch of the legislature, except the dismissal of the senate investigating committee.

The house held an evening session that was devoted mostly to routine business.

Hicks' house bill to prohibit capital punishment was reported back by the public morals committee, with the recommendation that it be referred to the judiciary committee. The committee already condemned, and desires the advice of the judiciary committee as to whether it can be made retroactive. The senate passed the following house bills: By Hansen, to prevent vivisection and dissection in the schools of the state, except in medical schools; Bralow, fixing the salary of the supreme court reporter at \$2,000, instead of \$3,000.

Representative Merrifield, of King, has presented a bill in the house, which has for its purpose the removal of the court and library to Seattle.

Hodgdon's bill permitting judge or jury to estimate punitive damages in an action where there occurs loss of life has passed the house. The rule of compensatory or actual damages is the present law.

Representative Barlow, of Pierce, has introduced a bill in the house of interest to bicyclists. It provides for taxation on all wheels, the amount so collected to apply on the road improvement fund.

Scott's bill to prevent trespasses by sheep, etc., upon certain lands passed the house. It provides that any person being the owner, or having in his possession, charge or control as herder, or otherwise, any cattle, horses, sheep, hogs or goats, who shall herd or drive such cattle, horses, sheep, hogs or goats upon the inclosed lands of another for the purpose of pasture, against the consent of the owner of such inclosed lands, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not exceeding \$500, or imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding 30 days, or both.

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White quartz with a great deal of free gold has been struck near Hill City, in the Black Hills.

Glycerine is derived from the lye left after making soap, which for ages was considered of no use.

A Pennsylvania court has decided that to call a man a Mugwump is not a libel, but a compliment.

At Salem, Mass., the Roentgen ray discovery is asserted to have caused hair to grow on a bald head.

A SOLID BASIS.

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Fossil animals, bearing a close resemblance to our horses, have been found in many parts of the world.

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Like the strings of a musical instrument, the nervous system in health harmonizes pleasantly with the other parts of the system. But weakened or overworked, it jangles most inharmoniously. Quiet and invigorate it with the great tranquilizer and tonic, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which promotes digestion, bilious secretion and a regular action of the bowels, and prevents malarial, rheumatic and kidney complaints.

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All Eastern Syrup, so-called, usually very light colored and of heavy body, is made from glucose. "Tea Garden Drops" is made from Sugar Cane and is strictly pure. It is for sale everywhere in this country. Manufactured by the PACIFIC COAST SYRUP CO. All genuine "Tea Garden Drops" have the manufacturer's name lithographed on every can.

In Germany asparagus is peeled before it is canned by the aid of a special machine.

I never used so quick a cure as Piso's Cure for Consumption.—J. B. Palmer, Box 1171, Seattle, Wash., Nov. 25, 1895.



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With a better understanding of the transient nature of the many physical ills, which vanish before proper efforts—gentle efforts—pleasant efforts—rightly directed. There is comfort in the knowledge, that so many forms of sickness are not due to any actual disease, but simply to a constipated condition of the system, which the pleasant family laxative, Syrup of Figs, promptly removes. That is why it is the only remedy with millions of families, and is everywhere esteemed so highly by all who value good health. Its beneficial effects are due to the fact, that it is the one remedy which promotes internal cleanliness without debilitating the organs on which it acts. It is therefore all important, in order to get its beneficial effects, to note when you purchase, that you have the genuine article, which is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only and sold by all reputable druggists.

If in the enjoyment of good health, and the system is regular, laxatives or other remedies are then not needed. If, however, you are afflicted with constipation, one may be commended to the most skillful physicians, but if in need of a laxative, one should have the best, and with the well-informed everywhere, Syrup of Figs stands highest and is most largely used and gives most general satisfaction.

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THE FISHTRAP BILL.

Nature of the Measure Passed by Washington's Lower House.

Every canneryman and fisherman in the state of Washington are greatly interested in the bill now before the legislature in Olympia, which relates directly to the fishing industry of the Columbia river, Puget sound and other waters within that state.

The bill has already passed the lower branch of the legislature. It proposes to abolish fishtraps, and wheels, poundnets, weirs or other fixed appliances, as proposed by Governor Rogers in his message to the legislature.

The bill, in addition to abolishing traps, wheels, etc., changes the present law by putting local licenses annually of \$50 for each seine, \$10 for each gill or driftnet, and \$1.50 for each setnet. It also provides that it shall be unlawful to catch salmon between Saturday noon and Sunday evening at 6 o'clock. The bill by sections, follows:

"Section 1. It shall not be lawful for any person or persons to use or operate any poundnet, trap, weir, wheel or other fixed appliance for the purpose of taking fish within the public waters over which the state of Washington has exclusive or concurrent jurisdiction; provided, that setnets, gillnets or driftnets and seines may be used for such purpose at any time that it may be lawful to take fish in such waters and streams.

"Sec. 2. Any person violating section 1 shall, upon conviction, be fined not less than \$100 nor more than \$500, or imprisoned in the county jail not more than 60 days, or both such fine and imprisonment, and all appliances used in violation of this section shall be seized, and declared forfeited to the state.

"Sec. 3. The size of the meshes of all seines used shall not be less than four inches, stretch measure in the bunt or sack, and any person violating this section shall be fined not less than \$100 nor more than \$500, and in all seines and other appliances used in catching fish otherwise than herein provided shall be declared forfeited to the state.

"Sec. 4. The fish commissioner shall issue all license under this act to each and every person authorized to use the appliances herein mentioned, and shall issue a separate license for each appliance; provided, that he shall not issue to exceed two licenses to one and the same person or persons for seines and gillnets; and shall not issue to exceed two licenses to one and the same person for seines; and any person using any of the above named appliances without having first obtained such license therefor shall be fined not less than \$50 nor more than \$500, or imprisoned in the county jail for 60 days, or both fine and imprisonment.

"Sec. 5. No one shall fish except by rod and line in the waters of this state from 12 o'clock M. Saturday to 6 o'clock P. M. Sunday. Any one violating the provisions of this section shall be fined in any sum not less than \$50 nor more than \$100.

"Sec. 6. Any person or persons to whom a license shall be issued shall apply to the fish commissioner, who shall collect for each license issued under the provisions of this act an annual sum of \$50 for each seine, \$10 for each gillnet or driftnet, \$1.50 for each setnet, and shall pay all sums so collected into the fish hatchery fund.

"Sec. 7. No seines shall be used within 1,000 yards from any point in any direction whatever from an imaginary line drawn across the mouth of any river or stream in Washington, and the points between which said line shall be drawn shall be fixed by the fish commissioner.

"Sec. 8. No seines shall be of greater length than 1,500 feet, and no driftnet shall be of greater length than 1,800 feet, and no setnet shall be of greater length than 100 feet.

"Sec. 9. Any person owning, operating or using any setnet, seine, gill or driftnet shall cause to be placed in a conspicuous place on the buoys thereof, and also upon the seineing boats, fishing boats and sails of the same, the number designated by the fish commissioner at the time of issuing the license; and any person violating any of the provisions of sections 7, 8 and 9 of this act shall be fined in any sum not to exceed \$100.

"Sec. 10. The term person or persons, when used in this act, shall be taken to include partnerships, associations and corporations.

"Sec. 11. All moneys collected for licenses and fines and for the sale of any and all appliances used in violation of any of the provisions of this act shall be turned into the state treasury and placed in the fish hatchery fund, and the surplus, if any, of such fund shall be turned annually into the general fund of the state treasury.

"Sec. 12. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after the 1st day of January, 1898.

"Sec. 13. Nets or other fishing appliances shall not be used so as to obstruct more than one-third of the width of any river or stream or any branch or channel thereof, and setnets shall be kept apart at least 800 yards. And no fishing by any appliances mentioned herein shall be carried on within three miles of any state fish hatchery or natural spawning ground. Any person violating this section shall be fined not less than \$50 nor more than \$100."

A minority bill was prepared and signed by six members of the committee. The bill changes the present law but little, although it increases the annual tax on traps and other appliances.

A dispatch to the London Times from Athens says that the Turks are fortifying Canea. European officers, with a Turkish colonel, have inspected the forts. The corpse of the sister of the Russian vice-consul was found mutilated at Halepa.

The lower house of the Kansas legislature has killed the bill giving women the right to vote for presidential electors. The measure was drawn by the officers of the State Suffrage Association, and there has been a lobby working for it since the convening of the legislature. The measure was reported adversely by the committee on elections and the house refused to give it place on the calendar for discussion.

The Yellow river is styled the "Sorrows of China." It is estimated that its floods in the present century have cost China 11,000,000 lives.

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Beware Of the Knife.

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This experience is like that of all who suffer with deep-seated blood troubles. The doctors can do no good, and even their resorts to the knife prove either fruitless or fatal. S.S.S. is the only real blood remedy; it gets at the root of the disease and forces it out permanently.

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