"House Passes Direct Legislation Measure," *Morning Olympian*, February 15, 1911

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OLYMPIA, WASH., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1911

[H]OUSE PASSES DIRECT LEGISLATION MEASURE

[M]ason County Has Bill For Judge.

WHAT THE LEGISLATURE DID YESTERDAY.

Senate

Sidestepped fight over reapportionment by laying on table resolution calling for reapportionment on population basis.

Passed bill providing that three supreme judges be elected every two years.

Passed bill requiring all prison-made goods from outside states to bear the label.

Passed P. L. Allen bill requiring sanction of the senate to change any old university ground leases.

Passed Stewart bill for protection of fish in Silver lake.

Passed Falconer bill providing for a state mining commission.

Killed Jackson bill providing for biweekly pay day for state, county and school district employes.

House.

Passed Miller bill giving owners of second class tide lands preference rights to purchase tide lands in front of their holdings between mean and low tide.

Passed bill providing for the initiative and referendum.

After spending the entire afternoon in attempting to amend the direct legislation bill providing for the initiative and referendum, the house yesterday afternoon passed the measure by a vote of 71 to 32. All afternoon the opponents of the measure filibustered and fought hard and long to force amendments, but there was not one of them adopted. The bill as passed provides that 8 per cent may initiate a measure and that 5 percent of the voters at the last election may ask that any act of the legislature be referred to them.

The feature of the fight was the fact that the opponents of the bill managed to get a dozen or more roll-calls, although only a few of them had the nerve to openly fight the bill. Amendment after amendment was offered, but the organization by the direct legislation people was perfect and they showed that they were in control by their votes. Every amendment offered by the opponents of the bill was down. The percentage was kept at 8 per cent for the initiating and 5 per cent for the referendum, in spite of everything. As it now stands the bill provides that a law takes effect as soon as it is adopted.

The senate has had several "yellow peril" scares, but the house for the first time yesterday waved the red flag of anarchy. Doctor Beach declared that anarchy was almost here. Teats of Pierce, a strong defender of the bill finally resented the remarks of the opponents of the measure and declared he was tired of being called an anarchist because he did not agree in every way with certain members of the house. Representative Shutt of Pierce, who is seeking fame as a humorist, went through a pantomime stunt which caused the galleries much delight. After the debate had lasted for an hour or more, he got the floor, was recognized and then shaking his read

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widly and waving his hands about as though excited, he stood for about three minutes and then sat down without uttering a word. The gallery gave a shriek of delight and it was a minute or more before order was restored. That broke the spell and the final roll call was taken shortly afterward.

The senate also had a touch of direct legislation, when the bill providing for the initiating of constitutional amendments came up. Senator Falconer managed to save it by making it a special order for Thursday as eight senators were absent and it was feared that the bill would fail to pass if put to a vote.

The senate also passed the bill requiring the label on all prison-made goods shipped into Washington and [illegible] a measure which provides [illegible] the university board of regents [illegible] alterations in the leases [illegible] university ground without [illegible]

[illegible]

New Senate Bills.

[illegible]

New House Bills.

[illegible]