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 BY H. W. BATES
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UNJUST FREIGHT RATES.
 Correspondent Says People Are Struggling Under Load.

PORTLAND, Ore. Jan. 20.—Editor News:—Southern Oregon is staggering under the burden of outrageously discriminating freight rates, from Eastern points which handicap natural development to the maximum extent. Where is the blame? Surely not on the railroads because they do not make the freight rates any more; they simply leave them where they were originally, notwithstanding the reductions which have been repeatedly established elsewhere from time to time. The density of traffic which increases with that of population and business development in a new and growing country, necessitating readjustment of commercial conditions is also completely ignored. The people make the freight rates through the Interstate Commerce Commission, and so long as the people remain passive, the rates, if unreasonable, and unsuitable to changed conditions, continue to be an unjust tax upon the community.

Competent authorities declare that the Southern Oregon rate situation has been prejudiced by the combination of the Southern Pacific and Union Pacific railroad systems with the consequent closing of the Sacramento and Ogden gateways, virtually making Roseburg and other Southern Oregon cities branch line points.

That the people of Southern Oregon should have actively submitted for over nine years to the closing of the Sacramento gateway, and the thereby abrogation of a great principle of primary rights, to suit the convenience of the Southern Pacific Company is amazing.

The fact that this condition continues without a word of protest is evidence of one of two things, first—that the community is careless of the effect these rate adjustments have upon the general prosperity and prestige, or second—that they are in doubt about how to proceed to obtain relief. To concede the first is to reflect upon the intelligence and progressiveness of the businessmen whose duty it is to protect the ultimate consumer, and to admit the need of a reflection upon the ability and resourcefulness of the same parties.

The Way Out.
 Raise a suitable fund and then turn some active young men, who understand his business, loose on this proposition without waiting several years more to see what will happen.

Yours for results,
GET BUSY.
 To Whom It May Concern:

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REVIVAL MEETINGS OPEN.
 Enthusiastic Campaign in Progress at South Methodist Church.

Evangelist L. P. Law and wife, together with Mr. and Mrs. Stover, co-laborers, arrived in our city Saturday night. They are to assist Rev. Mears in a campaign at the South Methodist church.

Mr. Law is originally from Texas, stands fully six feet in his stockings and is a rangy looking blonde. Before his conversion he was well known in the earlier Oklahoma days as Deputy United States Marshal Law, the man who would go after anybody, and bring him in after going. This means a good deal, for Law's term of office covered the palmy days of such reckless and notorious outlaws as Bill Dalton, Belle Starr and the Indian gang. Watching his quick, nervous, direct action in the pulpit, one can glimpse the fact that he was and may be still, a hard proposition to turn down. He is a regular galling gun in speech, when reaching a climax the words tumble from his lips so fast that they are hardly intelligible. He punctuates, not by pauses, but by pounding the pulpit with clenched fist, and his argument is on the spot all the while quite as forcibly as his fist is. It will not be slow where Law is. Mrs. Law, the vocalist, occupies a place on the platform and shows a very superior robust soprano voice. It is easily distinguished through the chorus, and was especially effective in the tris both morning and night.

The chorus is under the direction of Mr. Stover and is in competent hands. He is a leader both by birth and training and the steady rhythm of his tempos made the songs very effective. He is an all round musician, an ex-band master of New York City and his cornet solo last night was flawless in its execution. The words seem to fall from the bell of his gold cornet with almost the distinctness of a voice the sturs were accomplished without a break and he shows the marks of an artist in execution and phrasing. Mrs. Stover presided at the piano, and is an excellent worker at the ivories, but it is understood that she has a new gold cornet, made for her special use by the Martin Company, of Elkhart, Ind., on the way, and she will be identified with the orchestra. Mr. Stover is endeavoring to organize a six-piece orchestra and the outlook is good. The many rehearsal yesterday afternoon brought words of praise from the director on the musical talent of Roseburg.

"We are his witnesses, Mr. Law dived into his subject with few preliminaries. In part he said: "Every member of the church is a witness for Jesus Christ. Have you ever thought what kind of a witness? You either represent Him or misrepresent—often a man has no desire to misrepresent Christ, but he falls because he has not had the proper vision of the Son of God. His view is distorted or too dim for him to reflect. A Christmas light ought to shine. Odd Fellows wear the badges of an order in which they are justly proud, a Mason does the same—a hardware drummer wears a monkey wrench and a real estate agent talks dirt in season and out until your throat gets dry from imaginary dust. Does any one around here recognize you as a drummer for Jesus Christ? Sometimes it happens that a Christian is in the class of the church man who lived in Liberal, Mo., three years. The town was composed of infidels and atheists and was so stringent that no Christian he allowed there. This man explained his long residence by saying: "they hadn't suspicioned me yet." I wonder if you are suspicioned of being a christian? In my experience I have found that four qualifications are necessary for a good witness. First he must know personally the facts. Second, he must be truthful. Third, he must be willing to tell the facts, and fourth he must be bold. Christianity is more than church membership. Many people confuse this and imagine that joining the church makes them Christians. Well it doesn't. It doesn't make you any more of a christian than going into a hen house makes you a cackling hen, or a growing rooster. Going into a pig pen doesn't necessarily make you a hog. The church is a means to an end, but above it is Christianity and salvation.

Mr. Law is clear, incisive and decisive; his words deliquescent and meet together in their rapidity, but he holds attention well. Sermons will be held each night.

The show gets better. Prices new or change—Golden theatre.



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