Medford Daily Tribune

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A TEST OF HONOR.

Commenting upon the effort now being made in Oregon to induce legislators to repudiate their pledges and vote for someone other than the people's choice for senator, Collier's Weekly says:

"Oregon adopted a direct primary law for the election of United States senators. It was the first state to do so, and it has now been imitated by more than ten others. Oregon's new law, the first time in operation, resulted in the naming of a democrat, Governor George E. Chamberlain. Six months later, at the recent November election, Oregon went strongly republican. Since then the following has been a favorite slogan on the part of those who want the coming Oregon legislature to evade or defy the mandate of the people through their direct primary law:

"We are convinced that a state which gave Taft a plurality of nearly 25,000 does not want a democratic United States senator.'

"Simultaneously in the west, some newspapers of large circulation and presumed influence are running on the editorial pages a series of legal decisions of ancient vintage, evidently collected by the same hand, garbled and expurgated, with the unmistakable design of paving the way for a popular approval of future court decisions which are expected to undo the work of the people. These newspapers overlook the fact that in the last campaign many states whose electoral votes will be cast for Mr. Taft, and which likewise elected republican legislatures, declared in favor of democratic governors.

"The people of Oregon evidently appreciate the fact that one upright democratic senator is worth to them any two or a dozen corporation-controlled republican senators. They are leaders in the universal revolt against conditions which have prevailed in the senate, and not a mob of irresponsible electors. Oregon has been utterly disgusted with the legislative hold-ups and factional fights of the past. In 1901 it took fifty-three ballots and twenty-two days for the Oregon legislature to elect its senator, When Charles W. Fulton was elected in 1903, forty-two ballots were taken and thirty-two days were consumed in the election. Barter and sale and political pulling and hauling were common. The Oregon legislature can now elect the people's choice and go about its legislative work and_ad-

"The Oregonians have made a long and hard fight for political justice and fair dealing. Either the present law or some equally effective mode of popular expression they are determined to have. If Oregon does not like its present method of choosing United States senators, Oregon can change its statute. But to evade the plain effect of the law, while it remains on the books, would be, on he part of a commonwealth, an unusually saddening spectacle of moral

"The choice of the people of Oregon can be undone at the coming session of the legislature only by the acts of six men. These six must come from among thirty-six whose names are known. The six must forswear their solemn written pledges. That it would be necessary for them to flee the state after their apostasy goes without saying. But their ignominy would follow them. There is a precedent for them in the case of three members of a former Pennsylvania legislature."

OREGON REPUBLICANS' PREDIC AMENT.

(Yreka Journal.)

The next session of the Oregon leg-islature will elect a United States senator to succeed Senator Fulton. By an ante-election pledge, a majority of the republican legislators are cammitted to vote for the man who received the condorsement of the people in the recent primary election. That man happened to be a democrat—Governor George H. Chamberlain. Now somes the "ma An chine" republican press, headed by the Oregonian, asking the legislators so pledged to ignore their promise and be tray the people by refusing to vote for a democrat. The plea is that the state is republican overwhelmingly and should be represented in the senset by a republican. The moral point involved i

The people of the United States will watch with interest the outcome of the matter. It will be interesting t see if Oregon has produced a senatoria aspirant who would accept the office a the hands of a traitorous ring of partisans. Should Governor Chamberlain be defated by the treachery of her leg islators, Oregon will lose her standing among the states as one of the most progressive in matters political in the Union.

We sympathize with the republicanstate represented at Washington by a democrat, but we think they will agree with us that the party cannot afford to elect a senator at the cost of its self-

COMMERCE COMMISSION HAS NO POWER TO LOWER RATES

menth old and business men are con fronteel with an average raise of 14 per cent in freight rates which was an sounced by the transcontinental lines hat Priday.

And now it is discovered that though And now it is discovered that though the republican administration valuality declared before the election no increase in freight rates would be permitted, the interstate commerce commission has not jurisdiction in the premises, nor has any other department of the govern-

An official of the commission said roday that unless it can be shown that the announcement of a raise in rates in some way a combination on the part of the offending railways in straint of trade, there is no remody.

Thus the much vaunted rate bill ab clutely fails under test to regulate one of the greaotest evils it was de-signed to abate.

All that the railroads are compelled e do under the law is to file with the interstate commerce commission the proposed new rate 30 days in advance of the date they are to be selected died on the way to the Sait lake here to go into effect, and the law is power pital. Two men were redered bits erless to prevent the added tax on the business interests of the nation unless an unlawful combination can be

In this particular case interstate commerce experts, in the absence of definite data indicating the total ton LIBERALLY TO CALIFOR tage cast and west and the annual to estimate today that the increase in Oregon apples in the California mar-profils to the railroads will mount into kets for the holiday trade, says the the millions.

Congress alone can afford relief for the future by amending the rate law on the lines proposed in the bill intro-on the lines proposed in the bill intro-duced by Senator Fulton of Oregon pro-duced by Senator Fulton of Oregon pro-WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Campaign that proposed increase is just and rea assurances to the contrary notwith somable before a new rate becomes of feetive,

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LOOK FOR THE BIG SIGN

TWO KILLED, POUR HURT IN TUNNEL EXPLOSION

ELY, Nev., Dec. 17.-A laborer is he Western Parific tunnel west of Shafter struck his rick in a "missed" ole vesterday and the charge of dynanite exploded, blowing him to pieces and wounding five others. One of these

LIBERALLY TO CALIFORNIA

A number of fair sized purchases of per SColumbia fruit have been opered during the post few days. The movement of valley stock to this market seems to be over; at least the balk of

the prices are builty mixed, but it lake something exceptional at this time their gover \$1 to \$1.25 a box. The move ment, however, to the outside it in ercoung and the trade is now matie. pulling higher values in the late when

pital. Two men were rendered blind TEDDY HAD NOTHING TO and both arms of another were blown SAY CONCERNING TH SAY CONCERNING THIS ONE

off. Five were Greeks and one as American named Lackin. ROSERURG, Or., Dec. 17,-White rmed "race smielde," in this country, his remarks were evidently not closed at such citizens as Levi White, well known resident of West Rose-lorg, whose wife gave hith to a son Sanday, December 13, 1938; This event time. It is the tenth child by his present wife, and he had 14 children by his first wife.

LYMOGES, France, Dec. 17.-Ten. possengers were killed in a collision today between a passenger and a freight There is still quite a heavy load of train is a tunnel

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