

NEW POLICY NEEDED IN GOVERNMENT RAILWAY CONTROL

Helpfulness and Encouragement
Urged by Alfred P. Thom.

CREDIT MUST BE IMPROVED

Increase of Transportation Facilities
Necessary to Secure Relief From
High Cost of Living May Thus Be
Provided For by the Railroads.

Washington, Nov. 28.—A new policy of government railroad regulation, based on constructive principles of helpfulness and encouragement instead of upon principles of repression and punishment, was urged by Alfred P. Thom, counsel for the Railway Executives' Advisory Committee, the first witness on behalf of the railroads before the Newlands Joint Committee on Interstate Commerce, which has instituted a general inquiry into the problems of railroad regulation.

"It is proposed by the joint resolution of Congress," said Mr. Thom, "to go into a comprehensive study of the whole subject of transportation, to make a new assessment, after 29 years of experiment, of its history, its present conditions and its future needs. The railroads accept the view that regulation is a permanent and enduring part of government in America and that the first duty of the carriers is to the public. That duty is to afford reasonable facilities on reasonable terms and at reasonable rates, and this must be done before any private interests can be considered."

Certainty, Safety and Sufficiency.
Mr. Thom contended that the real interest of the public is in being assured of certainty, safety and sufficiency of transportation facilities, rather than in rates. The first consideration of the public is to obtain transportation facilities. What the cost is, is in reality a second consideration, he said.

Mr. Thom proposed an increase of transportation facilities as a method of securing relief from the high cost of living. "There have been less than 1,000 miles of new railroad constructed in the United States during the past year," he said, "less than in any year since 1848, except the period of the Civil War, and yet the cost of living is daily advancing owing to a shortage of supplies which might be remedied by securing access to new areas of production."

Credit Must Be Improved.

"This leads to the consideration as to whether railroad credit is as good as the public interest requires. It is impossible for railroads to earn enough to supply the necessary new facilities from current revenue. They must be provided from credit. Investors cannot be coerced, but must be attracted."

Among the conditions affecting railroad credit which deter investors he mentioned the following:

"First, Railroad revenues are not controlled by investors, but are fixed and limited by governmental authority and not by one but by several governmental authorities, which do not recognize responsibility for assured results to investors and are uncoordinated."

"Second, Railroads cannot control and the government cannot and does not limit the expense account."

"Third, The present system of regulation is based on a policy of regulation and correction and not on a policy of helpfulness and encouragement."

"Fourth, The outstanding obligations of the railroads have already exceeded the financial rule of safety and involve a disproportionate amount of obligations bearing fixed charges."

"Fifth, The investor must accept a subordinate obligation or security with no assurance of a surplus of earnings to support it."

"Sixth, Other competitive lines of investment present superior attractions."

"Seventh, The railroad business is largely controlled by political instead of business considerations."

Look Forward, Not Back.

"We may debate about what has caused the present conditions," said Mr. Thom, "but we cannot debate about what the people need. The President has taken the view that we must look forward in this matter and 'make a fresh assessment of circumstances' in order to deal helpfully and intelligently with the problem. Abuses are no more prevalent in the railroad business today than in any other business humankind conducted. The great question now is whether the existing system of regulation gives the public reliable assurance of sufficient present and future railroad facilities."

"Those who oppose any change must make their appeal on the ground that the present systems assure the public of the continued adequacy of transportation facilities. If they do not, no argument based on the desirability of the present dual system of regulation will be accepted by public judgment. The question of 'states' rights' is not involved. If the regulation of transportation facilities privately owned should fall government ownership must follow, and then all power of the states over the railroads would disappear."

"Let us debate this question, then, not upon any mere theory or jealousy as to the distribution of governmental power, but upon the large issue of what the public interest requires in respect of the assurance of adequate transportation service."

GETS CONTRACT

That the popularity of the products of the Wilbur Woolen Mills of this city is on the increase is evidenced by a six months' contract to furnish the state institutions with "Wilbur Line" of blankets, signed up by Mr. Wilbur recently.

Union Hill

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Scott and family were visiting at the Orlo Humphreys home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Carter and sons, Darel and Norval, and Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Carter visited at the Elwin Carter home Sunday.

Mrs. W. H. Tate and daughter, Edna, returned home from Portland Sunday eve.

Miss Belle Hurt was a weekend visitor at the W. E. Tate home.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Seibel returned home from Cal. Thurs.

Edwin Peters, who has been staying at the A. Branch home at West Stayton for the past two weeks, returned home Wednesday.

There will be a program followed by an old fashioned Xmas tree at the school house Friday evening. Everyone is cordially invited.

This neighborhood received a severe shock Sunday morning on learning of Mrs. Aseby's sudden death. We knew she had been ailing for some time but never thought she would be taken from our midst so soon. On losing her we lose one whom every one loved and we will miss her at our little gatherings, and we as a whole extend our sympathies to the bereaved ones.

Mrs. W. H. Rabens was visiting with her mother Mrs. Cornish in Stayton, Saturday.

Mt. Pleasant

Mrs. Frank Habberman was a Sunday guest of Mrs. John Hubers.

Miss Effie Ray was a weekend visitor at Lebanon.

Mrs. Henry Senz and Mrs. Arnold Senz visited at the N. Zimmermans of Sublimity, Wednesday.

Mrs. G. H. Ray visited with Mrs. Roxie Shank Friday.

Max Shelton called at Mrs. Linn Lambert's Tuesday.

D. Townes called at G. H. Ray's Thursday eve.

Nick Geymer and son called at J. H. Kloers Sunday.

Ed. Smith and wife were Jordan visitors Sunday.

Elmer Ray was a Scio visitor Sunday.

Linn Lambert and wife and Frank Jungwirth called at W. R. Rays Monday.

There will be a program and Christmas tree at the Mt. Pleasant school house Friday, Dec. 22. Santa is to be seen in full glory.

The Misses Stella Wagner of Aumsville, and Esther Willing of Stayton are visiting at F. X. Hottingers.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Downing and children were Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Fiedler.

Charley Peters Jr., called at P. H. Lambert's Sunday.

Kingston Kinks

Mr. and Mrs. V. J. Phillip made a trip to Portland last week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Chrisman ate Sunday dinner with their daughter, Mrs. Jess Chartain.

Emil Henkel is breaking a horse to ride for J. T. Follis.

Titus Archer and family motored to Albany Last Friday, returning the same day.

Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Harold and

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SILVERWARE

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All go now at 98c

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Sweet Navel 35¢ Dozen
Oranges

Best Walnuts 20¢ CTS
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Of High Class China
you will find

French Haviland & Hand-
some China

Beautifully Decorated

These goods are not left over
from past season. They represent
a most Complete Line
Purchased for Christmas Pres-
ents and House use. Also a
Large Line of
HEAVY CHINA

for General Kitchen Use at
very lowest prices to introduce
them.

ONLY 2 DAYS

Left To Do Your
CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

The Farmers Store
OF QUALITY

has arranged a good line of
SPECIALTIES

for the last few days to help you out

CANDY

We Have The
BEST AND LARGEST VARIETY OF

Christmas ANDY

In The Valley at Lowest Prices
44 Different Kinds To Pick From

You are invited to come and see
Our New Stocks

Coming in Every Day, No
trouble to show goods at

A. W. Schruck's

Aumsville, : : Oregon

We Buy Your Produce

Hier Wird Deutsch Gesprochen

daughter Ina, spent Sunday at the Loyde Chrisman home.

Miss Margaret Schaefer and Miss Erthur Tefflin and little son called at the Curtis Cole home Sunday afternoon.

Nick Geymer and son Henry called at the Kloor home near Mt. Pleasant Sunday.

Raleigh Harold is building a cement walk to his house this week.

Chris Reuttgers and family were Stayton visitors Monday.

Andrew Olson of Quinaby, is working for G. F. Harold this week.

Louie Geisler went to Lyons Monday.

Mrs. J. F. Follis is on the sick list this week.

Mrs. W. E. Chrisman and Mrs. Loyde Chrisman called at the Curtis Cole home one day last week.

Mr. Wm. Arnold of Scio, is visiting at the Liston Darby home this week.

Mrs. Chas. Bates who has been nursing Mrs. Curtis Cole and little daughter, returned home Tuesday.

Miss Bertha Schaefer is visiting in Portland this week.

Bud Yeoman and wife were in Stayton this week.

Don't forget the Christmas Tree at Kingston Saturday even-

ing. Come and see Santa Claus.

Arthur McKenzie went to Albany last Saturday to attend the road meeting.

School Notes

Practically all the high school boys were on duty last Saturday morning to begin their wood cutting. About eighteen cords were cut and the proceeds are to go as the boys' individual part of the high school pledge to the gymnasium fund.

Mr. Davis and Mr. Hoffer went to Salem Wednesday morning to remain until the end of the week where they will take the teachers' examinations.

Three more Underwood 40 word certificates have been won in the Typewriting class. The winners are Caryl Ruble, Gladys Hamman and Henry Lulay.

The Typewriting class has been divided into two divisions. The division doing the poorest work from now until the end of the semester will be obliged to give a "Wienie Banquet" to the other division.

A collection of various articles is being taken up in the high school as well as in the grades for three charitable institutions in Portland. The Alberta Kerr Nursery, The Portland Commons and the Louise Home.

This school is only one of the many throughout the state that is aiding in this charitable work.

A record was kept for the past month of each pupil in Miss Crabtree's room. Wava Brown received the highest average in all her studies in the 8th grade and Mable Weddle in the 7th grade.

The 6th grade is preparing Dickens "Christmas Carol" and the 5th grade Wiggins "The Ruggles Christmas Party" for the Xmas program next Friday afternoon.

Geo. and John Hewitt, Frank Clow, Lee Brown and Gilbert Hamman are absent from Miss Marshall's room on account of illness.

For picture study work the classes in Miss Hollister's room are taking up Sistine Madonna by Raphael and Good Shepherd by Ploekhorst.

"The Other Wise Man," "The Birds Xmas Carol" and other Xmas stories were read in Miss Marshall's room during the month of Dec.

Margaret Hensley is back in the 6th grade after a week's illness.

The program to be given by Miss Hollister's pupils and Miss Pratt's Pupils will be at 1:30 Friday afternoon in Miss Hollister's room.

Real Christmas
Presents

At **Schrunk's
Store**

Get the Best for the
Least Money

Men's Slippers

Tan Romeo, Black and
Tan Everetts

And all Felt Nullifiers Reg.
\$1.50 and \$1.25 Kind go
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BASKETS! BASKETS!

A Real Japanese Fruit or
Work Basket
Fancy and Plain Handles in
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15c to \$1.50

You never saw such Varieties
at these low prices

Oh Ye Men who

Work Out Doors

These Wet Rainy Days, we
have in stock

**THE SAWYER'S
GUARANTEED**

SLICKERS

--and--

B ALL
BRAND
BOOTS

--and--

Packs, at lowest prices

North Santiam

Mrs. J. S. McLang and daughter Beryl were business visitors in the Capital City Saturday.

The series of meetings conducted at the church by Rev. H. B. Her, closed Friday night. Everyone enjoyed the Evangelist's sermons.

Mrs. Willis Keithley has been somewhat under the weather for the past few days.

Mr. Roy Scofield got his little finger broke in a feed cutter, but is getting along fine at this date.

The public school will celebrate with an Xmas tree at the school house Friday afternoon.

Mr. S. E. Kuenzli is visiting in the Capital City a few days at the home of his son Byron.

Mr. Archie Terry who hasn't been in this vicinity for several years got off the train here a few days ago.

Miss Rachel Angel who is teaching school at Scio, spent Sunday at the home of her parents. She was accompanied by Mr. Turner of Scio.

The illustrated pictures given at the Parent Teachers' meeting Friday night was enjoyed by all.

Mrs. George Howard is visiting her aunt near Aumsville.

Mr. Preston Wood and family are moving near Crabtree.