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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1906.

NEW RATE LAW IN FORCE.

Under the authority conferred by the new interstate commerce act, commonly spoken of as the rate law, which went into effect August 28, the entire interstate commerce of the United States, passed, at least nominally, into the hands of the recreated interstate commerce commission.

The chief features of this important measure are the prohibition of rebates or any kind of discriminations, the abolition of the free pass, the power to fix rates when existing ones are shown to be unjust, and clothing of the commission's orders with the force of law and placing all the burden of appeal on the carrier. Heavy penalties of imprisonment and fine for violations are provided. The commission has had 50,000 copies of the new law printed, together with the Elkins and other trade regulating acts, and these have been distributed to business men interested. On the same day, by concerted action, the principal trunk lines posted reduced freight rates and passenger schedules. The provisions as to passes, and the transportation of commodities produced by the railroads do not go into effect until later.

The membership of the enlarged commission is now as follows: Martin A. Knapp, chairman; Judson C. Clements of Georgia, Charles A. Prouty of Vermont, Francis M. Cockrell of Missouri, Franklin K. Lane of California, E. E. Clark of Iowa and James S. Harlan of Illinois.

On the day the law went into effect, thirty-four railroad men, representing trunk lines east and west, met and made vigorous protests against the applications of the new law, but the committee announced that it would give no opinions in advance on hypothetical cases, and that if shippers did not obey the law in all respects they would have to take their chances of paying the penalty.

The first ruling under the new law was handed down August 30, being an order to permit the Boston and Maine railroad to change its ice shipment rates on five days' notice. It is apparent that the shippers intend to take advantage of the law from the number of complaints pouring in, most of these being old cases. In one case the Wells-Fargo express company was made defendant.

ITS USEFUL SIDE.

Spelling reformers have claimed for years that if the English language was spelled phonetically, it would reduce the time a child needs to spend in the primary and intermediate school grades at least one year. It is a fact, the English is about the only language that a pupil needs to "learn" to spell. There are no German, French or Spanish spelling books. Letters and combinations of letters in languages other than English are always pronounced one way only, and a certain sound is always represented by the same letter or combination of letters. Consequently a German, French or Spanish child acquires spelling and pronunciation of words at the same time and almost unconsciously.

Looked at in that light spelling reform is not so foolish as some of the saw-dust brained paragraphers who are attempting to make fun of it.

The fact, and it is a fact, that not one sensible reason is put forward against spelling reform, should be remembered by would-be prophets who declare the new spelling will never come into vogue. Of course thru and the look uncouth and we old fellows shy at their strange appearance, but we will quickly become accustomed to them as horses did to bicycles and automobiles.

An incident to the adoption of phonetic would be the passing of the time honored spelling matches on Friday afternoons in district schools. This is a matter of regret in one way, as those matches were the bright spot in a week's study, but they will occur no more when spelling reforms are accomplished facts for the simple reason that every pupil will be perfect in spelling.

SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BOOM.

Close on the heels of President Roosevelt's official indorsement of the

reformed spelling favored by the simplified spelling board, it was announced the Rev. Dr. Walter W. Skeat, the noted Anglo-Saxon scholar of Cambridge, England, and Dr. James A. Murray, editor of the Oxford English dictionary, had joined the ranks of spelling reform. Andrew Carnegie, whose money endowed the work of the board, expressed "delight, but not surprise" at the president's attitude and thought that this would settle the adoption of spelling reform by the majority of the English-speaking race. The spelling board has received a great mass of inquiries for lists and primers of the new spelling rules.

Nevertheless the press of England and largely of this country has ridiculed unmercifully the president's action. President Elliot of Harvard said the new style did not appeal to him and he thought it would be a long time before it would become popular. John Wamaker has adopted the new spelling for his advertising and likewise S. Plaut & Co., of Newark, and the editors of a number of trade papers. Prof. Matthews calls attention to the fact that the board does not attempt such radical changes as newspaper articles would imply, as they have gone no further than the 300 words listed. Also to the fact that Editors Smith of the Century Dictionary, Editor Funk of the Standard and the editor of Webster's are all members of the simplified spelling board.

England is indignant because the President of the United States is interfering with the spelling of the English language. The idea of that country is that the language is merely loaned to this country and that we are violating the proprieties by trying to make it over. England is not fully acquainted with Theodore Roosevelt even if it has met his daughter, and it has yet to learn that if he should decide that Magna Charta needed to be changed he would not hesitate to reconstruct the venerable document.

A New York Professor has estimated that the reformed spelling will in six years save over forty millions of dollars in New York city alone. It is estimated that two years time in teaching spelling will be saved to each pupil and this saving in money is valued at about eight dollars. Professor Harris, the recent venerable Chief of the Bureau of Education in Washington agrees with him in this calculation. Multiply 500,000 pupils by \$80 and we have \$40,000,000.

When Representative Longworth married Alice Roosevelt he was considered a good amateur violinist. Since then he has also learned to play second fiddle.

When the farmers speak of their "full cribs" one does not know whether this is the result of a Republican administration or anti-race-suicide doctrines.

Notwithstanding earthquakes Secretary Root is convinced that Chill is "some shakes."

CLACKAMASITY TELLS OF YELLOWSTONE PARK

(Continued from page 1.)

elk, mountain sheep and goats keep back and can only be seen by going back into the higher mountains. Our first camp in the park was, as some said, where we would have company; with a large bright camp fire burning. One of the boys, who had never seen a bear that could come so near doing as he pleased, was not asleep about 11 o'clock when a friendly fellow came close to our camp. He let out a whoop that scared us nearly as bad as the bear, for we were lying close to the scared lad, so on waking all we could see was the lumbering big fellow hitting the high places about 100 feet away, not to appear again that night, neither did any of us sleep. You will understand we had all good things to eat for none of us were cooks by name or occupation and had many things that bears liked as well. Very little sleep did we get on the trip. One of our party had a very badly swollen jaw, soon after entering the park, sufficient to say that many believed a bear had given him an extra hard box on the starboard quarter.

Without exaggeration, the bears are a nuisance and while chasing one away from our provisions is supposed to be the way one of the party had such a badly swollen face. It was only one round, for the bear proved to be the best knocker and runner. To put food in a strong tight box is the safest. Even then one morning a party's provision box was rolled about 100 feet from the camp, but food was safe from Mr. Bruin. In order to make our Eastern boy think the bears came very close, one night, I made some tracks like a huge bear not two feet from his head and on by into the brush, the tracks were enough and he insisted on sleeping in the middle after that, that is, trying to sleep.

Before reaching Norris Geyser basin we pass the Obsidian Cliff, a black volcanic glass that is preferred to flint for arrow heads by the Indians. The road is at the base of this cliff between that and Beaver lake, where huge blocks of black glass had to be removed to build the road, which is said to be the only piece of glass road in the world. Blasting powder was out of the question, so fires were built around these glass boulders and when heated cold water was dashed on them, causing them to break to pieces. Soon the Geyser basin is seen in the distance, looking like a manufacturing city by the immense quantities of steam. Soon a roar is heard from the black growler that is constantly belching forth quantities of water and steam; at night this steam gage can be heard for miles. In this basin is said by scientists to be the thinnest surface of any place in the park, therefore great care must be taken in walking about over the formations about the many springs.

The Congress is a very deep basin, 40 feet across, perfectly round. It is rapidly nearing a geyser. The hot water is all the time in a jumping motion, before this basin of boiling hot water appeared in 1893, a steam vent was always blowing. When that ceased and the congress appeared, a great eruption took place filling the roadway with rock and masses of formation. The steam has whitened the pine trees and all are dead in the vicinity, showing conclusively that the Norris geyser basin is of recent origin, in fact, none of the geysers are large and the best of Wonderland is yet to be seen.

Emerald pool in this basin is most beautiful. The sulphur lined basin, with coral walls, pretty to the eye, can be seen to an appalling depth, the water quite still with a temperature of 186 degrees at the edge. After a very interesting hour here, we drive on and soon enter Elk park and continue down Gibbon river, soon entering the canyon where two chocolate colored cones shoot forth hot water near the water's edge. They are unlike any other springs in the park.

All along this river can be seen steam vents. One that startles the horses is Beryl, a spring so close by the road. The hot water runs across and down into the Gibbon river. The road has been made so as to see the best all along. Soon we view the falls with a drop of 80 feet. Tired from sight-seeing, we pass thro a fine pine forest, soon to reach the Firehole river, well named, as the later description will show. For the next two days we are along its banks in the Lower Geyser basin and upper basin. Where the Fountain hotel is located are Geysers to marvel at; the Fountain geyser has a basin 30 feet across.

When still, the water subsides and the comely shapes of the interior can be seen. It plays at intervals of two to four hours and continues with great force for 15 minutes, volumes of water being forced to a height of 60 feet. The deposits from the overflow of this geyser cover several acres. Tiring of seeing geysers; close at hand are the mammoth pain pots. Here is a mass of boiling mud resembling a boiling pot of paint, with many points of ebullition, continually bubbling up of "plop-plop," pink and red mud cones close by. White and gray cones, to the number of 40, are in the basin, which is fenced and is about 100 feet across. The great Fountain geyser is two miles farther and is a large hole of boiling water. The white geyser eggs around the rim of this are the pretty part of this formation, the geyser plays about every 12 hours and lasts 30 minutes. The water recedes in this hole a long ways soon to be thrown up 80 feet very suddenly, causing the too venturesome to hustle back in a hurry—a good place to see some people get a move on for once.

Near by are many interesting springs, the White Dome, Surprise, Fire Hole Spring, Mushroom, and Buffalo Spring, where there is a pine pole 10 feet long. One can force that down not near touching bottom soon to shoot up with many large bubbles following, showing the confinement of hot air many feet below this scalding hot water. Fire hole lake, some distance up next to the hill where many do not see this devil's boiling pot way down in the clear blue water, may be seen red flames apparently shooting up from some great heat beneath. Down by the river is a huge hole 33x200 feet flowing 10,000 gallons of water into the Firehole river.

The water is of a deep blue tint and is intensely agitated all the time; dense clouds of steam constantly ascending from it. It is only when the breeze wafts this aside that the surface of the water, which is 20 feet below the level surrounding can be seen. Visited by thousands annually, this section became known as "Hell's Half Acre." It retained this name until 1881, when it was discovered by Col. P. W. Norris to be a geyser of great force. By him it was named "Excelsior." Eruptions of great force contin-

ued during the spring of 1888 which resulted in enlarging the crater fully 100 feet. The intervals of eruption were about every hour. Immediately preceding an eruption, a violent upheaval occurred, raising the entire volume of water in the crater 50 feet then instantly one, and sometimes three terrific explosions would occur. Shooting upwards, columns of water would follow oftentimes masses of the rocky formation to a height of 200 feet. The great activity of the "Excelsior," is attributed to the inactivity of two of the largest geysers in the upper basin nine miles south. This geyser impresses upon the sight-seers the immense force of the steam generated.

Prismatic lake, above and close to Excelsior, is a pretty sheet of water 250 by 400 feet. It is considered the most beautiful coloring of water any where known, in fact, a much more lengthy description or the artist's picture would not correctly convey the fine coloring in and surrounding this lake.

Nine miles south, continuing up the Fire Hole river, we reach the upper basin where the best geysers are to be viewed. A whole day can be enjoyed here. First we will mention Old Faithful geyser, of which one sees so many photos. It plays every sixty minutes with very little variation, 70 feet or more, for about 5 minutes duration. This geyser is always to be seen and sends up more water during a year than any other. No one visits the park without seeing Old Faithful play one or more times.

Soon after making camp we are told Riverside geyser is due to play. Several hundred people gather on the opposite bank of the Fire Hole river to see this marvel. About ten feet above the river is an irregular shaped cone, when soon the water spouts out over the river diagonal to a height of 80 feet, and lasts for 20 minutes. By the time this is over, the Grotto near by is in action. This is a small one, peculiar on account of the rounding shaped formation surrounding the openings where the water pours out with great force. Being quiet for a few seconds then with a rush the water shoots in all directions. There are hundreds of geysers that play irregularly, all are worth a visit even if they are not in action for nearly all are of a different formation.

The Giant, which shoots 250 feet straight up for an hour is well worth losing some time to wait and see.

The Bee Hive, a little dome, four feet high, with an opening of one foot in the tip, is a singular geyser of great force. When it plays, the water is in sight there at the top, continually boiling away. This has played only once this season, in July, when it threw a steady stream 250 feet for fully 30 minutes.

The Sponge, Lion, Lioness and Cubs, are all in a class by themselves. Sawmill, Grand, and Turban, Oblong, Fan and Mortar are splendid. The Punch Bowl, Morning Glory and Castle are all significant for their beauty as the names imply. Biscuit Basin is odd. Jewel Geyser is full of jewels but you can't get them the water is too hot.

The upper basin extends for two miles along the Fire Hole river and here we have spent the entire day walking and seeing the marvels of nature. The white lime stone with bright sunshine is hard on the eyes. Many wear colored glasses.

As we are about to leave this basin, one is tired, but still has a desire to linger and see some of the high geysers play again in fact, go to all these pretty colored places that nature has formed for mankind to view. Now to leave Old Faithful geyser and Inn, a comely hotel, built entirely of pine logs with four immense fireplaces that are very cheerful. A large search-light is on top of the hotel which commands a fine view of all the principal geysers. To see Old Faithful by night is fine with the strong search-light on the steam and water.

Three miles on we see the last geyser play. Lone Star geyser, which is on the main stage line, many do not see at all. The cone is some twelve feet high and just as we came in sight the water was spouting, rushing up and we secured a fine view with the kodak. The chief beauty of this singular geyser is in the cone, which is striped vertically with bands of white, lavender and brown, intermixed with varying shades of yellow and is completely covered with an almost endless variety of elegant pearl like beads.

Soon we are climbing an even easy grade up close to the continental divide, a two-ocean pond—the one on the west running water towards the Atlantic, the East pond into the Pacific. It seemed that the directions are wrong, still that is not the case as the lay of the country makes that a study of the way will make clear. The altitude here is 8465 feet. Down we go to Yellowstone lake, which is some 15 miles wide by 25 miles long, with many arms and is the largest lake in the world at this high altitude. Following along the shore is a fine drive. Nearby and in the water is a small hot water cone where one can catch

TAX LAW

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R. B. BEATIE,
Sheriff and Tax Collector.

trout and boil them in the spring. There is not ten feet difference from the cold to the hot springs, in fact, the drive all along the lake to where the river is the outlet of this great reservoir, is interesting and the bear plentiful. Following down the river we see a whole mountain of sulphur and we still are reminded that we are in the land of brimstone and hot water for near by is a small geyser belching forth hot mud of a very rank odor.

By noon we are at the falls of the Yellowstone river where the water runs thro the narrow gorge and suddenly leaps 140 feet into a gorge, still deeper. The best view is one-fourth mile further down the gorge where still in a narrower channel, scarcely 100 feet wide, the great volume of water drops into the most beautifully colored walls of a canyon 360 feet below, to wind its way north thro the yellowest of earth on all sides, hence the name of Yellowstone.

As the sun shines on the many hued walls 1500 feet high, all colors are presented that no pen has described. This must be seen to be appreciated. To go below these falls to the bottom of the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone is a newly constructed stairs that makes the descent very easy. Near the spray down in this depth is a little shiny cone scarcely four feet high, out of the apex of which shoots hot water constantly.

From artist's point, this magnificent view point is the commanding point to see all of the canyon at one time. While we are at a good height all the time in the park, still the desire to ascend the loftiest peak is the ambition of all, that of Mt. Washburn. The half day's trip from Canyon hotel to

the summit, 10,385 feet, is well worth the time as a good wagon road is built to the top. There one sees snow capped peaks on all sides, some as far as 150 miles away. With the glasses, one views the lake, geysers, basin, the falls of the Yellowstone. Driving down the north slope is an inspiring scene. At a rapid gait we pass herds of elk and antelope grazing, apparently knowing they were safe, for of course we had no guns.

Tower falls and petrified trees are soon reached by the great Yellowstone canyon again. These petrified trees are standing, the largest being at least four feet in diameter, badly broken, while lots of pieces lie scattered on the hill side.

Being tired of sight-seeing, we proceeded to Blacktail deer creek to catch the choicest of the funny tribe. There one can catch them as fast as he has hooks on the line, two and three at a time.

One more day and we leave those splendid roads, grassy hills and below Mammoth hot spring near the main stage road are 60 Buffalo enclosed with strong high wire fence. They are fed and cared for the year around. In the evening they were bunched near the fence, not paying any attention to the noisy people eager to get close to them.

Glad to get where we could sleep without the bears' company, still more than pleased that we had the privilege to view so much of nature's wonders contained in the Park. See America first must be kept before the eyes of our tourists. There is not to be found anywhere the equal of the Wonderland of America, the Yellowstone National Park.

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