

The Oregonian

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DAILY METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

PORTLAND, Feb. 27. - 8 P. M. - Maximum temperature, 55; minimum temperature, 46; height of river at 11 A. M., 4.9; change in the last 24 hours, 0.1; precipitation today, 0.07; precipitation from September 1, 1934 (wet season), 10.2; date, 20.05; average, 24.27; deficiency, 13.62; number of sunny days, 2; number of rainy days, 11.

WEATHER SYNOPSIS. An area of high barometric pressure moved from the northwest southwest over Washington, causing showers to occur over Northwestern Oregon and Western Washington. Owing to the existence of this area of high pressure, fair weather may be expected for the following 24 or 36 hours. Fair weather continues in California and in portions east of the Cascades. Slight changes occur in the temperature.

WEATHER FORECASTS. Forecasts made at Portland for the 24 hours ending at midnight February 28: For Oregon, Washington and Idaho - Fair weather and cooler, with light northerly winds.

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B. E. PAGE, Lead Forecast Official.

PORTLAND, THURSDAY, FEB. 28.

THERE WILL YET BE REFORM.

It may be supposed there is still some honesty left among the people of Oregon. That honesty is indeed slow to assert itself in public matters; but it exists, though latent or dormant, and one day it will be aroused. The longer official greed runs riot, the more certain it is that an honest public indignation will one day explode in a storm of general and terrible wrath. That storm may be due at the next general election in Oregon; for abuses, long-continued and cumulative, which the recent legislature not only refused to correct, but aggravated in many ways, cannot stand through a period of universal public distress. All experience shows that such conditions, when all things so conjointly meet, are favorable to revolutions.

Two factors were present which operated together during the recent session to confound all the purposes the people had in view when the members of the legislature were elected. The factious spirit of opposition to Mr. Dolph, that soon grew into a furious craze to defeat him, welcomed the assistance of the great gang of officials that fought to preserve their privilege of preying on the public; and these officials as eagerly accepted the help of the partisan faction, and their different schemes were moulded into one joint enterprise. The officials opposing the reductions that the people had demanded and all parties had pledged, threw in a large amount of money, that maintained a lobby at the capital. It is believed that no less a sum than \$20,000, every dollar drawn from the people by the excesses of officialism, was used as a corruption fund for perpetuation of these abuses.

It must be that there are yet citizens of Oregon who do not approve this sort of business. Brokers, loaded up with this money, swarmed about the capitol, offering members for sale, singly or in bunches; they were heard to boast that they received \$50, \$100, \$500, for controlling one or more votes on the various bills to reduce salaries, emoluments and fees. Beyond all question, this was the way in which the bills were defeated. But it could not have been done without the co-operation of the partisan faction that became willing to sacrifice all the interests of the state in its fury against a candidate for the senate, though that candidate was the choice of the majority of his party, and through the caucus became its regular nominee.

Though the senatorial contest is settled, this other contest is not. Superfluous and unnecessary officials, excessive emoluments, prodigal appropriations, permit no relief from the pressure of taxation, though these are times of industrial depression, stagnation of business and general distress. The patience of the people was exhausted long ago. It was only under solemn promises of radical reforms that anybody could be elected last June. Can any one imagine that after payment of this year's taxes, through borrowing and pinching and personal privations of every kind, and finding next year's taxes due under even severer conditions, the people of Oregon in general, and of the city of Portland in particular, will prepare for a rush to the polls to support with enthusiasm the authors of this taxation, who now have advanced to the point of claiming the profits of office as "vested rights," which the state or city is under "moral obligation" not to disturb? For those who bank on this imagination, disenchantment is in store. There will yet be retrenchment and reform.

The usual "contract marriage" which is unearthed upon the death of a wealthy Californian was found by the public administrator among the private papers of Dr. C. A. James, of San Francisco, recently deceased. By virtue of this finding "Miss" Laura Milen has entered suit for the estate of Dr. James, which is valued at \$75,000. Between the young woman who sees a wealthy old man for breach of promise and one who strikes a marriage contract upon the relatives of an old man or the public after his death there is but slight distinction, when it comes to an arraignment for unbecomeliness, while the difference between the men in the two cases is that between a living fool and one who is dead. The first bubbles in court, in his own defense, in the futile attempt to heap further opprobrium upon the woman in the case, while the latter, through a decree of kind nature, maintains a decorous silence and lets his "contract" speak for what it is worth of his moral turpitude. The courts of California would lose a dis-

inctive characteristic were the dockets clear for a time of contract marriage suits, brought by women who have no reputation to lose, for the most left by defunct roses, who defied in their private lives the social laws that underlie community decency and honorable inheritance.

HOPE FOR INTERNATIONAL BIPARTISANISM.

There is a gleam of hope for international bipartisanship in the passage by the British house of commons of a resolution giving indirect encouragement to the German project of a new international conference. The British ministry undoubtedly accepted the non-committal resolution of Mr. Everett because it feared parliamentary defeat upon a side issue which would obligate it to resign office. Undoubtedly many conservatives would have voted for this resolution upon a division, who would not support bipartisanship if they were in power, simply to embarrass the government. It would not be wise to infer from this vote that a majority of the house of commons favors bipartisanship. Nevertheless, the moral effect of this vote will be great. Probably it will decide the holding of an international conference.

It is certain that adhesion of Great Britain to an international agreement for common use of both silver and gold at a fixed ratio would give the effort to make that ratio stable, and to hold it, a much better chance of success. This hope does not involve expectation of realizing the absurdity of a double standard, nor acceptance of the degradation of the silver standard, as the London papers seem to assume. International bipartisanship, in the minds of honest and intelligent persons, does not mean abandonment of the gold standard, but the bringing and holding of silver money up to that standard.

This may be done in two ways—by limited coinage of subsidiary silver at an arbitrary ratio, or by free coinage at a ratio so carefully chosen and so steadily and universally maintained that the parity will be maintained automatically. The first method is that now in use by France, the United States, Germany, by all nations having small coinage, with the gold standard. It is perfectly practicable for separate nations, so long as limited or legal-tender silver is limited and adequate gold reserves maintained. Undoubtedly the leading commercial nations could carry a larger amount of subsidiary silver in this way than they carry separately, as their union would protect the gold reserve of each from needless invasion by the others.

But what no nation can do alone, perhaps all nations can do together. History throws no light on this subject, for the experiment has not been tried. If all nations were to agree to open their mints to gold or silver, at the ratio of 25 to 1, or even 20 to 1, it is by no means impossible that the enlarged demand for silver, due to its increased use as money, aided by the increased supply of gold from mines now worked so energetically all over the world, would bring its commercial price up to the coinage ratio. The experiment is worth trying, anyway, especially since, if all nations join in it, no one coinage suffer loss of gold to others by failure.

Even if the bullion price of silver do not rise at once to its coinage value, there would be no great peril of financial disorders in universal free coinage of both metals at a fixed ratio, considerably higher than the present. When one nation undervalues gold in its coinage, its gold is drained away by foreigners. But if all nations were to set the value of gold measured in silver, there would be no such drain. When all nations put the same value on silver measured in gold, silver will have the same universal currency as gold, and international balances can be settled in it. Of course this rule will apply only to new silver coined at the new ratio. All existing silver money, until recoined at the new ratio, will remain token or part-credit currency, to be sustained upon full-value money. But as the supporting basis will be enlarged by all the new coined silver, it will be easy to maintain local parity for the old coins.

REVENUE THE GREAT NEED.

It is all nonsense to pay a bounty on sugar. What the country needs is a duty on sugar, and a good stiff one, for revenue purposes. The duty on sugar and the tax on beer ought to be doubled. That would bring about \$50,000,000 more annual revenue into the treasury and put an end to these depressing conditions.

The crying need of the country is an adequate revenue. The nation is rich enough, and it bears necessary taxation patiently. There was \$600,000,000 surplus revenue until a lot of statesmen out of a job went around bawling that the people were oppressed by over-taxation. Oppressed or not, the people were prosperous and happy. Capital yielded ample returns, industry thrived, agriculture prospered and labor was employed. But the democrats clamored that the country was in distress because there was a surplus in the treasury, and a majority of the people believed them in 1932. The democratic statesmen were given the job of governing the country and the surplus disappeared. Large part of the necessary revenues disappeared with it. The treasury deficiency in the first full fiscal year of the Cleveland administration was \$70,000,000. Nobody knows what it will be this year. Careful figures out a surplus, but so he did last year. No one trusts his figures. The income tax will yield something and the increased whisky tax a little, but these will not more than make up the losses by reduction of tariff duties, and the losses due to general depression of business will remain. The revenues probably will not equal the expenditures till new taxes shall be laid. The most available objects of taxation are imported sugar and domestic beer. Nothing will be done in this congress.

The next house of representatives, which will be republican, should take up this question of revenue legislation seriously. By that time the administration will be convinced that the country cannot run on forever on borrowed money, and that revenues never can equal expenditures under the Hoover tariff law. The president will be ready to consent to legislation which will bring money into the treasury. Indeed, he may have to call congress together to enact such legislation before the regular session next winter.

IRRIGATION IN OREGON.

In view of Oregon's experience in the past in undertaking enterprises at the state's expense, and of the limited information possessed at the present time of the conditions of practical effort to take advantage of the Carey desert land and irrigation act, the refusal of the legislature to pass a bill committing the state to the expenditure of money for this purpose was intelligible. Two years hence legislation may be had on that subject with a better understanding of what is practical, and of regulations necessary to defeat the fraudulent schemes. The experience of other states will then be available as a guide for action.

Oregon officially has paid little attention to irrigation, though possessing millions of acres of arable land that will remain unproductive until artificially supplied with the water they now lack. The Pacific coast states have legislated to defeat the Carey act, have experimented with irrigation, and through years of litigation and law-making have settled the principle of water rights as it should be applied in a region where the diversion of water from its natural course is necessary for industrial purposes. What they have accomplished by years of effort is available for Oregon as a guide to her own action, and it is well to take advantage first of what has been demonstrated to be practicable in the direction of associated local effort. This was done by the passage of Senator King's irrigation bill, which is based upon the Wright law now in successful operation in California, objectionable features having been eliminated.

King bill provides for the organization of irrigation districts by property-owners living within them. These districts are made to conform to local conditions as to size and boundaries, the practicability of irrigation from a single or combined source of supply being the determining factor. The district having been legally organized, a vote may be had upon the question of levying a tax or issuing bonds to raise a fund for building or acquiring a system of ditches, reservoirs, etc. All the land in the district is made subject to taxation for the payment of bonds, interest, cost of maintenance, etc., but improvements are exempt, on the theory that to tax them would discourage the making of them. This latter provision is the introduction of a new principle into our taxation system. It remains to be seen whether it will not defeat the object of the law by placing the total of assessment for irrigation tax below the amount necessary to keep the irrigation system in order and pay fixed charges, without so large a percentage tax levy as would cause property-owners to rebel. It may well be imagined that in some districts the value of the land only would not be sufficient to maintain an extensive irrigation system.

Eastern Oregon has tried for several seasons to solve the irrigation problem, but this is the first time that it has presented a practicable plan by which the burden is to be borne by the land benefited. The results should be good in those sections where large areas can be supplied with water at comparatively small expense. California has given a warning example of excessive bonding, both in drainage and irrigation districts, and that should be heeded by the farmers of Oregon.

The theory of the labor-arbitration bill pending in congress is absurd, and never can be realized practically. If it could, it would establish the most grinding tyranny over workmen ever known since the days of serfdom. It is contemplated by the house bill that only union workmen shall be recognized by the law, and that absolute submission of the workman to his union shall be enforced. The protection of the law is to be given to workmen through the unions, and, of course, a workman outside of the union will have no protection. On the other hand, the unions are to be employed to coerce individual laborers. It is through them that the decisions of the courts of arbitration are to be enforced. If a man refuses to abide by the decision of the arbitrator he is to be expelled from his union. It does not appear how this provision is to be carried out, or what penalties are to be against unions which do not expel recalcitrant workmen. Probably the rule of expulsion cannot be enforced at all. If it could, the workman would lose his personal liberty as completely as a medieval serf. He would have no power to quit his employment, and the arbitration court had decided against him, except by sacrifice of a connection without which he could obtain no other employment. This endeavor to meet the objection that the decrees of the courts could be enforced against the employer, but not against the employee, could succeed only by depriving the latter of liberty to work or not, as he chooses, which is the very essence of personal freedom.

The debate in the house of representatives at Washington on the bill to regulate dealings between railroads and their employees shows how impossible it will be to settle questions between the railroads and their workmen by compulsory arbitration through the courts. The reason is that, while a decree can be enforced against a railroad company, it cannot be enforced upon the men. The men cannot be compelled to work if the decree goes against them, and there can be no penalty for their refusal, for the act forbids their punishment as for contempt of court. In all the relations of men there are corresponding rights and mutual obligations, but this act attempts to put all the rights on one side and all the obligations on the other. If certainly will be wholly impracticable, and therefore it may be quite harmless.

There are eight counts in the provision for the indictment of physicians by the new medical board for "unprofessional or dishonorable conduct," for which the license to practice medicine may be revoked. The last of these is "habitual intemperance," and if one may be said to be of greater importance than any or all of the others, this should take such precedence. The sick-room is of all places the last to which

a man whose moral sense is stupefied or perverted by drink should be admitted. Holding the balance between life and death in his hand, a balance often adjusted with such nicety that the slightest movement will influence it one way or the other, the physician who thinks habitually dishonors his profession, and more or less frequently places human life in jeopardy. Hence this cause for refusing or revoking a physician's license cannot be too rigidly enforced for the protection of humanity in its hour of distress or peril.

The hue and cry raised in Savannah against Slattery, an alleged ex-priest of the Roman Catholic church, by enraged Catholics, a big with news and notes with the hot breath of intolerance. The man himself is of some notoriety, but of little repute. As a firebrand from an ecclesiastical camp he is capable of mischief only when foolish religionists expose the inflammable material of their prejudices to his reckless fuel. When a sensationalist, working in the interest of political application on the one hand, and by the ignorant exponents of religious intolerance upon the other, a religio-political riot is the natural sequence. The more intelligent element, which excitement betrayed into affiliation with the Savannah mob, was quelled by Vicar-General Caffery with the words: "This man Slattery can do your church no harm." The unreasoning portion may not understand the logic of the militia's banishment of Slattery for the protection of the ex-priest and the ex-nun, his wife. Comment upon the incident may be summed up in the words: "Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth."

The enormous emoluments of the office of sheriff in Multnomah county have been cut off, and they never will be restored. It is not worth while for the present sheriff to go roaring about the streets and pulling his revolver on members of the legislature. If Sheriff Sears would like to know whether the people of Multnomah want these emoluments restored, how would it do for him to become the candidate next year of a party pledged to restore them, and to continue the fees of the district attorney, and also the salaries of the militia, with no reduction of salaries? That would be a plain, straight issue. Shall we have it?

Perhaps those who are asserting that Oregon's new senator is a free-silver man might take a hint that it would be well to let him speak for himself on the subject. Mr. McBride has said and given the money power, the national party, which calls for maintenance of parity by "restriction" of coinage. This was the policy the republican party pursued while in power, and it is continued under the present democratic administration.

The Cuban revolution has broken out in Florida and San Francisco, as well as in New York, and probably will reach New Orleans. Cuban revolutions generally are most active at a safe distance from Cuba.

THE COMMISSIONS.

How the State Senate Enjoys the Legislative Pickets. Corvallis Times. One of the most remarkable acts of this remarkable legislature was its remarkable adjournment without electing the official members of the senate, as provided by statute. This is said to have been a neat trick scored by President Simon. There were so many candidates for railroad commissioner that all of them were a starry-eyed republican, and for support in the senatorial fight. He has elected three out of the scores of applicants would have enraged the balance and made senatorial bolters. Besides the fact that the election was a special election, and that the voters were not to be asked to vote on the subject, it was the whole trick of allowing the whole business to go by default. The expenditure for the election was \$10,000, and the barrels of perspiration by candidates for these offices, swarming in the lobby and pushing their campaigns, were thus made barren of result by the wringing in of a cold deck.

Salem Statesman. The railroad commission was not abolished because some of the senators had relatives who were candidates for places in that useless body. There is some satisfaction to the overburdened taxpayers to know the relatives of these state senators are to be elected, and that it was the board the power desired. The whole trick was made easy by the simple trick of allowing the whole business to go by default. The expenditure for the election was \$10,000, and the barrels of perspiration by candidates for these offices, swarming in the lobby and pushing their campaigns, were thus made barren of result by the wringing in of a cold deck.

Engene Guard. This legislature was not without at least one supremely ridiculous feature. Imagine about 150 aspirants for members of the railroad commission, and that, thereon, on hand from the beginning of the session lobbying for positions, endeavoring to make trades and combinations, and using their combined influence to prevent the election of the most acceptable and worthy member who will command a complete and full influence in every department with which he may be brought in contact, and who will actively and successfully guard Oregon's interests.

Pendleton Tribune. It is doubtful if the election of any other man in this state would be better calculated to unite the opposing forces and to add to the advantages of the free bridges in Oregon. No man knows better the wants of the people of this state. Mr. McBride is no orator, but is conceded by all to be capable of sustaining in debate the measures he will advocate with skill and good judgment.

SOCIALISTIC CONDUITS.

By what authority did the legislature pass a bill to submit the question of putting tolls on bridges to the taxpayers? of this kind. By what constitutional authority are so many people thus disfranchised? There are some of us still old-fashioned enough to believe in a government of the people, by the people, and for the people; and to look with distrust upon a government of the people by a class of the people by a class or by a few men. If the question of tolls on bridges may be lawfully submitted to a limited number of electors, why not other public questions? The cost of maintaining our free bridges is small compared with the cost of our roads, and the question of tolls on bridges is a question of a select number of voters, why not the others? In the same legislature a bill has been introduced to place a statue of Governor Whitcomb in Monument Place. The Indiana legislature has appropriated \$10,000 to place statues of William Henry Harrison and Oliver P. Morton in the statutory hall of the capitol at Washington. In the same legislature a bill has been introduced to place a statue of Governor Whitcomb in Monument Place. M. Louis Jules Trochu, of the French army (retired), is seriously ill at Paris. He was born at Evreux, March 12, 1816, and received his education in the military academy of St. Cyr. In the wars which followed the battle of Sedan, he was made governor of Paris, and commander-in-chief of all the forces there. At the Academy of Medicine, Baltimore, yesterday, the department was brat in honor of the golden jubilee of Sister Mary Xavier Queen. Right Rev. P. J. Donohoe, Bishop of Wheeling, celebrated yesterday the golden jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood. In the course of the mass the venerable prelate renewed his vows to Cardinal Gibbons.

variety, who drew pay for lobbying for certain candidates, and others whose chief business appeared to be to support the pillars of the capitol, your exit will be hailed with delight—equally only by the musical cadences of the melodious words—"Sine die."

The Dalles Chronicle. The populists were not in it Sunday. The sun shone down from a cloudless sky upon the glad spring day, which republicans and democrats claim as their own. The legislature had adjourned, and the pledges of economy and reform, of "topped-off" railroad and other commissions, had not been kept. In consequence there was a disgruntled feeling in the republican camp, which awakened the temperate sympathies of the democrats, who know how it is themselves, and who in turn await the adjourning of the national legislature that they elected, and that was "full of profane." Members of the two parties in Oregon have at last a common ground upon which they can meet and mingle their tears. Violated pledges and broken promises are becoming property in common.

Roseburg Review. Really no important laws of general application were enacted. The bill failing to pass was the measure, and these officials will now receive nothing in addition to being furnished deputies, and good plump salaries besides. This law is of some interest to the sheriff, and the people—business over the people, they were not in it this session at all. The mortgage tax law and indebtedness exemption clause were not re-enacted, and the bill to amend the law was abolished. The general appropriation bill was larger than that of last year and had more private grabs in it. That's all.

East Oregonian. The Oregon legislature will have many sins to answer for hereafter. The members went to Salem where they can meet and legislate, and they adopted a report tending to maligning the trustees of the Soldiers' Home over an imaginary overcharge of a few hundred dollars, but they neglected to cut off expenditures running into thousands of dollars.

Albany Democrat. Of all men in the world those in the legislature should be the last to complain of anything that was said about them. They ought to be thankful no more is said about them, for of all rocky legislatures, this was about the worst, and no one should ever boast of having been a member of it.

ABOUT THE SENATOR.

Opinions That Are Wise and Some Otherwise. Heppner Gazette. The election of Mr. McBride was not, as many claim, a piece of spitwork—anything but a serious matter. While the people's representatives were working hard to defeat Dolph and "ring rule," they were also working hard to elect a good man who would represent our interests. This we believe they have done. The only objection anyone can raise to McBride is that he is not a strong man physically. This we consider is decidedly in his favor. What we want in our lawmakers is a strong man, one who can stand the people, and Mr. McBride possesses these qualifications. In the election of Mr. McBride to the senate the people have clearly demonstrated that they are tired of being run by the money power. Mr. McBride is a friend to the poor man as well as the rich, and will stop and shake hands with a man in overalls as quick as one in broadcloth.

Astorian. There is a unanimity of sentiment among the voters of Clatsop county that the election of George W. McBride as United States senator was the best possible selection the legislature could have made under the circumstances. He is a starry-eyed republican, and for support in the senatorial fight. He has elected three out of the scores of applicants would have enraged the balance and made senatorial bolters. Besides the fact that the election was a special election, and that the voters were not to be asked to vote on the subject, it was the whole trick of allowing the whole business to go by default. The expenditure for the election was \$10,000, and the barrels of perspiration by candidates for these offices, swarming in the lobby and pushing their campaigns, were thus made barren of result by the wringing in of a cold deck.

Mr. McBride is not a public speaker and it is difficult to say just what qualifications he possesses that fit a man for United States senator. As the result of an accident several years ago, he is a confirmed invalid, and during his second term as secretary of state, left most of his official duties to his secretary, owing to his protracted illness. Personally, Mr. McBride is an affable gentleman, who has a large number of friends throughout the state.

Albany Herald. The election of Hon. George W. McBride, Oregon's next United States senator, is a high office of United States senator, is a matter of congratulation to the state at large, and a credit to the legislature. He is the most acceptable and worthy member who will command a complete and full influence in every department with which he may be brought in contact, and who will actively and successfully guard Oregon's interests.

It is doubtful if the election of any other man in this state would be better calculated to unite the opposing forces and to add to the advantages of the free bridges in Oregon. No man knows better the wants of the people of this state. Mr. McBride is no orator, but is conceded by all to be capable of sustaining in debate the measures he will advocate with skill and good judgment.

Engene Register. It is indeed strange how everybody should be so slow to think of little things that have a great influence on great men. Why couldn't somebody think to take a box of oranges and smaller things to some of the legislative halls early in the session? It seems that was all that was necessary to break the deadlock and elect a senator.

Ashland Tidings. The news of the election of George W. McBride as United States senator was received with no little rejoicing in Ashland, particularly by republicans, who recognize in the result a happy compromise that will tend greatly to party harmony. "Senator McBride is all right," is the almost universal expression heard.

to the public treasurer. The so-called taxpayers are by no means the only taxpayers, and in the sense in which they regard themselves as taxpayers they are not taxpayers at all.

Consumers are the only taxpayers worth speaking of, and since we are all consumers, we are all taxpayers, and as such strictly entitled to all the rights and privileges belonging to taxpayers. The man who buys shoes to wear, pays first to last—all taxes, direct and indirect, which he ever paid on these shoes or the materials of which they are made. The tax paid by the manufacturer of shoes is charged up and made a part of the cost of making shoes, and the jobber has to pay it; the tax collected from the jobber is charged up to the cost of the shoes, and the retailer has to pay it; the tax on the retailer's stock of shoes is charged up in the manner and collected from the consumer—the man who buys the shoes to wear.

And so it is with all taxes (except taxes strictly entitled to all the rights and privileges of the whole bill, and is therefore, a real taxpayer. S. B. RIGGEN.

Voters having the qualification under the statutes to vote in school districts—that is, any citizen who is 21 years of age and has property in the district upon which he or she pays a tax—are authorized by this act to vote on the question of tolls on bridges. But the vote to be taken is to tolls can hardly be called an "election" in any proper sense of the term. The legislature leaves it to a particular tribunal—the taxpayers—to determine whether there shall be tolls or not, and to another tribunal—the county court—to fix the tolls within certain limits. With the arguments presented in Mr. Riggen's socialistic essay, we shall not trouble ourselves at present.

THE BRIDGE QUESTION.

A Statement to the Public From Mr. H. W. Corbett. PORTLAND, Feb. 27. (To the Editor.)—I herewith inclose the following extract from the Sun, to which my attention has been called: The toll on the Morrison-street bridge for about three times its value, in the interest of Mr. Corbett, passed the legislature; but if there is any law to make it a free bridge by agreement on the part of the property-holders, even if Mr. Corbett is thus deprived of making a large sum of money, he, perhaps, can live if he does not make this little "pile;" and the taxpayers would be better off, in these tight times, to pay three or four prices for a bridge, even if it is needed.

I hardly believe that the writer thinks the people of Oregon are so stupid as to be deceived by any such "justice," however, I may as well state my connection, as fully as may be, with this bridge matter: Some two months before the legislature met, a meeting was called on the East Side to consider the question of the purchase of the Morrison-street bridge. Being a large holder of property, with the bridge located in the central portion of the city, I was invited to be present at that meeting, which I attended, and gave my views as to the practicability of obtaining the Morrison-street bridge by agreement on the part of the property-holders, and fixing a toll for vehicles. At that meeting my views were voted down and resolutions were adopted (after I left the meeting) providing for the issue of \$250,000 in bonds for the purchase of that bridge. A bill was introduced into the legislature providing for the issue of \$250,000 for this purpose. This bill was opposed on the ground of excessive issue. A bill was prepared, and afterwards introduced by Senator Denny, authorizing the issue of \$150,000 in bonds, and providing for the issue of \$100,000 in bonds to the taxpayers as to the issue of the bonds; and, also, the question as to the tolls on vehicles. This bill was prepared at my suggestion to prevent the issue of the bill for the \$250,000 issue of bonds. I was waited upon by a number of the central property-holders, who insisted that if the bond question was left to the vote of the taxpayers, the people tributary to the Madison-street bridge and those tributary to the Burnside-street bridge would unite and defeat the issue of the \$250,000 issue of bonds. If the same position with the toll bridge in the central portion, by reason of the selfish interests of those having the advantage of the two free bridges in their respective localities. Becoming the more convinced of this, I consented to amend the bill in reference to the vote upon the bond issue by striking out the same, but inserting the question of the issue of the bonds to the taxpayers as to the issue of the bonds; and, also, the question as to the tolls on vehicles. This bill was prepared at my suggestion to prevent the issue of the bill for the \$250,000 issue of bonds. I was waited upon by a number of the central property-holders, who insisted that if the bond question was left to the vote of the taxpayers, the people tributary to the Madison-street bridge and those tributary to the Burnside-street bridge would unite and defeat the issue of the \$250,000 issue of bonds. If the same position with the toll bridge in the central portion, by reason of the selfish interests of those having the advantage of the two free bridges in their respective localities. 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