SHORT WEIGHT IS ROBBING PEOPLE

One-Third of Scales Is Found Incorrect and Consumer Gets Worst of It.

PORTLAND AMONG

Inspector Holbrook Finds Sealer Does Well With Scant Facilities, but Conditions at Seattle and Salem Are Bad.

(Continued from First Page, once a year, scales sealed in 1908 were found in use last month. The Sealer admits this condition exists, but declares the growth of the city has been so rapid that it has been impossible, with his present force, to cover the with his present force, to cover the ground properly. However, the Sealer is commenced for the success he has attained under the circumstances, he having secured 25 convictions out of 28 cases brought into court last year, the fines ranging from \$10 to \$50 in every case. Most of these conviction were for selling short measures of wood and coal. Commenting further on conditions oal. Commenting further on conditions in Portland the report made to Director

Stratton says:

"In the testing of apparatus other than scales very little is done, and it is admitted that liquid measures, oil pumps, measures of length, etc., are tested only upon request or complaint. The testing of all these kinds of apparatus is required by law, however. Little investigation is made into cases of short weight except upon a complaint, and it appears probable on this account that much short-weight is being given which is never discovered." Stratton says: which is never discovered."

Many Scales Inaccurate.

Many Scales Inaccurate.

During his stay in Portland Mr. Holbrook tested 35 scales of different types. Sixty-four per cent were found correct (a variation of 3 per cent or less being held correct), while 35 per cent were incorrect. As proved to be the case in all other cities, only a small percentage of the incorrect scale; erred in favor of the buyer; most all the inaccuracies favored the dealer. One pair of scales tested, and computing scales at that, was found to be more than 12 per cent inaccurate, the error being in favor of the dealer. In other words, the purchaser, thinkips he was buying a pound, as measured by these scales, was getting only 14 ounces.

"Many of the errors noted," says Mr. Holbrook, "were due to lack of balance at zero. It is a peculiar fact that the scaler here has been accustomed to pay but little attention to such errors, and usually balanced the scales before a test was made. Since an error in balance causes a porresponding error on

test was made. Since an error in balance causes a corresponding error on
every indicated value when the scale is
working correctly, the balance becomes
one of the most important factors in
the delivery of short weight. This
matter was brought to the attention of
the official, and it is probable that more
care in this important detail will be
exercised in the future.

"It appears that the lack of a higher
recognizes of accuracy is due largely

percentage of accuracy is due largely to this fact, as well as to the infrequent tests made. The principal market place, where more frequent tests are made, compares very favorably with similar markets heretofore inspected. General conditions in Portland are enormously better than in Seattle, where no inspection service exists.
while some scales are being dishonestly used is well shown by store No.

estly used is well shown by store No. 24. In this store three scales were in use, each being correct. A number of one-pound packages of coffee had been put up by the merchant and were so exposed for sale. Investigation showed that some of these packages weighed only 13 ounces, a shortage of 18.5 percent, while a general average of all the packages was only 14.04 ounces, a general shortage of 1.25 percent. These errors could only be due to cent. These errors could only be due to absolute fraud. Under a provision al-lowing the sealer to prosecute when short weight is offered or exposed for sale, shortages like these could be quickly detected and the offender punished; and a few examples of this kind would tend greatly to improve conditions by discouraging fraudulent practices of this sort.

tices of this sort.

"No dry measures are found in use here, most of the vegetables, nuts, etc., being bought and sold by weight. In some cases potatoes, etc., are retailed by the bag, no definite weight or measure being guaranteed; and cranberries are very largely being sold by the liquid quart, shortage of about 15 per cent resulting. This method, although against the law, has never received the attention of the officials. In the cases noted by me, 50 per cent of the dealers were selling cranberries by the dealers were selling cranberries by liquid measure. Therefore half of the consumers were receiving less than the proper amount and half of the merchants are trying to compete with others upon an unjust footing. The city department should systematize affairs by forcing these merchants violating the law to deliver full weight or measure in this commodity.

Weight of Butter Is Short.

"The weight of the print butter is here very important. Since nearly all butter is being retailed by the print. It is of further interest on account of the provision of the state pure food law, which provides 'every square or rell of butter kept, exposed, or offered for sale in the State of Oregon shall contain not less than eight cunces, 16 ounces or 32 ounces, and each square or

for sale in the state of Oregon shall contain not less than eight cunces, 16 ounces or 32 ounces, and each square or roll shall be plainly marked with the number of ounces they contain.

"Because this provision is placed for enforcement in the hands of the pure food department, the scaler here has not been vigilant in enforcing full weight in this commodity. But it is essentially one of, his duties, and some time might well be put upon this important detail of the work.

"In the investigation, 192 one and two-pound prints of 23 different brands of butter have been weighed. It was found that the marking of the weight upon the prints, as required by law, is being generally complied with, although some ranch butter was found not to be so marked. One brand is stamped '15 ounces' very conspicuously, but was being retailed by the 'pound' nevertheless. This brand was found on sale in only one case.

"The investigation showed that the

only one case. "The investigation showed that the The investigation showed that the pound prints have an average shortage of E cunce or 1.87 per cent, and the two-pound prints have an average shortage of .56 cunce or 1.75 per cent. Four brands out of 12 of the one-pound size were full in weight (within 1 per cent), while five brands were more than 2 per cent short, the lightest brand being 4.8 per cent short. In the case of the two-pound prints seven brands out of 17 were not more than 1 per cent light, while seven brands show a greater deficiency than 2 per cent. The lightest brand, ranch butter, had a shortage of £1 per cent and this, it is claimed by the retailer, was not being seld as two pounds of butter, but by

the print, or in larger quantities by actual weight.

'The investigation showed an average shortage on all butter of 1.8 per cent. These results are very much more accurate than in the majority of cases found elsewhere on this commodity. The error in Portland is only hair of that found in Seattle, and in addition the weight of the butter in the latter city has been somewhat influenced by the law here, since Oregon butter, stamped as required by law, is on sale there. The error is very nearly the same as that found in Spokane, in which city a similar provision of law is being enforced by the city department of weights and measures. It therefore appears that the law is doing much to increase the weight of the butter prints, although the maximum weight, has not yet been obtained.

"A violation of the law is found in the case of several firms packing their

maximum weight, has not yet been obtained.

"A violation of the law is found in the case of several firms packing their own brand of lard in tin pails. These firms state the price of lard as 15 cents per pound, three pounds for 45 cents, nive pounds for 75 cents, and 10 pounds for \$1.45, and yet in palls deliver only about 2 pounds 9 ounces for three pounds, and 9 pounds 2 ounces for five pounds, and 9 pounds 2 ounces for five pounds and 11 is true that large manufacturers regularly pack in these sizes grows weight, but in their case no weight is stated, the lard being sold in No. 3, No. 5 and No. 19 pails, or else gross weight is stated. Such methods are not being used in Portland, however, as has been shown, and the violations are therefore positive ones. sitive ones.

"The weight of loaves of bread is not fixed by ordinance, and data obtained shows that the average weight is lower shows that the average weight is lower than in Spokane, where it ounces is specified. Many loaves weighing 13 ounces and even less are being sold in Portland through this neglect. The milk bottles tested show no serious shortages, the average contents being very nearly correct.

Portland Not the Worst.

In concluding his report on Portland. Mr. Holbrook says:

"Conditions are very much better in Portland than conditions in any unprotected city in this section. The moral effect of prosecutions for delivery of short weight coal and wood must, I believe, have greatly reduced shortages in these important deliveries. It must be remembered, also, that the Portland Weights and Measures Department is the only one in this section, and is greatly hampered by the fact that no co-operation can be secured in any part of the state. When these things are taken into consideration, I believe that great credit is due the Sealer. The work done and the good accomplished by his department has certainly justified its existence, but with more adequate state laws and inspection service in nearby territory the results are bound to show a great increase of efficiency here."

Conditions Bad at Salem. In concluding his report on Portland.

Conditions Bad at Salem.

Reporting on conditions at Salem, Inspector Holbrook says:
"Salem, although the Capital City, has no local inspection service, no ordinances on the subject of weights and measures, and no city standards. The county authorities pay no attention to this important subject, either in the county or city and say result no protection whatportant subject, either in the douby of city, and as a result no protection what-ever is afforded the honest and legiti-mate merchant or the consumer against dishonest competition and short weight and measure commodities. The resulting conditions were found throughout the city to be very unsatisfactory.

"Only 32 per cent of the scales in com-mercial use in Salem, which were ex-amined, are correct. This is true not-withstanding the fact that all the ap-paratus in the majority of the larger stores in the city has been tested. The etteres in the city has been tested. The errors are in many cases, very serious ones, occasionally being greater than 12 per cent. Of the incorrect scales, 82 per cent were working in favor of the user, and only 17 per cent tend to deliver overweight; and no scale having a greater error than 8 per cent favored the purchaser. Such percentages very clearly show that all of the errors cannot be accidental, since it is almost certain that the 'fast' and 'slow' errors would be more evenly distributed were this the case.

"In one of the largest stores in the and every one had errors ranging from 2 to 6 per cent, every scale tending to deliver less than the indicated quantity. These errors occurred by a false balance at zero, which is an inaccuracy that can be at once discovered and checked by the users of the scales.

by the users of the scales.

In Oregon City, where an examination was also made by the inspector of the Bureau of Standards, conditions were almost identical with those in Salem. Forty-nine per cent of the scales inspected were found to be inaccurate, most of the inaccurates, as usual, favoring the dealer. Some the scales were 12 ing the dealer. Some the scales were

BLACK HAND GANG SPLITS After Routing White Hand, It Starts Factional War.

CHICAGO, Jan. 28 .- The White Hand society, an organization of wealthy and influential Italians, formed for the purpose of driving the Black Hand out of this city, has itself been routed and rival bands of the criminal organization have entered upon a war of expensions and the condition of the criminal conditions are instead of the condition and the condition are instead of the condition are inst

termination against each other, according to police officials.

Fully a dezen of the unexplained murders on the North Side during the iast year now are attributed by the police to internecine strife between the Black Handers. The police yesterday gave out a list of five dead and said they had established a connection between these men and a Black Hand suspect who is in the custody of the United States authorities on the charge of using the mails to extort

All of the five dead were under po lice surveillance and according to As-sistant Chief Schuettler, their untimely deaths saved them from arrest on suspicion of being implicated in the set-

A deadly feud exists between what is called the "Old Chicago gang" and the "Eastern gang." The former have been residents of the city for upwards of five years and the latter settled in five years and the latter section in Chicago after being driven out of New York following the murder of Lieuten-ant Joseph Petrosino in Sicily in March, 1909. Division of territory and spoils following the route of the White Hand is said to have caused the feud.

28 ASK FOR POWER SITES Oregon Is Among States for Which

Water Permits Pend.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.-Applications to the forest service for permits to use water power sites within National for-ests now number 28.

ests now number 28.

Since the promulgation of the new regulations twelve projects have been acted upon. The permits pending are located in Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho, Colorado. Utah and Minnesota.

It is expected these will be passed upon within a short time. They are now in the hands of the district foresters, and if favorably reported will be turned over to the companies which will build the projects.

Jamaica Wants 1915 Fair.

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Jan. 28.—The Jamaica chamber of commerce is directing a proposal to recommend to the Government the holding of a big exposition here in 1915, coincident with the formal opening of the Panama Canal.

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MORRISON AND FOURTH

LIBERALS UNITED

Approach of Supreme Struggle About Veto Finds Popular Party One.

TORIES WILL FILIBUSTER

Attempt to Prolong Conflict in British Parliament Till Coronation May Cause King to Act -- Home Rule All Around Possible.

BY T. P. O'CONNOR. , P. (Special Cable to the Chicago Tribune, Copyright, 1911, by the Tribune Co.)
LONDON, Jan. 28.—Between the polley and the purpose of the two English parties there remains the same curious contrast. On the Liberal side there is

confidence and fixity of purpose and a solid unity, while the Tories still quar-rel and still oscillate between the tac-tics of reason and of despair. The first Cabinet council revealed the absolute unity of every section of the Liberals, every man realizing that the Liberals, every man realizing that only one course was possible, namely to go right straight on with the fight against the Lords and carry the veto bill, peacefully, if possible, or by creation of new peers and any other extreme measure, if war, to the bitter end is proclaimed by the Tories.

All of the Liberal papers adopt the same attitude and among the Liberals the hopefulness even goes to the extreme length of regarding the veto fight as already finished and won.

Tories May Filibuster.

Tories May Filibuster.

This optimism leads to a cynical disbelief of all the declarations of "dying in the last ditch," by the Tories, but Austen Chamberlain, second in command to A. J. Balfour and chief of the protectionist section, surprised the world this week by proclaiming adhesion to the policy of fighting without a compromise.

Ing. by which the veto bill could be held up till the coronation, and both sides look to that date as the central factor in the situation.

The Liberals will meet this filibustering by feverish and fierce tactics in order to hurry up and close the fight before June. Already they propose to take up all the time of the House of Commons on the veto question. This step will be revolutionary in parliamentary annais, and some growls may come from certain faddists and sectional leaders, but undoubtedly the general spirit of all the Liberals is to sacrifice everything not only to the veto but to its quick termination. everything not only to the veto but to its quick termination.

King May Enforce Peace.

King May Enforce Peace.

If necessary, this drastic action will supersede the rights of the private members, which have been sacred for centuries. The Liberals will take other steps such as time may show necessary. On the other hand, the Tory party this session will bring into the present House of Commons a large number of young, energetic and ambitious men, and fillbustering is the readlest way to catch the public eye and achieve notoriety. This may mean an attempt by the Tories to prolong the struggle.

All of these foreshadowings of the course of the fight may be falsified by the events as they arise. They also leave out of account the ardent desire of the new King not to celebrate his coronation in the midst of such a fierce national fight among his subjects.

They also leave out of account the knowledge, which at last is reaching the minds of even the backwoodsmen, that the Liberals look on with intense delight at the prospect of overwhelming the existing House of Lords with hundreds of new peers drawn from such plebelan material as the great shopkeepers and the other self-made men of the English middle classes.

Home Rule All Around Possible.

Scott and the late Senator Stephen B. His bills would not pass, but was told that if he did not support "certain measures and vote for a certain man" his legislative senation. The purpose of holding another election is to make certain that the prospect of overwhelming the existing House of Lords with hundreds of new peers drawn from such plebelan material as the great shopkeepers and the other self-made men of the English middle classes.

Home Rule All Around Possible.

Home Rule All Around Possible. Redmond has just come to London and will start private discussion, doubtless, in a few days, regarding the detalls of the home rule measure for the

next year. The absence of Lloyd-George makes some difficulty in getting to close quarters, he being the most friendly and nimblest member of the cabinet in dealing with all difficulties, especially with Irishmen, but I saw him before he was leaving and found him much improved in appearance, full of hope and cour-age and only suffering from a local trouble in his throat.

There are little indications that, as between proposing home rule for Ireland exclusively and home rule all around, some members of the cabinet favor tackling the whole problem at once, and William Jones, the brilliant Weishman recently promoted to a ministerial office and a close friend of Lloyd-George, threw out the significant remark that soon Wales as well as Ireland might have self-government, but all this as yet is quite undetermined.

The sudden death of Sir Charles Dilke created universal regret. He had by sheer indomitable attention to his paritamentary duties and his commanding abilities worn down the prejudice caused by the hideous revelation of his old divorce case, and all the commenters see now only the tragedy of the broken career of England's most capable politician. There are little indications that, as

tician.

Baptists Confer at The Dalles.

THE DALLES, Or., Jan. 28 .- (Sperial.)-One of the 12 Baptists Evangelistic Mission Conferences held throughout the state was held in the local Baptist Church yesterday. Many Baptist pastors were present from Baptist pastors were present from other fields. Rev. H. Wyse Jones, of McMinnville; Rev. F. C. Stannard, Newberg; Rev. W. H. Eaton, Roseburg; Rev. W. T. Tapcott, Salem; Rev. H. T. Cash, Hermiston; Rev. D. G. Dunkin, Baker; Rev. F. C. W. Parker, general missionary. Questions of much interest were discussed.



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DEADLOCK IS UNBROKEN

Uproar Is Created When Representative Judkins Hurls Charges of Coercion at Forces of Senatorial Candidate.

DENVER, Jan. 28.—Representative Judkins (Democrat), of Aspen. created an uproar in the House this morning by declaring that he had been approached by Speer men and told that unless he voted for Mayor Speer, of Denver, for United States Senator, he need not hope to get any bills through the House.

him 30 votes.

The Speer forces were defeated in an

effort to force a session of the Assembly tomorrow and the body adjourned until Monday. Democrats-Adams, 18; The vote:

Martin, 2; Maupin, 1; O'Donnell, 2; Shafroth, 1; Speer, 25; Taylor, 1; Thom-as, 5; Ward, 5. Republicans—Gowdy, 1; McCreery, 1; Northcutt, 1; Vaile, Dawson, 30.

VIRGINIA FIGHT SETTLED

Democrats and Republicans Appear Together in Senate.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Jan. 28.-The differences between the Democratic and Republican members of the State Senate were settled today and the Republicans appeared in the Chamber for the first

legislative session that took the 19th ballot today for the United States Senator. The total vote was 32, and owing to the absence of a quorum the result was declared "no choice." the same an yesterday. The vote showed no shifts and the whole proceeding was short and

Change at Helena Slight.

perfunctory.

HELENA, Mont., Jan. 28 .- The only significant change in today's balloting for United States Senator was the gaining of two by Walsh. Walsh re-ceived his lowest and Conrad his high-est vote of the series today. The indi-cations for a break in the deadlock are not regarded as bright.

Iowa Deadlock Continues.

DES MOINES, Jan. 28.—Today's bal-ot in the Iowa Legislature for United Mr. Judkins' charge was made prior to today's ballot, the Aspen Representative rising to a question of personal privilege.

Later Mr. Judkins, under a fire of questions from other members, qualified his statement. He said he did not States Senators to succeed Nathan B.

appeared in the Chamber for the first lot in the Iowa Legislature for United States Senator was as follows; Kenyon.

States Senator was as follows.

States Senator was as follows.

States Senator was as follows.



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