

BETTER FIGHT THE ON INSURANCE LAW

Compensation Measure Likely to Be Attacked From Several Different Points.

AMENDMENTS ARE ASKED

'Blue Sky' Law Also to Be Target for Legislative Bolts as Election of Senator in Baker County Was on This Issue.

Efforts will be made at the forthcoming session of the Legislature to amend the state workmen's compensation law in many particulars...

The liability companies want the law changed so that it will enable them more effectively to compete with the state in providing industrial accident insurance to employes coming under its provisions.

Several members of the Legislature want to amend it so that instead of an administrative commission of three members, one commissioner will have charge of it.

Another plan is to give the work to the State Railroad Commission.

Other interests, including some big employers, it is understood, want to repeal the law altogether, but it is apparent that much discussion and agitation will center around these proposed changes.

This is one of the existing laws, it is believed, referred to in resolutions recently adopted by various organizations in the state as "lofty in purpose but destructive in results," which ought to be repealed.

For several months the liability insurance agents of the state have been preparing to ask the Legislature to take some action that will enable them to regain at least some of the business that they have lost through operation of the new law.

It is apparent, however, that they have decided to ask for a set of amendments. These proposed amendments are summarized in current letters by Paul C. Bates, representing a Portland insurance agency, to members of the Multnomah County delegation, as follows:

First, elimination of the general tax on the fund out of which compensation is paid to employes subject to the act, which will exceed \$100,000 a year.

Second, competitive methods of insurance of payments of compensation all on an equality with each other, which is provided for in all other state laws in this country with the exception of two.

Mr. Bates also suggests the elimination of the provision requiring contribution by employes, which, he says, is not required under any other state law, and "the unquestioned value of a waiting period, during which no compensation will be paid, but which waiting period shall be limited to a maximum of disability exceeds 20 days and which waiting period in one form or another is incorporated in every other state law with the exception of Washington.

Mr. Bates and his associates also have suggested the advisability of passing an entirely new act as a substitute to the existing law.

Demands for a reorganization of the administrative commission have been urgent for the last few months. They have grown out of the plans for a more economical conduct of the state government. E. N. Day, senator from Washington county, has been urging for more than a month the advisability of reducing the membership of the commission to one executive officer. His opponent has found a responsive note among other members of the Legislature.

It is probable that if this change is made the power of naming the single commissioner will be given to the Governor.

An attack also is expected against the "blue sky" law, and a peculiar situation in the case of the act that W. H. Strayer, Democratic senator-elect of Baker County, probably will take a leading part in it, while the principal opponent of the "blue sky" law is Ralph Watson, a Democrat and an appointee of Governor West.

Mr. Strayer was elected on a platform of opposition to the law. His opponent was Frank Mitchell, who introduced the "blue sky" bill in the Legislature.

Further legislation in this same connection is being urged by the Republican County Central Committee, at a recent meeting their committee adopted a resolution favoring a law that will make it possible for the Governor to remove "for cause" any appointive officer in the state, regardless of the time the officer's term expires. Mr. Watson's regular term does not expire until January 1, 1917.

It is understood that this resolution is inspired by Republican office-seekers who fear the under existing statutes will be able to hold their places for one or two or more years until their terms expire.

The faithful Republicans are not willing to wait that long and have conceived the plan of having vacancies created to accommodate them. Members of the Multnomah County delegation have been appealed to by the county committee to support such legislation.

In an effort to defeat Ben Selling, of Portland, for the Speakership of the House Allen Eaton, of Eugene, it is reported, is preparing to throw his strength to E. E. Blanchard, of Grants Pass, who has been one of the principal Eaton supporters.

It is apparent that Mr. Selling has more than 35 votes pledged and that he will have three or four more on first ballot. Mr. Eaton has been unable to break into this strength.

It is understood that some members who are classed by both candidates as "doubtful" are unwilling to vote for the Eugene men under any circumstances and the plan to substitute Mr. Blanchard in place of Mr. Eaton is suggested in an effort to attract such members.

Whether Mr. Eaton will be able to deliver to the Grants Pass man all his present support is not apparent.

M'CORMACK PRAISED AS BEST ONE-MAN CONCERT

Newark Editor Says Noted Tenor to Appear at Hellig Next Friday Reaches Hearts With Song Better Than Any Other Artist.



JOHN M'CORMACK.

FOR pure musical delight the song recital of John McCormack at the Hellig next Friday evening will eclipse all other events of the season. It is announced by Steers & Coman, under whose direction the noted singer comes to Portland.

It usually happens that the musical or dramatic and society editors are the only members of a newspaper staff interested in the average musical events through the season. Not so when John McCormack comes along.

The concert by John McCormack, the Irish lyric tenor, last Tuesday night is said to have been the most successful one-man concert ever given in this city.

This is mentioned not as a matter of curiosity, but because it marks an important event in our civic life. It has served to furnish indisputable proof of the awakening of a new art-spirit here.

The popular outpouring which greeted the great singer was not merely a demonstration of regard from Irishmen and Irish sympathizers to a noble bard of the Emerald Isle. The majority, perhaps, of the vast throng which crowded the great hall were native Americans, Germans and Italians—music-lovers, to whom only the music counted, which came like cascades of pearls from the throat of the singer.

The event also represents an individual triumph for John McCormack. This new Apollo of song is accomplishing wonders in a world-wide uplift. He is doing something no other singer perhaps had ever done before—he is taking hold of the heart of the people, the great common people, and elevating it on the wings of song far above the sordid pursuits and affairs of life.

The latter, of course, cannot thus be gotten rid of; but they can be leavened with the sweetness of a better, healthier view of existence. And it is this leaven which John McCormack's singing supplies.

ships or estates has been prepared by the "Federated Council of the Church of Christ in America" and will be presented at the coming legislative session for adoption.

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CODE BOND ISSUE BACK

BIGGER ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS FAVOR CASH SECURITY.

Commissioner Dieck Reiterates Stand Taken at Meeting When Smaller Wiremen Gave Views.

Declaring that they did not have an opportunity to present properly their views on provisions of the proposed new municipal electric code at a meeting held by Commissioner Dieck Friday to consider the code, electrical contractors assembled at the City Hall yesterday and held a second meeting of their own.

It was contended that the attitude of the electricians and small contractors who were at the meeting Friday made it impossible for the others to do any talking. At yesterday's meeting the bigger contractors spoke in favor of the proposed \$100 cash bond in addition to the \$500 surety bond as a means of protecting the city and property owners against fraudulent or careless workmen.

This proposed cash bond was the principal point of objection on the part of the electrical workers at Friday's meeting, at which time Commissioner Dieck announced that he opposed the cash bond. He reiterated his stand at the meeting yesterday after hearing the arguments of the contractors. He said he considered the cash bond proposal unfair to workmen and small contractors.

Commissioner Dieck favors the creation of a board of electrical appeal. This is opposed by the electrical workers. If formed, the board of appeal would be in the form of a court to settle disputes between contractors and electrical inspectors.

Contractors at yesterday's meeting made a vigorous protest against a demand made by the unions that all workmen should be required to register and that all wiremen should have at least four years' experience before being permitted to work.

A hearing on the code will be held by the Council next Friday morning at 10 o'clock.

WILLIAM HELM PASSES

Pioneer of 1845 Is Survived by Widow and Eight Children.

William Helm, a pioneer of Oregon and of Portland, died at his home on Nottingham avenue, Parkrose, Friday. He was buried in Riverview cemetery yesterday, the funeral being held from Finley's undertaking parlors.

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GIFT TO BE DISCUSSED

DETAILS OF MAYOR'S SCHOLARSHIP PLAN WILL BE ARRANGED.

Fund of \$1000 Offered in Memory of Late Son, Who Had Saved \$700 for College Education.

At a meeting to be held soon by Mayor Albee and others interested in the Mayor's proposal to establish a college scholarship for some enterprising Jefferson High School student, details plans for the scholarship will be worked out.

The Mayor announced that he has added enough to the \$700 saved by his son to make it \$1000 and says others probably will add to it later, when plans for its operation are completed.

Although the arrangement is uncertain, it is probable the money will be invested and the interest used to defray the expenses of one or more students in some university or college in Oregon. It is probable the fund will be handled by a board, by which the Mayor will be awarded to a student actually needing such assistance.

LOAN COMPANY MUST QUIT

Liquidation Ordered at Vancouver, B. C., but Appeal Pends Here.

Advice from Vancouver, B. C., that the National Mercantile Company has been ordered into liquidation by court order recalls the operation of that concern in this state and its prosecution under the blue-sky law.

the company and suit was brought in the Federal Court by the defendants asking an injunction to prevent the law being enforced against them. Judge Bean denied the injunction and the case was appealed to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, where it is now pending.

SALVATION ARMY AIDING

Basket Dinners Will Be Distributed on Day Before Christmas.

The Salvation Army is busy preparing for its annual Christmas basket dinners to poor families. Each basket will be filled according to the size of the family with good substantial food.

The Christmas basket dinner is an auxiliary to the general relief work that the Salvation Army carries on the year around. Many cases of destitution have received temporary assistance in the last few days.

LIBEL CASE UP TO JURY

Demurrer to Political Criminal Indictment Is Denied.

A demurrer to the indictment against Milton Markewitz, manager of the printing firm of Bushong & Co., charged with political criminal libel, was overruled before Judge McGinn yesterday and denied.

The office and sales force of Armour & Co.'s branch located in Portland held their annual banquet at the Oregon hotel last night. C. H. Sommer presided and E. J. Dixon acted as toastmaster.

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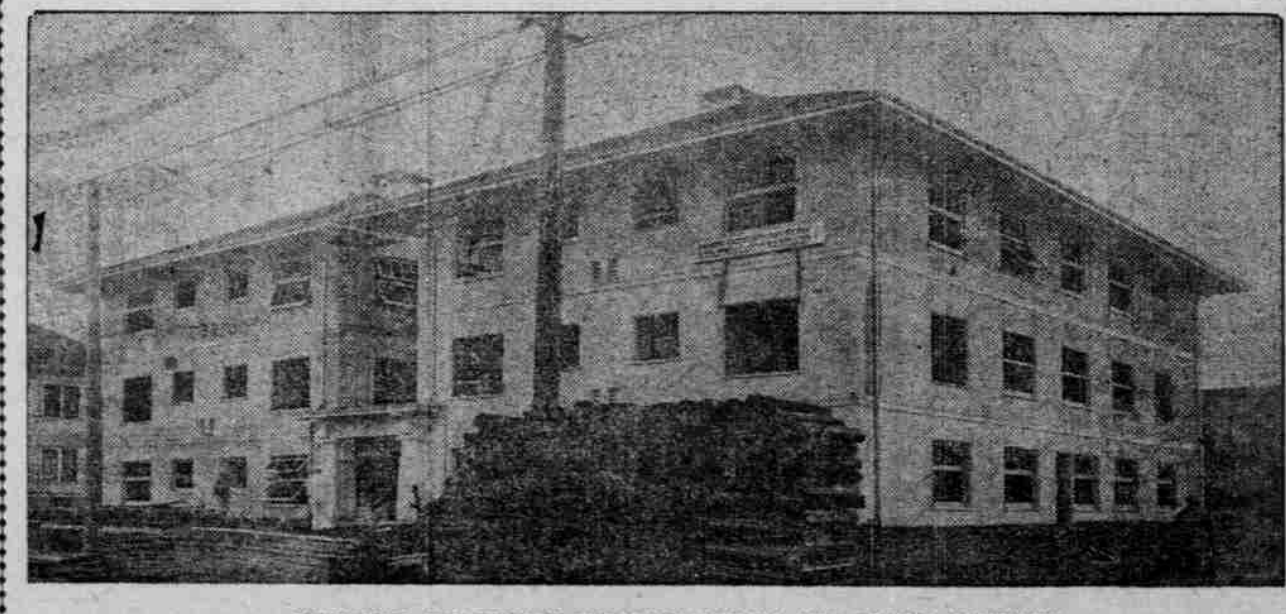
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EAST SIDE APARTMENT COSTS \$27,000.



BUILDING AT CORNER OF HAWTHORNE AND GLENN AVENUES.

The three-story apartment-house of Sutherland & Smith at the southeast corner of Hawthorne and Glenn avenues, near East Thirty-second street, is being completed. It covers a quarter block, 10x100. The cost will be \$27,000, including the furniture. It will be an up-to-date apartment building equipped with modern conveniences.