Che Oregon Was States man

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe" From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

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The Utility Debate

THE seven-point utility regulation bill of Commissioner L Charles M. Thomas emerged with some of its teeth slightly dulled, but still an efficient tool to cultivate the regulatory field with increased thoroughness. The original measure received some important amendments, but it is by land for a period of five years. If no means emasculated; and provides the commissioner with Mr. Baker desires to set Portland adequate power to give the people fair public service rates off from the rest of Oregon, inif such is possible under any system of regulation.

This writer spent a day and a half listening to the debate on the bill. It was protracted, somewhat prolix, and the Suggest, Mr. Baker, that you issues in many instances were magnified unduly. For example it was not fair for Senator Brown and others to contend that the bill should be enacted exactly as drawn and that any amendment would be a dagger in the heart of the bill, and high enough to stop hijackers That is legislation by hysteria,—the kind that was performed two years ago, with disastrous results. The Meier-Clark bills were enacted as drawn yet they were so ineffective and the Portland cement concerns futile that the new Thomas bill had to be submitted this running 24 hours per day and year. The utility measure as it passed the senate clothes the commissioner with a fresh grant of power, until the utilities are almost helpless in his hands. The danger that lies ahead is from placing in that office some one who might be unfaithful to public trust. Then the autocratic power would be disastrous to public welfare.

In two essential particulars did the senate amend the Thomas bill. The commissioner sought to have power to ap- all the way to prevent anyone prove or disapprove of the complete budget of all utilities in the state. The senate limited that power to matters con- other foot of paved highway anycerning service fees and relations to holding companies, do- where in Oregon. The by-roads nations, political expenses, contracts for major equipment of our state are going to pieces and executive salaries. This would seem to cover most of the areas in which "loading" may occur; and the administration | celpts from licenses and gasoline of this work properly is no light responsibility on the part fees. We submit that the present of the commissioner. For our part we think he should want |legislature should and must remto escape both the labor of going over the details of operating budgets and the responsibility for approving items which highway fund only money enough might later work to his embarrassment.

In another particular the senate changed the bill re- now outstanding: plus funds to fusing to give him as an administrative officer, power to and then keep up the highways Neil island. The Bethel spies chose punish for contempt. Instead it gave him authority to bring and secondary highways with as a contempt proceeding before a circuit judge. Authority to small an expense as possible. punish for contempt is subject to grave abuse in courts even, as many newspaper editors have learned. In fact there is a growing sentiment for withdrawing from a judge the power to punish for contempt in his own court. Sympathizing as we do with that sentiment, we believe the senate acted wisely in withholding that power from an administrative officer though giving him a quick and adequate remedy.

The effort to spread costs of investigations of utilities over the entire group, instead of against the particular company being investigated, failed, sustaining Commissioner Thomas in this important respect. So far as fairness is concerned he is right. The general expenses of his department are now borne by the utilities generally, and the senate bill will make the individual company pay for any investigation of itself. There is a grand opportunity for a racket in this should the office of commissioner ever get into the hands of an unscrupulous politician. Otherwise the provision is eminently just, and it is doubtful if the power will be abused. | cent years. It is to be hoped for,

The recapture clause was retained. It is of very dubious value and constitutionality. If the commissioner is on the job the excess earnings will be small; and if the company is to be deprived of the chance of ever earning more than a very limited return what incentive will there be to hold down operating costs?

On the whole the senate bill is a genuine step in advance. It strikes at issuance of phoney securities, over capitalization, milking by holding companies, and loading of that they say, that the lawmakers operating costs. Under it the utilities can thrive and do an honest business successfully. With strict regulation which this bill provides the excuse for public ownership is largely

A word as to the debaters. Senator Hess showed up as the most effective speaker for strict regulation. Burke is stodgy in arguing, Zimmerman rather didactic, and Brown utterly futile. Hess had eloquence, fire, and punch; and he had material. On the other side Goss carried the heavy load. He is facile in speech but his grim manner and caustic wit carried over from court-room practice are not as effective in a legislative hall. Senator Upton towers in an argument. He ter laws is a motto that should be good land and all the property of has a full background of knowledge, a rotund voice, and a humor which carries no whipcracker at its end.

The new bill should be regarded as experimental, particularly in assigning such broad powers to a single commissioner. Ultimately Oregon should reorganize its regulatory system by making the commissioner more of a judge, with another official as the prosecutor or consumer's advocate, removing the frequent charge that the single official is judge, prosecutor and jury rolled in one.

A Saving Sense of Humor DITOR SITTSER, senior, and his two sons who run a paper "Beach Resort News" at Delake, have been charged with criminal libel. The charge is based on articles appearing last year in which county officials were charged with rotten deals of various kinds. One is quite amazed that there should be any such agitation in the Oregon playground of Lincoln county. The "Beach Resort News" we supposed was dedicated to proving that the Lincoln beaches from Delake to Yachats were the ultimate paradise for earthly existence. Who would think this publication would discover any viper in the shirt in such a land of perpetual beati-

We fear the "News" takes itself too seriously. Its fulinations we note occurred in the off-tourist season. The paper is doubtless embarrassed for lack of copy in the winter months, like the summer hotels and camps which line the coast highway. So it strayed from its usual path of painting in type the glories of Otter Rock and Whale Cove and got

off in the mire of local politics. seriously. They should learn a lesson from the Marion coun-

Letters from Statesman Readers

Dear Editor:-

In the words of "Our Mutual Friend," Will Rogers, we see by the papers that Mayor Baker of Portland has appealed to the members of the Multnomah county delegation in the state legislature to save the Wolf creek route

Mr. Baker is attempting to make out that a line should be drawn between the interests of Portland and the rest of the state. We cannot concede that such a distinction exists in fact or fancy. Portland is more dependent upon the balance of Oregon than is the upstate upon Portland. The good roads leading into the city of Portland have been the means of bringing millions of dollars of business to Portland every year.

If, for the sake of the argu-

ment. Mayor Baker or any member of the legislature from Portland, doubts that Portland isn't getting her just share from a dollar and cents standpoint from the highways of Oregon, we dare the city council of Portland to enact an ordinance prohibiting any car or truck to enter or leave Portstead of having an imaginary line separating our interests, let's put up a barrier that is a barrier. build a Chinese wall around Portland, with no gates, Build it deep enough to prevent gophers and moles from tunneling under it, and bootleggers from climbing over it. This will kill two birds with one stone: first it will keep secondly it will solve the unemployment problem as far as the

city of Portland is concerned. Then, Mayor Baker, if you insist upon a shortcut to the sea or Seaside, suggest that you buy a right of way to the seaside, build an exclusive road from Portland with a stone wall on both sides

else using it. This is no time to build anfast. The state has been receiving too large a share of the reedy this unjust division. The state of Oregon should take out of the to pay interest on highway bonds

much larger proportion of the highway money, it will not be long until our lateral or feeder roads will be shot. Most of them are half shot now. At present many of our country roads are impassable to anything except a tractor that lays its own track. Let's have a new deal with the highway funds, with a just share or county roads!

C. BEECHER SCOTT. R3. McMinnville, Ore.

Few bills will be passed at the present session. It is possible that the number of bills passed at the present session of the legislature may reach a new low level for reas we have too much legislation, which is invariably accompanied by an increased expenditure of money raised through taxation. Legislators say that the legislation enacted will more than likely be confined to important matters to be dealt with in a relatively small number of measures. The principal reason for that is will find themselves pitched head first into the problems of changing the tax system under the levy limitation and caring for the state deficit. Therefor they may not have time for much else but there has already been a number of bills introduced.

Almost every new delegate and ture has some pet scheme he law and too often too many of encouraged. It appears a large the highways is the only asset that Oregon has to save the state's credit and ward off bankruptcy, and I am almost persuaded to believe it, as it is about the only asset Oregon has that she cannot dispose of, she cannot sell, eat, or mortgage them to buy food for the unemployed. WHY? Because the taxpayers and laboring people of Oregon built them, then our lawmakers made the motor vehicle and their upply manufactures a warrantee deed, for their guaranteed the taxes and the upkeep of the highways for the life

of them. Now comes Joe E. Dunne with highway bill with knot holes and cracks in it sufficient to althe highway commissioners slip millions and millions of dollars over on the taxpayers, with only Burk, Bynon, Spaulding, Zimmerman, voting in the negative, with Senator Brown ab-

about three million dollars, com-

ing to approximately 1500 people.

until the early sixties. So the sec-

onists were then gathered, except-

Knight was one of the seven.

He was a '49er; born at Bethel,

(Turn to Page 6)

New Views

John Knight, ploneer: Some newspaper notice has

been given concerning the passing of John Knight in Salem on January 23; but naturally the reporters missed much of the early part of his career and that of his for-

His father was Joseph Knight. With his people, he was a member of the Keil colony, founded at Bethel, Mo., in 1844. That colony, its first principal members from Switzerland and Germany, who settled originally near Pittsburgh, Pa., moved to Missouri, then being reclaimed from the wilderness, in order to find a place where they might own their property in common and have its usufruct flow to a common treasury, and live according to the law of love one for another, with opportunities for larger growth and the doing of greater good to their neighbors and to needy strangers who might come their way.

They founded and built the town of Bethel, with mills, shops stores, school and church, and they also acquired another tract some miles distant and built the town of Ninevah, Mo., where there was water power for mills and mechanical operations.

5 5 5 The epochal emigration to the Oregon country started largely from Missouri, and the colonists built wagons and made plows and gloves and other essentials for outfitting the covered wagon rains. Soon the urge of pioneering, that had brought them in sailing vesels to America and to dence? What country, state or the new lands of Pennsylvania town?" and adjoining states, and then to Missouri, aroused a desire for establishing a branch in the ultimate west, near the shores of the

So they made up a party to go westward, and in 1853 eight men and one woman with a covered wagon outfit joined a train of emigrants headed toward the setting sun. Adam Knight and his brother Joseph, father of John Knight, were members of that party of nine going to spy out the new home. The leader, chief protagonist of the new way of life, next to Dr. Keil, was Christian Glesy, and the woman was his wife, parents of Dr. A. J. Glesy of Portland.

The party of nine crossed the plains without any untoward incidents and contacted with Esra Meeker, who had come in '52 and wintered below Portland and was looking for larger opportunities north of the Columbia river. Meeker selected the site for his first cabin home where the federal penitentiary is now, on Mo-Neil island. The Bethel spies chose a location on Willapa bay, an arm of Shoalwater bay, not far from the present South Bend, county seat of Pacific county, Washington.

The spies took up and took over large tract of land there and began the work of clearing part of it for crops and erecting houses in preparation of the main party of their people, scheduled to follow in 1855, predicated upon the receipt of favorable reports. These, by the slow mails, were unanimous, and in the summer of 1854 Adam and Joseph Knight went back, by way of San Francisco, to report in person.

Preparations for the starting of the large party in 1855 were speeded up, and it came that year. That is a long and interesting story, for which there is not room here. But the Knights did not come back with the 1855 train. On its arrival at the newly selected Willapa home in the fall, after making surveys, it was decided that another location should be sought, nearer to markets, and where the cost of clearing land would not be so great, etc.; so another set of members started to spy out a more favorable site for the western settlement. Finally, early in 1856, the place that became Aurora, named for one of Dr. Keil's daughters, was selected, the first land bought, and work begun, making improvements and building a town. That work was kept up until the death of Dr. Ketl, the leader, December 30, senator who goes to the legisla- 1877, and for a time thereafter, under the trustees, when all the would like to see enacted into a property was divided among the members, in Missouri and Orethem succeed. Less laws and bet- son. They had 23,500 acres of three towns to divide; leaving evmajority of our law makers think ery one with a competence; the total value being, as of say 1929,

sent. Senator Upton defended the catastrophe and refunding provisions and declared no honest highway commissioner would break faith with the people on these points. I have been wondering if Senator Upton will vouch for the honesty of our present, and incoming highway commissioners as they have been scattered like sheep without a shepherd. And it appears as soon as they get an honest man on the highway board they fire him at once. Do you remember Senator C. K. Spaulding? The Savior said "Father for-

give them for they know not what they do." Taxpayers forgive the lawmakers for they know not what to do.

S. B. MILLS, 2407 State Street Salem, Oregon.

sonal encounters. What Lincoln county needs is a hearty laugh.

The boy scouts of Salem are holding an exposition at the armory which deserves the attendance of all dads and mothers of boys,-and others too for that matter. As Regional Executive Havward of Spokane said in a talk in Salem: "There can be no moratorium on the growth and development of youth. Our boys and And the county officials doubtless take the "News" too girls are growing up, spite of the times. They cannot await good times to complete their physical and mental growth. And growing ty officials. They have been charged with so many offen-which will develop them into wholesome and capable citizens. The ses and "rotten deals" that they merely treat the charges as more Oregon mist. When a judge or a paper exudes a training. Big men are giving hours of time as well as money to help fresh crop of complaints the public here has a saving sense along the cause, simply for the sake of boys. To those unfamiliar with the work, we say, visit the armory tonight. You will come with fresh knowledge and renewed hope in boyhood.

The Safety BITS for BREAKFAST "The Challenge of Love"

SYNOPSIS

or. John Wolfe, young and ca-able assistant of the inefficient old Indian troubles came; there was practically no plains immigra-Dr. Montagne Threadgold, is tion from 1855 to 1858, and little shocked at the pollution he finds everywhere in the little town of ond large train was started, under Navestock. The young doctor's greatest obstacle in trying to better conditions is the bitter resent-Prof. Christopher W. Wolff, in the spring of 1868, and came to Aurora, where nearly all the colment of the people themselves. The affable Threadgold appears more interested in humoring his patients ing a few who had remained in the Willapa section to conserve and fattening his purse than he is in curing their illa. He cautions and dispose of their holdings Wolfe against using necessary "ex-pensive" medicines when the "ordi-In the Wolff train were the nary" preparations will do. Wolfe would be tempted to give up if it members of the Knight family, including Adam and Joseph and were not for lovely, young Jess their wives and children. Joseph Mascall, whose sincerity and courageous outlook are an incentive to had been married before and had children and so had his wife, who was Katherine Bauer when markeep fighting. Filled with curiosity as to how Wolfe spends his time, ried to Joseph Knight. With the Mrs. Threadgold searches his room ones each had and the seven who and finds a map he has prepared were born to them after this marshowing Navestock's polluted areas. She informs her husband of what she calls Wolfe's "gross disloyalty riage, they were a family of father and mother and 14 children. John and underhand spying" and sug-gests that her husband either make Mo., Jan. 25, 1849. He was the seventh son of Joseph Knight. The him discontinue his researches or discharge him. Jasper Turrell, the brower, whose enmity Wolfe had incurred for complaining of the condition of the former's property. Joseph Knight family tarried only temporarily at Aurora after the calls on the Rev. Robert Flemming The genial rector is indifferent to furrell's ranting about Welfe. The clorgyman cares little for Turrell accepting him as part of Navestock Flemming had long age learned to him and was lying back comfort- owy face. take ovil as a part of life.

Abandoning legislative topics Statesman reporters yesterday inquired: "If it were posible for

covered the sore.

Sometimes, though very occasion-

ally, he had been troubled, waking

from his pleasant, patriarchal leth-

rubbed his eyes and looked about

beautify. Moreover, a man of

a town without being moulded to

"What about this fellow Wolfe?"

It was Flemming's hour for read-

wallowed it at the second fall.

"Strawberries. This hot weather

you to live where fancy pleased, CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE where would you take up resi-Flemming, like many good men eft everything in the hands of God. He stretched out a compassionate aand to touch the sufferer, but he did not draw aside the cloth that

A. T. St. Clair, backtender, paper mill: "If I was so I could go anywhere and the like of that, I don't doubt but that I would stay right here in Salem."

John George, assistant, city en-gineer's office: "Salem. I'd rather live in Salem because I like the climate and the people.

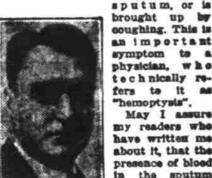
F. O. Repine, painter and dec orator: "I prefer Oregon - and Salem. I like the coast quite well but for year-round residence I'll hoose Salem."

Mrs. John Kile, home maker; 'I would live in Salem the year around. What could be gained by going away from here?"

Miss Margaret Neal, stenogapher: "I would live in San Franisco if I could have my wish. It has so much variety that can be Bob Flemming was a man of the of the bed-clothes showed that the found in no other place.

By Royal S. Copeland, M.D.

TO MANY persons, nothing is table in his study. His brown spanmore distressing than the sight of iel came waddling in, and laid himblood. It is particularly alarming self down in a patch of sunlight at when the blood is noticed in the his master's feet.



ech nically refers to it as May I assure my readers who have written me about it, that the presence of blood in the sputum

for sugar.

sarily indicate

the existence of a serious ail-Contrary to the common belief, the presence of blood in the sputum is not a sure sign of tuber

Of course a person suffering from sariy tuberculosis may have bloodtinged sputum. On this account # would be a grave mistake to ignore this symptom. It warrants a visit to your doctor. He will determine the cause of the blood stain and h most instances will be able to relieve you immediately of much unnece

Don't Ignore Warning Blood in the sputum can be trace A chronic cough, as in chronic bronchitis or asthma, may be sufficient to cause slight bleeding. A sore throat, inflamed tonsils, pharysgitte or laryngitis, are other allme

healtate to go to a doctor for fee they will be told they have tuberes Others have rushed to physician and after a careful enamination the bleeding has been traced to swollen gums. You can imagine their surprise and

this information, in anyone who notices blood in the um, if there are other symptoms too. Among these are extreme of weight, sweating at night, and of fliness are unbeeded, the di ognized and treated early, it may h

Have An Examination Toe many persons fear tuberes

losis and yet deliberately ignore nature's warning signs. This is a pity, because with proper care and nursing, tuberculosis is curable. It is a different story if neglected and permitted to reach an advanced stage. This unfavorable progress can be prevented if you heed such danger alguals as blood in the sputum; loss of appetite, "pep"

cases should be subjected to a ther-X-ray examination of the lungs. By means of this examina-tion it is possible actually to visual ine the lungs and their defects.

finding of the germs of tube imperative that the afflicted ind ual receive immediate care. Do not stand in fear of losis. Guard against it by attention to the health

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Deeping

Flemming went down on his knees and prayed.

ably in his chair when one of the maids came in with a message. "There's a woman, sir, from

"Well, Jane?" "She says Mrs. Baker is dying, ing upon her eyelids. and they'd be pleased if you'd go."

Bung Row."

Flemming put down his paper. "Tell them I'll come, Jane, I'll ome at once.

The room in Bung Row where the woman lay dying was like a dark must ask." hole when compared with Robert argy with the start of one who is Flemming's sun-lit study. A wooden then sat down on the chair beside wakened by a vague cry at night. bedstead stood in one corner with the bed. His hand still groped in Things had occurred that had shakone of its legs propped on half a his pocket, but presently he withsn his placid optimism. He had brick. The woman lying there had drew it without the book, as though been brought to the very last stages a feeling of inffectualness possessed him, only to see what seemed to of emaciation. Her nose was pinchhim inevitable suffering and pover- ed, and no broader than a child's ty that his own creed had sought to little finger, and the back of her head was a bulging protuberance Robert Flemming's sociability could overhanging her miserable neck not have lived for twenty years in The face was the colour of parchment, and made up of bony ridges some of its characteristics. We are and starved hollows that caught the like stones in a stream, rubbing shadows. Her hands rested palm and polishing one another. The peo- upwards on the coveriet. Her lids ple of Navestock-that is to say, were half-closed, and between them those who had some say in the tife showed the dull, glazed eyes of one of the town-detested interference starved to death. A faint movement world-so far as Navestock was woman still breathed.

on, rustily, clumsily, and without head, and holding his hat in his the woman ceased to breathe. The ming had roused himself to pour the chair beside the bed. The latch fair-haired chap came squeezing The rector went in to his tea, taking it like a bachelor on a small and something scuffied and rubbed then scrambled up on to the bed. against the door.

"The doctor, is it not?" "Mr. Wolfe?" "Yes. I am afraid it is too late,

ing The Times, but, though he Robert Flemming set his hat or opened the paper, the subject of his the window-sill, and glanced at the conversation with Jasper Turrell in- woman in the bed. He put his hand truded itself, and edged the para- into his pocket for the little Bible that he carried, but the action was "A young man-of course, That slow and almost half-hearted, as is to say-very old. We grow young though Wolfe's words had inspired again. Toby, sit up, old chap. Time him suddenly with curious self- caught the child and took him in his The spaniel sat up on his hind tween the act and the thought, like seream and kick and to legs, caught the sugar on his nose, man brought to a halt by a hand Wolfe's face with his fists. made it bounce in the air, and then on his shoulder.

The latch kept clicking up and

"The child." "Ah!"

Flemming moved towards the bed, but the woman did not notice him. The eternal sleep was weigh-

"They ought to have sent for me before.

"It was very sudden at the last, I believe they sent yesterday." "No. I heard nothing of it, I

He stood heavily irresolute, and

"She won't know you, sir." "No? Nevertheless---He went down on his knees and

prayed. The latch of the inner door rattled despairingly. "Muvver, Muvver!"

Wolfe's mouth twitched, Robert Flemming raised his head. "Oughtn't we-___1"

"I think it better not." "Muvver!" "I would."

Wolfe went to the door and drew concerned. The old machinery joited The rector came in, bending his back the wooden bolt. As he did se of the door that led into the back through. He dodged under Wolfe's kitchen was elicking up and down, arm, gave a stare at the rector, and

> Wolfe turned and saw everything. The boy had clutched the woman's hands. He drew himself up, snuggling up to her with a look of wide-eyed eagerness. The thin face rolled to one side of the pil-

The boy threw his head back any gave a queer, wailing cry. "Muvver! What's the matter with

Muvver? Wolfe took three strides across the room. He bent over the bed, consciousness. He was caught be arms. The youngster began to "There, there, quiet,

The Guy With a Job

