

# The Oregon Statesman

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

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO.

CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, Editor-Manager  
SHELDON F. SACKETT, Managing Editor

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## Nailing on the Mortgage

ON reconsideration the senate passed the grange power bill which is another step toward putting the state in the power business to the tune of \$65,000,000 financed by a blanket mortgage on the property of the state. At a time when legislation is devoted to lifting burdens from property owners and going as far as possible toward easing the mortgage load from the backs of debtors the legislators are advancing plans to put the biggest bond of all on the people of Oregon. It is true that the people voted the power amendment last fall; but that does not make it rational legislation. It is true that the bill calls for further popular vote before bonds may be issued; but the power bill is merely another part of the program of the wrecking crew who are out to destroy private investment in utility services through the weapon of public bonding power and public taxation. "Without cost to the taxpayers", the shibboleth of the George Joseph campaign, is merely the will-o'-the-wisp to lead the people on. Oregon had the same golden pictures painted for financing of irrigation districts over a decade ago; and now the legislature is expunging liens on property of land owners in irrigation districts. The public ownership program for the state may succeed; though political management has not been conspicuously successful in most forms of enterprise. If it fails however the burden falls right back on the public through taxation. At the present time, with Oregon having the largest indebtedness per capita of any state in the union, save one, it is dangerous business to pile on additional debt. Already the state's credit has suffered from the unwise fiscal policies of the state.

A companion bill which is likewise fraught with danger is the one which calls for a bond issue of \$3,000,000 to duplicate some federal money for improvement of the Willamette. This is in the face of the report of army engineers that prospective savings do not warrant the expenditure on the river. The bait held up is power from the dams at one or two points below Salem. In all probability this would be high cost power. The stream flow fluctuates widely; the head is low; the dam would be long and expensive. There is a power generating surplus capacity at the present time. And cheaper units may be installed in better situated mountain streams.

The propaganda for "free power" has caused a general hysteria. The public and legislators have the jitters. Instead of looking a business deal over critically the mass mind swallows the hokum and votes millions at the same time it is chiseling dimes off of policemen's salaries and tradesmen's due bills.

Let the grange and the political housewives stick to their text and provide power "without cost to the taxpayers"; and not only without cost, but also "without risk to the taxpayers". The people of the state owe enough now in private in public debt to engage their labors for a decade. If the grange proponents were practical they would propose some plan for acquiring the common stock of existing utilities. But of course that would not provide fresh jobs for engineers, contractors and material-men.

In this time of stringency the state better await the working-out of its newly inspired regulation bill before it takes the plunge off the deep end into sixty-five millions of fresh debt and political ownership.

## Ratifying Conventions

IF the lower house of the national congress passes the Blaine resolution for repeal of the 18th amendment, then it will be submitted not to legislatures of the several states, but to special constitutional conventions summoned to vote on the particular issue. The terms of the Blaine resolution specify this, but do not make any call for such state conventions, the machinery for which must be created by the states.

It then becomes the duty of the several state legislatures to enact legislation to convene such an assembly. The Oregon senate voted down the Upton bill. If the national lower house does pass the Blaine resolution before the Oregon legislature adjourns then it will be the clear duty of the Oregon legislature to pass legislation either the revived Upton bill or another measure on the subject.

The dries cannot afford to be other than good citizens. Oregon has a right and duty to express itself through proper constitutional means on the proposed amendment. Oregon voters on the clear-cut issue of retention or repeal of the 18th amendment will speak their voice; and the wets and dries will have ample opportunity for conducting whatever campaign they desire to control the convention. Though we have consistently supported the 18th amendment, we have never refused to give the people the opportunity to express themselves again on this question. Presuming that the repeal amendment is to be submitted, the Oregon legislators, regardless of personal opinions on prohibition, should comply with the conditions which are thus imposed.

Just why the senators and representatives tax themselves to present their presiding officers with a bunch of silverware is one of the mysteries of human nature. The way men break their necks to get the honors one would think the prestige of the position would be adequate compensation. But even in a hard time year like the present when some of the legislators can hardly house and feed themselves through the session, they all jump like sheep to pounce up real money for a gift to the speaker or president of the senate for merely doing his duty. We'd like to be president of the senate one year just to make a grand gesture and tell the members to keep their five plunks instead of making a forced gift of it.

A Lane county tax group condemns the governor and treasurer for borrowing two million dollars from banks on the ground that it was consummated "without proper publicity". In our opinion there was so darn much publicity about the state's needing to borrow money that we came near not getting it at all. The Lane county group ought to subscribe to one of the Eugene dailies and keep up with the news.

The best simile we have noticed in connection with this local scrip is that it is like catching a snowball on a hot day. It is a race to get rid of it before it melts. Some of the local firms that out of the goodness of their heart agreed to take some of the local scrip which has been floated around here soon found it piled up in their tills. There is a limit even on a merchant's being a "good fellow".

Just what Representative Paulus thought a national constitutional convention could do to meet present economic problems is beyond us. Congress and the state legislatures haven't made much of a dent on the difficulties.

## In the World Spotlight



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## BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

### Salem's first street cars:

(Continued from yesterday)  
"T. H. Hubbard, one of the stockholders and directors, is the manager of the company's lines and business."

"Following is a complete list of the stockholders of the Salem Street Railway company, at the present time:

Squire Farrar & Co., E. S. Lamport, George E. Hatch, Ben Forster, George F. Smith, Joseph Albert, D. Grierston, P. S. Knight, Edward Weller, Wm. Brown, Geo. W. Johnson, T. O. Shaw, Steinar Blosser, John Knight, Wm. N. Ladue, P. J. Larson, Geo. J. Pearce, Hugh McNary, J. B. Stump, George Williams, C. D. Gabrielson, T. McF. Patton, Moore & Manning, O. W. Hellenbrand, Theo. Nolf, J. J. Dalrymple, J. H. McCormick, R. P. Boise, Gilbert Bros., Dan J. Fry, Geo. D. Goodhue, Luna & Brown, E. M. White, S. T. Northcutt, J. W. Hoar, John Molt, J. A. Baker, Lot L. Pearce, Wm. England, H. W. Cottle, N. H. Burley, A. N. Gilbert, T. J. Cronise, J. A. Cook, J. W. H. Bridgeford, John Ferguson, W. H. Hutchinson, L. L. Rowland, A. E. Strang, Chas. B. Moore, John G. Wright, J. J. Shaw, C. L. Keller, S. R. Jessup, Norris Brown, John Q. Wilson, Klingler & Beck, Monroe & Bell, Rhoda A. Edes, S. W. Church, Ladd & Bush, T. H. Hubbard, R. J. Hendricks, W. M. Kaiser, H. S. Jordan, Angie McCulloch, C. B. & A. N. Moore, George A. Conn, Cook & Minthorn, J. S. Bridgeford, T. J. Cherrington, L. Henderson, Robert Ford, F. J.

By working night forces during the closing days of the period, the contractors had the line to the Southern Pacific passenger depot ready for operation on Tuesday, January 15, 1889, though Manager T. H. ("Tom") Hubbard had experienced some difficulties in getting his drivers and the horses and mules accustomed to their new work, and a few days passed before everything was limbered up and the system operating smoothly.

There was a news item in the Statesman of Friday of the following week reading in part: "The great success of the street railway, which is already indicated beyond expectation, has aroused the people to the full sense of the fact that it is a great convenience and a vast influence in building up the city along its route. Accordingly there is a commendable effort made to have it extended in different directions, and in some cases with success. The residents along Commercial street have raised a bonus of \$500 to have the line built north to North Mill creek, and the company has accepted the proposition and will build right off. . . . There remains but \$350 of the Center street bonus now."

The line was soon extended to North Mill creek, and, later, on to Highland addition, even to

the Polytechnic school, where the state school for the deaf is now. Also up Center street to 14th, out 13th street to Moringside addition, and still other extensions were made.

That fall, the Capitol City Railway was organized, incorporated Nov. 19, 1889, with \$25,000 capital stock, the incorporators being Rev. P. S. Knight, David Simpson, Geo. W. Webb, Otto Krause, W. T. Gray, M. L. Chamberlain and Louis Kuhn; capital stock later increased to \$50,000. The first company could not secure financial resources fast enough to satisfy property holders in some sections—including along east State street; and Louis Kuhn, among the promoters of the rival line, being manager for the concern contracting for prison labor making stores at the penitentiary, was especially concerned in having street car connection out that way—and Rev. P. S. Knight was interested in town lots in that section.

The Capitol City Railway people went the pioneer company one better—constructed and equipped electric lines to the prison, the state fair grounds by way of the Fairgrounds road, etc. This was one of the first electric street railway systems in the United States or anywhere in the world. Not a great deal of time elapsed before there was a consolidation, and all lines were electrified.

None of the first stockholders made any profits, excepting indirectly by reason of the growth of the city and few if any were heard to complain. Followed many changes; several new ownerships, from time to time. Finally, all the lines went over to a subsidiary company of the Southern Pacific railroad, that was building many interurban systems in California, and is operating there still in the case of the Los Angeles section over 1000 miles of such lines.

The concern proposed the same (Turn to Page 6)

## "The Challenge of Love" By Warwick Deeping

### SYNOPSIS

The snug little town of Navestock jolted on, rustily, clumsily, contented to jog along in a rut, resenting the interference of anyone who sought to change its mode of living. The people, therefore, were very antagonistic toward young Dr. John Wolfe, spokesman of the town's blindfolded old Dr. Threadgold when he tried to better conditions. The young physician realizes also the pitiable plight of the inhabitants in the hands of the old doctor, who entices him to be more sparing in the use of necessary medicine. Wolfe, stunned at the momentary conditions he finds everywhere, prepares a map showing the unhealthy districts. Mrs. Threadgold comes upon the map and considering Wolfe's researches "gross display and underhand spying", suggests that he be warned to discontinue or be discharged. Despite the community's feeling toward the capable young doctor, the Rev. Robert Flemming is impressed by his efficiency in ministering to the sick. Wolfe's one inclination to keep fighting in the friendship and encouragement of lively and vivacious Jess Maccall. Wolfe shows Dr. Threadgold the dangerous germs he found in the well-water of a house where there is a case of diphtheria. The narrow-minded Threadgold, afraid to face facts and fearing Wolfe may usurp his position, resents the younger man's "interference". Wolfe warns of a terrible calamity should typhoid fever or cholera strike Navestock. Not wishing to appear superior, Wolfe turns over his findings to Threadgold to do with as he pleases. Later, the old doctor tells his wife a convincing tale of how he put Wolfe in his place. She urges him to burn Wolfe's papers. Wolfe longs for someone to talk to but met with insolence and unfriendliness everywhere. Even at home with the Threadgolds, the atmosphere is strained. For comfort, he visits Moor Farm, Jess' home and one place he is welcome. He comes upon Jess breaking in a frisky colt.

"Have you ever thought, Jess, how people live?"  
"You mean—money?"  
"Yes, just that—money."  
She drooped a moment.  
"I know I am ignorant—and all that."  
"I would not ask you to be anything but what you are. If we could only keep our courage and our sanity! If I can see my way!"  
She broke in suddenly.  
"Don't go. Don't let them drive you out."  
Wolfe got up abruptly. A strange feeling of exultant and chivalrous guilt swept through him. He felt that he had just met at something, seeing his fist, bit out, and about like a man heading a charge of horse. Yet, above all, he was possessed by the thought that he must get away from the place; that he had no right there, that Jess should be alone.

back as broad as a door was bending between two rows of dwarf French beans. He had a great blue patch on his brown trousers. His forearms were the colour of copper, and so was his neck, that was criss-crossed with a multitude of wrinkles. Why grey hair stood out aggressively under the brim of a haymaker's hat.  
"Morning, Adam."  
"Morning, sir."  
Adam Grinch was Josiah Crabbe's one friend. They were keen, laconic, hard-faced men, the one a Freeholder, the other a right Calvinist. How they contrived to surfboard for each other no one had been able to explain. Grinch had been with Josiah Crabbe for thirty years. They never agreed. And yet they suited each other like the two grinders of a mill.  
"Any news, Adam?"  
"Nothing of value, sir."  
Grinch appeared to speak between his spread legs as he stooped. He did not stop gathering beans.  
"Anyone grumbling?"  
"Not as I've heard."  
"People sick?"  
"Not up our way. Heard there's that there diphthery down in the town."  
Josiah Crabbe seemed pleased.  
"That's good. Let the fools catch it. Makes them yell some day. How's Turrell, have ye heard?"  
"Been talking to some of his tenants about Threadgold's man."  
"Threatening 'em, of course. That's Turrell! I want him to threaten me, Adam, but darn him, he won't do it. We'll see, we'll see." Josiah Crabbe took snuff, with an air of elaborate enjoyment.  
"Stubborn sort of young man—this Wolfe."  
"Stiff as a pine, sir."  
"They want to get rid of him. Don't I know them?"  
"He's a straight man, sir, saved or doomed."  
"Hum. Seen him, Adam?"  
"Often."  
"Eh?"  
"Big lean man. Looks as though he could hit hard. Looks you straight in the face. Don't do much talking."  
"They'll kick him out, Adam, they'll kick him out."  
"I've heard Threadgold's afraid of him. He's learned a powerful lot about Navestock, so they say."  
"What about Peachy Hill, Adam?"  
"Never see the gentleman up our way much. Reckon he leaves well alone. It's down by the river."  
Josiah Crabbe took more snuff. "A dirty town this, Adam."  
"Full o' sin, sir."  
"Dirt."  
"Dirt's a sin."  
"Wants someone with a broom and a bucket. This man Wolfe! Makes confounded rumpus, turns the place upside down. Drive Turrell and the rest of 'em mad. Humph."  
"They won't let him, sir. Be sure of that."  
"Hum—thet! They won't let him. That strikes me as queer, Adam, very queer."  
He toddled up and down, chuckling to himself in a grim, dry way. Then he stopped, and turned to stare at the patch in Adam's trousers.  
"Keep your ears open, Adam."  
"What for, sir?"  
"About this man Wolfe."  
"Very well, sir."  
"I may want to have a word with him. He's the kind of man who might doctor me."  
Grinch looked round over one shoulder.  
"Not feeling ill, sir?"  
"Ill! You're an ass, Grinch. I never felt better in my life."  
(To Be Continued)

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### CHAPTER TWENTY-EIGHT

Jess turned to meet Wolfe and insisted that he stay for tea.

On the other side of the rough wooden table sat Jess, her hands on her lap, her eyes fixed on Wolfe's face. Tea was over, and they had been talking, much longer, too, than either of them imagined. Jess's face had assumed a grave and mysterious maturity. She was no longer the rough-riding girl. Her head was poised intently above the white lines of her slim throat.

"It must be hateful for you down there."  
Wolfe stared at a patch of blue sky. This quaint, strong, and rather silent man had found himself pouring out his loneliness into Jess's lap.

"Yes, in a way."  
"But it will get better—when you have been longer."  
"I am wondering whether it is worth it."  
"What?"  
"Staying on in Navestock. Most of the people want to get rid of me. I am a nuisance. Perhaps you would not understand why."

She watched him with grave, reflective eyes.  
"Do you mean—they want to turn you out of Navestock?"  
"I have no doubt about it."  
"Because you discovered things?"  
"Because I have tried to tell some people the truth."  
She remained in thought a moment, and then her face blazed up.  
"How mean and cowardly! But you won't let them?"  
"Drive you out."  
He sat back, looking at her with proud insistence.

Mr. Josiah Crabbe was considered to be the most eccentric man in Navestock. In his early days he had been christened "The Atheist," largely because of his violent sincerity and his habit of saying what he thought in the face of his neighbors. Now can it be denied that the title had taken Josiah Crabbe's fancy. He was one of those men who had been born with a strong hatred of all humbug and make-believe, and he had learned to hate early and to hate well. As for the name of "Atheist," he had accepted it with a subtle and sneering satisfaction, flaunted it, so to speak, with cynical arrogance, and even used it as a cap of darkness for the baffling and enraging of his enemies.

Josiah Crabbe had set himself to tangle the money that had come to him from his sleek humbug of a father, and he had done it in the face of malice, fear, and all manner of interference. People had tried to keep the grim little man under, to snarl him out of countenance, to crowd him into a corner. He had provoked and courted antagonism. People had struck at him, and he had bided his time and then struck back, and with such ferocious ugliness that men had refused to leave him alone. He was cynical, shrewd, utterly fearless, scrupulously fair when he was treated with honor.

This house of his at the foot of Peachy Hill was the counterpart of its owner, a square, long-headed, grey-stone house that turned a contemptuous back to Navestock town. A high stone wall set with glass shut it in with its outbuildings and garden. The only entrance was by iron-barred gates backed with sheet iron so that no one could look through. Very few people went in and out, nor was there a glimpse to be had of the garden.

Josiah Crabbe himself was part of the picture, a little, lean, skull-faced man with black eyes that gleamed and twinkled in a dead white face. He looked as dry and as tough as a piece of leather, and his teeth were as perfect as the teeth of a boy. Scrupulously neat and clean, he dressed always in black, and in a style that was some twenty years out of date. The plumpest parts of him were his hands. They were white, deft, and almost generous, with nothing suggestive of the claws of a bird.

One morning in August an old Crabbe came out for his usual morning walk. He would toddle a few steps, and then stop to scan the grass or the paths. Sometimes he took snuff, using a little gold snuff-box with an emerald set in the lid. His chief desire appeared to be the discovery of a dairy root in the lawn, or some tiny green needle of grass thrusting itself out of the gravel of the path.

Josiah Crabbe moved on. At the end of one of the walks a man with

Let's pass any bills looking toward centralization, equalization and reduction of overhead like the county unit bill. It is merely permissive legislation, cash and harm, and might do much good. Let's get behind the best bills for substitute taxation, subordinating our personal interests and prejudices to relieve the property tax of its excessive and unjust share. If possible include the school taxpayer in this relief.

I have been working and voting for equalization and substitute taxation, and reduction of overhead expense and will continue to do so.

H. E. TOBIAS

To The Citizens of Salem:

I believe in honesty, fair dealing and justice, and I have faith in the citizens of Salem, especially those who have put their shoulder to the wheel and have helped to make this the beautiful little city that it is. Our merchants and business men are doing their best to get along in these moneyless times.

I believe the photographic business leads the list in poor business during such times as we are now passing through, and the fact that department stores are adding the photographic business to their now too many lines, does not create the best of feeling among the photographers. I know that the photographers in the Pacific Northwest will join me in saying that it is "unfair" in practice and in principle.

Your local photographers must eat, and if you have any dollars to spend for photos, spend them with your regular photographers. That is the way he makes his living. It is to your interest and his, and benefits Salem.

I respectfully submit the foregoing for your careful thought and consideration.

H. D. TROVER  
(For thirty years in the photo business in Salem.)

## Daily Health Talks

By ROYAL S. COPELAND, M. D.

By ROYAL S. COPELAND, M. D.  
United States Senator from New York.  
Former Commissioner of Health, New York City.

EVERYBODY knows that diphtheria is a preventable disease. It is prevented by immunization. This is accomplished by the injection of a substance called "toxin-anti-toxin". In spite of the almost certain means of protection, diphtheria still ravages among children.



Dr. Copeland  
is, or something else, its use is feared.

Children who are exposed to the germs of diphtheria will contract diphtheria unless they possess immunity against the disease. Few children possess a natural immunity against the disease and protection can be had only by inoculation.

Diphtheria "Toxoid"  
Now comes the important announcement of the New York City department of health. The good news comes that marked improvements have been made in the preparation of diphtheria "toxoid". Toxoid is now perfected and will be used in place of diphtheria toxin-anti-toxin as a preventive of this disease.

When they learn about it, parents will welcome this change. Toxoid is less irritating, less painful and easier to administer than toxin-anti-toxin. When the latter is used three injections are given at weekly intervals.

But when toxoid is used, only two injections are necessary. These are given two weeks apart.

Every child should be given protection against diphtheria. Diphtheria is a deadly disease. It is caused by a germ called the "diphtheria bacillus". This may be found in contaminated milk or other food, or it may be transmitted from one person to another by sneezing, coughing or kissing.

"Carriers" a Menace  
These persons who carry the germs of diphtheria, though not actually suffering from the disease, are a constant menace to society. They are called diphtheria "carriers". It is estimated that one or two per cent of the general population are carriers.

Within the past year there has been a marked reduction in the number of children receiving diphtheria inoculations. In consequence, health authorities fear a marked increase in diphtheria. This is disturbing.

If you have not given your child this protection against a serious and often fatal disease, you are doing him a great injustice. I am confident it is a mistake to neglect this simple protection.

If you have hesitated because you feared the toxin-anti-toxin injection, you may be assured of the safety and greater simplicity of the toxoid treatment. You can be assured of protection against this disease by immediate inoculation, regardless of which agent is used. Do not delay any longer. Consult with your physician or local board of health, or for advice as to the procedure.

Answers to Health Queries  
Business Man. Q—I have a gall bladder disturbance and cannot seem to find out just what foods I should eat to avoid the attacks. Can you help me?  
A—For full particulars send a self-addressed, stamped envelope and request your question.

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## The Safety Valve

Letters from Statesman Readers

To the Editor:  
My past experience with The Statesman leads me to believe that you would not be intentionally misleading, but I wish to call attention to information in your editorial of Sunday that is by no means the whole truth.

You state that school enrollment increased 25% between 1921 and 1922, but neglected to point out that high school enrollment increased 90% during the same period. While most elementary schools could handle their slight increase with little more cost, the sudden doubling of high school enrollment entailed building programs and other expensive expansion. Of course, high school costs are more than elementary costs, just as college costs are above high school costs. Even the cost of living in the home increases with age.

Your figures about taxation are also misleading. You quote the money raised for school purposes in 1921 and 1922. My figures are for levies for these years but are substantially the same. But you omit all reference to taxes on motor fuel, vehicle licenses, inheritance, intangibles and income and excise taxes. Of the TOTAL TAXES, according to my figures, schools received 31.6% in 1921 and 30% in 1922 or an actual decrease of 1.6% for the decade. I wonder if the \$10,479,748.50

of taxes (and this must mean the amount levied, not collected) is not of at least equal value to the \$10,913,448.00 spent on one year of this state for cigarettes. In the same year \$27,479,179.00 was spent for amusements and small luxuries, and \$7,697,932.00 for jewelry and cosmetics. For every dollar spent for education five is spent for automobiles.

Your statement that all school costs were declining during this period merely shows your ignorance. It is true that some items declined, but these items were a trivial part of the total school expenses. I doubt if members of The Statesman family found personal living expenses cheaper until quite recently. Evidently the cost of operation of The Statesman plant has not declined appreciably. The main costs, like interest are fixed costs.

Nevertheless, had I the authority the legislature now has, I think I could reduce school costs considerably in some places. There are inequalities in efficiency, inequalities in ability to support education etc. The principal proposals for remedy so far proposed would increase these inequalities and inefficiencies and PASS THE BUCK to those already most harassed. Wisely the majority of the members of the legislature have voted down most of these measures which have consumed the time that should have been available for constructive measures like the bill providing for a vote on the county unit plan. Certainly there should be some form of centralization to smooth out the inequalities, reduce unnecessary overhead expense and even a GREATER PER PUPIL OPPORTUNITY AT DECREASED PER PUPIL COST. The other day the Washington senate UNANIMOUSLY voted to increase the states' share in educational expense from 20% to 50%.

In this state the state wishes to reverse this process, it seems. The governor in his fine talk last night spoke eloquently of the difficulties of the state and even of the counties, but he is like The Statesman and many others in that he has neither knowledge or conception of the difficulties of local districts. He would free the state of the burden of the

property tax, and relieve the counties. But what of the local districts? Has anyone yet had the temerity to even propose a substitute for the county unit plan? There have been taxes on motor fuel, licenses, inheritance, income, intangibles and excise taxes, and there are other taxes proposed. Where does the local district come in for relief?

On the other hand, it has been proposed to cut the elementary school fund that goes to local districts, to cut the county school fund that goes to local districts, to cut the tuition fund that helps equalize the load around high school districts and gives equal opportunity in education. The height of insanity is the Gordon bill to cut local levies because the state has shirked its duties and has less to cut.

Don't worry. Local levies have been cut and will be cut by those who know considerably more about local conditions than Mr. Gordon, or The Statesman. Mr. Gordon, the Statesman and others have forgotten that CUTTING COUNTY LEVIES WILL FORCE INCREASE, RATHER THAN DECREASE OF LOCAL BURDENS. To suddenly cut such equalizing revenue will FORCE LOCAL DISTRICTS TO INCREASE TAXATION wherever that is possible, and elsewhere there will be further inflation of warranted indebtedness.

Many schools would be closed entirely by such a measure, thus adding to the army of the unemployed. Over half of the unemployed now are youths that ought to be in school instead of keeping heads of families in the bread line.

I am glad The Statesman commits itself as "opposed to legislative bills that will wrack the schools or make blind slashes at expenditures." The Gordon bill is a blind slash. Let local budget committees who are by no means blind do the slashing. Practically all the bills so far considered have been for blind slashes, merely PASSING THE BUCK further down to those needing help most. Now that the back has finally been about cleared for constructive action, let's all get together behind the constructive measures.