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Dan Tobin and the Taft Carryall Dan Tobin-Uncle Dan-of the Teamster's
union is boss driver for the union which domi-
nates the commercial hauling of the nation nates the commercial hauling of the nation.
While his occupation is that of driver, he ap. pears to be putting his foof out for a ride on the political bus of Sen. Robert $A$. Taft. Tobin is
editor of the organ of his union and in its last oditor of the organ of his union and in its last
fssue has an editorial predicting a race between Taft and Truman for the presidency in 1952 and
the election of Taft "unless we can arouse the the election of Taft "unless we can arouse- the
masses of the working people." Then, apparently easing himself out of all-out hostility of Taft because of the Taft-Hartley act he reaches for the low
all, in this comment:
"Taft in now the outstanding leader of the Hepubicans not only in the United States sen-
ate but throughout the nation Outaide of Tafts
antagonism to labor he is an honorable man. antagonism to labor he is an honorable man.
If Senator Tatt gives you his word or promise,
and he to caretul about iving his word or promise to lo labor, he will keep that word or or that
promise."

When one recalls the bitter fight labor made
against Taft in the senatorial race in Ohio last year, and the way organized labor has made him
Its bete noir (black beast) ever since he put his Its bete noir (black beast) ever since he put his
name to the 1947 labor act, such $\operatorname{commenmt}$ the doughty old Tobin, long a teamster in the
TDR political stable. Maybe old Uncle Dan is accepting the old recipe: If you can't lick 'em,
foin 'em.

## Toll Highways, or Free

The Oregonian revives the subject of toll
roads and offers the opinion that motorists would gladly pay tolls ior a new water-level and a new bridge across the Columbia at Van-
couver (the highway commissions of Oregon and Washington have released a report assertIng the present bridge will be adequate until
1960). For that stretch of highway the Oregonlen is probably correct, but citizens of this state
have become pretty well habituated to riding state highways "Yor free." The five coast bridges Were authorized by the legislature to be operat-
ed on a toll basis, but the requirement was can-
cellied before the bridges were completed. The state charges toll for the ferry at Astoria, but
that is about the only fee exacted in the state Since tolls are paid by the highway users one might think that the solution is simply to raise
the charges the state imposes on all motorists to get funds needed. That theory is good, but will nte prime arteries of travel. First, the cities and
countiés share in the increased take and spend the money on their own streets and roads. Then
highway funds are not apportioned strictly on highway funds are not apportioned strict. They
the basis of traffic count (indicating use).
are spread over the state both to satisfy various are spread over the state both to satisfy various
eections and also to provide a network of good

## Soviets Having Own 'Great Debate' Whether Satellite Attack on Tito Would Provoke War <br> Soviets Having Own 'Great Debate' Whether Satellite Aftack on Tito Would Provoke War



roads to serve the
defensible policy.
There are however a sons against toll roeds in spite of their curren popularity in other parts of the country. For one thing the state sets out to develop virtually tww
road systems, for the toll road must have parallel free road. A state like Oregon hasn't the resources or ceredit to build two systems. The Statesman remains of the opinion that Oregon
should adhere to its general policy of a free road should adhere to its general policy of a free road
system, but the peculiar conditions on the Col umbia river highway may justify an exception

## Tax Crisis in Washington

Oregon's legislature got razzed for staying in
session a record-breaking 116 days. The Washington legislature overran its constitutional limclock face), but failed to do its chores in the regular session and was called back for an ex tra inning. The job it did in the special session lation out, so now Governor Langlie is calling the membery back in a second extra session. ous problem. Warrants issued on the basis of collections anticipated from taxes authorized in the special session are made invalid by the supreme courts action, but will of course be vall
dated by legislative action. The state auditor
will issue no more warrants will issue no more warrants against that account. the task of the legislature in locating new sour-
ces of revenue difficult. The court ruled the 1951 act unconstitutional expenditure; and levying a new tax. But $i$ it also
held the proposed 4 per cent corporation tax was held the proposed 4 per cent corporation tax was
unconstitutional because it was discriminatory and violated the requirement of uniformity in
tax measures. This last provision of the Washington constitution has been a roadblock against a graduated income tax. The special session will
therefore have a legal as well as a financial problem on its hands in trying to dig up more
money by means within the conditions imposed by the constitution. The state's famed $40-$ mill
limit for property taxes in another readlock the state as well as subordinate taxing units. The people over in Washington were educated
to generous spending, especially in the Mon to generous spending, especially in the Mon
Wallgren regime. Langlie has had a hard time to keep the state solvent and hasn't had much help
rom the legislature. With state government there facing a partial paralysis the legislature surely will try to do a real job when it convenes
at Olympia.

A Baltimore boy is the champion catcher of lightning bugs (fireflies , with a a catcc o of 32,585
to his credit. That's one sport (or work) western boys miss, for the bugs with the luminous rear
are not native to this region.
 partilly spilit this shield and
 alkan assaut can be loecalize
hat is,
heiting the thitrd world war.


