THE BEND BULLETIN
 ILL-BALANCED
Two weeks ago we endorsed the unemployment compensa-
tion rate bill that had been introduced in the Oregon senate. tion rate bill that had been introduced in the Oregon senat
We must now withdraw that endorsement. We have no
changed the opinions then expressed, but the measure in que changed the opinions then expressed, but the measure in ques-
tion, senate bill 136, has been changed materially. Where
once it was a well-balanced piece of legislation, it is now an ill-balanced piece. It would be better to retain
In its original form, senate bill 136 proposed elimination
of the "floor and ceiling" clause from the law, the elimination of employer contribution rates above $2.7 \%$ and reduction of the minimum rate to $.5 \%$. The law now sets $1 \%$ as the min
mum rate, $4 \%$ as the maximum rate. A change made in the
bill before its passage by the senate yesterday provides fo continued operation of the floor, which means that whenever
che level of the fund reaches an indicated percentage (this
the le the level of the fund reaches an indicated percentage (the
year $\$ 15,000,000$ in money), the rates, running from 2.5 for providi
maximum.
This change came about as the result of what is known as
deal. Labor was asking, although not expecting to get, an increase of $170 \%$ in possible unemployment benents. Emtion of those above $2.7 \%$. Labor wanted the floor retained so
that vastly increased benefits would not deplete the fund. High rate employers didn't care much about the floor one
way or the other. So their agents, assertedly speaking for all way or the other. So their agents, assertedly speaking for al
employers (which they do not do), blithely consented to leave the floor in the law. Whereupon labor gave the $2.7 \%$
maximum its blessing and said something about being satis fied with a mere $50 \%$ increase in benefits. With these arrange
ments, the senate labor and industries committee was sured, everybody would be happy
was not unanimous in accepting this assurance. But th mangled bill did find its way to the floor of the senate with house. In progress of senate bill 136, as has been the case in the past when attempts have been made to get top rates re
duced, the interests of a large class of employers who provid continuity of employment (much more important than unem
ployment benefits) were largely ignored. As the measure stands, it is true, the new $5 \%$ rate remains, but this is of
minor importance compared with potential effects of operaon of the floor clause.
Under the re-vamped bill, should there at any time be
depletion of the fund, this class of employers will be require to do the replenishing. In doing this replenishing they wil have forced upon them a rate increase much more abrup
and much more dratic than would ever have been visited upon high rate employers under operation of the ceiling
clause. And those who have deserved high charges will b orgiven them. promises to create is manifestly inequitable and discrimina-

Aubrey Williams may or may not be the right man to hea
the rural electrification administration-we do not think he -but we know that if a private utility did as much as the REA be no end to criticism and demand for improvement. accepted the Curzon line for the division of Poland and the Army Hospitals Seeking Nurses

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THE BEND BULLETIN, BEND, OREGON, SATURDAY, FEB. 24,1945

| ALSOXG to REMEMBER |  | Washington Column |  |
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|  |  |  | smoker. Planning to better their flocks, |
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| scarf. "Here, let me do it." "Please, Frederic, hurry. We t can't be late." |  |  |  |
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| feel?" "Never better, Professor," <br> -Humph. Well, that will $\square$ |  |  |  |
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| blow over."Frederic tied Jozef Elsner's scarl -Tch, tch, don't stand there |  |  |  |
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## PACIEIC

Lumber and Box Shooks
 ball bearings, reduction gears an
spark plug points were first


Bend's Yesterdays FIFTEEN YEARS AGO
(Vrom the Buictin Yiles Luther Davis, 50,
Dies in The Dalles






The postman, a bulky man with
long mustachios, came in, and
Madame Mercier went out.
"Mall? What time is ti"


