THE BEND BULLETIN

$\frac{\text { LEGISLATION BY LOBBY }}{\text { LIS }}$

LEGGISLATION BY LOBBY
In his report Monday on the Oregon legislature's 194
session, William Niskanen, Deschutes county's representativ
touched on a subject which, we believe, deserves more elaborytouched on a subject which, we believe, deserves more elabora-
ton. It may be called legislation by lobby. The Descnute To illustrate his point he used unemployment compensa-
tion legislation. Certain measures enacted under this classi fication were recommended by committees of senate an house because two groups of lobbyists told the committee
that the measures were acceptable to labor and to the employers of the state. This information was given after th
two lobbyist groups (perhaps half a dozen men in all), had two lobbyist groups (perhaps half a dozen men in all), ha
gone into a huddle and agreed to a bit of mutual back scratch ing. Neither group especially cared to see the other group porarily, they

## should do so.

epresented labor lobbyists did not represent all labor; they ists by no means represented all employers; they represented on their chief measure, those employers whase payrolls woul
normally be assessed at more than $2.7 \%$ and who desired reduction to $2.7 \%$. The committees, however, accepted th presentations of the lobbyists at face value. So did the
houses of the legislature in their votes on the measures. In doing so-and this, as we see it, is more importantthe committees and the senate and the house, to all intents and
purposes, delegated to special interest spokesmen their own functions as legislators. These spokesmen, rather than th ourse), reached the agreement on them, and the legislature relieved of the responsibility, merely made it official.
We are of the opinion that this is mary We are of the opinion that this is carrying lobbying rather
too far and that it is not carrying legisiating far enough. house," but it is advisory and not legislative. The senators and representatives are elected to make the laws.
In connection with the foregoing, we would like t Niskanen of Deschutes and Burt K. Snyder of Deschutes and
Lake. On the key measure in the unemployment compensa ion group of bills, these two, well knowing that they were in Their votes were the only negative votes in the house. We would like to add that their record through the session
vas uniformly excellent. Deschutes and Lake counties were

ee necessary. So I thent wouldn
The next morning I obed.
The next morning I was up
carly I dressed and went imme
dataly to the desk to ask if Mr
ludson had comec in. The clerk
ing for the e phone.
Mr. Street, please," he told the
"Not Mr. Street-Mr. Hudson,
sadd. Street is the panager," the
"Mr.
cerk explained frigidly. Then Into
"Mr. Street. Mr. Trent is askin
for Mr. Hutson.
The desk clerk was still eyein
me warily when he hung upe
MMr. Sireet wishes you to ste
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