

Capital Journal

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The Railroad Crisis

Unscrambling of the Southern Pacific and Central Pacific system, after 52 years of common ownership and control as ordered by the recent decision of the federal supreme court, would be a misfortune to Oregon as it would effectually destroy railroad competition and convert what is now a main line of a transcontinental system into a branch line with all the inconveniences and additional expenses thereof.

The present Southern Pacific line south of the California-Oregon border to Tehama and Sacramento, is owned by the Central Pacific. Its sale would isolate Southern Pacific lines in Oregon, which could not be operated profitably and would most probably be sold to the Union Pacific, thus giving that system a monopoly on the transportation business of the state for there is not sufficient traffic to justify the building of a competing line through California.

In the unscrambling, Oregon would lose the benefit of a competing transcontinental line, for all freight would be forwarded north through Portland and east over the Union Pacific. Now freight can also be sent instead south and over the Central Pacific or Southern Pacific. New joint rates will take the place of single rates over the one system now in effect. Train service will be disarranged accordingly. Moreover, sale of its lines in Oregon would force the Southern Pacific to discontinue the purchase of millions of dollars worth of lumber and other products annually.

If the rail systems be separated, the half-constructed Natron cut-off from Eugene to Klamath Falls would probably never be completed, or at least indefinitely delayed. Construction was halted when the dissolution suit was filed. If the Southern Pacific sells its lines in Oregon, it will have no reason for building the cut-off and if the Union Pacific buys them, it will have no object in constructing a competitive line into territory it already serves.

The supreme court decision is based upon the Sherman anti-trust act of 1890, the court holding that the Central Pacific and Southern Pacific were competing lines in the meaning of the act. Execution of the court's decree has been automatically stayed by an appeal for a rehearing. It may be nullified by the transportation act of 1920, requiring the Interstate Commerce Commission to consolidate for grouping purposes, the major railroads of the country, whereby the Southern Pacific including the Central Pacific was merged with the Rock Island lines. At least let us hope so.

Cutting the Taxes

The state Grange at its annual meeting adopted a program of drastic cuts in state expenditures—that is cuts supposed to materially reduce taxation. The amount to be saved is \$1,355,000 per biennium or \$677,500 a year. As the total taxation is some \$41,000,000 a year, it is apparent that not much of a saving will be effected, only about one and two thirds percent.

It is apparent that something besides legislative appropriations will have to be trimmed to materially reduce taxation, and something besides strictly state expenditures. Local taxes must be severely pruned. As a matter of fact, most of the taxes have been voted by the people themselves in the form of millage and other imposed expenditures. There are in addition state laws that enforce certain expenditures upon counties which have been denied the option of refusing to make them.

Of the \$41,000,000 only about \$3,000,000 is appropriated by the legislature, so if the legislature should fail to function, fixed expenditures and local taxation would still call for \$38,000,000 or 93 percent of the present total taxes. Of this amount some \$18,700,000 is for education, while county, cities, and roads take each a large proportion.

The state Grange is wasting its time and efforts if it figures that all that is needed to reduce taxation is to prune state and legislative expenditures. It is well enough for a beginning, but school, city and county budgets must be materially trimmed and millage bills reduced before the taxpayer benefits much.

Making Cherries Yield Crops

(By F. C. Reimer of Southern Oregon Experimental Station)

The Southern Oregon Experimental station has one large Bing cherry tree, fifteen years old, and one tree of Royal Ann and Lambert ten years old, which have bloomed profusely every spring for years, but previous to this season have produced very few cherries. The trees are old enough and large enough to produce at least 200 pounds of cherries per tree. But alas! Every spring the heavy bloom filled the superintendent of the station with visions of a crop that would feed a hungry regiment, but at picking time there were not sufficient cherries to satisfy a private. Within from one to two weeks after blooming the small green cherries would fall off to our great disgust.

These trees have received proper cultivation, irrigation, spraying and pruning, and have always been in a healthy and vigorous condition. But no matter how much we coddled them or coaxed them they would not bear.

After we had tried all the usual methods to make these trees bear without avail, we concluded that this bareness was probably due to lack that we would try this remedy.

Pollination
Just as these trees were beginning to bloom during the past spring, I collected at Ashland some small branches of Black Republican cherries which were densely covered with flower buds and were just beginning to bloom. Two bouquets were made of these, one thrust into a large bucket and the other into a smaller

cherries will fertilize any of the other standard varieties of sweet cherries.
Many complaints have come to this experimental station regarding the unproductiveness of the Bing, Royal Ann and Lambert cherry trees in many places in this valley. Every case investigated has shown that this is due to lack of proper pollinizers nearby. Wherever the proper pollinizers are growing in the neighborhood, these varieties are very productive.

At the experimental station we are topgrafting one branch on each of our trees with a scion of Black Republican cherry. This will ensure proper pollination for and good crops on our trees in the future. This method I recommend to all those having unproductive cherry trees. Until these topgrafts begin to bloom I suggest placing a bouquet of the proper pollinizers near each tree as described above. In planting new orchards at least one tree in every twenty should be either a Black Republican or a Black Tartarian or a Waterhouse.
All those interested in the results obtained at the station are hereby invited to visit the experimental station near Talent next Monday afternoon, June 12, to see the crop on the trees and to get further details regarding the work and results.

GRADUATES OF NORM GIVE PLAY

Monmouth, Ore., June 14.—

"Fanny and the Servant Problem," the senior class play, was given Monday evening under the direction of Miss Edna Mings, English teacher. Fanny was confronted with a trying situation when she arrived at Bantock Hall, Rutlandshire, and discovered that the man she had married was Lord Bantock. Suddenly elevated from a music hall girl to Lady Bantock, and then to discover that the twenty-three servants were all relatives of hers. Headed by the imperious butler, her uncle, she proceeded to train her to fit her for the position of Lady Bantock and succeeded in making life miserable for her until she got up spunk enough to fire the whole crew. Miss Mildred Bartow of Portland did excellently as Fanny. Andrew Johnson of Central Point, as the butler, was the outstanding figure of the play. His deliberate, well-articulated speech and imperious attitude fit the part perfectly. Many of the lines of the others were lost to the audience because they spoke indistinctly or too rapidly.

The part of Lord Bantock was taken by Wendell Van Loan of Monmouth; Fanny's housekeeper, Susannah Bennett was Beula Borington of Oakland; Jane Bennett, her maid, Gladys Bennett of La Grande, California; Ernest Bennett, footman, Douglas Parkes, of Monmouth; Honoria Bennett, parlor maid, Florence Hudson of Portland; Alice and Edith Wetherell, Fanny's aunts by marriage, Iris Aiken of Toledo and Clara Allen of Portland; Dr. Freemantle, medic, Lloyd Miller of West Salem; George B. Newts, Fanny's former business manager, Clinton Griffin of Oregon City.

The normal school orchestra, under the direction of Miss Helen Moore, furnished excellent music between the acts. A violin and cornet duet, played by Miss Gertrude, Rogers of Monmouth and Miss Edith Griffiths of Oak Grove was especially pleasing.

Polk County Court

Circuit Court.

Florence Hamilton vs. Clyde Hamilton. Action for divorce.
August H. Schrader vs. Marie Mehl, et al. Action for foreclosure.

D. M. Shattuck, doing business under the firm name of Shattuck Motor company, vs. T. J. Hobson. Default and judgment granted.

Mary A. Pugh vs. Clifford J. Pugh. Action for divorce. Granted. Plaintiff to have care of minor child, Karl M. Pugh, and defendant to contribute \$25 per month while boy is in school.

William A. Himes vs. James A. Ether, Walter J. and Leona Barbara, R. F. and Alice L. Wessell, Dallas Producers Canning company and Vincent Cook. Confirmation of sale.

P. W. VanDoren, doing business under firm name of Oregon Traction company vs. Twin City company, a corporation. Order made for dismissal.

Ernest C. Brunk vs. Etta Brunk. Action for divorce. Order for dismissal made.

Pacific Co-operative Poultry Producers association vs. P. P. Buhler. Restraining order granted.

Marriage Licenses.
Leland S. Fisher, age 24, of Independence, to Laura Marie Larsen, age 21, of Falls City.

Hugh C. Olds, age 26, of Camas, Washington, to Neta Elda Waller, age 28, of Monmouth.

Lloyd S. Woodhull, age 22, of Dallas, Oregon, to Floy E. Kemmis, age 21, of Dallas.

Probate Court.

Guardianship estate of Oral Violette, a minor. Order made allowing and settling first annual report as submitted by J. B. Violette, guardian.

Order made allowing final account to estate of Moore-Gotly, deceased.

SAP AND SALT

By Bert Moses
The Golden Rule sands no chance with a big army.
The honesty of a butcher is sorely tested when he makes change.

If we practiced health, the practice of medicine would be unnecessary.
Very often it is difficult to determine whether a man is genius or a fool.
The reason so many stupid laws are passed is because we elect stupid men to make them.
Any man could be as wise as Solomon if he had as many wives to give him pointers.

Hez Heck Says:
"A bunch of men tell bad stories, while a bunch of women are just silly."
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LOVE'S MASQUERADE

By Idah McGlone Gibson
A DRAMATIC STORY OF LOVE AND ROMANCE

Age and the Woman
"I sometimes wonder," said Doctor George, harking back to the theme of age as a factor in love and happiness, "why we let the passing years play such a large role in our lives—especially the sentimental part of them."
"I have known men and women at 48 who have loved just as truly and fervently—and much more intelligently and unselfishly than those of 18 or 28."
"Love I am sure was never meant to be a part of such a material thing as a calendar." Then he picked up the story again that Margaret told him.
"I do not like to think that we are the playthings of Fate, George," she said to me that last time I saw her, "and yet to our finite human minds there is so much in our lives that we cannot understand that we find no other explanation than Fate's whim, for some of the things that happen to us."
"I am wondering just what the verdict of the modern woman would be upon my case if she knew my story as I am going to tell it to you."
"Do you know, George, that I believe that with the exception of a few men here and there like yourself, the new woman would be kinder than most of the sex to which you belong."
Dr. Milton paused here and said to his friends: "I started to protest at this but Margaret said: 'Hear me through. Before I leave for France I shall write you the whole story.' I received it a few days ago. Here it is:
"I am going to begin by confessing, George, that I have probably broken all the laws of convention even while trying to keep the commandments intact. Whatever I have done I have always salved my conscience by saying that I have never hurt anyone but myself.
"Up until now, my friend, Harry Glendening and my conscience have been the sole custodians of the facts that I am going to give to you.
"And I can say honestly that my conscience acquits me, for whatever the verdict of the world may be, I cannot see that I have done any wrong.
"I have not hurt Harry Glendening's wife for she does not know—and will never know that Harry loved me—at least for a little while. In her arrogance and conceit she will never believe that her husband ever told another woman that he loved her."
"That is true," interrupted Davis, "for in Doris Glendening's petition for divorce she has never even intimated that Harry Glendening had ever spoken love to the co-respondents in the case, or had felt anything more for her than a short-lived passion and afterward the masculine contempt of men for the women of the street."
"I have not even hurt Harry Glendening," said Margaret, "Milton continued after Davis' interruption, 'for while Harry loved me he did the best work of his life. I really inspired him for a time to throw off that lethargy of mind and physical lassitude which was perhaps occasioned by his ill health—and do some of the things of which he is capable."
"His emotional temperament was at rest and he had time and inclination to think of other things."
"I have not even hurt myself," George, "for although I have succeeded in almost breaking my heart, I have found a larger tolerance of those who are weak, a broader charity for their mistakes

LABOR SURPLUS NOT FELT HERE

San Francisco, Cal., June 14.—Building activity, lumber mills operating to capacity and the opening of the fishing season did much to decrease the number of unemployed in Oregon during May, according to J. A. Kelly, San Francisco, district director for the employment service, United States department of labor, whose monthly report was made public here today.

Mr. Kelly's report on conditions in three Oregon cities follows: "Portland—Surplus of labor in steel industry and foundries. Shortage of bricklayers and plasterers. Labor suspension on docks account for large surplus of men. In addition, many unskilled are still idle. Several lumber mills, however, have reopened; also a can factory, employing 800 women. It is expected that 8000 men will be employed in maintenance work of power company, construction of club and office buildings, 2500 residences and paving within the next 30 days. Agriculture just becoming active. Housing situation improving.

"Salem—No unemployment. All mills and seasonal activities running normal. Some mills are making additions to buildings to double capacity. Agricultural and horticultural work active. Building activity continues. Much highway work under way. A slight shortage of help is noted. Housing accommodations ample.

"Astoria—Salmon fishing has begun. Fishing canneries reopened, employing a large number of women. Lumber mills and logging camps operating above normal. Twenty miles of highway paving under way. Installation of city pipe line for water works affording some employment. Many residences under construction. No unemployment at present time. Housing situation fair."

ROAD BUILDERS TO MEET JUNE 16

Sacramento, Cal., June 14.—National highway builders from 11 western states, prominent automobile association officials and national park officers and women prominent in women's clubs will meet in Sacramento June 16 and 17 at the annual convention of the National Park-to-Park association. It is announced.

Plans are being made by the highway committee of the Sacramento chamber of commerce for the entertainment of the delegates.

The association has for its object the linking up by highway of all the national parks, with a road 4000 miles in length.
Besides the association officers, the convention will be attended by officials of the American Automobile association, Stephen T. Mather, director of national parks; representatives of chambers of commerce; national highway association officers and members of the General Federation of Women's Clubs of America.

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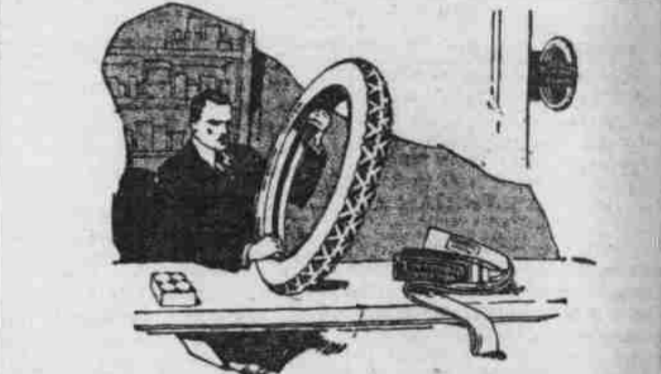
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