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PHONE 96

ALBANY, OREGON, TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1920

FREIGHT RATES AND GRAFT

Very likely there will be railroad wage increases before long. There will surely be, if the cost of living does not start falling before the wage-adjustment machinery provided by the new transportation act begins functioning. Any such wage-raise, of course, will be passed on to the public in the form of increased freight rates.

Even without wage advances, the railroads intend to ask for considerable rate increases. They insist that they cannot live, improve and take care of the nation's transportation on the income afforded by present rates. There is talk of a 25 per cent rate advance.

The public is no doubt willing to have rates shoved up to whatever point is absolutely necessary. The public realizes that it is suicidal to starve the railroads, and is reconciled to paying the price of adequate service. But the public is not, and will not be, reconciled to paying any more than that. And there is one phase of this subject that it is highly important for everybody concerned to get straight. That is, that whatever rate increase is granted shall be charged to the consuming public only once, instead of several times.

Walter D. Hines, former federal rail director, declares that ordinarily any increase in rates is multiplied by five by the time it reaches the consumer. The shipper, having to pay a little higher freight charge, adds to that extra charge in passing it along. The next middleman or dealer does the same thing. Thus, by the time the consumer is reached, an extra cent charged for shipping a pair of shoes becomes five cents, an extra quarter-dollar for a ton of coal becomes \$1.25, etc.

A 25 per cent increase would mean that the shippers would pay about \$875,000,000 more a year. If the above estimate is correct, the public would then have to pay over \$4,000,000,000 a year more than it does now in freight bills. That would be an increased transportation bill of over \$200 a year for the average American family. That amount would be pure profiteering—pure graft.

This would be intolerable. If a rate increase is granted, why can it not be made compulsory that the increase be passed on to the public without having 400 per cent graft piled on top of it?

"GRANNY"

The other day, in a thriving city in Pennsylvania, an old lady died. Just a plain old lady, over 80 years of age, yet her death was the occasion of a half-column on the front page of the biggest paper in town.

There was nothing very startling in the article. The chief thing that it said was this: "Of a very pleasant and agreeable disposition, this woman during her long life endeared herself to hundreds of people. She was affectionately called 'Granny,' and by that name was probably best known in the community."

Nobody can read the simple account of the life of that old lady without feeling a sense of neighborliness, and kindness falling across his spirit like a sunbeam across a room.

That old lady may have registered and voted, or she may not. Very likely she never used the word "efficiency," or kept her house on a budget. If anybody was sick, she probably helped a bit with the nursing, and if there was a death among her neighbors and friends she came to them with helpful service and the comforting words born in an unquestioning faith. She never gossiped or told unkind things; people would not have called her "Granny" if she had.

Just a plain old lady, an old-fashioned old lady, called by an old-fashioned name; but who isn't better and happier just for thinking about her?

PRESERVES AND RENEWS THE FINISH ON YOUR CAR

Simons Paste 60c
Simons Cleaner 60c
Johnsons Wax 35c
Johnsons Cleaner 35c
Nonolio 75c
Nugloss 60c
Golden Star Polish—
1/2 Pint 50c; 1 Pint 80c; 1 Quart \$1.25

Now is the time of year to make the old car look new and keep the new car looking new.

RALSTON

ELECTRIC CO. 310 West 2nd St

Comments of the State Press

Not Much Encouragement—

As before stated, the people are willing to vote money for road purposes and will do so when asked, but the activities of the present state road commission is not much encouragement to continue to do so.—Seio Tribune.

Military Training—

Civilian advocates of universal military training are taunted with bad strategy by the Army and Navy Journal for proposing so great an addition to our military system after the close of a war, and it attributes the adverse vote of the democratic house caucus to the usual disposition to reduce the army after war.—Oregonian.

Every One Can Help—

The retail merchant could make himself a power in the more rapid growth of Oregon industries if his sales effort were extended in behalf of local factories.

No one can deny that payrolls are the principal source of business for the retail merchant and in using his influence to increase sales of Oregon goods it is simply keeping alive and prosperous the source upon which he draws for trade.—Oregon Journal.

Farm Bureau—

The American Farm Bureau federation has performed a service in letting it be known that the so-called Farmers' National council has no authority to speak for the farmers of the United States. It has done a service to the farmers who have been misrepresented by this organization and it has done an equivalent service to the public in unmasking this fake organization.—Eugene Register

Penny Grafting—

For small penny grafting the Port and Telegram is entitled to the banner. That paper pretends to maintain a "Free Information Bureau" in Washington, D. C. Every day it prints a coupon, which if filled out and a 2-cent stamp enclosed, will bring a government bulletin to the inquirer. Why the 2-cent stamp? These bulletins are mailed under a departmental frank.—Polk County Itinerar.

Monkey Business—

An aged Englishman claims to have restored the vigor of youth through taking capsuled monkey glands. If this be true, monkey business is going to pick up.—Astoria Budget.

Oregonians New Scheme—

The Oregonian has a new scheme which it recommends to solve the governorship succession question. It advises the election of two governors after which they may draw cuts to see who sits around till the other one dies in order to get the job.—Gazette Times.

Standard Costume—

Basing their opinions on the experience that any fad is costly, Roseburg fathers will view without enthusiasm the proposal to adopt a standard costume for girls in the high school.—Eugene Register.

The man who becomes a reformer after he's been tough until he's so old there's no longer any fun in it, may someday walk the golden street but if so, people who've been decent all their lives should take to the alleys.—Roseburg News.

Native Poetry

THE GIRL AT HORSE-SHOE BEND (By Guy Fitch Phelps)

I want to follow the ten-inch trail
Which crosses the last divide;
And swim the river at Johnson's ranch
To the road on the other side,
Which leads where the girl I'm thinking of
Waited and dreamed and died.
You'll find the ranch where the hills stand up
As steep as a prison wall;
And the prophet pines which beard the ridge

Are ragged and old and tall;
And the coyote answers with hungry yap
The ground owl's lonely call.
And no man questioned the reason why
Her father had settled there;

His friends considered it out of place,
And his enemies didn't dare,
But we knew that something froze the frost

That lay on his shaggy hair.
The girl grew up on a horse's back
And followed the trails alone,
And she washed her soul in the twilight gray,

And drank of the hill wind's moan.
And she was clean as the moon is clean,
And true as the stars are true;

And she could sing as the wild larks sing
When they mate in the camas blue;
And her spirit was ruby and amethyst,
And opal and gold clean through.

She never rode in a Pullman coach,
Nor sat in a theatre;
And the citied world, with its fame and fraud,

Was only a dream to her;
But the riders came and the riders went,
As men of the open may,
And she met them each with a comrade's smile,

And a woman's trusting way;
But never a man had grit to speak
The things which he ached to say.
Yet I swear it here by the seven gods
That each man felt the pull
Of the golden rope she held us with,
Steady and strong and full,
And we walked as straight as a lasso

is
When you're throwing a durham bull.
And we wasn't ashamed of the dreams we dreamed,
Or the manlier things we said;
And many a rider's eyes were wet
When they told us the girl was dead.
O! I've traveled the wide world round since then,
I've journeyed from sea to sea;
I've met the fairest of every clime,
But ever there's been with me,
The spell of the girl we loved and lost
On the Borders of Destiny.

TODAY'S EVENTS

Centenary of the birth of Samuel Blatchford, associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Today is "town meeting day," the biggest day of the year for the 224 towns into which rural New Hampshire is divided.

Municipal elections for the choice of mayors and other city officials will be held today in numerous cities and towns of Minnesota.

The Ontario legislature meets today for the first session it has held since the United Farmers' party gained control of the Provincial government.

The annual meeting of the Baptist Union of Western Canada will open at Calgary today and continue in session through the remainder of the week.

Representatives of the cotton industry throughout the South will gather today at Montgomery, Ala., for the annual convention of the American Cotton Association.

South Bend, Ind., is to be the meeting place today of the annual convention of the Northern Indiana and Southern Michigan Retail Lumbermen's Association.

The joint conference between representatives of the anthracite coal operators and the United Mine Workers of America regarding a new wage scale to be effective April 1, will begin in New York City today.

The present situation with regards to the liquor traffic in Canada and the future course to be pursued by the prohibition workers will be considered at a three-day conference of the Ontario branch of the Dominion Alliance, to open at Toronto today.

The biggest real estate sale New York City has witnessed in years is scheduled for today, when the holdings of the late Henry Astor, comprising hundreds of pieces of choice property in the metropolis, will be put up for sale at auction.

Investigation of Rear Admiral Sims charges that the United States Navy failed to co-operate fully with the Allies during the war will begin in Washington today with Admiral Sims

as first witness.

New Hampshire will lead off today by holding the first presidential primary in any of the states. Although there will be no direct vote for presidential candidates, some of those who aspire to be delegates have availed themselves of the privilege of filing statements of preference.

Today's Calendar of Sports

Racing

Winter meeting of Cuba-American Jockey Club, at Havana.

Winter meeting of Business Men's Assn., at New Orleans.

Boxing

Harry Greb vs. Clay Turner, 12 rounds, at Akron, O.

Eddie Shevlin vs. Nate Segal, 12 rounds, at Boston.

George Chip vs. Ed Tremblay, 12 rounds, at Lewiston, Me.

A baptism in Cyprus is a curious ceremony. The infant is rubbed in oil by his godfather, blown upon in the face by the priest and waved in the air, then dipped several times in the font, and again anointed with oil on various parts of the body.

Dust from shoddy mills is used as a fertilizer in England.

In Iceland, gull flesh is one of the principal winter foods of the people.

Buy A Home

We offer for sale the Harry Stearns property located at No. 326 W. 7th St. The owner is leaving Albany and has reduced the price from \$3,000 to \$2,600. The lot alone it worth \$2,000.

The cottage is plastered, has good modern plumbing and bath, 2 bed rooms, living room, dining room, kitchen, pantry, bath, basement, laundry tubs, electricity wired in for lights and electric stove. Pavement is paid for, also cement walks, 7 bearing fruit trees, lot is full size 66x110 feet.

Price includes range, heater, all wood in the basement, laundry tubs and linoleum on floors, all for \$2600 on liberal terms. Call at office or phone,

Beam Land Co., 133 Lyon St.



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That is what you want for your bonds, your valuable papers and your money.

This bank has one of the strongest and best equipped SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX VAULTS in the entire state. Let us show you our Safety Deposit Box department.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

"Old and Reliable"—Affiliated with

THE FIRST SAVINGS BANK

"Where Savings are Safe"

4 Per cent Interest on Savings

In the Saturday Evening Post this week on page 61 you will see—

CONGOLEUM

Gold Seal Floor Coverings

Look it up. Read of the advantages of Congoleum, and then come here and make your selection.

6x9 Congoleum Rugs
9x10 1/2 Congoleum Rugs
9x12 Congoleum Rugs.

Also by the Yard, 9 feet wide.

The Ideal Floor Covering. Appropriate for every room in your home.

Fortmiller Furniture

Company

MASONIC TEMPLE



YOUR COMPLEXION is muddy. You look haggard and yellow. Your eyes are losing their lustre. The trouble is with your liver. Take Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. They will correct that. Then avoid meats, hot bread and hot cakes, take frequent baths and a long walk every day, and you will soon be as well and as beautiful as ever. Price 25 cents per bottle.

Chamberlain's Tablets