

COMPENSATION LAW WOULD WORK HAVOC

Ayer Says Act Makes All Employers Subject To Industrial Autocracy.

Portland, Ore., Sept. 23.—Oregon's working people and industry would be compelled to submit to the dictatorship of an industrial autocracy, and the way would be opened to bring every farmer, business man and their employees under the same iron heel without right of fair hearing or of appeal in case the proposed amendment to the Workmen's Compensation Law is enacted by the people this November.

This declaration was made today by W. B. Ayer, member of the committee appointed by Governor Pierce in 1923 to study the proposed amendment to the Workmen's Compensation Law, and to suggest changes designed to make it even more successful of operation.

In his statement Ayer describes the proposed amendment to the compensation law as radically reactionary, and charges that the work of Pierce's committee was hamstrung by a small group of "communists" who initiated the amendment when they were convinced that they could not put their scheme over on Governor Pierce's committee which was in possession of facts bearing on the issue.

The statement follows: "The proposed amendment to the Workmen's Compensation Law, which comes before the voters of the state in November, is without a doubt a direct departure from the principles of democracy and, if passed, will create an industrial autocracy and take from both workers and industry the basic rights of fair hearing and appeal.

"It is a piece of legislation which, if enacted as a constitutional law and as such becomes operative, would place thousands of Oregon's workers at the mercy of a slow-moving political commission, consisting of three men. Their word would be law and no matter how fairly or unfairly they should treat an injured workman in the matter of either medical attention, hospitalization, or compensation, neither he nor his employer could appeal to any other authority.

"Both would, in fact, be at the absolute mercy of an arbitrarily appointed commission answerable to no one except itself. This feature of the proposed amendment alone, in my opinion, is such that it is unworthy of consideration by the voters and should be defeated by an overwhelming vote.

"The amendment was initiated by a communist group after it became evident that the radical demands embodied in the amendment now before

the voters would not be accepted by the committee which Governor Pierce appointed in 1923 to study the Workmen's Compensation Law. This committee, of which I was a member, was selected by the Governor to make suggestions for further betterment of the present compensation law, such as would iron out the minor difficulties that have arisen through its operation.

"On this committee were representatives of organized labor, of industry, the farmers and the public. The committee members were in sympathy with the compensation idea and were recognized as its friends. Throughout the discussion we were informed that a certain group considered anything outside of state monopoly and state dictation, as idle. Finally when the amendment was initiated, there remained only one thing for the committee to do and that was to adjourn and leave our work unfinished.

"Now the people are being asked to enact as a constitutional law an amendment embodying these same unbelievably drastic demands, which a committee that was open minded, I feel, and in possession of the facts could not accept.

"There is no necessity for the amendment because the minor points of friction, which have developed in the operation of the present law, can easily be adjusted in an orderly manner. Should the amendment carry, however, it would wipe away all the good points of the present law and take from both industry and employees the protection of law and compel them to submit to whimsical, arbitrary, and possibly, most unfair dictation at the hands of a political commission.

"Three men are not infallible. Two men, which would constitute a majority of the commission, would hold in their hands powers that could not be considered other than dangerous, for the reason that those powers would be final insofar as regards the welfare of the workers of Oregon. Not alone in matters of compensation does this reactionary measure effect those who work in industry. It goes much further. It opens the way for the construction of a hospital and medical trust; it places in the hands of three men a large fund and control over so many peoples and activities, that a powerful political machine could be built as well.

"Under the amendment, the commission could compel every worker in their jurisdiction to take treatment only from doctors designated by the commission and to go only to such hospitals as the commission might direct. Nor is that all.

"I am a believer in compulsory accident insurance, but I am strongly of the opinion that the legislature or the people, through the initiative should preserve the right to say what are and what are not hazardous occupations. The proposed amendment deprives the people of this right and gives to a commission of three men the authority to declare all branches of farming, of household work and clerical work as amenable to the law. And this in turn gives these three men the absolute power to determine

POTATOES FOR HOME CONSUMPTION ONLY

Oregon Growers Cannot Profitably Ship to Eastern States.

By C. E. SPENCE, State Market Agent. Oregon is learning that it must produce potatoes for itself alone; that it cannot hope to ship a surplus into eastern states at a profit. Outside of the California market, exporting is a losing proposition, as the eastern and middle west states can far more than supply the demand at much less freight expense. The crop in Oregon this year is considerably less than in 1924, but this is because of a poor crop, occasioned by dry weather, rather than reduced acreage. Last year Oregon produced 4,180,000 bushels. This year the crop is estimated at 3,766,000 bushels.

Getting Onto Solia Ground. Frank Lowden, former governor of Illinois, says failures are fewer in co-operative societies than in any other business movements of equal magnitude; that failures are becoming fewer, and that there are all reasons to believe that co-operative organizations are to become powerful business factors.

Greatest in the World. Probably but few in Oregon know that the largest grain handling corporation in the world is that of the Saskatchewan co-operative Elevator company in Canada, and that it is controlled entirely by the farmers of the province. January first of this year it was operating 386 country elevators, with 40 more to be added this summer, with a total capacity of 16,000,000 bushels.

Results of the 60-Cent Dollar. Sixty per cent of the farmers of the nation are working and fighting to hang on and 20 per cent are practically bankrupt. This condition is because of a 60 per cent dollar as compared with its purchasing power of twelve or fifteen years ago. If all industries were in like condition then a general standard would result, but other industries are able to pay standard wages and yet make good profits through power of organization to control the output and fix selling prices, and through the aid of high protec-

Wm. Huebner writes this paper from his new home at Estacada, Ore., stating that he and his family arrived there O. K. in a big rain, and are nicely located. He is hoping that the Morrow county people will also be visited with abundant rain, which means much to us at this time of the year.

It is reported that quite a number of boys were made ill from drinking moonshine during Rodeo. Most of the stuff is rank poison and should be left strictly alone. If the court could force the peddler to take his own medicine it might help in ridding the community of a nuisance; a few doses would kill them off.

Charley Stanton is down from his home at Walla Walla, looking after business interests here for a day or two.

THE HARDMAN NEWS ITEMS.

The football game between Heppner and Hardman high schools last Friday ended in a victory, 32 to 0 in favor of Heppner. The first quarter of the game went in favor of the visitors, but after this the rest of the game was not so bad as might have been expected. Several of the boys believe they will be able to get a score in the game with lone next Saturday, even if it be only a small one.

The Hardman boys have one very great drawback; this is that they have no coach. So all they can do is practice, practice and then practice some more. The boys feel that no matter how many times they are skunked they will keep on trying until they succeed in defeating some team. Some of them think they will begin with lone next Saturday.

The Hardman football team will play a game with the lone team next Saturday, November 4th, on the local field. It is hoped that as large a crowd will support the boys as did when they played with Heppner last Friday.

The Hardman orchestra is giving a jitney dance in the new Odd Fellows hall October 11. A large crowd is expected.

The Odd Fellows have their new hardwood dance floor about completed.

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FOR SALE—23 yearling black-faced bucks—can be registered. E. L. Delashmutt, Heppner.

Lost—Between Spencer ranch in Gilliam county and Eight Mile post-office, woman's coat; light tan with blue and tan collar. Was lost Sunday, Sept. 7. Mrs. B. C. Littlepage, Hardman, Ore.

SALESMEN WANTED. Go into business for yourself, selling the Original J. R. Watkins Products in Gilliam and Morrow Counties. 150 fast selling and repeating household necessities of finest quality. You supply automobile, we supply capital. Business should net you at least \$2,000.00 profit first year. New products added. No sales plan doubling business. Only men with clean records & no one now making money will be considered. Write for application and full particulars to J. R. Watkins Company, Oakland, California. 3t.

California Cattlemen Merge. The condition of working and losing money has awakened the cattlemen of California that something must be done or they must quit, and a state wide cattle marketing association has been incorporated. The articles of incorporation are very broad and embrace almost every activity connected with cattle from the range to the family. The association is confident that it will be able to control a very large majority of the cattle of the state and that by taking over the many middle-interest activities and being able to determine prices that the dwindling industry may again be made profitable.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lucas and son Ray were week-end guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Thompson during the Rodeo.

Gilliam & Bisbee's Column

We can supply you with Superior and Kentucky Drills in both hoe and disc.

Copper Carbonate and Bluestone for treating wheat.

Look over your Drills and get your extras while our stock is complete. Superior and Kentucky, and a few extras for the Thomas Drill.

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—will come in on time if you so will it. You and you alone steer its course—and its arrival depends entirely upon your judgment, your intelligence, your vision, your industry, your watchfulness, and your desire to reach the port of Peace and Plenty.

Start today—on the good ship THRIFT—maybe in a savings account, maybe through putting your savings to work for you in sound investments—maybe through expansion of business along methods which proved effective in smaller ways.

We are in position to assist you. Drop in someday soon and let's talk it over.

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Star Theater

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3
DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, JR., and THEO. ROBERTS in "STEPHEN STEPS OUT"
Step out into Adventureland with Doug, Jr., the screen's new star.
Also WILL ROGERS in "THE COWBOY SHEIK"

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4
ELINOR FAIR in "HAS THE WORLD GONE MAD?"
What will be the end of this age of joy, jazz and recklessness, these delirious days of hootch, speed and regrets?
Also "HOOF BEATS"
A Grantland Rice Sportlight.

SUNDAY AND MONDAY, OCTOBER 5-6
GEORGE ARLISS, ALICE JOYCE and HARRY T. MOREY in "THE GREEN GODDESS"
Thrills, beauty, drama, tense appeal. The romantic story of an English beauty trapped, after an aeroplane crash, in the palace of the Orient's greatest lover.
Also "RAGS TO RICHES AND BACK AGAIN"
A FABLE.

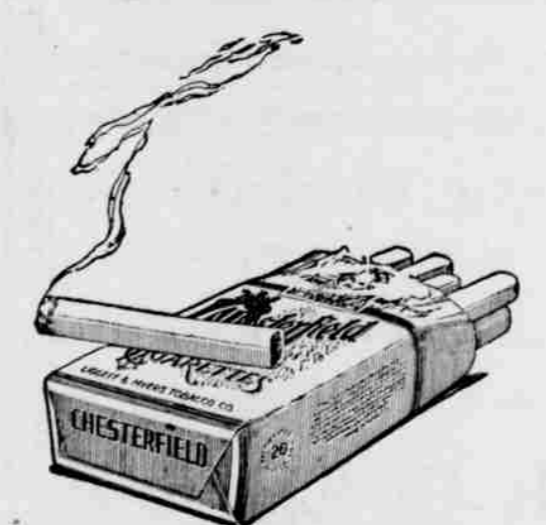
TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, OCT. 7-8
GLORIA SWANSON in "THE HUMMING BIRD"
Gloria as Toinette, the Apache dancer, and as the Sweet-heart of France, in her most entrancing photoplay.
Also "MOVIE FANS"

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9
ADOLPH MENJOU and NORMA SHEARER in "BROADWAY AFTER DARK"
A laughable and entertaining story of a man who could not find his ideal girl and who put up at a boarding house patronized by actors.
Also Paul Parrott in "THE SMILE WINS"

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10
ZANE GRAY'S "HERITAGE OF THE DESERT" and "LEATHERSTOCKING"

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