$\mathbf{T}^{1}$ signed by the as finally prepared by the attorney general and introdum th January. The act is to take effect sixty days from Jun
18, the date of its signature, except that the sections re lating to any increase in rates and sections providing fo
a conmission are now in effect, having taken effect th a commission are now in effect, having taken effect the
minute the president signed the bill. minute the president signed the bill.
The part least changed is that which provides for The part least changed is that which provides for
court of commerce, President Tatt's favorite part of the
bill, but not much liked by a majority of either house. bill, but not much liked by a majority of either house.
The court is composed of five judges,
at We situated at Washington and to hear all matters of litigation relat-
ing to the enforcement of the Interstate Commerce con-
mission's orders. The first court is to be made up of new so jussion sporders. The first court is to be made up of nev
p the Interstate Commercee commission can be represented if to 12 tase patage
 and pro
the bill. its management The

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railroads only is made to formerly applied by this law or companies. All charges made by any of these classes hat are not are declared to be unlawful. Rates must be uniform but reduced rates for night service of telegraph and telephonne companies are authorized. There is a long
and short haul class which prohibits a common carrier from charging more for a short than for a long haul, the
shorter being included in the longer, except with the consent and approval of the Interstate Commerce commission
A railroad having reduced rates in competition with water transportation company cannot increase such rates after it has killed the water competition without the con-
sent of the Interstate Commerce commission, after a showing that there are other reasons for the increase besides the elimination of water competition.
riting and if mislequing a railioad to furnish rates in collect damages and cause the carrier to be fined $\$ 250$. The Interstate Commerce commission is authorized by the new act to investigate on its own motion any rate that seems unfair and order the rate changed. Heretofore in-
vestigations have been made on complaints only. A carrier must give notice of a change of rates at least thirty days before it can become effectiv
If the change is an increase it
pproved change is an increase it cannot take effect until approvedmission takes too long on the investigation. It can suspend the rate four months for investigation and make a second suspension of six months so that an in-
crease can be held up pending investigation eleven months crease can be held up pending investigation eleven months
after it is filed. In any investigation of rates made after after it is filed. In any investigation of rates made after
the first day of this year the burden of proof is on the the first day of this year the burden of proof is on the
railroad to show that the rate is fair instead of on the railroad to show that the rate is fair instead
shipper to show it is unfair, as was the old law.
shipper to show it is unfair, as was the old law.
It is made a misdemeanor for a railroad representative to tell a shipper what a rival is shipping or to whom he is sending it. The by the president to investigate the subject of stocks and bonds of the railroads and other corporations
affected by the law and report to the president on the best method of controlling and issuing of such securities, the idea being ultimately to prevent watering of stocks. No one district judge will hereafter be allowed to suspend the operation of a state law. An injunction having
that effect can only be issued by at least two of three judges after hearing the case, and at least one of the judges must be a justice
court or a circuit judge.

## NESMITH COUNTY

A BITTER fight is being made upon the proposed
county of Nesmith by Roseburg and Eugene. large fund has been raised and is being used in the di
semination of literature inimical to the secession semination of literature inimical to the secession. In ad-
dition two other county division schemes affecting the dition two other county division schemes affecting the
same counties have been fathered, in the hope, evidently,
of so bewildering the voters that all three schemes will be
turned down.
Nesmith County comprises a small strip from the northeastern portion of Douglas County and a strip from the southeastern portion of Lane County, comprising the
Bohemia mining district and that section of country tributary to Cottage Grove. The other proposed divisions. Williams and Umpqua need not be considered, as they are
evidently tolinds.

Roseburg and Eugene appeal to the state at large to squelch Nesmith, claiming that the law permitting the people of Oregon to vote for county division is a menace "home rule," and that only the counties affected should be allowed a voice in the division. If this was the case,
there never would be a county division, for the populous here never would be a county division, for the populous
centers, beneficiaries of present conditions, will centers, beneficiaries of present conditions, will al
successfully oppose recognition of other localities.
It is the lack of home rule that has made the people of

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ions, they have taxation without representation, They
are the tail of both old counties and lavee for years been
oractically denied recognition by either Seglect has practically denied recognition by either. Neglect has
been their portion, and revolt is the consequence. Had controlling cliques in the old counties played fair, ther The segregation of Nesmith cannot materially injure either Douglas or Lane. It will greatly benefit the region
affected, and if it can stand the increased expenses enailed by establishing a new countny government, the Counties of Oregon generally are too large and the i erests of different sections so diverse that they conflict.
ubdivision of counties, like subdivision of big ranches, Works to the advantage and development of the state. The highest state of development is found in the smallest
counties. Douglas County comprises 5,256 square miles it is so large.
As Oregon is settled and developed, county boundaries ust change to meet changed conditions and requirements and the wide-awake, progressive people of Nesmith are
firmly convinced that the time is ripe for change in their
case, and as they are the principal persons affected, the

## THE NEW MASTER FISH WARDEN.

## T

 Pass as master fish warden to succeed H. C. MeAllister. Mr. Clanton for two years has been deputy fish warden for Southern Oregon and has proved a most capable andefficient official, and well qualified for his promotion. Mr . Clanton has served an extended apprenticeship
fish culture and hatchery work. He is familiar with conditions in nearly all Oregon streams, and has been

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