MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager,

ond class matter November 4, 1999, at the postoffice at Medford, Oregon, under the act of March 3, 1879.

THE DUPLICITY OF PORTLAND.

THE appearance by an attorney of Portland in the Medford rate cases heard before the state railroad commission at Medford on the 29th of November for distribution rates out of Medford on parity with those established by the commission out of Portland and for reasonable inbound rates into Medford is an example of duplicity

Attorney Winifree appeared, as he at first stated, to plead for the consideration of Grant's Pass, Roseburg and other towns, that they be given the benefit of any reduction that Medford might secure. Attorney Winifree was asked: "Have Grant's Pass and other towns employed you to represent them here?" To this question he replied, "No." "Then who are you representing?" was asked. "The transportation committee of the Portland chamber of commerce," he answered. "Who is this committee of the Portland chamber of commerce!" was next asked. "This committee is composed of Portland jobbers and manufacturers." "Then you are here expressly in behalf of the Portland jobber?" was the next question. To this question Attorney Winifree promptly and emphatically replied: "Yes, sir."

The pretext for Portland's appearance in the Medford suits was a solicitude for Roseburg and other towns. The exact truth was the selfishness of the Portland jobber, even the manufacturer was forgotten.

The economy of railroading is in full carload hauls to natural points of distribution where goods may be reshipped for a distance of 150 miles in either direction in less than carload shipments. Long haul distribution is impracticable, uneconomical to the carrier and excessive in rates to the consumer. Distribution from Portland to Medford and points within a hundred mile radius of Medford is under condemnation as unnecessary and a max-

imum of expense to the railroad. Bearing in mind that the average lading of a car with less than carload shipments is five tons to the car, in addition to there being a handling expense in loading and unloading, and that full carload shipments average nearly 20 tons to the ear, it at once appears that there must be a wide difference in cost to the carrier to handle these different quantities. Testimony was introduced in the Medford case showing this difference in cost to the carrier by comparing the haul from Portland to Medford. In the matter of difference in the loading of the car, that is, contents of the car to the weight of the car, the excess cost of less than carload shipments to that of carload was \$2 per ton, but when all items were taken into account the difference was seven times more of a cost to handle less than carload shipments than full carload shipments. In other words it cost approximately \$11.41 per ton to haul less than carload shipments from Portland to Medford as against \$1.59 per ton

for earloads, or \$9.82 the ton more for the less than carload. A full carload shipment of 20 tons can be shipped from Portland to Medford and five tons, the average less than carload tonnage, shipped back toward Portland as far as Deady, 142 miles from Medford, at an equal cost to the carrier as compared with a five-ton shipment from Portland to Deady. Now consider for a moment that a carload shipment brought into Medford and less than carload quantities shipped from Medford to Ashland at a rate upon an exact equality with the through less than carload rate from Portland where the difference in cost to the carrier is nearly \$10 the ton less for handling the Medford shipments, the enormity of the discrimination against Medford and Ashland strikes awe in the mind of the reasoner,

With this appalling discrimination against Medford demonstrable and demonstrated, Portland jobbers still seek to continue their strangle hold on the business of Southern Oregon to the exclusion of the Portland manu facturer who must meet eastern competition right at the door of his own factory. Give Medford an opportunity to buy in the home markets and ship in from the factory at reasonable carload rates, such as asked for from the commission, and the Portland manufacturer will have a market away from home better than under the present unjust and impracticable long haul distribution from Portland.

The commodity rates asked for by Medford from Port land are manufacturer's rates and they are in the interest of home production and distribution. Unless such an adjustment of rates as prayed for by Medford are established . for Oregon, the manufacturing industry cannot thrive and the Portland jobber will continue to throttle local manufacture as he has in the past.

There is no instance in as populous sections as South Main and Oakdale. Sunday school ern and Eastern Oregon where long haul distribution of at 10 a.m., preaching at 11 a. m., 400 miles exists as it does in these sections. Illinois has followed by the Sacrament of the her Chicago, Provin Productional Support Epworth league, 6:30 her Chicago, Peoria, Rock Island, and St. Louis as jobbing p. met preaching, 7:30 p. m. Ev- wine new bungatow, east from \$2200 points, and other states, such as Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, crybody welcome. J. P. Hipps, passe on paved street, cut Monday only. Minnesota and even Washington all have jobbing centers tor. where the bulk of the less than carload haul does not move to exceed an average distance of 80 to 100 miles, but here in Oregon the less than carboad movement is from border day school 9:45, preaching 11 am 2 4-room houses, one furnished, good to border all in the interest of the Portland jobber, in a Enworth league 0:30, preaching 7:30 location, \$2100, terms, loss of profit to the carrier and excessive rates to the c. m. A cardial welcome extended a rooming houses, under price quick

The Portland manufacturer's interest lies in earload rates from Portland to Medford that will permit of shipments being made to Medford and the surrounding ter- jeet of heavy serme, "God, the rasy terms, ritory supplied from Medford and therefore is against the only Cause and Creator," Sunday policy of the Portland jobber, who has the range of the school at 10; testimonial meeting 2 span ranch torses, markets of the world upon a more favorable rate basis than Wednesday, 7:30 p. m. Alt are walthe Portland manufacturer. It would, therefore, seem that come. 128 North Grape street, north cases, and that he has no proper representation of his in- * TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY . terests in co-operation with the Portland jobber who is *********** fighting any readjustment that will enable the manufact FOR SALE Exceptional bargain; turer to supply interior merchants who wish to do a jobbing business.

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