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GOVERNOR WEST EXPLAINS VETOS

Prepares Statement Explaining His Position as to Highway and Road Bills Passed at the Recent Session of the Legislature.

Following extensive comment as to the vetoing of the highway and road bills passed at the last session of the legislature, Governor West has prepared a statement explaining his position and giving his reasons for the attitude which he took in regard to the measures.

The governor's reasons, in part, are: The demand for a highway board and a highway commissioner thoroughly skilled in scientific road construction has grown out of our sad experience in the past in having our roadwork supervised by local officials who knew no more about road construction than they did about the construction of airships. The incompetency of these officials as road-builders furnishes the only justification for the creation of a highway board and highway commissioner. This being true, when a highway board and commissioner are created the work of constructing our roads should be given over to that body. There can be no objection to a county court saying where the road shall be built, but the construction should be given over to the highway board and commissioner. If it is thought that the county courts should build the roads and the work be given over to them, as was done by the highway commission bill, then it is a waste of money to create such offices as the highway board and commissioner. Such officers are either needed or not needed. If needed, they should be given full power to get, not merely power to draw their pay approve their expense accounts and make reports.

The state aid bill as passed by the legislature appropriated \$30,000—one-half in 1911 and the other half in 1912—which was to be equally divided between the several counties, upon the appropriation of a like amount by them, and used in the construction of permanent roads. The principal objection to this bill was the fact that it was so loosely drawn. It made no provision for getting the money out of the treasury and paying it over to the counties. It threw no safeguards around the expenditure of the money.

The bill provided that all roads shall be constructed on durable and permanent lines and no greater grade than five per cent shall be used, "except by special permission of the state engineer." Here we are, after providing for a \$4000-a-year highway commissioner in a companion bill going to the state engineer for advice and permits to build roads. The state engineer is an irrigationist, not a road-builder. Why should he be called upon to put aside the duties of his own office and go out over the state surveying out routes for county roads when provisions have been made for a highway commissioner who is supposed to be especially equipped for such work.

The bonding act provided for the raising of money by the several counties, through the issuance of bonds of warrants for the construction of permanent roads. It may be that this is a good move, but we should think twice before taking the step. The bond craze is abroad in the land. With street, sewer and other improvements being made every hand in our cities millions of debt are being piled up and there is bound to be a day of reckoning.

I am not saying that we should continue to wallow through mud to keep from issuing bonds, but I do say that no bonds or warrants—not a single dollar—should be issued until, first, it is found that the money cannot be raised in any other manner; second, that every safeguard has been thrown around its expenditure, and third, that it is to be spent by or for the benefit of someone who knows how to build roads. If bonds are issued the several county courts will at once find themselves surrounded by an array of able representatives of road machinery houses, and before they know it they will be loaded up with a mass of high priced road-building machinery and when the show-down comes about all we will find in stock will be a bond issue, a lot of rusty machinery and a few miles of improperly constructed roads.

THE LITTLE THINGS.

A WILD flower is a little thing—lost in the green of full-robed Spring. Yet its beauty brightens the scene and its fragrance sweetens the air, wafting the brimming cup of June to the jaded heart—and it drops its petals all too soon. A dewdrop is a little thing—lost in the glory of a summer's morn. Yet it sparkles with the splendor of the rising sun and glistens with the myriad colors of hope, reflecting the beauty of the new-born day—and its fragile life is all too brief. A thrush's song is a little thing—lost in the depths of a forest dell. Yet its whistled music lightens the purple shadow of the woodland gloom and its message of melody cheers with the joy of spring—and the song is hushed all too quickly. A ray of sunshine is a little thing—lost in the gold of the noontide flood. Yet it gilds with the magic mystery of life, and at its soft caress the bare earth bursts into bloom and wherever it shines, the care-laden are brighter and burdens lighter—and darkness falls all too early. A kind word is a little thing—lost in the buzz of a busy world. Yet to the discouraged it brings new life and hope, and purpose grows clearer and love grows dearer, and the cheering words are all too few. A smile is a little thing—lost in a life of toil and sorrow. Yet to the heavy-laden it inspires fresh faith and courage grows stronger and the day seems longer—and the kindly smiles are all too rare. A generous act is a little thing—lost in the flood of greed and grab. Yet it brightens many a gloomy life and scatters somber sorrow, and the sunshine of an unselfish deed enshrines the doer in its glory—and gracious acts are all too scarce.

OUR COSMOPOLITAN POPULATION.

THE population of the Rogue River valley is more cosmopolitan in character than that of any section of Oregon. People have come here from every state and territory of the Union to make their homes among the orchards.

All classes and kinds of occupation are represented. The retired trust magnate, the wealthy stock broker, the famous army officer, the college professor, the lawyer, the doctor, the business man, the stockman, the sailor, the farmer and the miner all meet as neighbors in the fascinating occupation of fruit raising.

The University club, recently organized at Medford, is a fair index to the character of the population. In its active membership of less than a hundred, forty-one universities are represented, including graduates of famous universities in Canada, England, France, Sweden, Germany and Austria.

Practically all of the leading educational institutions of America are represented. All of the famous eastern universities have alumni here. In addition, graduates of seventeen of the leading state universities are enrolled. West Point and the schools of technology are also represented.

Oxford, Cambridge, Montreal, Berlin, Paris, Heidelberg, Vienna, Stockholm, all of these ancient institutions have former students located here to sing their praises. Then the smaller colleges and secular institutions have also a generous representation.

But by far the larger proportion of our population are graduates from the university of hard knocks—and most of them have won diplomas in it, too.

This mixture of classes of men from all sections and of all kinds, is one of the things that makes life attractive in the charming valley of the Rogue.

problem, for it provided for a state-wide distribution and employment of city and county prisoners from Multnomah county to be sent to Curry county or Grant county to serve out their terms and be worked on the roads if the authorities of those counties so desired it. By this arrangement our congested city and county jails could be emptied and the "birds of passage" who annually annoy us through their idleness and petty crimes would give the state a wide berth.

This bill, because it would deprive certain sheriffs of the profitable occupation of running a boarding house in the county jail, was loaded with amendments until its good features were practically nullified. Had this bill gone through without amendment it would undoubtedly have had my approval.

WASHINGTON BRIEFS Representative Sulzer of New York, democrat, who is said to look like Henry Clay and is proud of it, always wears an enormous puff tie, and his vests almost equal those of "Tim" Woodruff of New York in their gorgeousness. There are five Smiths in the new house of representatives—C. H. of New York, J. M. of Michigan, R. W. of Michigan, R. C. of California and William H. of Texas. There were only four of the tribe in the first congress. The reading clerk of the house only have to call the names of Deane, Joseph K. Kalaniasale once every two years—when he draws for his seat—and then are glad of it. Chief Justice White of the United States speaks French fluently and knows the French legal code so well that he could conduct proceedings under its regulations if necessary. Attorney General Wickersham has a penchant for shirts with soft cuffs. He even wears 'em with a truck coat. Andrew Carnegie, who has been receiving gold medals and other decorations in Washington recently, wears spectacles of the 18-cent variety when he reads. They are plain, steel bowed affairs instead of gold. A friend suggested to Carnegie that maybe he wore that kind because it helped the steel business. When Charlie Taft, the president's son, is at the White House, nothing gives him so much pleasure as to handle the telephone switchboard at the executive offices. He has the job down pat. Look at the ads that offer employment and you'll find the right one soon.

An Epitaph. Here lies an old woman Who always was tired, For she lived in a house Where help was not hired, And her last words on earth were: Dear friends, I am going Where churning ain't done, Nor knitting, nor sewing; But everything there Will be just to my wishes, For, as they don't eat, There's no washing of dishes, I shall be where food and snuff are, Forever are ringing, Huh, as I've no voice, I'll get rid of the singing, Don't mourn for me now; Don't cry for me never, For I'm going to do nothing Forever and ever.

Match Wins. ST. LOUIS, Mo., May 13.—Sidney Hatch today won the Missouri athletic club marathon for the fourth time. HAVE YOU READ IT? The Athlete's Book, telling how you can EASILY guard against appendicitis, and get instant relief from stomach and bowel trouble, is being read with much interest by Medford people. It is given away free by Leon H. Haskins, the druggist.

Haskins for Health. Medford --Horse Shoeing Shop-- 128 South Barrett Street. Pacific Phone 1831 Home 219-R. C. L. Allen, Prop. GIVE US A TRIAL Draperies We carry a very complete line of draperies, lace curtains, fixtures, etc., and do all classes of upholstering. A special man to look after this work exclusively and will give as good service as is possible to get in even the largest cities. Weeks & McGowan Co



FIRST NATIONAL BANK Opens Monday In Temporary Quarters at Main & Central Ave. Medford

THE BUILDINGS SHOWN ABOVE WILL BE TORN DOWN AND A FINER STRUCTURE, COVERING DOUBLE THE AMOUNT OF GROUND, WILL BE RUSHED TO COMPLETION. THE ENORMOUS GROWTH OF THE BUSINESS NECESSITATES THE BUILDING OF A MORE COMMODIOUS ESTABLISHMENT.

O. A. C. Wins Debate. CORVALLIS, Ore., May 13.—Following their defeat at the hands of the Oregon Agricultural college debating team last night, the trio of debaters from the Washington state college left for Pullman, Wash., today. Oregon upheld the negative of the question relative to the advisability of the gradual abandonment of the protective tariff.

Want Monster Relief Fund. TOKYO, May 13.—A movement headed by Prince Kawara, premier and minister of Finance, is on today to obtain a grant of \$10,000,000 to be used for the relief of the sick and poor of Japan. Are You Going to Build? Let me figure on your building and give you ideas for a better home at less cost. I buy material in large quantities and can save you money on your building. I have plans to select from or will make your plans without cost. Homes built on ranch or city on easy payments. S. H. MANLEY, 217 West Main Street.

Haskins for Health. Haskins for Health. Haskins for Health.

Choice South Oakdale Avenue Lot East front, 100 by 175 feet; alley in rear; a number of large oak trees, splendidly placed in relation to a house; registered title; nothing better in the city. Will sell at a bargain for cash. Also lots in Tuttle's Third Addition Just opened up. Large trees on each lot. Terms. HARRY H. TUTTLE, Owner Park Avenue, Or any member of the Medford Realty Association.

Money Spent on Electric Advertising Has a trick of coming back and bringing more. It just naturally picks it up in dark places, and drags it into the light, and if you make it a point to be there, your Cash Register draws it in. Hang Out an Electric Sign and go after the shekels that are now in the dark. ELECTRIC ADVERTISING CERTAINLY PAYS Rogue River Electric Company