

## MEDFORD INITIATES RAILROAD FREIGHT RATE REGULATION MEASURE

### TO REGULATE FREIGHT RATES BY INITIATIVE

Medford Traffic Bureau to Circulate for Signatures for Submission to People Measure Providing for Uniform Percentage of Ratings.

### WILL PERMIT CREATION OF DISTRIBUTING CENTERS

Proposed Law Will Remove Discrimination in Favor of Portland Jobbers Against Small Towns.

The Medford Traffic Bureau, composed of local jobbers and shippers, has printed and will soon circulate for signatures an initiative petition for submission to the people of Oregon at the November election for an act to provide for a uniform percentage in the relationship of the classification ratings, providing for the establishment of minimum carload weights, to fix the maximum rate on basis of the less than carload rate of the article and the minimum carload weight that may be charged on carload shipments of property, defining the rating upon which the carload rate shall be computed, and prescribing penalties for the violation.

The bill is designed to aid small town jobbers and make possible the building up of distributing centers outside of Portland. It is endorsed by Oregon Equal Rate association, comprising the commercial organizations of the various small towns from Baker City on the east to Medford on the south.

The bill, which was prepared by Frank H. McCune, the association's tariff expert, reads as follows:

**An Act.**  
Enacted "An act to provide for a uniform percentage in the relationship of the classification ratings, providing for the establishment of minimum carload weights, to fix the maximum rate on basis of the less than carload rate of the article and the minimum carload weight that may be charged on carload shipments of property, defining the rating upon which the carload rate shall be computed, and prescribing penalties for violations of the provisions of the act."

Be it enacted by the people of the state of Oregon:

Section 1. The classification ratings of freight shall bear a uniform relationship of one class to another class, and the percentage of the first class shall be 100, and the other classes shall be the following percentages of the first class:

Class 1, 100 percent; class 2, 84 percent; class 3, 70 percent; class 4, 59 percent; class 5, 50 percent; class A, 42 percent; class B, 35 percent; class C, 29 percent; class D, 24 percent; class E, 20 percent.

Section 2. A minimum carload weight shall be provided for each article, but no minimum carload weight shall be greater than the actual weight that can be loaded in a car, nor shall a small minimum carload weight be fixed with the sole object to secure a high carload rate. Where no minimum carload weight is provided for each article by a railroad, or fixed by an order of the railroad commission of Oregon, the minimum carload weight shall be 20,000 pounds.

Section 3. It shall be unlawful for any railroad, as the term is defined in chapter 53, laws of Oregon for the year of 1907, creating a railroad commission, to demand, charge, collect or receive a greater compensation for the transportation of property in carload lots than the following:

When the minimum carload weight for an article is fixed at 20,000 pounds or less, the carload rate shall not exceed 70 percent of the less than carload provided for the article.

When the minimum carload weight

### CANON TO BE CANDIDATE FOR COUNTY JUDGE

Mayor of Medford Will Seek Democratic Nomination at Primaries—Neil May Oppose Him, But Has Not Yet Determined.

### WHISTLER AND WESTERLUND WOULD GO TO LEGISLATURE

Owens of Ashland Out for County Commissioner—Bob Taylor Would Be County Recorder.

Mayor W. H. Canon Friday announced his candidacy for county judge upon the democratic ticket. He said:

"Having been repeatedly urged by friends to become a candidate for the democratic nomination for county judge, I have consented to make the race. If elected, I promise a business administration of county affairs. My record as mayor of Medford is an index of what my record as county judge would be."

County Judge J. R. Neil may oppose Canon for the democratic nomination, but has not at this time determined. If he does, he states, the contest will be a friendly one, and the defeated man will support the victor for re-nomination.

Judge C. B. Watson of Ashland is reported to be figuring on the republican nomination for county judge. George W. Owen of Ashland is figuring upon being a candidate for county commissioner and it is generally conceded that Ashland is entitled to membership in the county court.

C. E. Whistler of Medford has filed his announcement of candidacy for the republican nomination for joint representative from Douglas and Jackson counties. J. A. Westerlund has announced his candidacy for republican nomination as representative from Jackson county; Judge W. M. Colvig. It is reported, will also be a candidate for the legislature.

Bob Taylor announces his candidacy for county recorder on the democratic ticket. Most if not all of the present county officials will be candidates to succeed themselves.

### GOMPERS PREFERS JAIL TO APOLOGY

Labor Leader Asserts That He and His Associates Would Rather Pay Penalty Than Humble Themselves in Buck Case.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Declaration that he and his associates would rather go to jail than apologize for their stand in the contempt case growing out of the publication of a "We Don't Patronize" list in the Federationist was made here today by Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor. This statement was forthcoming from the labor leader when he was cross examined by the three attorneys appointed by District Supreme Justice Wright to take testimony in the contempt cases against Gompers, John Mitchell and Frank Morrison.

Attorney Darlington, acting as spokesman for the commission, intimated that Gompers and his associates could avoid punishment by an apology. Gompers was on his feet in an instant.

"You humiliate and insult me," he cried. "We would rather spend the remainder of our days in jail than offer apology for our action in the Bucks stove and range case."

A gas crematory for burning refuse in houses, hotels or hospitals is a novelty.

### EMPLOYEES OF STEEL TRUST UNDERPAID

Average of 60 Per Cent of Workmen Get But \$10.50 a Week, While \$15 Is Needed to Support Normal Standard of Living.

### POVERTY AND DISEASE BREED BY CONDITIONS

From Three to Five Persons Crowded Into the Small Rooms in Which Whole Families Must Live.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Graphically describing the harrowing conditions of the laborers in the Homestead, Pa., steel mills during the trying winter of 1907 and 1908, Miss M. Byington, a social survey worker, today appeared before the Stanley investigating committee probing the "steel trust." She emphasized the fact that the workers are underpaid and are housed like cattle.

### Result of Poverty.

"Sixty-five per cent of the employees of the Homestead plant get but \$10.50 a week. It is impossible to maintain the normal standard of living on less than \$15 a week," she testified. "As a result, bent and disease stricken women live in dirty, crowded, half furnished rooms, which are without windows or other ventilation. From three to five persons are crowded into the small rooms in which whole families live."

"Children are forced to play in dirty courtyards and the sun seldom reaches them."

"Many families get less than \$12 a week. These families spend their weekly incomes as follows:

"Rent, \$1.88; food, \$4.16; clothing, 94 cents; furniture, nine-tenths of a cent a week; fuel, 38 cents; insurance, 70 cents; miscellaneous, 92 cents."

### Fifty-Cents For Beer.

Continuing Miss Byington said that some of the families increase their incomes by boarding single men. They get \$3 a month for sleeping quarters.

Miss Byington also said that the average family spends 55 cents a week for beer.

Attorney Reed, representing the trust, urged chairman Stanley to ask Miss Byington about conditions among the families employed by steel firms not in the trust.

"Compared to ideal conditions," the attorney said, "we will admit that the conditions at our Homestead plant are bad. But when compared to conditions in the plants of our competitors, the families of our employees are better off than the average."

### MANCHU PRINCES SELLING LIVESTOCK

PEKIN, Feb. 9.—Confirmation of the imminence of republican triumph in China is seen here today in the fact that Manchu princes are selling even their horses and carriages. Over the main gate at the entrance of Prince Ching's palace today is the following notice:

"Horses, mules and carts, in lots of three, sold at reduced prices."

On Na Tang's gate this notice is conspicuously displayed:

"Sale. Horses, mules, carriages must be sold. Prices greatly reduced."

### GRAND JURY PROBES NATHAN HARVEY AGAIN

OREGON CITY, Ore., Feb. 9.—The grand jury today began investigating the murder of the William Hill family at Ardenwald station. Witnesses to testify against Nathan B. Harvey, the wealthy nurseryman, were summoned. Harvey was arrested on a charge of committing the crime once before, but was dismissed at the preliminary hearing.



THE GARDEN OF HOPE.

—N. Y. Herald.

### FRANK BROWN OF EAGLE POINT SUCCEEDS DAVIS

J. H. Wilson of Corvallis Named to Expert Books of County—Had Same Job Several Years Ago—Want to Silence Criticism.

Immediately before adjourning county court Thursday, Frank Brown of Eagle Point was appointed county commissioner to succeed George L. Davis, whose resignation was earlier accepted. It was also decided that the books of the county be expurgated and that the work be given to J. H. Wilson of Corvallis, whose bid, everything considered, was the lowest.

Mr. Brown will be notified at once of his appointment as commissioner and will attend his first meeting on February 14, to which time the court adjourned. Mr. Wilson, who is to expert the books, is the man who did it in 1908. There was some argument over the matter of having this auditing done, Judge Neil holding that the feeling in the county demands such work and that all criticisms may in this way be silenced.

"There has not been one penny misappropriated," stated the judge, "and these insinuations might just as well be silenced at once."

Commissioner Owens for a time argued that he thought it best to wait until the close of the county administration and then turn over newly expurgated books to the new administration.

### FIVE WORKMEN KILLED BY PREMATURE EXPLOSION

FOR FRANCES, Ont., Feb. 9.—John Casey, late of Lebanon, Pa., and five Austrians and Bulgarians, whose names are unknown, were killed and five more explosions were set off by a premature explosion of dynamite at the camp of Johnson & Carey, contractors of Fort Frances, who were engaged in building a bridge and blowing out rock into Rainy Lake to make a roadway. It is possible a number more are buried among the debris.

### GOOD WORKERS IN ROAD CAMP AT WESTVILLE

John Grieve Reports That He Has Best Gang of Road Workers He Ever Managed—Leaves for Salem to Secure More Men.

Work is progressing satisfactorily at Honor Camp No. 1 at Westville, the men are in good physical trim and well pleased with the conditions, according to the report made by John Grieve before the county court Thursday. Mr. Grieve says that the men never worked in better spirit than they are now and that the results on the road work are very gratifying. There is no complaint on the score of food or treatment.

Mr. Grieve left for Salem to bring down nine new honor men which he will select, to take the place of those whose terms have expired. He said before his departure:

"Some of the men in the first crew sent down proved poor workmen, but these have all been weeded out, and the men at present employed form the best crew I have ever had, free or otherwise. They are all good workers and despite unfavorable weather conditions are contented and satisfied."

### DOYLE ON TRIAL FOR SHOOTING PUBLISHER

TRUCKEE, Cal., Feb. 9.—The preliminary trial of P. M. Doyle, who shot and killed W. H. H. Smith, editor of the Truckee Republican, on Wednesday, was begun here today. Three witnesses, Dr. J. H. Barnard, Albert Edwards and Jack Doty, were examined, but the evidence they gave did not bear directly upon the actual shooting. Eye witnesses will be placed on the stand at this afternoon's session. The prosecution relies mainly upon Smith's dying statement, in which he declared that Doyle started the quarrel that ended in the shooting.

### COURT ACCEPTS HARMON'S REPORT ON ROAD WORK

Detailed Expenditures for Year Given Telling Where the Money Went—Harmon's Salary Paid in Warrants Instead of Cash.

A conference between the county court and former Roadmaster W. A. Harmon, Thursday, the latter's report covering road operations for the past year, was approved and ordered printed. It shows in detail all receipts and expenditures of the roadmaster's office, and is the first detailed report covering road work ever issued in Jackson county.

Financial affairs between the court and Mr. Harmon were gone over and the bank balance remaining in the name of "W. W. Harmon, Roadmaster" was turned over to the court, whereupon the court made the following statement:

"This is to certify that we, the undersigned, have this day settled with W. W. Harmon, roadmaster, in full. Dated February 8, 1912. J. R. Neil, county judge; James Owens, commissioner; G. L. Davis, commissioner."

The question as to whether Mr. Harmon was to be paid his salary in cash or in warrants came up for adjustment. Mr. Harmon claimed that under his contract he was to be paid \$300 a month, and not \$270, as it would amount to if paid in warrants. Pending a settlement of the question, the warrants had been placed in escrow, and Mr. Harmon paid out of the roadmaster's funds. Upon the decision of the court, Mr. Harmon accepted the warrants and returned the cash.

### FORGER ARRESTED AFTER CHASE ACROSS COUNTRY

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Feb. 9.—After fleeing twice across the continent to escape officers who were seeking them on charges of passing fictitious checks, Paul H. Martyn, an attorney and public accountant, was arrested here today by Burns detectives and police.

### TEAM CRASHES THROUGH PLATE GLASS WINDOW

Heavy Horses Become Frightened and Dash Into Weeks & McGowan's Furniture Store—No One Hurt and Horses Escape With Few Cuts.

### FALLEN HORSE DRAGGED ALONG BY COMPANION

Wheels of Wagon Catch on Base of Window and Bring Team to Stop. Otherwise Would Be Going Yet.

A team of heavy horses belonging to the Standard wood yard this noon dashed full tilt through one of the large plate glass windows of the Weeks & McGowan company's store on West Main. The noise of the impact was heard several blocks away and people within the store thought the whole front had collapsed. No one was hurt and the horses escaped with but few cuts.

The horses broke loose from an attendant who had half hitched them to a wagon in Moore court, the alley between Hussey's and the Moore hotel, and ran north at full speed. As they emerged from the alley and were half way across the street, headed directly for the Weeks & McGowan store, one horse fell and the other dragged it to the curb, across the walk and straight into the glass where a little sign within read "Welcome."

When the wheels of the wagon caught on the base of the window the horses came to a stop, were thrown completely out of the harness onto the floor of the store, where they kicked about and damaged a number of rugs, a clock and several pieces of furniture. Blood and mud were splattered on draperies and the attractive show front was made to look like the aftermath of an explosion.

Spectators wonder how far the team would have gone had not one of them fallen and it is probable that they would have pulled wagon and all into the store. One plate glass window was broken to small bits and the one next was badly cracked. The damage will amount to between \$150 and \$200.

The marks on the floor showing where the fallen horses slid extend 20 feet toward the center of the store, and show they went through a line of draperies, overturning three flower pots and scattering chairs in every direction. A new shoe, torn from one of the horses, still lies 16 feet inside the building.

### EIGHT HUNDRED VOTES CLAIMED FOR TAFT

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Prediction that President Taft will sweep the republican national convention and receive not less than 800 votes for renomination was made here by Taft's campaign managers. Congressman McKinley of Illinois, who is in charge of President Taft's campaign forces, today conferred with Senator Crane and Secretary Hilges preparatory to opening headquarters here.

In the event of President Taft being renominated Congressman McKinley will be appointed national chairman of the republican campaign committee.

### BATTLE WITH MEXICAN UPON AMERICAN SOIL

EL PASO, Texas, Feb. 9.—A battle between Mexicans on American soil is a probability today. Mutineers arrived at Juarez today and several hundred Mexican regulars are en route to Juarez. The authorities here fear that when the regulars attempt to march through the streets of El Paso they will be attacked by the mutineers.