

MINE WORKERS PAID \$15 A DAY SAYS OPERATOR

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—Tables showing the gross earnings of all classes of bituminous mine workers in the central competitive field during the ten months period immediately preceding the walkout on November 1 compiled from "payroll records," were presented in evidence before the coal strike settlement commission today by the operators.

The figures showed that in October, the month preceding the strike, the average earnings of 44 pack miners working 27 days were \$217.27. In the thin vein field 29 men working 27 days in the same month received for that time average earnings of \$209.84.

Machine miners in the same field turned in more days work, the table showed, and also received slightly higher proportional earnings.

Instances were noted where machine runners in selected places earned \$12 to \$15 a day, in selected months.

After the introduction of these exhibits, Mr. Lewis said in a statement that "the operators neglected to tell the commission that machine runners work ten, twelve or sixteen hours a day," said Mr. Lewis. "These figures mean nothing when compared with the fact that in the six year period from 1912 to 1915 inclusive the average annual earnings of all of the mine workers in the central competitive field were \$172.35. The only fair way to ascertain a man's earnings is to take his earnings for a year not a day or a week."

CRAWFISH CAUSE DAM BREAK IN RIVER AT BEND

BEND, Ore., Feb. 2. Holes bored by crawfish in the earthen wing dam diverting the waters of the Deschutes river through the plant of the Bend Water, Light and Power company, are considered responsible for a washout which occurred yesterday and which will cost the company several thousand dollars.

Water uncontrolled in the joint for bond of the Brooks-Seaton Lumber company and the Shovin-Hixon company a mile above, was suddenly released while the pond was being cleaned out with the result that the portion of the wing dam weakened by the borings of the crustaceans was quickly swept away.

When first discovered the flood menaced the ice plant and creamery, but an alarm brought the members of the Bend fire department, and volunteer workers joined them, filled sand bags and carried tons of hay to be placed in front of a temporary dam of timbers which was hastily erected. At one time 200 men and boys were at work checking the widening breach and largely because of the aid given by volunteer workers it was not found necessary to suspend power service.

KILLED IN BATH BY ELECTRIC VIBRATOR

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 2.—Nelson Blackhall, a pressman, was electrocuted while taking a bath in his home here last night. He was using an electric vibrator and Deputy Coroner Godsch believes that the water increased the voltage of the instrument. The current was apparently grounded through the water and pipes.

Blackhall had been a resident of Portland for several years. He was formerly president of the local pressmen's union.

PIMPLY? WELL, DON'T BE

People Notice It. Drive Them Off with Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets

A pimply face will not embarrass you much longer if you get a package of Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets. The skin should begin to clear after you have taken the tablets a few nights.

Cleanse the blood, bowels and liver with Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets, the successful substitute for calomel; there's no sickness or pain after taking them.

Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets do that which calomel does, and just as effectively, but their action is gentle and safe instead of severe and irritating.

No one who takes Olive Tablets is ever cured with a "dark brown taste," a bad breath, a dull, listless, "no good" feeling, constipation, torpid liver, bad disposition or pimply face.

Olive Tablets are a purely vegetable compound mixed with olive oil; you will know them by their olive color.

Dr. Edwards spent years among patients afflicted with liver and bowel complaints, and Olive Tablets are the immensely effective result. Take one or two nightly for a week. See how much better you feel and look. Buy and use

What a Republican Political Expert Thinks of the "Vote 'Er Straight" Bill

By C. C. Chapman, Editor of the Oregon Voter.

Crooked methods—not financially crooked but legislatively crooked—were followed in the futile attempt to derive independent voters of Oregon of their present form of ballot and foist the straight ticket form on them without regard to violence done to existing law or the traditions of Good government. The courage of Governor Olcott was never better exemplified than by the promises with which he announced he would veto the iniquitous measure, S. B. 53. A bolder attempt to use the legislature in a crooked manner has not disgraced the state house for many sessions. It seemed like a revival of disreputable practices of old days when the gang machinery got into full swing.

As might have been expected, Senator Gus Moser was the leader in the plot. It was at the somewhat celebrated hour of midnight—to be exact, 11:50 p. m., of Thursday night of the session that he sprung his scheme. The bill had been held back until that late hour of the day and session for the palpable reason that by being held till that late time it would get little publicity in the last minute rush and could not be printed in time to be examined by any sane legislators and the lobbyists around the state house. As was expected and planned, the printed bill did not arrive at the state house until Saturday afternoon, too late for it to be sent throughout the state to be examined and commented upon in time to influence a legislature that was to close officially at Saturday noon.

It was at the late night meeting of the senate judiciary committee that the scheme was sprung openly. Mr. Moser pulled a bill out of his pocket and laid it before the committee. Evidently the committee was expecting it, for all the members present appeared to understand that it had the political purpose of so arranging the ballot for the November, 1920, general election that George E. Chamberlain could be defeated for reelection to the United States senate. As all the members of the judiciary committee were republicans, all were in accord with this orthodox republican purpose, although half the members were in doubt as to whether it would accomplish the result expected. Senator Handley openly expressed this doubt, which was concurred in by Senator Norblad. Both of these senators expressed themselves as believing there should be such a popular protest against the ballot change that it would tend to make more republican votes for Chamberlain than otherwise he would get. Yet even these two and Senators Jones and Thomas, who, with these two members actually voted against their own committee's bill on the floor of the senate, consented in the interest of republican party discipline to let the bill be introduced as a judiciary committee bill the following day. The bill was hastily patched in some particulars, with the belief that the patching would make it more acceptable to the electorate, and without any consideration of whether it dovetailed into all the other election laws of the state, all the members present agreed to let it be reported unanimously. By having it introduced as a committee bill, the delay of having it referred to a committee for open discussion and hearing on its merits was entirely avoided. In the conversation about the bill, Senator Moser admitted that the "wax had been greased" to pass the bill thru both houses before there was any chance for opposition to it to make itself felt.

So the bill was patched up, but it was not introduced until Friday noon—too late for it to be printed and circulated on Friday, and as events proved, too late for any printed copies to reach the session before noon of Saturday set as the time for final adjournment.

Word as to the contents and purpose of the bill was given to Oregonian readers in a hurried account at midnight Thursday. A. M. Churchill, who was at the state house Thursday night, was apprised of the existence of the bill and carried word as to its sinister character with him to Portland on the early train Friday morning. That noon the City club of Portland, composed mainly of republicans of an independent turn of mind (although including some democrats) passed resolutions against the measure. Many other protests based on the Oregonian account and Mr. Churchill's assertions, were telegraphed and mailed to the Madisonville delegation going Friday and early Saturday. But the general impression was that surely no such bill ever could be passed.

Senator Moser was universally expected to fail in this day and age a shot could be laid to use the whole legislature to buy an airplane, discarded and discarded from of ballot purveyors in the Oregon electorate and that such a plot could be executed without advance notice to the whole state or without the bill even being printed in time or referred to committee for hearing. While this skepticism was natural and reasonably justified, the facts were that the "wax was greased" and both houses passed the bill—the senate rushing it through two readings in

time on Friday and passed it Saturday, and the house repeating the performance by rushing it thru three readings without committee reference or report, later on Saturday.

That "now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their party" was the slogan of the republican leaders in both house and senate. In fact a number of telegrams from leading influential republicans of the state quoting the above words and mentioning the straight ballot bill. Party committee chairmen were on hand to rally the weak ones. There was every evidence of careful preparation of a campaign to introduce and pass the bill at the last moment before the public woke up.

In the house, plans had been carefully laid to jam the bill through in one of the rushes so it would attract little attention. But the plans of the republican leaders were upset temporarily when this bill along with all the other bills yet on the clerk's desk was referred to a special committee of five members for them to report their arrangement in the order of their importance to be taken up before adjournment. On this committee were the spokesmen for the opposition of the bill—Eugene E. Smith and Chris Scheibel. With these two and the other three committee members retired from the room there was an opportunity to pass the bill without creating attention. Pat Gallagher, always alert and a quick thinker, and always a stalwart republican who loves "play the game," instantly saw the opportunity. Few members caught the significance of his intent as he moved to have S. B. 53 recalled from the special committee "in order to save time by voting the house something to work upon while the committee was in retirement." His motion was carried, as any other ordinary motion could have been in the disorder that existed, and the clerk dashed into the committee room and brought back the bill. Before the committee reported, a few minutes later, the bill was passed without debate and without many members knowing what they were voting on. In fact a number of members informed the Voter later in the evening that they did not know it was the "straight ticket" bill they were voting on and had been told that it was another bill.

When Representative Eugene E. Smith returned from the committee session and learned of the clever trick that had been played in pulling the bill away from the committee, he demanded the floor and castigated the house for sharp practice and for the factious party error, as he saw it, of passing this kind of legislation. He endeavored to secure a reconsideration of the vote, but the party followers were too well lined up, so the bill was passed ready to go to the governor.

With the bill passed, the chief concern of Senator Moser as the republican party chief was that it would be referred by petition. If so referred, it could not go into effect until after the November election, in which event its main object (the hoped for defeat of Senator Chamberlain) would not be accomplished and the whole trick would have come to naught. So, with his usual resourcefulness, Senator Moser concocted the scheme of inserting an amendment in the special election bill (H. B. 10) providing that all special session laws referred by petition should also be voted upon at the special election in May instead of at the general election in November, which would be the usual course. The amendment made no provision for existing law, which specified the time for filing arguments and publishing the state pamphlet, with the result that after the expiration of the 90 day period allowed by the constitution for filing referendum petitions, the days set for filing arguments and having them included in the official pamphlet would have passed. The two periods overlapped such other, with the anticipated effect that the petitioners referring the straight ticket would be deprived of the right to file an argument and have it included in the official pamphlet.

Senator Moser and his party associates positively gloried in this trick "what do we care if they can't file an argument—so much the better for the bill." The utmost indifference for the rights of the referendum petitioners on this bill or any other bill that might be referred was displayed brazenly.

On this amendment, inserted after midnight Saturday night and adopted by the senate, the two houses came into conflict. By that time many of the republicans of the house had discovered the mistake they had made in voting on this bill, in that they did not know at the time it was up for consideration, and they wielded enough influence to induce the majority of the house to concur in this senate amendment. A conference committee was appointed, and by a vote of five to one actually agreed to insist on holding the Moser amendment in the bill, until the pleadings of Representative James Stewart and of friends of the university and Agricultural college convinced some of the committee members that the scandal over the straight ticket bill would be so immense that in the reaction the prospects of the road legislation and the college mileage would be jeopardized. This view prevailed with the majority of the conference committee, and Senator Moser receded from his insistence on the amendment. So the election bill was passed without the offensive clause depriving referendum petitioners of their just rights.

But their pains were in vain. As soon as Governor Olcott heard of the bill, he announced quietly that he would veto it. This announcement was withheld until after the legislature had adjourned formally, for if the republican leaders had wind of it while the session was still on, they might have held the session over until after the time for filing a veto had passed. Monday morning his decision was given to the press.

Governor Olcott deserves great credit for his courage in making this prompt decision, as he was proceeding against the wishes of the recognized chiefs of the stalwart wing of the republican party in Oregon and also defying the wish of National Chairman Will H. Hays, who has been advocating the straight ticket—or was so quoted by legislators. It has been Governor Olcott's steadfast purpose to unite the republican party in Oregon. By the stalwart's he has been classed as an independent, and who has advanced politically by the favor of independents and of democrats—O. West, Chamberlain, et al. Although Governor Olcott has been strictly "regular" in his party allegiance, he was under the party disadvantage of having been appointed, originally to office by a democrat, ex-Governor West. To overcome this disadvantage he has in party matters endeavored to work with the old time party leaders. But this latest act was too much for him. Yet in filing his veto, he realized full well that his act would endanger his standing with the men who put party above men or principle. He went into it with his eyes open—a feat which will not be forgotten by independent voters.

All the foregoing has been devoted to the history of what happened. Now about the bill itself. It provides that names on the ballot should be listed under party headings instead of at present, and that by making a cross at the head of the party ticket as listed, the voter would thereby record his vote for all the party nominees except those whom he "scratched" by voting for a nominee of another party by marking his name, or by writing in the name of an independent in the independent column.

In use the straight ticket is simplicity itself. Any "bohunk" can vote his party ticket by simply making one mark, and his vote counts for every nominee of that party.

The objection to the straight ticket is apparent. Under cover of a straight ticket vote, any fellow dog whose name is listed under his party heading will get the benefit of every vote unless those voters who remember that he is running know how to "scratch" him by voting for an opponent.

Under the present ballot, each voter must vote by name for each candidate voted for. Thus, the names of all candidates for any one

office are certain to come to the attention of the voter, so the vote for or against any one is cast deliberately and consciously, instead of like a blanket.

It was frankly admitted by party leaders at the legislature that their purpose was to vote the "bohunk" wholesale, from road grants and the like, by instructing each study to mark his cross in the circle at the top of columns.

There are more republicans of independent mind in Oregon than there are strictly straight republicans, and republican leaders know it if they stop to think. There couldn't be a republican elected to any state or national office in Oregon on a strictly party vote. It is the independents, who are more concerned with principle and men than with party, who hold the balance of power in Oregon elections. And to outrage the cherished conviction of these independent republicans by such legislation as was attempted is to bid for republican defeat in the state. Evidently some of our republican party leaders yet have numerous lessons to learn.

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BOLSHEVIK UPRISINGS RAISE FUR PRICES

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 2.—Prices of furs will be decidedly higher next winter, according to buyers attending the winter auction of the International exchange here, which opened today.

More than 600 buyers from all parts of the world are in attendance. More than 15,000,000 pelts, valued at approximately \$25,000,000, will be disposed of during the sale.

The prospective increase in prices is assigned to the embargo placed on higher grades of furs by Australia and to the bolshevik uprisings in Russia, which it was said virtually has paralyzed the fur trade in that country.

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Brooklyn, N. Y.—"I could not write all my thanks for your blessed medicine. My baby girl, Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, I was in a very bad condition and had lost two babies. One of my good friends told me about Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and after I had taken eight or ten bottles I felt like a different woman. I kept on taking it until my baby girl was born last month and we have had her christened Lydia Elizabeth. I wish you to publish my letter to benefit other women who are suffering as I was."—Mrs. KATHERINE KURZBACHER, 1086 Manhattan Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

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The Ford Sedan and Ford Coupelet give you all these advantages and have underneath the incomparably light, strong Ford chassis. The wealthiest families always have Ford enclosed cars in daily use because of their universal utility and economy, combined with the luxury and comfort necessary in any car. Yet they are so reasonable in price that everyone should enjoy them.

Have you seen these Ford enclosed cars with the new Ford self-starter? "You" can pay more, but you cannot buy more! These cars will give you in utility, strength, lightness, power and economy.

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Darwin said—that our forefathers leaped from tree tops and found love in the weird ape-haunts of the jungles.

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