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COMPENSATION ACT SOME EFFECTS OF IS NOT PRACTICAL

(By Paul C. Bates, in Pacific Home-

which will be submitted for the ap- world.

Throughout the country there is a strong sentiment in favor of legislation whereby specific amounts will be paid for all kinds of industrial accidents in place of the old system which a bushel on wheat; now wheat comes involved economic waste and payment in free. of indemnity for only a small per centage of the total men that are injured. While public sentiment is almost united conditions referred to, there is a general confusion of ideas as to what is best adapted to our existing political conditions and industries as a proper compensation act for the reason that up to the present time, while eighteen states have passed laws providing for fixed indemnity for all classes of injury, there are no two of them which are alike and many of the laws while in operation only a short time, have either tailures from the standpoint of being either impracticable or unconstitutional.

The Oregon compensation act does not follow any successful act of which there is any record, either from an underwriting or legal standpoint, but does retain in parts some of the attractive features of many acts. Even the most friendly advocates of compensation are convinced that there are many important defects which in the aggregate are likely to operate against its general acceptance or successful operation. It certainly can not appeal to the farming interests of the state or to the owners of small homes or residences, or to large real estate owners, without many smendments and for the following reasons:

First, the act applies to hazardous perations which are enumerated under Section 13, and no mention is made of agricultural interests and neither are they described in any sense which would admit of their being classed as hazardous or semi-hazardous occupations, yet the liability of a farmer is indirectly increased and his taxes un- I was cured. It also cured others

Second, Section 3 of the act provides of three by the governor, with a total annual salaries of \$10,800, who are to serve for the purpose of administering the art. Section 6 provides that this for all classes of industrial accidents commission may employ such assist- is a desirable basis to be reached but ants, experts, and clerks as may be the best authorities are of opinion necessary at an expense not to exceed that the question of fault must be \$25,000 per annum. Section 20 pro- eliminated entirety, which is not the out of state funds, raised by general of accidents which are self-inflicted taxation or an amount equal to one- or due to intoxication. If public senhalf of I per cent on all wages paid by timent is solely responsible for the employers engaged in operations de- demand for this reform movement, fined as hazardous. In other words, rather than the scheming politicians assuming for the purpose of illustra- who hope to increase the number of tion that the hazardous occupations as offices available, why not place the enumerated in Section 13 represents a burdens created by the operation of total annual pay roll in the state of compensation acts squarely on the \$40,000,000, the amount of which the consumer at its full cost? This pringeneral public would be taxed for ciple has been incorporated in those would be equivalent to \$200,000, all of states that offer the most successful which would be used for the purpose illustrations of compensation for inof defraying the cost of administration dustrial accidents. The New Jersey of compensations to employers classed as hazardous, and although the farmer seven months, and is admittedly giving receives no benefit he is taxed to sup- the most satisfactory results in the port the cost of administration in connecting with the payment of indemnities to employes of employers who are istration left entirely open and every

Third, the farmer and owner of real the consumer pays the increase in cost estate other than manufacturers or of production. Their law, while elecemployers who are engaged in hazard- tive, applies to all classes of industries, ous operations are confronted with both hazardous and non-hazardous, inincreased burdens other and apart cluding farmers and household domesfrom the tax, for the reason that they are exposed to a greater liability and tion. Whether an employer insures consequent claims and htigation in the burdens created by the operation event of injuries to any of their em- of the act, or carries his own risk, is ployes than ever existed heretofore, by a matter left entirely to his own disvirtue of the sentiment or influence cretion. The English act in these feacreated as a result of every employe engaged in hazardous occupation re- of which demonstrates beyond dispute ceiving definite indemnity for every that successful compensation laws accident regardless of the question of

Fourth, the owners of city real tem, and that a compensation law in estate, farms, and fruit lands and small homes are generally opposed to annihilation of private companies and being taxed for the benefit of manufacturing industries or large operators, where the returns on the investment as is provided for in the Oregon act. are much greater than represented by the returns on real estate investments. Furthermore, there is a general pre- injury is due by failure of the employjudice from a tax-paying standpoint er to install or retain any safety apagainst all forms of legislation which pliance, device or safeguard required proposes to encourage the further en- by statute, that the workman may largement of the administrative func- sue his employer and in that event he tions of the state at public expenses on the grounds that there is less effi- tion 32 provides that any person agciency and greater extravagance involved under such procedure and that such a system is subject to the varying control of whichever political party that the right of appeal is saved to

that happens to be in power. . Everyone admits that compensation | court.

TARIFF REVISION

Now that the tariff is law, it is time for Oregon to consider the changes in Farmers of Oregon, including agri- the position of its leading industries culturists, livestock growers and brought by the new duties. We must horticulturists, should give careful adjust our business to new condition, consideration to the compensation act which open the markets of our chief as passed by the last legislature and industries to the competition of the

proval or disapproval of the voter at | We had a duty on raw wool equal to a special election to be held in Nov- five to seven cents a pound on the scoured fleece: now we have free wool. We had a duty on lumber ranging from \$1.25 to \$2.75 per thousand feet; now we have free lumber.

We had a duty of twenty-five cents

The duty on flour was forty-five cents a barrel; now it is wiped out.

There were duties on milk of two as to desirability of a change for the cents a gallon; cream, five cents a gailon; eggs, five cents a dozen; now all are free.

Butter and cheese formerly paid a duty of six cents a pound: this is reduced to two and one-half cents.

Oats will now come in at six cents instead of fifteen cents a bushel, and oatmeal will pay only one-third cent instead of one cent a pound.

Cattle formerly paid \$2 and \$3,75 a head: sheep, seventy-five cents and already demonstrated that they are \$1.50 a head; hogs, \$1.50 a head; now all come in free, as does fresh meat of all kinds, which was subject to a duty of one and one-half cents a pound.

Apples, peaches, cherries, plums, pears and quinces psid a duty of twenty-five cents a bushel; now they pay only ten cents.

We had a duty of 30 per cent on canned fish; now it is 15 per cent. Fresh, dried, smoked, salted or frozen salmon paid three-fourths cent to one cent per pound ; now all are free.

On jute bags we paid seven-eights cent a pound plus 15 per cent; now we pay 10 per cent. Wheat comes in free; the bags in which we ship our

wheat are still taxed.

These are a few examples of the bearing of the new tariff on Oregon's leading industries. Watch how it

DIARRHOEA QUICKLY CURED "I was taken with diarrhoes and Mr. Yorks, the merchant here, persuaded me to try a bottle or Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoe. Remedy. After taking one dose of it questionably raised by the operation that I gave it to," writes M. E. of this act. Gebhart, Orlole, Pa. That is not at all unusual. An ordinary attack of for the appointment of a commission diarrhoes can almost invariably be cured by one or two doses of this remedy. For sale by all dealers,

> case in the Oregon act, with except law, which has been in force twentycountry, is simple compensation with the questions of insurance and adminemployer being under the same burden, tics, and operations in every descrip tures is similar to the New Jersey; all are far removed from necessity of becoming a part of our political sysorder to be successful does not mean competition resulting therefrom, or the establishment to a state monoply

> Section 25 of the Oregon act provides that if the commission hold that an waives his right to compensation. Secgrieved at the decision of the commisson may appeal to the nearest circuit court and bave his case reviewed and the injured party, even to the supreme

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AND SOME housewives do that---

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You will generally find that the merchant who does not advertise has nothing in his store that is worth while mentioning.

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