

...CAPITAL JOURNAL'S EDITORIAL PAGE.

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THE JOURNAL STANDS FOR PROGRESS, DEVELOPMENT, GOOD GOVERNMENT, AND NO DEGRADED LABOR.

QUESTIONS ABOUT A RAILROAD COMMISSION.

The question whether Oregon shall have a railroad commission is before the legislature. Owing to the peculiar situation of Oregon, there are railroads on two sides of a state, **THE SIDES THAT HAVE WATER COMMUNICATION**. At all points where the water competition makes itself felt the result is low freight rates.

Where there is no water competition, the rates are kept up to as high a standard as the traffic will bear. So that the benefit of a railroad commission would be in reduction of rates and prevention of discrimination **AGAINST POINTS NOT SUBJECT TO WATER COMPETITION.**

Would the points in the interior and the industries that have no water competition get any benefit or protection from a railroad commission? A commission would naturally be made up of a member from Portland, one from Eastern Oregon and one from Southern Oregon or the Willamette valley?

It is not likely that all three commissioners would be taken from Western Oregon. The danger to the rest of the state is from **A COMMISSION DOMINATED BY PORTLAND INTERESTS.**

This is a sensitive point and probably should not be raised, and may never be an issue.

But it plainly stares the shippers of the interior in the face that a commission doing all in its power **TO GET RATES FOR THE PORTLAND JOBBERS**, and to secure the cars needed for Portland industries, **WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO DO VERY MUCH FOR THE SMALLER INDUSTRIES OF THE INTERIOR.**

When have the jobbers and shippers of Portland fought the battles of the interior?

For instance, it does not worry them that they get a 16-cent rate on sugar from San Francisco, and places like Glendale **HAVE TO PAY 60 CENTS A HUNDRED FROM 'FRISCO.**

That is to protect the Portland jobbers, and they ask even greater protection against places like Boise and Baker City.

If a commission bill is passed the people will have to fight to keep Portland from gobbling up the commission, and will **HAVE TO FIGHT FOR ALL THEY GET FROM THAT COMMISSION.**

This is not said to prejudice any section of the state against Portland, but lest we forget and find ourselves kicking against the very remedy that we are asking for.

For instance, does Portland protest again the raise in lumber rates to interior sawmills from \$3.10 to \$5.00 per ton.

Will Portland help make that fight before the Interstate Commerce Commission that will place **ALL THE INDUSTRIES OF THE STATE ON THE SAME FOOTING?**

It is almost impossible to appoint a railroad commission by the governor, or anyone else that will not be under the control of the immense shipping interests of Portland, **AND ALL KNOW WHAT THEY ARE.**

On the other hand the, the governor might appoint a commission that would be so absolutely fair that all parts of Oregon would be built up alike and there would be no complaint on this score.

DEAL GENTLY WITH THE PEOPLE.

The people of Oregon have been long-suffering and kind, and deserve good treatment at the hands of the legislature. **IT SHOULD NOT TAKE AWAY FROM THEM THE LAST CENT THEY HAVE.**

Of course, officialdom, once in the easy chair, with its feet on the desk, and with busy clerks fluttering about, feels its oats.

It cannot refuse the beck and call of those who have fattened in the stalls of office.

The ox knoweth his master's crib, and officials have learned the ropes and **KNOW HOW TO REACH FOR THE CHOICEST FODDER.**

Of course, they do not consciously reach for it, but they know where it is.

More institutions, more offices, more clerks, more machinery, more commissions, **MAKE MORE PLACES** for the Lord's poor and deserving.

Yet we must plead for the people, and ask the stall-fed portion of the population, that toll not, neither do they spin anything but hot air yarns, not to go too far lest we forget **OUR DUTY TO THE GRAND OLD PARTY AND THROW YOU ALL OUT.**

Do not press the crown of taxes too hard on the brow of the toiling masses. Remember whence ye sprang, and that ye once worked for a living.

Deal gently with the people, and if you cannot get all your family on the payrolls this time do not despair. **THERE WILL BE OTHER OPPORTUNITIES.**

In the meantime you can call the writer of this a low demagog.

DEATH PENALTY FOR THE HOLDUP MAN.

It seems a harsh remedy to take away a man's physical right to live, but so long as we retain the death penalty the holdup man is entitled to its benefit, if any criminal on earth is.

THE MURDER OF A PORTLAND PHYSICIAN, who was robbed on a high bridge, and struggled to resist, but was knocked on the head and thrown over the precipice, was a horrible crime.

The man who enters a household and gags and binds a servant girl or woman of the house and robs the premises under threats of death is a worse criminal **THAN HE WHO KILLS ANOTHER OUT OF REVENGE.**

The bill introduced in the senate by Wright of Yamhill should pass both houses, and become a law. It extends the death penalty to the man who with deadly weapon holds up another to rob.

The principle involved is clear and has been enacted into law in Montana, and is recognized in other countries. The deliberate, deadly threat and intent to kill makes the holdup man **MORE VENEMOUS THAN A RATTLESNAKE.**

Representatives and senators should do this much to deter a growing crime by attaching a penalty that will tend to stop it. The inflicting of the penalty is left to the judge and jury.

BRYAN AND LABOR.

In all Mr. Bryan's speeches at Salem he had very little to say about the conditions of labor.

ABOVE ALL HE HAD NO FAULT TO FIND with the wages or the employment of labor under a Republican administration.

This is rather remarkable, when it is the crux of the whole political controversy.

Brilliant as he is in picturing better conditions for the laboring masses, he **HAD NO RAINBOW COLORS TO OFFER ON THIS SUBJECT.**

Skilful as Mr. Bryan is in attacking the weak points of an opponent he could not even criticize the conditions of labor under Republican rule. His only sentence at the opera house speech was a touch upon the hem of the garment of Socialism, **VERY LIGHT AND VERY DEPT.**

"There must be a readjustment of labor so that a man shall take from society only what he contributes to society."

Those were his words of purely academic altruism; theoretic Socialism mildly stated, as usual to catch a few weak-minded and not fully educated Socialists.

It is a class-room political proposition, as ancient as Adam Smith, and **CAN BE PALMED OFF AS WISDOM ON THE UNTHINKING.**

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Bryan's political speech was devoted to Free Trade as the only solution of the commercial regulations with other countries.

NOW IS IT RIGHT ON THIS POINT that the Republican party has built its foundation of industrial and economic prosperity. The records of the past few years of prices of products and labor, of foreign trade and domestic production, are unparalleled.

They are built on the solid rock of a protective tariff, **WHICH MR. BRYAN WOULD OVERTHROW.**

Unable to attack successfully the conditions of the laboring man or the prices paid the producer, Mr. Bryan contented himself with academic free trade, and threw a kiss at the Socialists.

But what sane man would exchange present conditions for those that have always prevailed **WHEN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY UNDERTOOK TARIFF REVISION.**

What went with the prices of wool and cattle, and the wages of labor under the various tariff experiments of the Democratic administrations the country has had?

Mr. Bryan, with all his eloquence and ability and pleasing manners, confessed that he had nothing to offer labor.

IMPORTANT MEASURES PRESENTED

Speaker Davey Introduces Bills to Establish and Regulate State Printing Plant

Little of interest developed during yesterday afternoon's session of the house of representatives. Thirty-one new bills were introduced and numerous committee reports filed and read nearly 100 bills passed the second reading and were referred to committees for consideration. The only bill of any importance was upon the adoption of a resolution, by Wilson, of Multnomah, providing for an increase of the membership of the committee on assessment and taxation from five to seven members, on account of the great amount of work that would be exacted of that committee, but it was voted down upon motion of suspension of the rules and the resolution went to the resolution committee for consideration and report. It is understood the resolution will be reported back unfavorably when a heated debate is expected to be precipitated on the floor.

Among the most important bills to have been introduced were two by Speaker Davey, by request, one of which asks for an appropriation of an aggregate of \$10,000 for equipment of a state printing plant, salary of state printer, employees, etc. and the other asking for an appropriation of an aggregate of \$60,000 for the purchase of a site, erection of a state printing plant and for the equipment of same with presses, type, paper and other necessary materials. The house cleared up the desk at 4 o'clock and took a recess until 10 o'clock this morning.

The house routine in detail follows:

House Routine (Monday Afternoon). House called to order at 2 p. m.

Opened by prayer by Rev. W. H. Sellock, of the First M. E. church.

Speaker Davey announced the house joint committee on re-appointment as follows: Jewell, Josephine; Boyer, Multnomah; Rodgers, Marion; Slusher, Umatilla and Mor-

row; Donnelly, Gilliam, Sherman and Wheeler; Barrett, Washington; Chase, Coos.

Message from legislative committee of Washington on investigation and recommendations for congressional appropriations for rivers and harbors improvement, fixing the dates of the meeting of the joint committees upon February 9. Rules suspended and memorial concurred in.

Message from governor recommending appropriation for erection and equipment of state electric light plant. Referred to special committee of five for consideration.

Message from senate on special committee appointments.

Speaker announces joint committees on investigation of state institutions. Report resolutions committee.

Senate, M. No. 2, to abolish tariff on jute fibre. Favorable. Adopted.

H. J. R. No. 8, relating to salaries of state officers. Adversely. Report adopted. Resolution adopted.

H. R. No. 28, extra copies of H. B. No. 20. Adversely report. Adopted.

S. J. M. No. 1, asking that stockmen have free passage over land in Umatilla Indian reservation. Report adopted. Memorial adopted.

H. J. M. No. 2, election of U. S. senator by direct vote. Favorable report adopted.

H. R. No. 29, providing clerk for committee on roads and highways. Adversely report adopted.

H. R. No. 24, for assistant door-keeper. Report adopted.

S. C. R. No. 7, providing manner of wording titles to bills. Adversely report adopted.

S. C. R. No. 12, joint committee to meet similar committees from Idaho and Washington relative to opening of Columbia river. Favorable with amendment to cut off mileage and clerical help adopted.

Second reading house bills.

H. B. No. 85, Freeman, for more efficient system for assessing bank stock; referred to committee on assessment and taxation.

H. B. No. 86, Freeman, prescribing duties of county boards of equalization; assessment and taxation.

H. B. No. 101, McCue, relating to fishing on Columbia; fisheries.

H. B. No. 102, McCue, setting when districts not entitled to school fund; education.

H. B. No. 103, Coffey, providing for protection from forest fires; horticulture.

H. B. No. 105, Coffey, appointment and compensation of deputy county clerks of Multnomah; Multnomah delegation.

H. B. No. 106, Coffey, making unlawful for using badges or insignia of military and fraternal orders; health and public morals.

H. B. No. 107, Coffey, fixing penalty of persons convicted second and third time for felony; judiciary.

H. B. No. 108, Jewell, bounty on wild animals; game.

H. B. No. 109, Jewell, terms of court for transaction probate and civil business; judiciary.

H. B. No. 110, Jewell, packing and preserving of salmon and sturgeon; fisheries.

H. B. No. 111, Jewell, amending hunters' license law; game.

H. B. No. 112, Dye (by request), state board of charities and corrections; revision of laws.

H. B. No. 113, Davey, repeal chapter 229 of laws 1905, relating to roads; roads and highways.

H. B. No. 114, Jewell, regulating



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fishing on Rogue river. Special committee, Jewell, Vawter and Rackliff.

H. B. No. 115, Slusher, fees of Umatilla county sheriff. Salaries of county and state officers.

H. B. No. 116, Slusher, relating to animals running at large in Sherman county; agriculture.

H. B. No. 117, Beutgen, prohibiting making false statements of corporations, etc; judiciary.

H. B. No. 118, Jackson, armories for national guard; military affairs.

H. B. No. 119, Jackson, pertaining to military; judiciary.

H. B. No. 120, Jackson, taxing gross receipts of railroads; assessment and taxation.

H. B. No. 122, Washington, to re-appoint state; special committee on apportionment.

H. B. No. 142, Rothchild, restricting deer; game.

H. B. No. 125, Dye, uniform system of satisfying judgments; judiciary.

H. B. No. 126, Dye, telephone commission; corporations.

H. B. No. 127, Dye, fees in divorce cases; judiciary.

H. B. No. 128, Dye, providing seats on street cars; corporations.

H. B. No. 129, Dye, relating to sheriff deeds; revision of laws.

H. B. No. 131, Freeman, record of title to real property; judiciary.

H. B. No. 132, Freeman, commissioners for insane persons; judiciary.

H. B. No. 133, Freeman, limiting value of property that may be held; judiciary.

H. B. No. 134, Merryman, incorporating Klamath Falls; cities and towns.

H. B. No. 135, Merryman, court house for Klamath Falls; judiciary.

H. B. No. 136, King, requiring insurance companies to invest money in state; insurance.

H. B. No. 137, Settlemier, display at Alaska-Yukon exposition; ways and means.

H. B. No. 138, Beals, cheese and dairy inspection; food and dairy products.

H. B. No. 139, Burns, personal property exemption; judiciary.

H. B. No. 140, Burns, service of summons; judiciary.

H. B. No. 141, Beals, protecting salmon on Tillamook bay; fisheries.

H. B. No. 142, Gray, board trustees A. R. Burbank fund; penal and reformatory institutions.

H. B. No. 143, Gray, close season for wild fowl; game.

H. B. No. 144, Gray, protecting timber and other property from fire; public lands.

H. B. No. 145, Gray (by request), relating to pleadings; revision of laws.

H. B. No. 146, Gray, relating to duties county clerks; revision of laws.

H. B. No. 148, Farrell, relating to fishing industry; fisheries.

H. B. No. 149, Carter, recovery of real estate; judiciary.

H. B. No. 150, Barrett, Wash., regulating sale railroad tickets; judiciary.

H. B. No. 151, Bones, protection of deer; game.

H. B. No. 152, Merryman, record-

ing plats and towns; revision of laws.

H. B. No. 153, Campbell, referring to decisions of supreme court; revision of laws.

Report Standing Committee on horticulture. Able report on H. B. No. 71, relating to branding fruits, etc., substitute. Adopted.

Special committee of Umatilla Morrow delegation reported favorably on H. B. No. 96, to fix of Umatilla county school attendance. Report adopted.

First Reading House Bills.

H. B. No. 249, Dye, to provide school district.

H. B. No. 250, Davey, for permanent record of elections.

H. B. No. 251, Davey, to amend sections 249-250.

H. B. No. 252, Davey, for Indian war veterans.

H. B. No. 253, Davey (by request) for state printing plant.

H. B. No. 254, Davey (by request) flat salary for state printer.

H. B. No. 255, Eaton, providing irrigation surveys.

H. B. No. 256, Beals, appropriation for improvement Tillamook bay.

H. B. No. 257, Rothchild, locate mute school.

H. B. No. 258, Dye, to amend section 2553.

H. B. No. 259, Belknap, school superintendent of county.

H. B. No. 260, Belknap, first central Oregon agricultural tract.

H. B. No. 261, King, incorporating.

H. B. No. 262, King, salary assessor Harney county.

H. B. No. 263, Chapter, section 2593.

H. B. No. 264, Burns, section 2861, registering of land board to sell certain land.

H. B. No. 265, Pike, ration and fuel to inmates of home.

H. B. No. 267, Jackson, section 391.

H. B. No. 268, Gray, Jackson, support Ashland school.

H. B. No. 269, Gray, bawdy houses.

H. B. No. 270, Vawter, for admission to bar.

H. B. No. 271, Freeman, dogs personal property.

Report of commission on highways. Referred to highways committee.

H. R. No. 30, Wilson, assessment and taxation. The committees from five to seven to suspend rules and adjournment lost.

H. C. R. No. 15, Moore, referred for General Owen Sumner. Adjourment to 19 a. m.

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