

...CAPITAL JOURNAL'S EDITORIAL PAGE

HOFER BROS., Publishers and Proprietors

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

OPEN THE DOOR.

(Lisichen Maud Miller in Sunday Eugene Register.)
Open the door, let in the sun;
He hath a smile for everyone;
He hath made of the raindrops gold and gems,
He may change our tears to diadems—
Open the door!

Open the door of the soul, let in
Strong, pure thoughts which will banish sin;
They will grow and bloom with a grace divine,
And their fruit shall be sweeter than that of wine—
Open the door!

Open the door of the heart; let in
Sympathy sweet for stranger and kin;
It will make the walls of the heart so fair
That angels may enter unaware—
Open the door!

WHY TAX THE NOTARIES?

The Capital Journal cannot agree to support Senator Kay's bill to raise the fee for notaries from \$2.00 to \$10.00 for two years. We find ourselves agreeing with most of his measures but on this bill **A CONFERENCE WILL HAVE TO BE APPOINTED.**

Our reasons briefly stated are that notaries as a rule are not making any money out of their offices.

They have not been included in the list of officials **WHO ARE TO HAVE FREE RAILROAD PASSES.**

Many of them never make as much back as their seal and commission costs them to set up in business.

A great many more, especially in banks and public offices and in law offices serve gratis all the time.

The tendency of the bill to put a five dollar a year tax on the office is to make it a monopoly in every community, and **MANY COMMUNITIES WOULD NOT EVEN HAVE A NOTARY.**

So while we swear by Senator Kay on most matters of economy, we are inclined to swear at him in this particular and move that the bill be laid on the table.

PUT THE PRINTER ON A SALARY.

The house of representatives has tabled the report of the committee on printing, and gone on record in favor of a bill to put the state printer on a flat salary.

The state officials have all been put on a flat salary and all the fees and profits and earnings of each state office now goes into the state treasury **EXCEPT THE PRINTER.**

The people voted this reform and amended the constitution at the last election for the particular purpose of putting the printer on a flat salary.

After all that has been done this legislature would be recreant to its duty if it did not enact a law to **PUT THAT OFFICE ON A BUSINESS BASIS.**

The argument of the present state printer is well meant—that he offers to voluntarily make a great reduction in the cost of running that office.

He will see to it that the expense of the state printing is greatly reduced. He has made some moves in that direction. Let us give him credit for good intentions, **BUT THAT IS NOT BUSINESS.**

The people are not asking for that kind of a reform. They are asking that all the fabulous profits of that office be cut out and **THAT THE PRINTING BE DONE FOR THE STATE AT ACTUAL COST.**

Speaker Davey's bill to put the printer on a flat salary has not been criticised as unfair. It proposes to put the office on a respectable business basis.

The office of state printer has been worked up until it pays more **THAN ALL THE OTHER STATE OFFICES PUT TOGETHER.**

The people have been promised in platforms and the people have voted to cut out the grafts in the ways of profits, fees, perquisites, and unusual and unconstitutional compensations of every description.

They should not be cheated out of these results, and be **DENIED THE FRUITS OF ALL THE CAMPAIGN PROMISES.**

No man condemned these abuses and showed up the enormous grafts practiced under the present system of state printing any more fearlessly than State Printer Dunlavy.

Is the Republican party, in the face of all his disclosures, to refuse to enact the very reforms that were promised them by inference in the last campaign? **CAN IT FACE SUCH DELINQUENCY IN FUTURE?**

In view of all that has been done to swell appropriations the legislature should give the people one bright particular spot of shining virtue upon which to rest their tired eyes—and put the state printer on a flat salary.

REPUBLICANS ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY.

By the action of the house of representatives the Republicans in the legislature assume all responsibility for the creation of the Oregon Railroad Commission.

In the senate, where there were six Democrats, the Republicans were disposed to let the sawmill men and the lumbermen and the Portland jobbers have their way, and make the governor responsible.

But in the house of sixty members, where there is but one Democrat, the Republicans demanded that they be given the selection of the commission, and that it be a Republican commission.

And in the house the Republicans were so doubtful about the wisdom of making the commission absolutely Republican that they divided almost evenly, **THE VOTE BEING CARRIED BY ONE MAJORITY SEVERAL TIMES.**

On this narrow margin the Republicans in the House, many of whom had never even read the bill, jumped in and made the bill a partisan one, and cheerfully assumed all responsibility for the outcome.

As a matter of fact, they did just what Governor Chamberlain wanted them to do from a partisan standpoint.

He tells the editor of The Capital Journal, while he would have appointed a commission such as the big shippers wanted, **HE WOULD HAVE NAMED TWO REPUBLICANS AND ONE DEMOCRAT.**

He feels very much relieved at the turn things have taken, as he has no responsibility now whatever for the workings of the commission.

The people will expect a great deal, and will be disappointed. The shippers will demand great relief in reduced rates, and more care. The railroad managers will also make demands upon the commission. There will be litigation, and it will take the commission **TWO YEARS TO GET ANY MASTERY OF THE FACTS OF THE SITUATION.**

The people will be disappointed and there will be a strong movement to abolish the commission.

The commission will be subordinated to the demands of the political machine in Oregon, and all know what to expect from it.

THE APPOINTMENTS WILL BE HANDED OUT AS A REWARD FOR PARTY SERVICE.

Already 150 politicians are lying in wait to get these fat places,

mostly men who care little or nothing about the shippers, and who know nothing about rates or transportation conditions.

A reasonable commission that would act on broad grounds of public policy **IS NOT TO BE EXPECTED.**

The member appointed by the governor, unless the two Republicans on the board see fit to name all three, will represent different policies from those of the Republicans.

Oregon has had that kind of a commission, and speedily abolished it, **AND THAT IS WHAT WILL BE DONE WITH THIS ONE.**

In the next legislature it is to be hoped there will be more than one Democrat in the lower house, and the indications are that there will be several.

CUT OFF NO REVENUES

The house Wednesday adopted the Newell bill abolishing the \$3.00 road poll tax. Then it realized what it had done and reconsidered and almost unanimously killed the bill and let the tax stand.

Then in the next breath it abolished the \$1.00 county poll tax, that annually **TURNS THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS INTO THE ROAD FUNDS.**

The recklessness of the legislature in abolishing revenues is only equalled by its extravagance in making appropriations.

The senate should kill the Newell bill repealing the \$1.00 county poll tax.

The excuse that some persons do not pay it, and that some counties do not collect it, **IS PALTRY, FRIVOLOUS, IMBECILE.**

This legislature should provide new revenues. It should not cut off a dollar that is now coming in.

SENATOR KAY IS RIGHT.

Roaring, roaring, kicking Tom Kay was right in refusing to vote a flat \$125,000 annual appropriation to the State University.

That is a raise of \$160,000 in two years, and his demand was that the regents at least should have specified the uses they propose to make of this money.

The State University and the Agricultural College have over-reached in asking a cool quarter of a million each at the hands of this legislature **BECAUSE THEY WERE IN A POSITION TO TAKE IT.**

They have over-reached an inexperienced body of men, who have had no experience in public legislation, and are at the mercy of the official class.

They might at least have specified, and set up some show of actual need of funds, and totalled the amount at \$247,705.30. **BUT THEY JUST GUESSED HOW MUCH A GREEN CROWD WOULD STAND FOR AND PUT IN A LUMP SUM.**

The Agricultural College has 850 students of all kinds, mostly the sons and daughters of the well-to-do. The University has about 300 of the still more highly favored, **THAT COST THE STATE OVER \$400 A PIECE PER ANNUM.**

The demands of these institutions are not on a business basis. They make no specifications as to what this money is needed for. They force the politicians to bow down to their decrees.

Every other member of the legislature expects some time to run for governor or congressman, and, of course, dare not go against the will of the gigantic aggregations of predatory officialism.

The demands of the Oregon four hundred for special favors for their offspring must be met. **THE REST OF THE JACK-SNIPE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS** of the state, run by the Methodists, Baptists and Presbyterians, and such like institutions, **MUST PAY TAXES AND GET ALONG THE BEST WAY THEY CAN, WITHOUT A DOLLAR FROM THE PUBLIC FUNDS.**

Gentlemen, in future, at least, give us a bill of particulars. At least render an itemized bill of what you intend to do with the money, as a mere matter of form and for decency's sake.

OUTRAGES OF TAXATION.

One of the outrageous things committed in this state is the repeal of the \$300 householder's exemption.

To think that a civilized community will tax a poor man **ON FIFTY DOLLARS' WORTH OF OLD FURNITURE.**

It is worse than the Oregon boot of early days.

A poor blacksmith is taxed **ON FIFTY DOLLARS' WORTH OF TOOLS.**

As the poor are far more numerous than the rich, the repeal of the \$300 exemption falls on the majority of people.

Speaker Davey deserves credit for introducing a resolution to amend this, and give the poor man **A CHANCE FOR HIS LIFE AGAINST THE TAX COLLECTOR.**

No one knows what the new tax code bills contain. They were drafted by representatives of the rich, and have been blindly enacted.

That they will enact anything **FAVORING THE MAN OF SMALL MEANS NO ONE NEED IMAGINE.**

The \$300 exemption should be restored. The household goods of the poor, the wages and tools of the mechanic should be exempt.

Senate Wednesday Afternoon.

The special order of business for 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon in the senate was to consider Bailey's two measures, S. B. 202 and S. B. 209.

regarding time checks and the immediate payment of workmen's wages. These bills were returned without recommendation and they were referred to the committee to have them embodied in one bill.

The committee on game made favorable report on S. B. 131, relating to killing of deer. Adopted.

Committee on immigration recommended S. B. 77, do pass. Adopted.

Committee on agriculture recom-

mended that S. B. 81, relating to stock food, do pass. Adopted.

Committee on education recommended H. B. 97, relating to display of flags, do pass. Adopted.

Committee on fisheries, recommended that H. B. 295, do pass. Same H. B. 254 and H. B. 200, relating to salmon and crabs. Adopted.

Committee on ways and means recommended that S. B. 150 appropriating funds for the O. A. C., do pass, with the amendment making the appropriation for maintenance \$37,500 instead of \$50,000. Johnson moved to make it \$40,000. Lost. The report was adopted.

After the senate had taken up and passed the Chapin railroad commission bill at the special order hour, it took up the third reading of bills and disposed of the following:

S. B. 24, Hart, relating to pasturing of foreign sheep on the public range. Enacted.

S. B. 93, appropriating money for the normal school at Monmouth. Laid on table.

S. B. 161, Malarkey, relating to appropriating of land by corporations. Enacted.

Senator Kay moved that H. B. 37, making appropriations for the state university re-referred with instructions to have the amounts for maintenance and betterment segregated. No action was taken and a few minutes later the bill was placed on its final passage.

S. B. 92, Malarkey, relating to the railroad bridge at Oswego. Carried.

S. B. 120, regarding the paying of

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