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DIVIDED SESSION WOULD BE BETTER.

As time draws near for the end of the present session of the legislature thence of a divided session and a limit on the amount of legislation that can be introduced becomes more and more apparent.

There are but three days more than a week now left in which to complete the work of the session and yet bills are still being introduced in the senate. All of the committees are heavily loaded with work and will be up to the last days of the session. Next week will see night sessions a common occurrence and little time will be left for committees to work. With this condition will come the opportunity for "log rolling" that is, there will be such a rush and such heavy demands on the committee members that bills will be crowded through without proper consideration because of trades between members who have pet measures they are anxious to pass. The chairman of any committee may report back a bill as being favored by his committee, although only one other member may agree with him, the others taking it for granted they were absent when the measure was being considered and that every feature has been thoroughly threshed out. Next will come third reading of the bill and its author will explain, very briefly, some catchy provisions of it, stating that the other sections make no material changes in present laws; that the bill has been carefully considered by the committee which has it under investigation, and since there is so much work before the body he will take no more time, etc. Should this be at a late night session, and it has been very peculiar in the past the way that certain bills happen to come up at these late sessions, it is quite probable that not over a third of the senate or house has listened to the explanation, or if they have are not alert enough mentally following the strain of a long day's work to detect the jokers in the bill. The roll is called and if the first few members vote in the affirmative the bill passes, for the rest follow suit without further investigation. This is a brief description of legislation as it is enacted, and it is true to life.

In this way vicious bills have been passed at almost every session of the legislature and will be as long as the present system is followed. But before another session has convened the people will be given the opportunity to vote on a constitutional amendment limiting each senator to five bills and providing that all these bills shall be introduced before a recess is taken for considering them before committees. The committees are then given time to do their work in broad daylight and at a time when they are not tired out with having spent a hard day on the floor of the senate or house. When the committees have completed their work then regular sessions of both houses will be resumed and the work of passing bills taken up. It may be that the people do not desire to change from the present system, but if they are satisfied with it they should not complain about the poorly constructed laws and obnoxious measures that are so frequently placed on the statute books in the rush of the last days of every session.

The state historical society, with headquarters in Portland, is asking for a moderate appropriation in order to continue its work. We believe it should be granted in spite of the universal demand for economy. Anyone who has ever visited the exhibit of pioneer days in the Portland city hall building, arranged and presided over by Geo. H. Himes, one of the earliest residents of the state, will realize the value of this work and hope that it may be kept up and even broadened in its scope. The society has never received a large amount of money and seems to have been economically managed so that it is now in a position to make its request for funds without explanations or excuses. The results of its past efforts are the best guarantee that whatever appropriation is granted will be well expended.

Those senators who are now declaring that the ship purchase bill is a deliberate attempt of President Wilson to plunge this country into the European war are the same fellows who have been criticizing the president because he would not begin hostilities against Mexico. Lodge, Borah and other representatives of the shipping trust merely had to have a plausible excuse for opposing the administration bill.

A BLOW TO BLACKMAIL.

Once more the United States supreme court has settled a ridiculous law by simply applying the rule of common sense.

This time it is the miscalled "white slave law," which as interpreted and enforced has been making the government an accomplice in the business of the blackmailer.

This law was clumsily framed and hurriedly passed at a period of public hysteria, when magazine and other publications had led to the belief that there existed a huge international syndicate dealing in women. No such syndicate has ever been discovered, though individual criminals do conduct this horrid traffic, and are constantly being detected and punished under state laws.

The Mann law, through an oversight in wording, was immediately perverted into an instrument for blackmail. It made immorality punishable for crossing a state line, and applied the punishment to the man only.

All that was necessary was for the blackmailer to decoy her victim across a state line and then threaten him with the terrors of the law, which made federal judges, district attorneys and marshals her accomplices. Her previous character, her consent, had nothing to do with the man's crime.

The supreme court has cut out this blackmail game by a decision that the woman can be punished as well as the man.

This makes it a just and beneficent law.

Here is something good said about the legislature, and we reprint it because we like to give the dev—, but we wouldn't put it just that way either; in short we want to give both sides. The Harney County News says: "The state senate denied women the right for jury service. If the legislature adjourned and did nothing more than this it would have done more for humanity and the homes of our nation than any like gathering of modern times."

There is some good comes out of almost everything. To illustrate, smallpox forced the Arizona legislature to adjourn.

The Portland Muts will invade Salem tomorrow. And they will find plenty of their kind here to welcome them.

The Muts are coming to town.

STATE NEWS

The DuPar Dispatch says the "long cold spell, which has lasted for almost two months, has lasted longer than any within the memory of the oldest inhabitant."

The Jewish Ladies of Baker have announced their intention of adding the St. Elizabeth hospital at Baker by furnishing and equipping a room in the new institution.

"If you are not a member of the Klamath chamber of commerce," says the Klamath Falls Herald, "you will be pretty soon, for all of the members of the booster organization are now scouring the town for more members."

The editor of the Grass Valley Journal has been pouring old files, and says: "In the Journal of 15 years ago we note the list of 37 names who were in business in Grass Valley at that time; there are only two men in business at the present time who were here 15 years ago, viz: Dr. M. B. Taylor and the editor of the Journal."

The Dalles Chronicle: The agricultural feature of public school work in The Dalles promises to become a great practical success this year, under the efficient and progressive direction of a man of the J. B. Warner calibre, to whom The Dalles owes thanks for the many splendid advances which have been made in the educational system of this city.

La Grande Observer: Sylvia Mon, who makes his home with Mr. and Mrs. Willard Couch in Lad Canyon, saw a groundhog February 2, and shot at him. The bullet went a little wide and the groundhog still lives, but had to hurry back to his hibernation nest, although there was no shadow to scare him back. Mr. Couch, who is in the city today, predicts an early spring, and brought in his plow to be put in shape for the spring work.

Oregon City Courier: We understand considerable plowing is being done this month. To an easterner this is about four months too soon. It doesn't much matter what time plow (not planting or grain drilling is done in this part of Oregon, for there is plenty of time and no danger of frost. A garden may be planted in February or June.

Gold Hill News: Swinging the broadaxe and adze has gone out of fashion at the Braden mine. Thousands of feet of tunnel work have hitherto been bolstered up by hand-hewn timbers, but now the old order changeth. An electrically driven mill for sawing and shaping the second-growth fir timbers has recently been installed. Fred Burke is chief Sawyer, and the new Sawyer, and the new style product is exceedingly popular with the men who are boring into the rock 200 feet below ground.

Copquille Herald: Quite a stir was created over the county last week by the report of a very rich gold strike in the southern part of the county. According to the story told by the Danahou Recorder, J. R. Smith and Owen W. Smith arrived in Danahou with about \$3000 in nuggets and dust which they

claimed to have secured since the first of December, with very crude equipment. They were going to San Francisco to secure pipe and hose for further operations, and it is possible that the long expected bonanza strike has at last been made.

Madford Sun: The fate of the best sugar factory will be known by the last of this week. Some day this week, perhaps Friday, Messrs. Bramwell and Nibley will meet with the committee in charge and make a final effort to secure the required acreage. Acreage is being received daily, some unsolicited, but there is yet a deficiency of over 1000 acres.

Pendleton East Oregonian: According to Dick Adams, a mad coyote boldly came down to the Bush place near McKay postoffice recently and attacked three of Bush's dogs, biting all of them. When Bush appeared, the rabid animal turned from the dogs to the man. Bush fled for the house but, looking over his shoulder to see how close his pursuer was, he stumbled and fell prostrate. The animal was just in the act of biting him when one of his own dogs seized the coyote from behind and saved his master. Bush ran into the house, seized his rifle and quickly sent two bullets into the coyote and ending his work with a club.

PRATUM NOTES

(Capital Journal Special Service.) Pratum, Ore., Feb. 10.—Miss Gertrude Maurer, of Salem, spent last Saturday and Sunday at the home of her parents in Pratum.

Mr. Harvey Letsy returned to the O. A. C. last Sunday.

Mr. Anstutz is reported to be critically ill.

Miss Linda Loisy left for Silverton last Sunday.

Mrs. Earl Pooler was a Salem visitor Monday afternoon.

Mr. Carl Krehel is home from Iowa, after an absence of a year and a half.

Mr. and Mrs. Reich and their two children, of North Dakota, are visiting at the home of Mrs. Reich's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. Geise. The coming of Mr. and Mrs. Reich was a great surprise to Mr. and Mrs. Geise, who had no idea that the young people contemplated such a visit.

The Franklin Literary society held its regular meeting last Friday evening. An excellent program was given and was enjoyed by all. The subject for the debate was: Resolved, That honor is mightier than the dollar. The debaters on the affirmative were: Melvin Lien, S. J. Yates and Frank Beutler. The negative was composed of Noah Lardon, Joe Gubane and Kenneth Bonner. The decision was in favor of the negative. The next regular debate will be given on given on February 20. The subject will be: Resolved, That the United States should retain the Philippines. The debaters will be as follows: Affirmative, Alicia Wolfy and Eleanor Schary; negative, Kenneth Bonner and Lucius Vogt. Besides the debate, an especially interesting program has been planned.

No matter what you have to sell, a Journal Want Ad will sell it for you if it can be sold. *****

The Grouchy Merchant

The grouchy employer whose head is always sore, is sure the destroyer of peace in his store. "I pay out good wages, the best in the town, and all ways," he rages. "My salesmen fall down. They come recommended as men hard to beat, but ere a month's ended they're dead on their feet."



With rantings and railings he causes his mind, but to his own failings he's stupidly blind. He always is growling and roasting the clerks; his gloom and his scowling affect the whole store. No clerks can keep humming, with bows, smiles and becks, if some one is jumping all day on their necks. "It's no use to hustle and play a good game," they say, "the old boss'll be mad just the same."

Grown weary of nagging, they fret and they sulk, their spirits are sagging, they've grief in the bulk. The dealer and seller should look for a chance to loose the young fellow who's keen to advance. The merchant is ill; who rants by the year; his store has a chilly and dead atmosphere. His men are all wishing he'd cross the divide, so they could go fishing and let their jobs slide.

LITTLE BOBBIE'S PA

(By William F. Kirk.)

Ma entertained one of Pa's old college chums last night. She told Pa afterwards that Pa's friend was a living example of why there ain't more colleges.

You oughtest to blame the colleges, sed Pa. You must bear in mind that colleges aint to blame for the pepul that goes into them. This friend of mine was always a kind of a bug even wen he went to school. In those days he always sed that Uruguay was Paraguay & that nobody eed tell him any different, & he sed that the Andes Mountains was bounded on one side by the Pacific Ocean & on the other side by Tennessee. Duant ferret, tho, sed Pa, that in his other days he made mistakes that he hasent made since he grew up. The man is a rich man now, sed Pa.

I dont like to meet rich men, sed Ma. They are all the time telling about how they made thare munnay, the same as a Jasper out in the woods wud be telling pepul how much cordwood he piled up. If a man interrups wen somebody else is talking who cares? may yellow hills he has in sun safety deposit vault!

Ma was rite at that. The friend that came to the house with Pa didnt seem to think of anything much except his munnay. He told us how he started by saving the first dollar that he ever saved & how in the course of time that dollar grew into a grate big roll. You will never know, he sed to Pa, the real thrill of joy that comes to a man that has his first dollar in the bank. Until you feel that thrill you will never know you are alive.

Then I guess I will always be ded, sed Pa, becauss the first dollar that I ever made, jumped out of my hands like a kangaroo & if it lay on going the way I started it, I guess it is going yet. I havent got anything agensst a safety deposit vault, Pa sed, becauss I never had any dealings with one, and I know that a safety deposit box is about the only square thing in a lot of banks, but any time you find me taking a bunch of yellow bills out of circulation & leaving them sunware to rot, you will find something that nobody else ever found.

I know, sed Pa's friend, but a man ought to figger on things. He ought to have stuff munnay so he can have butlers & livery & fine attombahles.

Have you got enny, sed Pa.

No, sed his friend, but think of the reel thrill that comes to a man who knows he can have them luxuries all the time if he only wants them.

You seem to like reel thrills, sed Pa. Now let me tell you something. I have lived a few years & I have tried to figger out things my own litle way. This is the way I figger it out. A man that goes thru the world with a roll of munnay that isnt working is a joke. The man has to work for the munnay, doesnt he, sed Pa. Then why shud he let the munnay loaf around in a safety deposit vault? Who wants a butler anyway? sed Pa, & livery & fine attombahles. I know that labor is grand & soabed, sed Pa, but I think that if starving on a park bench or being a butler was put up to me, I wud get sum silvers in my trousers. I cant stand strate enuff to be a butler, Pa sed.

No, sed Ma, but sometimes I have seen you try to.

Keep Your Lungs Strong

This advice is doubly important with the knowledge that every three minutes some one in the United States succumbs to consumption and many refuse to realize they are afflicted until it is too late.

It is after colds or sickness, from over-work, confining duties or when general weakness exists that tubercular germs thrive because the resistive powers of the body are weakened.

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