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CAR SHORTAGE AND THE S. P.

Oregon is confronted with serious danger to her industries and development due to car shortage. That shortage is due to the Southern Pacific which owns practically all the roads west of the Cascades, in the state. Theoretically the interests of the state and the Southern Pacific railroad are identical. The state cannot prosper and develop without this road, because it is all the means of transportation a great part of the state has. The converse of every proposition is said to be true and if so, then the Southern Pacific could not prosper unless the state prospered. If the business of the road was confined to Oregon this would be true, but such is not the case. It has other, and what it considers, greater interests outside the state, and that is where the trouble arises.

That is also where the railroad management is making a great mistake. There is no section tributary to the great railroad system that will respond so quickly and so generously to kind treatment as Oregon, the long and sadly neglected. The great valleys along the west side of the mountains are ready to pour a wealth of material on the markets of the world just so soon as the residents are assured that their products can reach those markets. That assurance it has never had, for the reason that when business is good and there is a demand for cars other territory tributary to the road is served first and fully because the railroad, having no opposition here, it can be made to wait. That is the case now, for Oregon so far as transportation service is concerned is in much worse condition than any other state on the coast. Just now the whole country is lying awake at nights wondering if its business is to be ruined and stagnation reign. It is wondering if its wheat and corn, its livestock and field products are to be left marketless because there is no transportation. It wonders if its lumber and minerals, its coal and its factory products are to be shut out of the world's markets; and above all it wonders if it can survive the ruin staring it in the face if these conditions should materialize.

It is different here in Oregon, for we are already experiencing this condition. There is not an actual stoppage of all business, but there is such conditions as are almost unbearable. Mills are shutting down, fruit rotting in the orchards, businessmen and farmers suffering heavy losses, and all business injured and kept back by car shortage. Businessmen and orchardists have pleaded in vain for cars to get their wares to market. They have all received polite replies and promises that came no deeper than the teeth, but that is all. They have not received the cars. The Public Service commission has called attention time and time again to the disastrous conditions caused by this lack of transportation, and it too has been answered politely and handed excuses cut from the bolt and ready made. The commission has done all it can for it is powerless under the law as it now is, to compel the S. P. to furnish cars.

This is not said in a fault-finding spirit or for the purpose of "roasting" the railroad but is just a statement of facts. We realize that we should have no quarrel with the Southern Pacific. As well might the body get angry and condemning its arteries and veins seek to injure them as for the people of this state to try to injure the railroad system that is its circulation system so far as trade is concerned, and trade is the life blood of a country just as much as is the red tide that courses through the human body its life giving source.

It is said in the friendliest spirit because we want service not revenge. We want cars for our products and the means of trading with our fellow men. It is only through the Southern Pacific we can hope for this. Just now the railroads are blaming their employes for refusing to handle their cars, blaming them the more because they say they, the roads, are helpless without the labor of these trained men who alone can do their work for them. If they could get others it would be different, but this cannot be done because there are no others.

We wonder if the Southern Pacific managers realize that they are doing to Oregon exactly what they blame their men for doing to them? Oregon cannot get its

products to market without the aid of the Southern Pacific, and it refuses that aid. The state is helpless and must take what is given it just as the railroads complain they are forced to do.

There is a shortage now in the valley of more than 1,000 cars. That means that that much produce of some kind is being kept out of the markets and someone is having his business ruined thereby. Are the railroad managers going to continue this treatment? If so the quicker it is known the quicker some means will be taken to help ourselves.

The legislature meets before many months and it seems it will be necessary to provide the Public Service Commission with authority that it will not be compelled to throw only grass, but can heave a rock as well if necessary. It is a matter of self preservation; a condition not a theory that confronts us. Will the railroad company compel the people of the state to take up arms against it, and battle for their own existence? Will it deliberately continue to antagonize the whole people of this great state, or will it, realizing that our interests are mutual, that it has a duty to perform as a public utility render that service that in accepting its franchise it solemnly agreed to perform? The people have suffered long and patiently, but there is a limit to all things. It is now up to the Southern Pacific railroad to decide whether its relations with the million residents of this state are to be peaceful or otherwise.

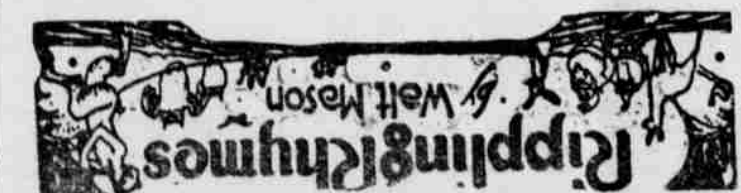
By the time the European war is over American diplomats should have had experience enough to place them in the front rank. The American ministers at the capitals of the different countries have managed and are managing all the affairs of the other nations. Rumania is the last to ask Uncle Sam to look after her affairs in the capitals of her enemies. Fortunately there is not much business, all suffering, so far as trade is concerned, from car shortage or conditions very similar.

President Wilson's Mexican policy may be bad—few really know because its at best an awful mess to handle—but one thing is certain—all the National Guard boys will soon be back home alive and well. If Roosevelt or some other critic of the president had been at the helm of state many of the boys would no doubt have filled unmarked graves on the deserts of Mexico. That's a point well worth thinking about!

The dispatches yesterday indicated that an agreement would be reached and the strike avoided. The men said they were satisfied with the passage of an eight hour law and would arbitrate all other matters; and the managers' attorney said they wanted all the proposed bills before congress, one of which was the eight hour day bill, passed. This looks as though an understanding was in sight and that a peaceful settlement would be reached.

The Third Oregon will be sent home just as soon as transportation can be secured, is the news from the "war front." It should not be long therefore until the boys are with us again. It will be a great day in Oregon and an especially big event here in Salem. There was a great crowd to see the boys off, but it is nothing to that that will be on hand to welcome them home.

It is doubtful if the car shortage would be any more acute with a strike on than it is now in Oregon with everything supposed to be moving along normally in the railroad world.



CHARLES AND I

I met Charles Hughes in Estes Park, where large and rocky mountains be; and I shall treasure each remark that this great man addressed to me. The gems of thought from great men's lips are pearls we humbler men should prize, nor can the passing years eclipse the observations of the wise. "I shall be glad when summer's ceased," he said; "the heat has been a strain; but now the wind is in the east, and I predict we'll soon have rain. In May and June it rained too much, and then the siege of drouth began; wheat shriveled at the hot wind's touch, and corn appears an also ran. The talk of Issues never stops, and Issues oft have little worth; I think the weather and the crops are all that count for much on earth. If we have rain when rain's desired, and sunshine when such shine we need, man gets all things he has desired, and all our theories run to seed. In politics man's toil is vain; his problems vex him, then they pass; give us a million-dollar rain, and nothing else will cut much grass."

Timber Sale Awarded To Stanley-Smith Company
Portland, Or., Sept. 1.—The Stanley-Smith Lumber company of Portland, Oregon, was the successful bidder for four million feet of national forest timber advertised for sale in Sec. 23 and Sec. 36, T. 2 N., R. 5 E., W. M., and has just been awarded the sale by district forester George H. Cecil, Portland, Oregon.

per M for all species was the bid price. The timber is 80 per cent Douglas fir. The remaining 20 per cent is made up of noble fir, western white pine, western red cedar, western hemlock, and amabilis fir.

STATE NEWS

Crescent News: Haying is in full swing all over eastern Oregon and the man without a job at good wages is not the fellow a farmer would want. There is not an idle man in Crescent; women are helping with farm work at La Pine; Bend has steady jobs for 50 men; Klamath Falls is advertising for men to work in the mills at wages from \$5 per day up. The hay harvest is on at Silver Lake and the grain stores at Fort Rock are using every available man. If eastern Oregon isn't prosperous, why all this demand for laborers?

The Dalles Optimist: Arrangements have been made by The Dalles business men and the members of the Wasco county court to make improvements on the hill between Mosier and Hood River that will make it much more safe to travel. Between 1000 and 1300 feet of fencing will be used along the most dangerous stretches of the grade and several more passing places will be built. There is so much travel on this grade that more places where cars may turn out are an absolute necessity for the safety of travelers.

Heppner Gazette: The second artesian well in Morrow county has been struck. W. D. Newlin is the man who accomplished this feat a second time and the new well, which is in the same belt as the first one, is producing a much larger flow of water. The new well apparently has not diminished the flow of water in the first gusher in the least.

Gardner Index: Mr. Haga, of South Beach, caught a black bear cub last Sunday. It was about four months old. He was brought into camp and the Helms brothers have named him "Dick" and are training him. He will be shipped to Portland later and sold.

Baker, Ore.—Although she was struck by lightning during a severe storm at her home on Clover creek, near North Powder, Mrs. John T. Shaw is expected to recover from her burns. The bolt came through a window and set the floor on fire.

Rogue River Courier: Game Wardens Jewell and Applegate have returned from a trip through the district beyond Galice, where they investigated a number of hunting camps, but found no evidence of the rumored law violations. They visited one camp where nine deer were hung up, but all had been killed legally by the 10 people who were in the party. Deer were plentiful and the wardens counted 31 during their travels, about a dozen of them being fine bucks. The antlers of the bucks in the higher ranges have not yet reached their growth, though lower down along the river the antlers are now being cleaned of the velvet.

Bend Bulletin: John D. Spreckles, Jr., of San Francisco, vice president of the American Soda Products company, arrived in Bend this morning (August 16) and left for Spreckles, where he will inspect the work that is going on at Alkali lake. Mr. Spreckles is very enthusiastic over the prospects of an extensive development of the soda ash deposits and while at Alkali lake he will make a thorough study of the conditions and the possibilities for greater output.

The Pomona Grange of Yamhill county has petitioned the state grange to prepare a bill and present the same to the legislature changing the road laws so that each road district elect a board of directors which board shall have supervision of the road work the same as the district school board of directors direct the work of the school; the board to be elected at an annual road meeting of the district for three years, electing one each year, and they shall serve without pay.

Electrical machinery has been installed in the world's richest iron mine, which is in Lapland.

THE TATTLER

The strike is almost over. Cheer up. Things are never so bad as some folks think they will be—except when they are worse. Maybe the home team will win Sunday. Perhaps you will catch a fish the next time you go fishing. Or shoot a deer the next time you go deerling. And the boys are coming back from the Mexican war. And it is pretty near state fair time. What if you did fall and break your leg? Or lose your money? Or mightily near die from stomach ache? What do these things amount to? Shucks!

SAYS PRESIDENT IS PLAYING TO GALLERIES

Washington, Aug. 31.—President Wilson was charged by Senator Galinger with "grand standing" and "playing to the gallery" in coming to the capitol on the railroad strike situation, during a bitter senate debate this afternoon. Demagoguery and school master's scolding being some of the pleasantries hurled back and forth by Senators Stone, Underwood, Penrose and Galinger.

CALIFORNIA COMET FLASHES

Forest Hills, L. I., Aug. 31.—The California comet can still flash with its old time brilliancy. Maurice McLaughlin, the hero of the Davis cup series, this afternoon brought joy to the hearts

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MY HUSBAND AND I

By Jane Phelps

MILDRED'S PARENTS BRING THEIR SUNLIGHT

CHAPTER X
Mildred's father and mother had intended being with her when her baby came; but Mrs. Sutton had been suddenly taken ill, so it had been impossible. They had since written that she was much better, and Mildred felt she could wait no longer to see them. She craved their love, their presence; she wanted to show them her precious baby.

She had always been "father's girl," and in her youth and innocence had imagined all husbands and fathers like him. Now, with a feeling of intense bitterness, mixed with sorrow and disappointment, she realized how mistaken she was.

She wanted her dear ones to come, and go while her husband was away. She wanted them all to herself, and she had made up her mind that they must return home before Clifford's return; else they would see his indifference, notice his neglect, and grieve.

The New, Unhappy Secret.
At times she wondered if she would be strong enough to keep her unhappy secret from her father. His eyes were very sharp, his love for her great. She cautioned Mandy again and again to be careful not to let them know anything that would worry them.

The day they were expected she sat up in bed for the first time. Many pillows supported her, and she had a dainty little rose-colored jacket over her nightdress. She wanted to look pretty for her father and mother, for she knew they loved her.

"Father! Mother!" Mildred called, as she heard a commotion in the hall. Soon they were seated, one on each side of the bed, both holding a tiny little hand—the baby, that had been admired and craved over to the young mother's satisfaction, sleeping peacefully on her grandmother's lap.

How good it was to see them, Mildred thought; how nice to hear their loving voices, and to feel that some one really cared for her.

After they had talked for some time her father asked:

"How is Clifford? I suppose he was too busy to meet us, although Mother was sure he would be at the station; and was a bit disappointed that he was not. Is he as proud of the youngster as you are?" laughing a little.

The time she dreaded had arrived. She must answer these questions, answer them so that neither father nor mother would suspect:

"Oh, yes! he thinks her quite wonderful! But Clifford has not been feeling well, and has gone on a fishing trip with some friends."

As she saw the surprise on her mother's face, the displeasure plainly shown by her father, she hastened to add:

"You know baby came a little sooner than we expected, and as Clifford had made all his plans for his vacation he

could not very well change them. But he offered to stay at home. I wouldn't let him," she finished, trying to tell her untruth bravely.

A Shrewd Guess.
Her father said nothing more just then, but his shrewd old eyes had been watching her closely all the time she had been talking. He knew she was deceiving them, but why, he had no idea. So now he changed the subject. He told her of her brothers and sisters, how they missed her, and had sent their love; besides numberless other things wrapped up in brown paper which she should have when their trunks arrived.

Then he told her how her favorite horse was being spoiled for the want of a good rider. His eyes twinkling he asked her:

"Guess what I am going to give that grand-daughter of mine?"

After many guesses, each father away from the last, Mr. Sutton laughingly told her:

"The old mare has had a colt, and that is to be my present to the youngster. I only hope she will ride as well as her mother does," then: "You must ride again as soon as you get well. It will do you good."

"Come, Marse Sutton, you don't tire dat, chile all out!" called old Mandy from the doorway.

(Tomorrow—The Cat Out of the Bag.)