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ROADS IN OREGON

Short Course of Twelve Lectures Given Free at O. A. C.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Dec. 15—Oregon has over 37,000 miles of road presided over by 878 road supervisors, many of whom, it is fair to assume, are not trained road builders. In ten years ending with 1914 these men have spent nearly \$21,500,000.00, or an average of nearly \$3,150,000.00 per year. This annual expenditure has grown until in 1915 it is approximately \$4,000,000. The probability is that it will continue to increase until it has reached a very much larger sum.

There are few, if any, lines of public endeavor which call for so great an expenditure of public money. There can be no question that the entire state is interested in getting the greatest possible return from this expenditure. To this end Prof. G. V. Skolton, head of the Department of Highway Engineering of the Oregon Agricultural College is offering during the Winter Short courses a series of lectures on the fundamental principles of road construction and maintenance. Among the topics covered will be earth, gravel and macadam roads, drainage, the adaptability of the different types to varying conditions and requirements of traffic, methods and costs, including some of higher types of roads. There will be twelve lectures in the course.

There will be no fees charged for these lectures and all who are interested in better roads are urged to be present.

Mob Wrecks Japanese Laundry at Oroville, Wash.

Wenatchee, Wash., Dec. 13—A mob of 200 men drove two Japanese from Oroville, a mining town 150 miles north of here, last Friday, according to word received here yesterday. The mob wrecked the laundry owned by the Japanese with a fire hose and threw the furniture into the street where it was burned. The Japanese, accompanied by George Devon, owner of the building, have gone to Spokane to complain to the United States district attorney. No arrests have been made.

The mob is said to have been composed of several prominent citizens of Oroville and a large number of laborers employed on the West Okanogan irrigation ditch.

RECOMMENDS GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP

Postmaster General Would Have U. S. Own Telephones and Telegraphs.

Washington, Dec. 13—Postmaster General Burleson's annual report says the European war has cost the American postal service \$21,000,000, but that economies of administration have reduced the audited deficit to a little more than \$11,300,000 for the fiscal year which ended last June. Of the total deficit his analysis of the department's finances declares that all but a little more than \$900,000 was the result of increases of postal salaries and additional railway mail pay required by law.

Chief among recommendations to congress are a renewal of previous proposals for a change from the weight to the space basis of fixing pay to the railroads for carrying mail; renewal of recommendations for government ownership of telegraphs and telephones; removal of the four-pound limit on first-class mail and the adoption of more liberal limitations on the weight and insurance of parcel post packages.

Neat Job of Robbery in Wapato Postoffice

North Yakima, Wash., Dec. 13—Yegman, believed to be professionals from the neatness with which the job was done and their tracks covered robbed the post office at Wapato between midnight Thursday and Friday morning, securing \$250 in cash, several checks and upwards of 100,000 stamps of various denominations. The front door of the building was forced, the safe was opened by the use of the combination and the inner door blown open with nitro-glycerine. Mrs. Helen H. Whitney, postmistress, first learned of the robbery when she came to the office about 8 o'clock in the morning. A few stamps had been dropped on the floor. The tools used had been stolen from a blacksmith shop and were left in the office, but the safe door had been closed and locked by the robbers. Officers have been unable to obtain any clue.

Vale—Ben Matthieson in six weeks took \$2200 in gold from placer mining on upper Willow creek.

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION JUNE 7.

At Chicago. Will Nominate Candidates and Frame Platform Before Democrats Meet

Washington, Dec. 14—The Republican national committee decided today to hold the 1916 Republican national convention on June 7. The place selected for the convention was Chicago. A proposal to hold the convention later in June was defeated by a vote of 37 to 13.

The result of this action is that the Republicans will meet to nominate their presidential candidate and frame their platform one week before the Democratic convention convenes at St. Louis, on June 14, a move for which there was considerable support among members of the committee, who believe an advantage will thus be gained in getting their platform before the country first.

The committee decided it would give a hearing to suffrage and anti-suffrage leaders after hearing the claims of the various cities seeking the convention.

Chamberlain Bill For Swiss System.

Washington, Dec. 13—Compulsory military training for Americans between 12 and 23 years old is proposed in a bill introduced today by Senator Chamberlain of the senate military committee. The bill is a modification of the Swiss plan.

Senator Chamberlain has announced he does not expect the bill to pass, but he believes discussion will be of educational value.

Drill Struck Wood at 1,900 Feet

One of the first deep wells drilled in the West was put down near Huxley, Nev., by the Central Pacific Railway in 1881, in a search for good water. The boring reached a depth of 2,750 feet but the water obtained was of very unsatisfactory quality. At 1,700 feet the drill encountered a bed of "petrified clams" and the record states that at 1,900 feet well-preserved "red-wood timber" was found. (Overland Guidebook, U. S. Geological Survey.)

OUR OWN STATE

Some Recent Happenings in Various Parts of Oregon.

Highway Commission is Not to Maintain Roads.

Salem, Or., Dec. 13—The state highway commission has passed a resolution absolving itself from obligation of maintaining any county highways save where special arrangements are made with it to this effect. The resolution was passed in order that the county courts might have notice on the subject and misunderstandings be prevented in the future.

The commission has agreed to assume the payment of a claim of \$1300 against the Rex-Tigardville road which was to be raised by popular subscriptions. Those subscribing the sums refused to make good on the ground that the road did not measure up to specifications. The subscription money will be used in making repairs on the road.

Pardoned and Ordered to Leave United States.

Salem, Or., Dec. 15—In order that Louis Vargus and Ernest Albert Ward may be deported by the federal authorities Governor Withycombe has issued them conditional pardons. The first named is a Mexican, and was convicted in Umatilla county for larceny from a store. Ward was convicted in Multnomah of assault with intent to rob. He is an Englishman. They will be deported in a few days to their respective countries, and the condition of their pardons is that they will forever remain outside the boundaries of the United States.

Breach of Promise Suit is on Trial in Albany.

Albany, Or., Dec. 15—A \$10,000 breach of promise suit came up today in the circuit court now in session in this city, in which Miss A. O. Hill of Dayton, Ohio, asks this amount from Arthur McDaniel of Brownsville, this county, alleging that McDaniel promised to marry her two months after January 8, 1915, but in February wrote her that he had changed his mind.

State Board Paroles Girl to Become Bride.

Salem, Or., Dec. 15—Amanda Helen Kott, serving a term in the state industrial school for girls, from Portland, was paroled by the state board of control yesterday in order that she might marry Ole Roster. The parole was recommended by Mrs. E. N. Hopkins, superintendent of the school.

Donald Bank Wiped Out

Salem, Or., Dec. 13—Circuit Judge Galloway has rendered a decision annulling the franchise of the Donald Commercial bank. After filing articles of incorporation the bank failed to organize and proceedings to annul its franchise were brought in order to clear up the records of the corporation department.

Playing With Matches Starts Fire

Pendleton, Or., Dec. 13—The ranch home of S. W. Wattenberger on McKay creek was entirely destroyed by fire last week. None of the contents was saved. The fire was caused by the act of the owner's 3-year-old daughter in playing with matches in a clothes closet.

Civil War Veteran is Dead

Marshfield, Or., Dec. 14—Henry Miller, of North Bend, a civil war veteran and an old resident of Coos Bay, died yesterday of heart trouble. He was 77 years old and in bad health for the past two years. He served as a member of the First U. S. sharpshooters during the war. He lived in Coos county for a quarter of a century.

Insurance Brokers Not Recognized in Oregon.

Salem, Or., Dec. 14—An agent within the meaning of the insurance laws of the state is one who receives an application, writes and delivers policies and collects the premium, according to a ruling rendered by Attorney General Brown. The laws of the state do not recognize what is known as a broker, he holds. The opinion sustains a ruling recently made by Insurance Commissioner Wells.

CUBA ASKS FOR HELP IN INCREASING ARMY

Wants United States to Sell Munitions and Training Ships For Cadets.

Washington, Dec. 14—The government of Cuba plans to increase its army, according to advices received here today. The government is said to have asked the United States to sell it arms and ammunition for the contemplated increase, and a training ship to be used by Cuban naval cadets. The requests have been referred to the war and navy departments.

The Total German Resources in Men.

Commenting on a characteristic German propaganda article in a neutral country, Belloc criticizes the statement that "the German Empire alone was prepared to put in the field a total of 12,000,000 men." It is generally agreed that a nation is able to mobilize about one tenth of its population; but Belloc admits that when the effort is extended to a second year and when a supreme effort is made and a few elements not quite desirable are introduced, you may just reach 12 per cent. Twelve millions of men for Germany, however, means over 17 per cent, and it would include children, elderly men, invalids, lunatics, cripples, blind and paralytics. The French General Staff have calculated as a maximum for the Germans somewhat over 8,000,000, this calculation being based upon the knowledge of what they can themselves do with a population at least as healthy.—Scientific American.

Losses of the British Merchant Marine.

Last month the British Admiralty gave out valuable statistics regarding the losses of merchant ships during the war. The number of British merchant ships sunk by submarines was 183, of which 93 were destroyed by torpedoes. In addition to these, 175 British fishing vessels were sunk. At the outbreak of the war, Great Britain possessed 11,023 ships—about 40 per cent of the world's shipping. Because the 2,845 merchant ships of the German and Austrian fleets had been destroyed or driven into port, the proportionate strength of the British merchant navy had been considerably larger than 40 per cent. Due to the activity in shipbuilding, the losses of the British merchant marine have been more than offset by its growth, the fleet being larger by 88 ships and 343,616 tons than it was when the war commenced.—Scientific American.

Held for Burglarizing Wilson

John O'Dowd, arrested for burglary of the Will H. Wilson store on Front street some days ago, had a preliminary hearing before Justice Glenn O. Taylor Monday morning and was held to the grand jury under bonds of \$500. O'Dowd claims that the goods found in his possession when arrested were sold him by another man, but neither the identity of the other man nor the facts of the alleged sale were established. The prisoner, who says he has a family in the state of Washington, has been working on the irrigation ditches in this vicinity during the fall. He says he was drunk at the time of his alleged association with "the other man" and doesn't remember much about the circumstances. He was taken to Jacksonville this morning to await the action of the grand jury. He is about forty years old.—Mail Tribune

Shipbuilders Strike Called Off

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 14—The strike of 150 shipbuilders and boiler makers who walked out at the plant of the Seattle Construction & Dry Dock company last Monday was called off at a meeting of the men last night. It was announced that a satisfactory agreement with the company had been reached but details of the settlement were not made public. The men demanded 5 cents an hour increase in pay ten hours pay for nine hours work on the drydocks and double time for overtime. They had been receiving from 35 to 45 cents an hour.

INDUSTRIAL REVIEW

Manufactures, Enterprises and Improvements Providing Payrolls and Promoting Development of Oregon

Eugene will have Caterpillar cars on streets.

Big shipbuilding is proposed at St. Helens capable of building steel boats.

Sumpter—Big merger plan for development of mining on gigantic scale proposed.

Burns promises \$125,000 if Strahorn road include that city.

Contract let to build Florence water system.

Hawley paper mills at Oregon city plan \$500,000 addition increasing capacity 60 per cent and employing 1000 hands.

Hood River has new industry, a roller mill.

Portland—Trains now run on new Oregon line from Baker's bridge to Milwaukie.

Bay City—Oregon Box & Lumber Co. has resumed.

St. Helens creamery now in operation.

Echo has let contract for \$10,000 city hall.

By a vote of 970 to 233 voters of Salem defeated an experimental pavement lien law against property.

Lebanon has shipped two carloads of Christmas trees to San Francisco.

Booth Kelly Co. is building new burner at Springfield.

Plans are under way to build new road cutting out Pioneer Hill on road to Newport.

Removal of old building preparatory to erection of new \$100,000 post office at Roseburg under way.

Woodmen of the World planning \$100,000 building in Portland.

Roseburg Catholic church will be remodeled at cost of \$3,000.

Southern Pacific Co. employs 1400 men in Portland with annual payroll of \$1,400,000.

Flaming mill in Eugene will manufacture baseball bats.

Powers has new school with 250 pupils enrolled.

Pendleton post office shows increase of 30 per cent.

Eugene cannery is shipping 15,600 cases of beets cabbage and carrots to U. S. Army, San Francisco.

It is estimated Oregon will spend \$4,000,000 on roads in 1916.

Warren Construction Co. is paying Riverside Drive at Pendleton.

Telegraph cable is being laid across Coos Bay.

Prussian Casualties Now Total 2,244,248.

Rotterdam, Dec. 14, via London.—Prussian casualty lists Nos. 380 to 389, according to the Rotterdamse Courant, contain the names of 65,340 killed, wounded and missing, making the total 2,244,248. This total is exclusive of the names of 237 Bavarians 310 Wurttembergians, 233 Saxons and the naval and Turkish lists, says one newspaper.

Little Boy is Killed in Barnyard By Rooster.

Ontario, Cal., Dec. 14—Injuries inflicted by a rooster several days ago upon John M. Seimon, two-year-old son of Harry Seimon, of Los Angeles, resulted in the child's death here last night. While at the home of grandparents the little fellow toddled into the barnyard where the rooster attacked him, driving his spurs deep into his scalp.

No Military Training in Los Angeles Schools.

Los Angeles, Dec. 14—By a vote of 4 to 3 the Los Angeles city board of education defeated last night a proposal to introduce military training in the high school. The board adopted the majority report of the teachers and school committee of the board which expressed opposition to the extension of the present system of physical training along the military lines suggested by the minority.

Xmas Shoppers

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Staple and fancy Groceries, Canned, Nuts, etc., all kinds of fresh vegetables.

Sweater coats and Mackinaws at less than half price.

Handkerchiefs, Towels, Gloves.

Drifted Snow Flour, the very best.

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