

# Mt. Scott Herald

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## PAVE FOSTER ROAD

### Influential Citizens United in the Belief that Some Way Ought to be Found Immediately to Pave this Important Highway

County Roadmaster John B. Yeon is anxious to have Foster Road paved, as a connecting link in the great state highways bringing the rural and city communities closer together. He expects to recommend to the County Commissioners to undertake this task.

District Attorney Evans is so much in sympathy with a move for the paving of Foster Road that he has volunteered to be spokesman for a delegation of Mt. Scott people before the County Commissioners.

Superintendent of Road Maintenance H. B. Chapman is of the opinion that the sewerage and drainage question is even greater than the paving question, and to make a job of it that would be permanent should be tackled first. Especially is this true of the district from 72nd St. to 52nd St.

A Representative of The Herald interviewed various County and City officials and local business men with reference to the project of somehow, by some means or other, immediately, if not sooner, hard surfacing the Foster Road. To be real honest about it, the task presents some considerable problems, if it were not so we would have been travelling over a hard-surface street long ago. It does not seem, however, as though they were by any means insurmountable.

"I am a firm believer that the main trunk highways are in a class by themselves, and should be dealt with differently to the average county roads," said John B. Yeon. "I would be willing to recommend to the County Commissioners that if they will use the present base, at least a portion of the Foster Road and a part of 82nd Street should be hard-surfaced in order to complete the missing link between the city and the rural districts served by the Foster Road. In any event I do not think the taxpayers should have to stand the whole cost of paving Foster Road. If it is put down to city grade and paved the County ought to stand for one half to two-thirds of the cost." When discussing the most feasible route to connect the country with the city Mr. Yeon recommended the route from 102nd Street to 82nd street on Foster Road, thence north on 82nd Street to Division, and then coupling up with the paving which is now laid on Division Street as far out as 60th Street. Mr. Yeon also intimated that he favored the paving of 82nd street clear from the Clackamas County line to make a connecting link from that direction.

"I believe I am safe in saying that the County will not levy a road tax this year," said District Attorney Walter H. Evans. This is on my advice, and the step will be taken to avoid the "Special County Road Tax Law passed by the last legislature. The money needed for road improvements will be taken out of the general fund, which will be unusually large for that purpose. The law is an unjust one and would virtually stop all work outside of the city limits, and it would not be possible to spend the 70 per cent of the Road Tax money on the county roads within the city limits." Mr. Evans could see no reason why Foster Road should not be paved, but he drew attention to the fact that the good roads almost always stopped just at the outside of the city limits of most towns, the country being better served than the cities.

"The paving of Foster Road is really a drainage and sewerage problem," said H. B. Chapman, Superintendent of Maintenance in the County Road Master's Office. "Especially is this true of the Anabel and Arleta district where the city side streets have been laid. Apparently they have been laid to drain towards Foster Road for in winter time the water stands in many places. Were Foster Road to be paved

either at its present level or at the city grade this condition would be made worse unless some plan were made for the disposal of the surface water." Asked if this applied equally to that part of Foster Road from 72nd street to 102nd street where no city improvements had yet been put in, Mr. Chapman thought not, especially as the natural drainage is good in the Lents district, although he referred to one or two places where the water sometimes stands at the side of Foster Road now, near 82nd street and in front of the Post Office.

"I have talked to the people around here," said J. Allen Harrison, president of the Mt. Scott Improvement Club, the business men's organization for the Anabel district, "and on account of the street car company's financial condition at the present time, and the low value of real estate, they are not favorable to going ahead with the paving at present. They are in favor of paving Foster Road, but realize that it is a complicated and expensive project for our district and feel that it will have to be put off for a little while yet, until times are better."

"We look at the question from a Safety First standpoint," said John R. Leach, Secretary of the Southeastern Portland Civic League, the Arleta Club. "There must have been at least fifteen people killed on the mile of street car track from Firland to Anabel, averaging probably from one to three a year. This arises from the lack of sidewalks which cannot be laid until Foster Road is reduced to city grade and paved. In the absence of such facilities people walk the car track, or wade in the mud on Foster Road. I think the County ought to pave the road, and am strongly in favor of enforcing the Special County Road Tax Law making provision for the expenditure of 70 per cent of the County Road money within the limits of incorporated cities. The outside points have had the big end of the stick long enough, it is time to let the cities have a little of the road money."

G. A. Morrison, of the G. A. Morrison Lumber Company, Tremont is strongly in favor of paving the road, but thinks it should be a curb to curb proposition, with the street car tracks in the center.

C. A. Norwood, of the Norwood Manufacturing Company situated on the Foster Road at Myrtle Park Station, wants a good job done if anything is undertaken. He, too, thinks it should be a curb to curb proposition with street car in the center, and believes that that will be the best means of attracting new residents to the district.

"How any taxpayer or resident of the Mount Scott district can consistently oppose the paving of Foster Road is a mystery to me" was the pertinent remark of F. E. Peterson, proprietor of the Lents Pharmacy, in discussing the proposed improvement.

"Every taxpayer in this district for blocks on either side of Foster Road will benefit directly from the improvement of the road. From purely selfish motives, therefore, every man, woman and child should boost this paving project."

"Paving Foster Road would give us stability of realty values. It would have influence in lowering insurance rates. It would make this district attractive as a residence section for the better class of highly paid working people. It would give us a foundation upon which to build a stable and promising prosperity."

"Not until Foster Road is paved will we ever experience any degree of prosperity. People are not going to come to the Mount Scott district to live so long as we cannot offer the same improvements as other sections offer, no matter how cheap our rents and our real estate are. People with children are not going to move into a district where their

babies will have to wade through mud five months in the year to get to school. They are not going to move into a locality where there is no main thoroughfare to the business section of the city.

"Without question, this district needs some big substantial development project," declared M. K. Hedge of the Lents Hardware Company.

"Personally I have always been in favor of the paving of Foster road," continued Mr. Hedge. "The cost of the improvement to any individual property owner within the district would not be worth considering when we take into consideration the tremendous advantages to be derived."

"There is no better barometer of a community than the local hardware dealer. When a community is prosperous, the hardware business is good and the hardware dealer likewise is the first man to feel any depression.

"So far this year there have been mighty few houses built in this section. This condition should not exist. The selling price of unimproved property is low in this section. Hundreds of mechanics are coming to Portland, or have come here, during the past year. These men are earning high wages and are naturally home owning people. The Mount Scott district should have been the natural location of this new element. We should have enjoyed an influx of new residents in this district. We should have had forty new houses to our credit for the summer season and we would have had a substantial development along these lines if we had the proper improvements to offer.

"Had Foster Road been paved last spring these people could have taken advantage of our low priced lots and acre tracts. They would have realized that this district offered them their opportunity of owning their own home and that property values would surely increase, making a double incentive for them to locate among us.

"The result would have been a healthy development and an influx of families into this community with a larger earning capacity. That would have meant better business for our firm and for every other merchant in this district. It would have meant stabilized realty values, a sounder and firmer condition for every resident in this section.

"Besides this purely selfish argument which can be advanced in favor of the paving of Foster Road there are innumerable reasons in favor of it from the broader community angle. It is not questioned by anyone that business always follows improved highways and it is quite evident that newcomers to Portland are not going to come to this district so long as we are behind other sections of the city in local improvements.

"We need and must have a paved road into the heart of the city. That is the first and most important local improvement which will take us a long way toward the prosperity which we deserve and will have when this plan is carried through."

### MENTAL CULTURE CLUB MEETS AT MRS. STONERS

The Mt. Scott Mental Culture Club met Thursday afternoon last with Mrs. George E. Stoner, 7411 50th Ave., for the study of Ibsen. The program included biography, by Mrs. E. J. Stephens; "Hedda Gabler," by Mrs. Frederic Armstrong; "Doll's House," by Mrs. Saylor Smith.

Members will meet with Mrs. Ray Armstrong, 7327 55th Ave. S. E. today for Red Cross work.

Mrs. Frank N. Dobbs, president, and Mrs. Frederic Armstrong, delegate, will attend the State Federation Convention at Prineville next week.

### The Truth.

When he dismissed her she had the audacity to ask for a recommendation. He wrote: "This young woman has been in my employ for a week and I am satisfied."

### SPECIAL COUNTY ROAD TAX AND RULING THEREON

Following is an extract from the Special County Road Tax Law passed in the 1917 Legislature which authorizes the expenditure of 70 per cent of the County Road money within the limits of incorporated towns. It is claimed by many that the districts outside of incorporated cities all over the state have been receiving more than their share of attention when it came to road work, and this law is designed to remedy this condition and give the cities a chance to get good roads too. Too many good roads quit at the outside edge of town. Others claim that this law is extreme and would work a hardship on the rural districts and could not possibly be really lived up to by the towns—they would have more money to spend than they would know what to do with.

"The County Court may levy a tax of not to exceed ten mills on the dollar on all taxable property of such county at the time of making the annual tax levy, which shall be set apart in the County Treasury as a general road fund—Said tax when so collected shall be used for road purposes only, as provided in this act, and seventy per cent thereof shall be apportioned to the several road districts including districts composed of incorporated cities and towns, in such proportion as the amount of taxable property in each district shall bear to the whole amount of taxable property in the county, and the remaining thirty per cent shall be applied to roads in such locality in the county as the Court may direct." (Laws 1917, Chap. 299, Sec. 24, P. 620.)

District Attorney Evans in reply to a letter from the Commissioners asking what course was open for them since the passage of the above law stated in part:

"That section was construed by the Supreme Court in the case of Kime vs. Thompson and it was there held that while the word 'may' when referring to a ministerial public duty is often construed as 'shall' or 'must,' the ordinary import of the word is directory—and that it therefore rested within the discretion of the county court to make or not to make the levy provided for. In the case of Roney vs. Lane the Court said in part, 'The districts throughout the county, including cities and towns, get 70 per cent whether needed or not. The County has only 30 per cent and is restricted in its disbursement. The thickly populated centres would have money to waste while the outlying highways would become impassable for want of means to repair them.' In conclusion Mr. Evans says, 'I am, therefore, of the opinion that by virtue of the provisions of Section 937 L. O. L. and Section 2 of Chapter 295 of the 1917 Session Laws, money raised for the county general fund may be expended for use upon the county roads and be apportioned for that purpose among the different localities in the county, in such manner and in such amounts as the Board of County Commissioners in the exercise of its own discretion may direct."

Applying the above to the paving of Foster Road, and summing up the findings, we find that if this law were adhered to the County would have abundant funds to hard-surface not only Foster Road, but probably many other county roads within the city limits of Portland, and that in order to avoid such a contingency District Attorney Evans advises the County Commission to make no Road Tax Levy, but to draw on the general fund for such road money as they see fit to spend.

### He Got the Answer.

School Teacher (to little boy) "If a farmer raises 1,700 bushels of wheat and sells it for \$1.17 a bushel what will he get?" Little Boy, "Automobile."

### NEWSITEMS FROM DOWN THE LINE

#### Chronicle of Weekly Events in Arleta and Kern Park Varied and Full of Interesting Doings.

Mrs. G. E. Reed, of Woodmere, returned home from Hood River Saturday afternoon.

Miss Olive Reed gave a very pleasant surprise in honor of her brother, Robin on Saturday evening last, at their home on 78th St. in Woodmere.

The little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Zehring, who has been very ill for some time with pneumonia, is improving, to the great joy of her many friends.

Mr. Geo. Merry returned Monday evening from Madras, Ore., where he has been working for the past two months.

Merle Fleiser, a one-time pupil of Franklin High, left for France Monday.

The Ladies' Gym class, of Arleta will meet every Tuesday evening at 8:00 o'clock in the assembly hall of Arleta school. All ladies of the community are invited to come and join the class.

Mr. A. L. Dundas spoke at Lucky Cottage, Arleta, last Friday afternoon in the interests of the Liberty Bond issue. The meeting was arranged under the auspices of the Lady Macabees and was well attended.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Prentice expect to leave Oregon the first of the month for Colorado, where they expect to reside permanently. Mrs. Prentice's mother, Mrs. Langheld, who has been visiting here for some time preceding them, having left the 17th.

Mrs. Frank Doeelman is still somewhere in the Hood River district apple sorting, as are several others of this vicinity.

Miss Gertrude Taylor, who has been having serious difficulty with her eyes, is recovering slowly. She has been unable to work for two or three months.

Mr. Wm. Woodham, of 4624 67th St. S. E. was happily surprised Wednesday evening on his return from a business meeting to find about 25 of his friends in charge of his home, the object of the gathering being the celebration of his 61st birthday. A very pleasant evening was spent in games and music. Dainty refreshments were served. Mrs. S. I. Payne was in charge of the games and Mrs. Loehr and Mrs. Thos. Lockwood presided at the punch bowl. The following were present: Rev. and Mrs. W. G. Handley, Rev. and Mrs. W. T. S. Spriggs, Dr. and Mrs. W. D. Lockwood, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Howard, Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Payne, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Mission, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Lockwood, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Loehr, C. A. Alvord, Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Brasure, Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Henika, Dr. and Mrs. W. O. Boon, Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Barnett.

### Students Celebrate Halloween

A very pleasant evening was spent by a company of Franklin High School students at a Halloween party given Saturday the 20th inst. at the home of Mrs. R. D. Rennie, 308 E. 38th St. The evening was spent in dancing and games after which refreshments were served.

Those present were, Mable Louther, Esther Louther, Marion Wheeler, Constance Cole, Luella Hausler, Vera Prudhomme, Ollie Benedict, Lucile Peake, Lou Jenkins, Hyacinth Westbrook, Gladys Westbrook, Lucile Marsh, Mildred Wehoffer, Julian Creighton, Ethel Johnson, Dorothy Smith, Nellie Fullerton, Miss Poulsen, Margurite Wheeler, Chester Rich, Cecil Jones, Will McCormack, Raymond McMann, Floyd Hubbard, Ray Haislip, Fred Kelly, Harold Duneau, Edwin Honey, Roswell Peake, Merle Fisher and Harris Morrell. The prizes for the best costume were won by Ethel Johnson and Roswell Peake.

### BIG BOOSTER BANQUET FINE FREE FEED

Lents Improvement Club Has Arranged Get-Together Banquet For Monday October 29.



FRANK M. McCRILLES, Speaker. Every man or woman engaged in business in the Lents District—say from Tremont to Lents Junction, and out into the country points adjacent, and every property owner who is interested in the industrial and commercial prosperity of the Lents District as a trading centre are hereby, by authority of the Lents Improvement Club, invited to a big free feed on Monday, evening next, October 29th at 6:30 p. m. in the Oddfellows' Hall. Wm. S. Worden, better known to Oregonians as Judge Worden of Klamath Falls will act as toastmaster.

Covers will be set for 100 people, and inasmuch as there are more than 100 business people alone it will be necessary to phone in reservations by Saturday night, if possible, to the Secretary, Mr. Fox. His office phone is Tabor 7824, D. 61-1111, and his residence Tabor 6037. Places will be reserved for the first 100 people who comply with the description given above and send in their requests for reservations.

The object of the Banquet is to draw the business life of the community closer together in ties of fellowship, discuss some of the greatest needs of our community to ensure its going ahead in the right way, and the chief attraction will be a rousing speech by Frank McCrilles, the Town Specialist for the Portland Chamber of Commerce. Ladies are not only invited, but are urgently requested to be present.

Supper will be served by a few ladies who have kindly volunteered their services, and the food is provided by the business men of the community.

Monday' Oct. 29th 6:30 p. m. Phone reservations.

### Lents Honor Roll to Liberty Bonds.

Franklin G. Fisher	Wendell L. Miller
Ida R. Foster	Mary McG. Bloyd
W. E. Wester	O. A. Hess
L. M. Quinn	Allen T. Gribble
Wm. G. Clark	Stella E. Smith
Frances E. Smith	Chas. E. Tronson
Chas. E. Barber	John S. Howe
Mult. State Bank	Jos. W. Copeland
Maymie B. Hogue	Ruth H. Lent
Magdalena Morterud	J. E. Updyke
Fred E. Hogue	L. D. Graham
Alex Peterson	Donald Updyke
P. J. O'Donnell	R. E. Lovelace
Maud Thebo	Fern Thebo
Emanuel Thebo	Art Thebo
Robt. Abram	Chas. R. Hunter
Owen T. Stillians	Mila J. Boardman
P. A. Kennedy	Warren H. Sweet
Ralph Stuns	Marrin K. Hedge
Mrs. C. P. McGrew	Arthur Geisler
Frederic Armstrong	Hiram O. Hickox
Archie A. Johnston	James W. Fetty
Julia A. Sec t	Evelyn Hyland
Barbara Woodard	Chas. B. Edwards
Myron E. Clark	Lester Clark
David Nelson	Jerome Katzky
Arthur Katzky	Carl S. Osgbury
Geo. F. Reynolds	Susan C. Bryant
L. C. Fullen	Herbert Peterson
Lents Lodge No. 156 A. F. & A. M.	
Mt. Scott Chapter No. 110 O. E. S.	

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