

PAY IS HELD UP

Is Contract for Bridge Extras Legal?

HOWELL RAISES QUESTION

Executive Board Refers It to City Attorney.

SPECIAL SESSION: IS HELD

City Engineer's Report Advises Payment of \$58,000 Instead of Contract Price of \$66,626 for Morrison Bridge Extras.

An extraordinary session of the Executive Board was called yesterday to consider the advisability of remunerating the Pacific Construction Company to the extent of \$58,000 for construction of the Morrison-street bridge. After a heated debate, the legality of the payment was submitted to the City Attorney for an opinion.

A motion was made that the City Engineer's report on the Morrison-street bridge, advising the payment of \$58,000 to the Pacific Construction Company, be adopted. Mr. Howell arose, saying:

"When the matter of the extra work on the Morrison-street bridge came up for discussion I advised a communication to the Board in which I made the statement that an excessive price had been allowed on extra work and on the substitution of steel for wood stringers. I made this statement after a very careful investigation of the bridge in company with a civil engineer of no mean ability. I believe that the city has entered into a legal contract for this extra work. I am opposed to this resolution and I will vote against it, as I stated in my communication of December 22. I would like to have this matter referred to the City Attorney for his opinion as to the legality of the contract. If the contract was made according to the charter, the contractors should not be allowed more than a 15 per cent profit on the work. I desire to take this opportunity of publicly stating that I have not been actuated by a desire to belittle my colleagues, but to consider the interests of the city in every particular. For that reason I would like to have the matter referred to the City Attorney."

Mayor Confident of Legality.

"As far as I am concerned," said Mayor Williams, "I have no doubt as to the legality of the contract. We have made a contract with the bridge company and I see no reason for delaying this payment. If we do not pay the money, we have been misinformed, and I don't see how we can back out of a contract any more than a private individual. Mr. Butler has submitted a statement regarding the extra expenditures, and, as far as I can see, the statement is correct. I don't approve of this policy of having men do work for the city and then come back and ask for pay. I don't believe there is any necessity for referring this matter to the City Attorney."

"I wish to explain my position," averred Mr. Curtis. "I have no desire to hold up this payment, but I do not feel that I should vote on it without a legal opinion, and for that reason I have seconded Mr. Howell's motion. I am not prepared to vote upon it now."

"If you had any such idea in mind, Mr. Howell," said Mr. Gilson, "why didn't you make it when the matter first came up last week or waiting until \$50,000 worth of work had been done?"

"I presented my communication to the Board in what I believed to be ample time," answered Mr. Howell. "Furthermore, I stated to a member of the Morrison-street bridge committee that when the committee next met I should like to be present, so as to state my attitude specifically. The first intimation I had of the meeting was when I read of it in the papers. I feel that I should have been advised of the meeting, and if I had, I should have been there."

"Considering that you presented your communication to the Board without consulting the committee, we felt that you would not care to attend our meeting," replied Mr. Gilson.

"I was actuated, as I have said before, by a desire to act for the city's interests and not to overstep the members of this Board," as Mr. Butler has indicated in his letter. Competent engineers have agreed that an excessive price has been paid for the extra on this bridge. I would like the matter referred to the City Attorney."

City Attorney to Give Opinion.

After considerable discussion it was ordered that City Attorney McNary submit his opinion as to the legality of the contract and procedure without unnecessary delay. A special meeting of the Board will be called to receive his communication.

To facilitate matters, the correspondence between City Attorney McNary and Francis J. Heney with reference to the Morrison-street bridge channel was taken under consideration.

"Referring to this communication of the General Government," said Mayor Williams, "I think that the Government has nothing to do with the dredging of the harbor of Portland. I would suggest, however, that the Executive Board advise the Government that we will do the work if it will give us time. I understand that this will be satisfactory to the Government."

"Does that communication refer to the 25-foot channel of the Morrison-street bridge?" asked Mr. Howell. "It has nothing to do with it, as I understand it. This is for dredging above the bridge," answered Mayor Williams.

"I was asking for information," said Mr. Howell. "According to the contract the Pacific Construction Company agreed to dredge a 25-foot channel. It is not for the city or the county to dredge this channel."

"You understand, Mr. Howell," chimed in Whitney L. Boise, "that the draw was moved to the eastward and a new channel is in use. This has nothing whatever to do with the old channel."

"This correspondence does refer to the Morrison-street bridge channel," said the City Attorney.

"When the Secretary of War granted the permit for the construction of this bridge he specified that a 25-foot channel should be maintained. I understand that if we will communicate with Major Langfitt and assure him that the work will be done it may be satisfactory."

"I don't propose to recognize that the General Government shall tell the State of Oregon what to do with its own harbor," said Mayor Williams emphatically.

City Needs Time to Dredge.

The City Attorney was directed to advise Mr. Heney that the work would be

done when convenient; that there was no inclination on the part of the city to get out of doing the work, but that it needed more time.

The Civil Service Commission was authorized to make requisitions from the eligible lists without formally consulting the Executive Board, as has been the custom heretofore. When made the requisitions will be referred to the Board for approval.

SALARY INCREASED BY \$1000

City Superintendent of Schools Receives an Early Valentine.

It was divulged yesterday that the salary of City Superintendent of Schools Frank Rigler had been increased \$1000 by the Board of Education in its executive session February 2. Following the usual custom, all but members of the board were excluded from this meeting and it was only after considerable persuasion that members of the board would admit of any business having been done but the consideration of the committee's report for the general increase of salaries.

When asked to make a statement concerning the action of the board, Mrs. Charles E. Sitton, chairman, said last night:

"I have nothing to say," Superintendent Rigler stated. "The increase came to me as an agreeable surprise and was entirely unlooked for. At the last meeting of the board the matter of increasing the salaries of teachers was referred to the salary committee. A special meeting of the board was then called to take the committee's report under consideration. While this occupied the question as to whether or not my salary was sufficient came up. I had supposed of course that the board might take some action concerning my salary. It was known that it was not as large as the salaries of the Superintendents of Seattle or Los Angeles, but I made no request to have mine increased. However, I withdrew from the room, and I understand that the board was unanimous in increasing my salary."

A final report of the committee on salaries has been filed with the school clerk. It is materially the same as the original report with the exception of the clause providing a special salary for the first assistants to school principals. In all other respects the committee recommended the new schedule excluding the merit list salaries will go into effect during this month. Mr. Rigler's increase of salary took effect February 1.

YOUNG GIRLS DESERT HOMES

Several Reports of Runaway Misses Made to the Police.

For a number of days past several reports of missing girls have found their way to the office of the Chief of Police, but in most of the cases the young women have returned early the following morning, before any trace of them could be found by the officers.

There are a number, however, who have managed to evade the vigilance of both officers and their relatives and last night the guardians of the peace were instructed to keep watch for two girls answering to the name of Blanche and Myrtle Davis, being 13 and 14 years of age respectively. The girls reside at Mount Tabor and the eldest has been away for several days. They are described as being rather large for their age and possessing auburn hair. Both were wearing red hats which had been seen and one had a red coat to match, while the other wore a suit of gray.

From the town of La Center comes the report of the disappearance of Miss Carris Barr, 15 years of age. Deputy Constable James Pollock, of that town, arrived in Portland last night and requested the assistance of the local police force in finding the girl. A minute description of the runaway is on file at the Police Station, but, beyond the fact that she wore a light blue suit when last seen, there is little to identify her from it. She is supposed to have left La Center with a man giving the name of Harry Artross, an alleged pugilist, but, according to the belief of Deputy Constable Pollock, the man has left this city for the Puget Sound country, deserting the girl here.

NEW THEATER FOR PORTLAND

Minneapolis Man to Include This in Circuit of Seven Cities.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Feb. 9.—(Special.)—According to the present plans of Dick Ferris, lessee and manager of the Lyceum Theater of Minneapolis, Portland will be a member of a circuit of seven theaters which this enterprising young man and his backers will organize. Minneapolis, St. Paul, Kansas City, Des Moines, Seattle and Winnipeg are the other cities of the proposed circuit.

It is the intention of the syndicate to either lease or build a theater in each of the cities and present attractions daily by seven stock companies. Each company will remain in one city for two or three weeks, playing the selections in its repertoire, and will then change places with another of the troupes.

It is the intention of Mr. Ferris and his associates to begin active work with the completion of his present season here.

WILL BUY OREGON TIMBER LAND

Evanston Capitalists Coming to Invest in Cascade Mountains.

CHICAGO, Feb. 9.—(Special.)—Wealthy Evanston capitalists have turned their thought from oil wells and mines and are seeking investments in the timber lands of Oregon. General W. F. Singleton has organized a party of about 40, and a trip to Oregon will be made some time in the Spring.

The claims are on the Cascade Mountains, about 40 miles from any railroad, and are said to be rich in timber. It is the intention of General Singleton and the speculators to get the claims as nearly together as possible, in order to protect themselves from timber thieves.

Hares for Saturday's Chase.

Messrs. R. H. Jenkins and T. T. Straub will be the hare in the closed paper chase which will be held by the Portland Hunt Club on Saturday afternoon. The start will be made back of the Thompson School, Upper Albina, at 2:30 P. M. The second round for the Miss Anne Shogren cup will be held on Washington's birthday, February 22. The hares of this event will be President F. Q. Downing and J. C. Muehe. There are to be three runs for this cup and at the last run the rider having the greatest number of points will become owner of the trophy. The first race was won by Mr. Tongue, on Oregon Kid.

To Celebrate Birth of Emmet.

The local members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians are busily making preparations to celebrate the anniversary of the birthday of Robert Emmet, the illustrious Irish patriot. The event will take the form of an elaborate entertainment, to be given on the night of March 4.

Mount Rainier.

TACOMA, Wash., Feb. 8.—(To the Editor.)—Was Professor McClure, of Eugene, Or., killed on Mount Rainier or Mount Baker? J. T. RIELLY.

The Meier & Frank Store The Meier & Frank Store The Meier & Frank Store

Thousands of pretty valentines for your choosing here, the largest and best display we ever made—New books appropriate for valentines, book dept'. Principal Portland agents for Butterick Patterns and Publications—Subscriptions taken for The Delineator at \$1 per annum—March number now ready We sell "Peninsular" Steel Ranges and "Willamette" Sewing Machines on the easy payment plan—\$5.00 down, \$1.00 weekly—No advance in prices

Today Our 791st Friday Surprise Sale \$12.50 Silk Petticoats \$5.95 Ea.



MADE OF SUPERIOR QUALITY TAFFETA SILKS, White, Black, Red, Tan, Navy, Brown, Cadet, Purple, Helio, Green, and Changeable Effects

Today's Great Surprise Sale offering of 500 Silk Petticoats—A special purchase from a leading manufacturer at less than half their real value—All are new, desirable petticoats in a complete range of plain and changeable colors, made with handsome deep accordion pleating and double row of ruching and silk dust ruffle—You've bought thousands of these skirts the past few years and cheerfully paid \$12.50 each for them—All are new spring stock—You certainly want one or two of these beautiful skirts for wear with the new Spring costume—The grandest petticoat value ever offered at the phenomenally low price of, each \$5.95

See Fifth-Street Window Display

Sale of Boy's Clothing

We're giving our Boy's Clothing Department a thorough stock cleaning—Closing out all broken lines and small lots at prices economical parents will be quick to take advantage of—Second Floor

- Boys' all-wool Pants, in good, serviceable mixtures, ages 3 to 16 years; best 85c and \$1.00 values, are on sale at the low price of, pair..... **55c**
- Little Boys' Overcoats in dark blue and red; this season's styles; regular \$8.50 values, are on sale at the low price of..... **\$6.15**
- Great special lot of Boys' Knee Pants, all sizes, wonderful values at, pair..... **42c**
- All broken lines of Boys' Suits are marked at ridiculously low Rummage prices. Boys' \$7.50 Suits, \$5.95; Boys' \$5.00 Suits, each..... **\$3.95**
- Young Men's Suits in fancy Tweeds and Cheviots, ages 16 to 20 years; best \$15.00 values, at the low price of..... **\$10.15**
- Young Men's Overcoats at low prices.



Rummage Sale Bargains in Every Department

The great "Rummage Sale" bargains present matchless money-saving opportunities in every department of the establishment—Broken lines, remnants odds and ends of seasonable and staple merchandise are being cleaned up at quickest selling prices we can make—Every hour of the day sees new lots, rare bargains being added to the already huge list—Included will be found remnants of Silks, Dress Goods, Velvets, Laces, Embroideries, Wash Goods, Linens, Cottons, Ribbons, Curtain Materials, Carpets, Mattings, Broken Lines of Cloaks, Suits, Jackets, Muslin Underwear, Hosiery, Gloves, Men's and Boy's Clothing, Men's Furnishings, Lace Curtains, Portieres, Shoes, China, Glassware, Silverware, Cut Glass, Cutlery, Kitchen Goods, Etc. Wearing Apparel and Household Effects can be purchased at marvelously low prices—Look for the Red Tickets.

35c Oranges 18c a Dozen

For today and tomorrow we offer 3000 dozen big, sweet California Navel Oranges, new crop; the size and quality Orange the ordinary grocer asks you 35c a dozen for; every housewife in town should get a dozen or two at this low price, doz. ... **18c** By the case, 10 1/2 dozen, **\$1.75.**

New Silk Shirtwaist Suits

Early February finds us showing a superb line of handsome new silk shirtwaist suits in plain blouse and fancy vest effects, shirred or new leg o'mutton sleeve, new full skirts pleated, tucked or shirred—Navy, black, brown, changeable silks and plaids—Every suit the latest product for Spring and Summer wear. Prices are \$12.50, \$18.00, \$20.00, \$22.50, \$28.00, \$30.00, \$36.00. New short, tight-fitting covert jackets in plain or cloth-strapped effects, jaunty, stylish, serviceable little garments at \$15 to \$30 each. New black etamine dress skirts with silk drop skirts—2d Floor—No trouble to show you



The Great Shoe Rummage



Thousands of pairs of the finest shoes America produces for men and women are being sold at less than actual manufacturing cost—French, Shiner & Urner and J. & T. Cousins make—Footwear that we guarantee perfect in style, fit and workmanship—Footwear that will give satisfactory service to the buyer—Supply your needs

- J. & T. Cousins' \$6 Shoes for Women, French heel, lace, patent leather, all sizes; wonderful value, at, pair..... **\$4.45**
- J. & T. Cousins' \$5 Shoes for Women, patent leather and kid, French heel, Cuban heel, very best lasts, great bargain at the low price of only, pair..... **\$3.65**
- Women's \$3.50 Shoes, in kid and patent leather, lace or Blucher styles, all sizes and widths at, pair..... **\$2.85**
- Men's \$6, \$6.50 Shoes, French, Shiner & Urner's make, in patent calf, patent calf, viei kid Blucher, finest shoes made at any price; marvelous values at, pair..... **\$4.45**
- Men's \$5 Shoes, French, Shiner & Urner's make, in patent calf, patent kid, velour and viei kid, lace or Blucher style—marvelous values at this low price, pair..... **\$3.65**
- Men's \$4.00 Shoes, in all leathers, best styles, pair..... **\$3.35**
- Men's \$3.50 Shoes, in all leathers, best styles, pair..... **\$2.85**
- Men's \$3.00 Shoes, in all leathers, best styles, pair..... **\$2.35**

SCREENS AT 1-3 OFF

For today and tomorrow 100 3 and 4-Fold Screens, golden oak and weathered oak frames, silkline, burlap or art tapestry filled; handsome styles in a big variety; values from \$2.75 up to \$15.00, choose **1/3 Off** Custom Shade and Drapery Work our specialty. Best materials and workmanship. Lowest prices guaranteed. Third Floor.

Rummage Sale of Rugs

Odd Borders and Carpets, made up into Rugs, \$30.00 Axminster Rug, 8 ft. 3 in. by 10 ft. 4 in., for **\$17.00** \$35.00 Axminster Rug, 10 ft. 6 in. by 12 ft., wonderful value..... **\$18.50** \$25.00 Body Brussels Rug, 8 ft. 4 in. by 8 ft. 7 in., great value..... **\$14.00** \$27.50 Windsor Brussels Rug, 8 ft. 3 in. by 12 ft., bargain..... **\$16.50** \$29.00 Brussels Rug, 10 ft. 5 in. by 12 ft. 9 in., marvelous value..... **\$18.50** Various other sizes and qualities at extremely low prices. Third Floor.

"Rummage Sale" Men's Clothing

Our Second Floor Clothing Store is giving two or three dollars worth of value for one during the Rummage Sale—Winter suits and Overcoats, broken lines, odd lots—Everything marked at clean-up prices—Many of the lots include garments desirable for Spring, Summer wear

- Men's double-breasted Tweed Suits, good patterns and material; phenomenal value at, suit..... **\$4.98**
 - Men's \$13.50 double-breasted Cheviot and Cassimere Suits, this season's styles; unequalled values at this price, suit..... **\$7.85**
 - Men's \$15.00 round-cut Sack Suits, fancy Cheviots and Tweeds, greatest value ever offered at..... **\$10.15**
 - Men's \$15.00 round-cut fine all-wool Sack Suits, in black..... **\$10.35**
 - Worsted, all sizes; marvelous value..... **\$2.98**
 - Men's \$4.00 blue and black Trousers..... **\$2.35**
 - Men's \$7.50 odd Frock Coats, good materials..... **\$1.00**
 - Men's \$2.00 Cassimere Vests at, each..... **\$1.00**
- Odd White Vests in single and double-breasted styles are marked at one-half price. Second Floor.



Muslin Underwear at Rummage Prices

Thousands of pieces of undermuslins at "Rummage" prices—All broken lines resulting from the great January selling, are being offered at the lowest prices ever known for muslin underwear of the best style and quality—All lots are conveniently displayed in the center aisle of underwear section—Second Floor.

Great special lots of Nainsook and Cambrie Drawers, lace and embroidery trimmed; wide flounces; wonderful values at **33c, 59c, 79c, 98c, \$1.59** pair. Odd lots of Cambrie and Muslin Night Robes, best styles and trimmings, great Rummage bargains at **63c, 73c, 89c, \$1.19, \$1.35** up to **\$2.22** each. White Petticoat Bargains at **79c, \$1.23, \$1.63, \$1.98, \$2.43** each. Odd lot of Novelty Corset Covers, Drawers, Chemise, Gowns and Skirts; daintiest styles; all marked at cost prices. Entire stock of French Muslin Underwear at one-fourth of regular prices.



Trunks and Traveling Bags

- 34-inch Trunk, waterproof painted, rawhide bound, hardwood strips, top and bottom skeleton trays, top tray has division for hats—our best \$15 model..... **\$11.95**
 - 24-inch Keratol Suitcase, with inside straps, looks like alligator, great special value at the low price of..... **\$2.45**
 - 14-inch Club Bag, full stock, canvas lined, with pocket, regular \$2.25 value, for this sale..... **\$1.80**
 - 14-inch Oilcloth Club Bag, linen lined..... **46c**
- Carload of New Trunks just received—Wardrobe Trunks, Skirt Trunks, Steamer Trunks, Dress Trunks, etc., etc.—very latest improved models. Third Floor.

Two Great Millinery Bargains

For today and tomorrow the greatest Millinery bargains Portland women ever had the opportunity to buy—Lot 1—Women's Trimmed Hats, every one good style, all this season's creations in a variety of styles, \$5.95 and \$6.95 values, each..... **98c** Lot 2—Children's Trimmed Hats, values up to \$2.95 each, **49c** on sale at, each..... **49c** New Spring Millinery, latest shapes of fancy braids and silk; all colors new white flannel Sailor Hats for boys and girls.



New Silk Auto Caps for women and misses.

Men's Furnishings

- Men's white cotton Handkerchiefs, great value, each..... **3c**
- Men's light-weight Balbriggan Sox, odd lot, pair..... **3c**
- 25c Silk Bandboxes, each..... **5c**
- Boys' fleecy-lined Kid Gloves, knit back and wrist, pr. **15c**
- Special lot of Silk Handkerchiefs, at, each..... **9c**
- 25c Silk Four-in-Hands and Teeks, best patterns, ea. **9c**
- \$1 Golf Shirts at, each..... **52c**
- Engineers' Blue Shirts, 2 collars to match, \$1.00 values, each..... **69c**
- \$1 Neckwear for, each..... **39c**
- \$1.25 Fancy Sox at, pr. **69c**

Toilet Papers

- 600-sheet package, 4c dozen..... **45c**
 - 800-sheet package, 6c dozen..... **60c**
 - 1200-sheet package, 8c dozen..... **80c**
- Special low prices on Toilet Paper by the case.

Drug Sundries

- 2-lb. bar pure Castile Soap..... **16c**
- 1-lb. bars Almond Oil Castile..... **57c**
- 1-lb. Castile Soap, cake..... **4c**
- Pure Olive Castile Soap, box..... **15c**
- Jap. Pine Tar Soap, box..... **15c**
- Witch Hazel Soap, cake..... **11c**
- 3-inch bar pure Glycerine..... **7c**
- Fairy Soap "Hi Floats" dozen..... **25c**
- Rubber Complexion Brushes..... **10c**
- Widom's Robertine..... **29c**
- Oriental Cream..... **97c**
- Mennen's Talcum Powder..... **12c**
- Listerine Tooth Powder..... **10c**
- Rubifoon, bottle..... **13c**
- Soadont, bottle..... **13c**
- Williams' Shaving Sticks..... **19c**
- Java Rice Powder..... **21c**