

AUDITORIUM SITE PERPLEXES BOARD

Market Block Favored but Law Prohibits Street-Vacation at That Point.

LEASE MAY BE ACQUIRED

Space 200 by 300 Required, Arcade Might Solve Problem—East Side Hints at Offering Ground for Hall — Advice Sought.

Two important details in their preliminary work are receiving consideration by the members of the Public Auditorium Commission. These are selection of a site and the employment of an advisory architect to suit its needs. It has been determined that an ordinary city block—200x100 feet—is not large enough to accommodate the kind of building that Portland needs and one that will be worthy of the general character and surroundings of the city. While the commission has not yet come on record on the question of site all its members are strongly in favor of the Market block, bounded by Clay, Second, Market and Third streets, already owned by the city and unoccupied. However, in this selection, they face the perplexity of too limited an area. They estimate that the building should occupy at least 100,000 feet of the site.

The situation at the Market block could be overcome by the vacation of one of the adjoining streets, but the charter amending provisions of last election, prohibiting the vacation of any streets within 200 feet from either bank of the river, stands in the way.

However, there is a saving clause in the measure of which the commission may take advantage. This provides that the city, through its Executive Board or through the successors of the Executive Board may lease streets or parts of streets for approved purposes for a term of five years.

It is deemed probable that the present Executive Board would vote to vacate property abutting the Market block, whereupon the Commission would be able to purchase property on the adjoining block to suit its needs. The funds available for the entire project will not permit, however, for the payment of a great sum for a site.

It has been suggested, also, that the Commission build an arcade over one of the streets and use the Market block for the main auditorium and property on the half block connected by the arcade for committee rooms, concert hall and other purposes that it is intended to incorporate into the general auditorium plan.

Gift of Site Intimated.

At the last meeting a delegation of East Side business men urged the selection of a site on the east side of the river. It was hinted that a plot of ground suitable in every way for auditorium purposes might be presented to the Commission. This will receive consideration.

Smaller Rooms Provided.

That the property in the vicinity of the proposed municipal building will become attractive is evidenced by the general plans favored by the Commission. It is proposed to provide for a number of storerooms and for a number of small assembly halls where minor meetings may be held, thus creating a center of constant activity there.

It is the desire to have the building ready for occupancy when the Elks hold their National convention here next July. Even if it is not finished, the hall likely will be turned over to the Elks for the occasion and they will be given the privilege of dedicating it to the formal use of the city. It was on the promise that every effort would be made to have it ready by next July that the Elks were urged to come here. The Commission is endeavoring to fulfill this promise and has hopes that it will accomplish this end.

Y. M. C. A. OUTING PLANNED

Boy Members and Non-Members to Make Bonneville Trip.

One of the most enjoyable outings of the present summer promises to be the boys' camping trip to Bonneville, being arranged by the Portland Young Men's Christian Association. Names of those who will take this trip are being listed at the Y. M. C. A. They include both members and non-members, as the only regulation is that the boys must be between the ages of 12 and 15 years inclusive.

J. C. Mehan, assistant boys' secretary, will lead the party and the trip will be made on the association launch. A limit of 15 has been put on the number of boys who may be accommodated, but it is desired to sign that many if possible. The camp may be pitched in the Bonneville picnic grounds, but it is probable a more secluded spot will be selected.

The party will leave Portland early on the morning of August 3. The launch will remain at the camp to be used for side trips. The plans include excursions to Cascade Locks, Castle Rock, Multnomah Falls, Horsefall Falls, Oneonta Gorge, Pulpit Rock and other points of interest.

There will be good fishing and hunting. A 25-minute period every morning will be devoted to Bible study, and every night a campfire will be built, around which there will be singing, story-telling and "stunts."

Swimmer Is Drowned.

RAYMOND, Wash. July 18.—(Special.)—Amon Romann, 23 years old, a native of Austria, was drowned in the Willapa River at Willapa last night. Romann was an employe in the track department of the Pacific & Eastern Railway. Together with other employes, he went swimming in the Willapa and sank while in deep water.

ENGINEER AND CITY COUNCILMEN INSPECT CONSTRUCTION WORK ON BROADWAY BRIDGE.



PARTY INSPECTING BROADWAY BRIDGE.



RALPH MODJESKI, ENGINEER OF BROADWAY BRIDGE.

COUNCILMAN MENEFFEE STARTING DOWN THE TUBE.

FIRE DANGER GROWS

Dry Weather Is Menace to Forests, Says Expert.

SEASON'S LOSS CURTAILED

Precautionary Measures by Men in Forest Service Saves Millions in Timber — Careless Campers Advised.

With the Summer season well advanced, only two forest fires, both of minor consequence, have occurred in Oregon this season. One of these fires was in Wasco County and the other in Washington County, but in both instances firefighters connected with the forest service were promptly dispatched with the result that both fires were under control before extensive damage resulted.

"Prior to the rains early in July there were several small slashing fires," said C. S. Chapman, of the Oregon Forest Fire Association, yesterday, "but they did little damage. In the Coast sections the timber is still pretty damp as a result of those showers."

"However, the forests are drying out thoroughly and in another ten days there will be constant danger of fires. Many firefighters in field.

"Five hundred men are now employed looking out for forest fires throughout the state. This is a big increase in the number of men that were similarly employed last year. These firefighters are in the employ of the Government, private interests and the state. They are under the direction of F. A. Elliott, State Forester, and are deputized by him with the full authority vested in him by the law enacted by the last session of the State Legislature, which appropriated \$40,000 to be expended in the next two years in protecting the forests of the state."

"The closed season, when no fires can be started in the timbered areas without a permit, went into effect June 1 and will continue until October 1. Permits can be issued only by deputized wardens attached to the office of State Forester. Wardens throughout the state report that an unusually large number of campers are now going into the forests of the state. These people are being warned against starting fires and leaving them unattended. Therein lies the danger of great loss of timber.

Camping Parties Warned.

"With the proper co-operation of the people of the state, particularly campers, in taking every precaution against starting fires, there is no question but that the loss to the state from forest fires this year will be kept at a minimum. The record thus far this season has been most satisfactory, far ahead of that of any other year in several seasons. With the desired co-operation we are seeking, this record will be maintained."

RIVER DEPTHS SEEN

Engineer Modjeski, Councilman and Others in Caisson.

BRIDGE WORK INSPECTED

Four Men Go Down 45 Feet to View Progress of Broadway Span—Bed Excellent Is Builder's Report—Digging Saved.

Engineer Ralph Modjeski, Councilman Meneffee, H. A. Hepper, of the bridge committee of the North East Side Improvement Association, and W. H. Weikman, resident engineer of the Broadway bridge, went to the bottom of the river on the East Side yesterday to inspect the work of excavating for the pier. Entering the caisson they were under 21 pounds air pressure and descended 45 feet below the present level of the water. The four men came up perspiring freely and pronounced it very warm on the river bottom.

Engineer Modjeski reported that he found the condition of the river bed excellent for the foundation of the pier. "The workmen are now 25 1/2 feet below low water," he said, "and I do not think it will be necessary for them to go down more than two feet more."

Big Saving Entailed. "After the test borings were made it was planned to go down 50 feet, but the hard condition of the cement gravel makes this unnecessary. The saving to the city both in time and money will be considerable. The cost of the excavation and the cement is \$14 a cubic yard."

The work of excavating the remaining two feet, and filling the forms with cement will probably take three or four days. The workmen should have the forms sealed by next Monday. That means that the east foundation is finished as soon as the cement sets. Of course we haven't begun any of the work above water yet. The contract for the superstructure has not yet been let. I will take up that subject with the bridge committee of the Executive Board Saturday morning.

West Caisson Is Sunk.

"The shore caisson on the west side of the river is down, and has been filled with concrete and sealed. The workmen are now starting the caisson in the center of the river. The forms are being weighted and sunk to the bottom. Excavating will begin for the foundation in the center of the river as soon as this preliminary work is finished."

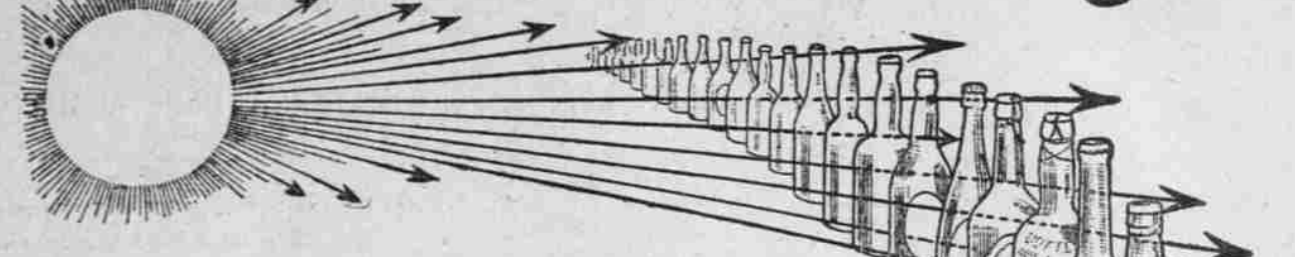
WIFE SUES OVER MOTHER

Husband Is Accused of Ousting Parent-in-Law From Home. Jessie E. Wise, in a complaint for divorce, says she could stand for her husband cursing her, but when he ordered her mother out of his house after she had come all the way from Kansas City to visit them and saw to it that his mother-in-law did not return, she decided to file suit. The complaint made its appearance in the Circuit Court yesterday.

Platt L. Wise is alleged in the complaint to have driven his mother-in-law from his home without "just cause or provocation to the great mental anguish of the plaintiff." Her husband, Mrs. Wise avers, was adept at swearing. She says that she did not object particularly to his cursing her in private, but disliked it when he swore at her in the presence of her mother and friends.

Shingle Mill Running Again. PORT OR. ORD., Or., July 18.—(Special.)—The shingle mill, which was destroyed by fire last May, has been rebuilt on a larger scale, and is again turning out cedar shingles for local use and shipment. The machinery for the planer arrived today. Many visitors and prospective investors are coming into this section every week. The prospective railroad to Coos Bay is giving the residents of Curry County hope that this locality will soon have a means of transportation to the outside world.

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As soon as this preliminary work is finished, Mr. Modjeski went to Celilo last night to inspect the Oregon Trunk railroad bridge over the Columbia River. The substructure of this bridge is finished, and about 20 per cent of the steel has been placed. The engineer will go up the Deschutes by special train tonight to inspect other bridges of the Oregon Trunk line. He will return to Portland Friday night to be present at the bridge committee meeting Saturday morning.

NORTH BEACH

About 50,000 People Season Now Open Reduced Fares Prevail

Seeking rest, health and pleasurable recreation spent all or a portion of the Summer season at this delightful beach resort—WHY? Because they find there just what they need, and they return year after year because they are perfectly satisfied. Ideal cottage and camp life; a magnificent beach that is not surpassed anywhere; genial and beneficial climate, and all the comforts of home without costing any more than if you remained at home.

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