

BIG INVESTMENTS
RAILROAD FRANCHISES

\$14,000,000 Expenditures by
Railways Depend on Action
of Council Today.

CONCESSIONS MADE TO CITY

Southern Pacific Has Programme to
Cost \$11,000,000 and Hill Sys-
tem \$3,000,000 Plans—Ma-
jority Seems in Favor.

Investments aggregating \$14,000,000 await the decision of the City Council this morning. If the franchise for the Southern Pacific for the double track of Fourth street and Jefferson street and the electrification of them are granted, that company will immediately begin construction work. The Hill system, if given the right to use East Second and East Third streets, from Hawthorne avenue to Ash street, creating a thorough modern interurban line, tapping one of the richest sections of the state.

Everything that the Mayor and members of the Council asked for has been conceded by both companies, the Harriman officials agreeing to give up the Fourth-street franchise, which they maintain is perpetual, and accept a new one under common-user conditions, etc., and have agreed to grant the city the right to use the public levee at the foot of Jefferson street. In fact, they have conceded everything asked by the city and are confidently anticipating the granting of the franchises which they seek in order to electrify their Willamette Valley system and create a thoroughly modern interurban line, tapping one of the richest sections of the state.

Grants Are Expected.
In order to carry out the construction of this system it will be necessary for the company to expend a total of \$11,000,000 in Portland and the Willamette Valley.

The Hill system, if it is granted the franchises it seeks, will make an outlay of \$3,000,000, in order to enter the freight district of the East Side. Representatives of the two companies expressed the belief that the City Council, having recently agreed to certain stipulations, will this morning proceed to grant the franchises sought on the valuations that have been fixed by the Executive Board and accepted by the Council to the extent of sending the franchises to publication with the valuations as fixed. These are \$2000 a year for the Fourth-street, \$1000 a year for the Jefferson-street and \$500 a year for the East Second and East Third-street grants.

Citizens Take Interest.
So far as could be learned yesterday a two-thirds majority of the members of the Council are in favor of the franchises as they stand, with the valuations as fixed, inasmuch as the railroad companies have met all of the conditions laid down to them by Mayor Rushlight, who negotiated the arrangements, and the members of the Council.

At the time the Council sent the franchises up for advertising, a number of necessary under the charter, Councilmen Daly and Maguire made considerable objection, holding that the franchises were too liberal. It is anticipated that these members will this morning renew their fight to increase the valuations, but it is probable that they will be urged by the majority of the Council to permit these franchises to pass, in order that the vast improvements to be started at once, when they are granted, may proceed.

The franchises have been "hanging fire" for a long time and the majority of the members of the Council feel that it is just to the city and to the companies, they should be granted, and the millions of capital to be poured into improved service be allowed to proceed.

BIG CONTRACTS ARE HELD UP
Franchise Will Keep Vast Sum in
Oregon for Development Work.

Contracts for the immediate construction of 52 miles of track between Portland and Salem and for the erection of a double-track station at the Portland Union Depot and Willamette Valley Union Depot will be up for final consideration this morning.

Bids for all this work already are in the hands of the Portland, Eugene & Eastern officials. The Portland, Eugene & Eastern road is the Southern Pacific subsidiary that will have charge of the proposed electric system between Portland and the Willamette Valley towns. If such a system is not made impossible by the failure to secure franchises to operate in Portland.

Probable cost of the construction work immediately provided for exceeds \$3,000,000. The aggregate cost of the entire electrification project in the Valley towns is \$11,000,000.

This money was appropriated by the Southern Pacific directors on February 1, 1912, and has been held ready for use ever since then. Delay in securing the necessary franchises has prevented its expenditure.

At the time that the Willamette Valley development first was suggested an appropriation of \$8,000,000 was made by the Southern Pacific for this purpose. Later additional projects were included in the plans and an additional \$3,000,000 was authorized for expenditure in this connection.

The Southern Pacific officials borrowed the money and have been paying interest on it for nearly a year. It is unlikely that they will allow the money to remain idle much longer, especially since there are urgent demands for it from other sources. The Shoup, general manager of the Southern Pacific electric lines in Southern California, is ambitious to develop more territory and wants the money. He has a tentative promise that if the Portland, Eugene & Eastern property, the people, through their City Council, express themselves as opposed to the proposed development in the Willamette Valley, he can have a part of the \$11,000,000 fund intended for use in Oregon.

Preliminary construction work in various parts of the Willamette Valley already is in progress. It is intended, however, that the new lines now being built will become parts of the Southern Pacific steam lines in the event that the right to enter Portland with electric trains is denied.

Electric cars will be operating between Portland and Eugene as early as July if the plans are not blocked. The Southern Pacific acquired the line between Corvallis and Monroe at the time that it took over the Portland, Eugene & Eastern property. The extension from Monroe to Eugene will be completed within a few weeks if necessary. This will give the Southern Pacific a new all-rail route between

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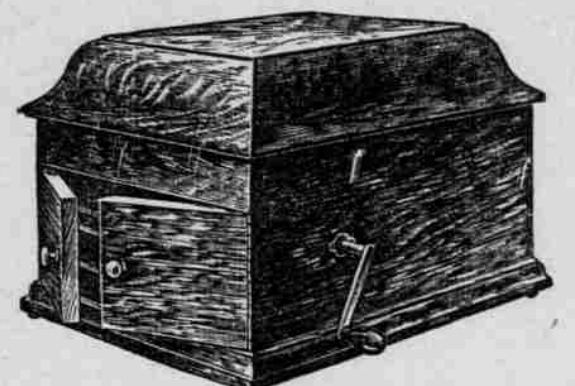


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Portland and Eugene. It is proposed to electrify this, among many miles of additional tracks. An immense passenger terminal in the Portland business district also is proposed.

Between Portland and Salem the line will be double-tracked. The proposed Fourth-street line will be double track and will have a common-user privilege. The double track will extend to Canby, about 18 miles. After crossing to the east side of the river at Canby the existing steam track of the Southern Pacific will become one of the main line electric tracks. An additional track will be laid parallel to this steam road track and the double set of rails will be used for both steam and electric service.

The electric development planned by the Southern Pacific through the Portland, Eugene & Eastern, its subsidiary, is the most extensive ever contemplated under a single system. It is greater, even, than the Pacific Electric at Los Angeles. And the immediate development is just the beginning.

"A suburban electric system such as we propose in the Valley is more valuable to a community than 10 transcontinental lines," says Robert E. Strahorn, president of the Portland, Eugene & Eastern.

HIBERNIANS ARE ACTIVE

NEW OFFICERS OF ORDER ARE
FORMALLY INSTALLED.

Following Work of Installation Short
Programme and Dancing
Are Enjoyed.

In Woodmen of the World Hall the new officers of Ancient Order of Hibernians were formally installed to serve during 1913. The work of installation was in charge of Daniel J. Curran, county president, the following officers being installed: T. J. Murphy, president; Emmett Dooney, vice-president; Joseph Brady, recording secretary; D. J. McLoughlin, financial secretary; Andy Weinberger, treasurer; Peter Salmon, sergeant-at-arms; Peter Salmon, inside sentinel; R. E. Barrett, outside sentinel. Standing committee, D. W. Lane, chairman; W. P. Willis, J. W. Gormley, Edward Barrett, Charles Duggan.

Following the installation a short programme was given, during which the members of the division were joined by the members of the ladies' auxiliaries 1 and 2. Short addresses were made by Father Gallagher, state chaplain; Father O'Farrell, past state chaplain; Marie Chambers, National director of the Ladies' Auxiliary, Ancient Order of Hibernians; Father Kelly and E. H. Deery, state president.

Solos were sung by A. Campbell, A. B. Cain and J. Tobin, accompanists. Mrs. Andy Weinberger and Mrs. W. P. Willis.

Mrs. Evers, retiring state president of the Ladies' Auxiliary, was the recipient of a pair of opera glasses, presented to her by the members of the Ladies' Auxiliary.

Mr. Dougherty, after 12 years of service as sergeant-at-arms, was presented with a watch chain.

At the conclusion of the programme dancing was engaged in for a few hours. The committee in charge of the programme and installation was composed of J. J. Kenny, Frank Mallon, Willie McGinn and Peter Salmon.

This year promises to be the banner year for the Hibernians, as they have already acquired possession of a lot on the East Side on which they expect soon to erect a temple.

The Agricultural Department estimates the injury done to the crops of the United States by insect pests at \$20,000,000 a year. Many of the pests can be suppressed only by birds.

IRRIGATION SESSION
OPENS TOMORROW

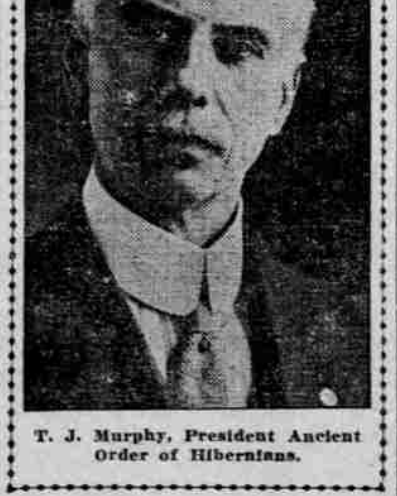
Second Oregon Congress
Faces Big Problems of Reclamation Progress.

CAREY ACT DOOM SEEN

Practical Programme Is Outlined
With First Aim Being to Aid
Actual Farmers—Much Enthusiasm Manifested.

Preparations are complete for the Second Oregon Irrigation Congress, which opens tomorrow at the Imperial Hotel. Sessions will be held in the assembly room there and acceptance by delegates received by First Vice-President Chapman at the Commercial Club indicate there will be a representative attendance from all parts of the state where irrigation is practiced.

Acceptances from speakers have been received so generally that it seems the



T. J. Murphy, President Ancient Order of Hibernians.

programme will be carried out with but few changes. Those scheduled for addresses are to be by well-known authorities on the subject of irrigation and kindred topics.

This year's congress, which is the second ever held in this state, will be intensely practical. The programme committee has had this in mind since the first speaker was listed. The group of subjects is one calculated to be of the greatest possible benefit to irrigationists and from the time the opening gavel falls on Thursday to the last speech Saturday night at the banquet

at the Commercial Club, there will be, it is promised, no dead wood; everything will be worth while.

Carey Act Doom Seen.
Carey act projects are to come in for a thorough inquiry. The Friday afternoon session will be given up to them. The opinion is held by some who will attend that the Carey act project is doomed and will soon become a thing of the past.

Representatives of the Reclamation Service will be in attendance to outline fully the part the Federal Government is taking in reclaiming arid lands in this state and what the coming year will bring forth in this work will be told.

Perhaps more interest is shown in the discussion of familiar irrigation enterprises, however, than in any of the other subjects. This session is scheduled for Friday morning. Then those who have assisted in forming irrigation districts among the farmers and who have watched them grow to be successful projects will be heard. The story will be one extremely practical in its nature and calculated to be of the utmost helpfulness to delegates from sections where similar action will be taken.

Banquets Are Scheduled.
Delegates to the Irrigation Congress will be entertained at a banquet given at the Commercial Club tomorrow night at 6:30 by the Association of Western Portland Cement Manufacturers, which will be a good roads dinner.

The irrigation banquet will be given Saturday night at the same place. Both sessions will be informal and are expected to bring out a number of splendid talks that will be of much interest to those participating in the congress.

J. T. Hinkle, of Echo, secretary of the congress, is expected to arrive in Portland today to perfect any preliminary details that may remain to be adjusted prior to the opening of the sessions. Thursday morning will be taken up by committee meetings and the registration of delegates. At 2 P. M. tomorrow will come the first formal session, when Edgar B. Piper will deliver the address of welcome and the response will be made by William Hanlon, president of the Congress. Governor West and J. N. Teal are also on the programme for tomorrow afternoon, the former speaking on "State Aid in Irrigation Projects," and the latter on the topic, "Government, State and County Co-operation in the Development of Oregon's Water Resources."

SALE OF CHURCH DELAYED
Option on Unitarian Property Expires, but Deal Still Likely.

With the expiration of the 60-day option last Monday, the deal for the purchase of the Unitarian Church property at the southwest corner of Seventh and Yamhill streets by Otto W. Goldsmith, of New York City, has wasted into this air. Mr. Goldsmith had deposited \$2500 to hold the option, and this sum now automatically reverts to the treasury of the Unitarian Church.

Attorney A. B. Winfree, representing Mr. Goldsmith, said last night that his client had requested an extension of the option 30 days, to await the return of some of his financial associates from Europe, but the trustees of the church refused to extend the option unless \$20,000 or \$25,000 was deposited to apply on the purchase price. The consideration agreed upon between the principals, when the option was taken two months ago, was \$250,000.

Mr. Winfree still expects that his client will be able to complete the deal. The property occupies a quarter-block and is in a district where big sums are being expended in building improvements.

Cedarville Mill to Be Sold.
MONTESANO, Wash., Jan. 7.—(Special.)—The sawmill of the Fernside Lumber Company at Cedarville will be sold by the Sheriff at a receiver's sale at that place January 15. A company is being formed to buy it.

BILL PUTS CLOSER
LIMIT ON EXPENSE

Marshfield Senator to Offer
Amendment to Corrupt
Practices Act.

PRESENT LAW CRITICISED

Ira S. Smith Would Fix Expenditures
of Candidate or Agent to Certain Amount, So All Would
Have Equal Chance.

An amendment to the corrupt practices act, limiting the expenditures by a candidate or his agent to a fixed amount, will be offered at the Legislature which convenes next week by Ira S. Smith, of Marshfield, Joint Senator for Coos and Curry counties. The proposed bill will provide that only one sworn statement shall be filed in behalf of a candidate and it shall contain an itemized statement of every cent expended by the candidate or in his behalf and it must not in the aggregate exceed the amount the candidate is allowed to expend.

"The present corrupt practices law is a farce to the extent that it limits the amount of money that can be expended in behalf of any candidate," said Mr. Smith yesterday. "The candidate today can spend the amount allowed under the statute and file a report to protect their machinery against injury to their employees."

Another bill to be introduced by Mr. Smith would open Rogue River to commercial fishing. Rival interests along that stream have reached an amicable understanding and there is a general demand on the part of the people of both counties that the river be reopened. Other available sites for canneries are to be found on the stream in addition to those held by the successors of the Hume estate, which would preclude the possibility of a monopoly of the fishing in that stream.

Mr. Smith also will introduce a memorial to Congress urging an appropriation for the construction of a jetty for the improvement of Coos Bay harbor, which, he reports, has deteriorated by reason of the great length of time that has elapsed since any work was done until it has become a menace to shipping interests and to human life.

Test Farm Desired.
"I shall also introduce a bill asking for a small appropriation for a test

farm for Coos County," said Mr. Smith, "the appropriation to be used only for maintenance. The County Court of Coos County already has made arrangements to buy the site. We are so far removed from the Agricultural College that it is virtually impossible for our farmers to avail themselves of its advantages. We have paid taxes for the support of the college and numerous experiment stations in other sections of the state for many years and have not received any direct benefit. We feel that we are entitled to the slight recognition we shall ask."

Probably no other Oregonian is more enthusiastic for the Panama-Pacific Exposition than Mr. Smith, who declared he would work for a liberal appropriation by the Legislature that Oregon may be represented properly.

"I cannot see how Oregon can afford not to make a creditable showing at this big exposition," he said. "Personally, I would rather Oregon would have no exhibit at all than that we should make a display which did not reflect full and deserved credit on the state."

Changes Are Favored.
The compensation act drafted by Governor West's commission does not entirely suit Mr. Smith, who would have it amended in two or three particulars.

"I made my campaign on a platform pledging me to a compensation act," explained the Senator-elect, "and I shall expect to make payments of lump sums to the employees of the state, with no expense to the employee. I do not believe the laborer should be expected to contribute to a fund that is to be expended in securing to him his rights."

"The bill should be changed so as to make it compulsory on all employers to operate under its provisions. I would make this a condition of any concern employing labor doing business in the state. Again, the commission provided in the bill should be permitted to exercise its own judgment in the matter of making payments of lump sums to any beneficiary. Where the commission is of the opinion that the money so disbursed would be wasted through dissipation, it should have the option of paying the compensation in installments. It is the wife and children who need the protection intended to be provided by this proposed measure. I seek to have these changes made in the bill that has been submitted, but I do not wish it understood that I shall oppose the measure if they are not adopted."

Good Roads Discussed.
"I am in favor of good roads on any fair arrangement, but do not think an appropriation by the state for a public highway running through the state would be either just or fair to outlying counties like Coos and Curry, the district I represent."

"Although I favor a millage tax for the support of the State University and the Agricultural College, I am opposed to one board of regents. Each institution should have its own governing board. Under one board it would be possible for one institution to benefit at the expense of the other by reason of prejudice likely to exist in a single board. Each institution is of sufficient importance to the state to justify a separate board of regents."

NORTH BANK ROAD BLAMED
Coroner's Jury Says Careless Foreman Is Responsible for Death.

Inquest on the death of Edward Keefe, a track laborer who was killed near Linnton, January 4, the first inquest under Coroner Sam Slocum resulted in a verdict blaming the Spokane, Portland & Seattle Railway, when the jurors turned in their report late yesterday.

The Spokane, Portland & Seattle Railway is responsible for the death because of employing an incompetent

and careless foreman, who had charge of the deceased," said the jury's report. The jurors were Frank T. Berry, W. T. Wallace, R. A. Calkins, Henry Haas, T. C. Bowen and W. F. Brown. No records of the relatives of Keefe have been found. Keefe fell off the end of a flatcar from which he was loading ties at Beatty Crossing, near Linnton, and a freight train backing up, bumped the flatcar over his body. Conductor G. S. Baker was in charge of the train, and James Servia was in charge of the road gang.

Ashland Installs Moose.

ASHLAND, Or., Jan. 7.—(Special.)—The latest fraternal organization to be instituted in this city is a branch of the Loyal Order of Moose, officers of which have just been installed, as follows: H. V. Richardson, dictator; J. C. Elliott, vice-dictator; O. H. Johnson, past dictator; Harry Hosler, treasurer; Earl Hosler, secretary; Tom Book, marshal; Frank Heberle, prelate. The title of the new organization is Ashland Butte Lodge, No. 1223, L. O. O. M., and it starts out with a membership of 150. For the present it meets in Odd-fellows' Hall.



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