

BRIDGE PAYS COUNTY \$534,621 SINCE 1917

Balance of \$1,100,000 Due on Interstate Span Bonds.

\$150,000 ARE REDEEMED

Returns Expected to Be Adequate for Creation of Sinking Fund to Care for Maintenance.

Since March, 1917, when the interstate bridge was opened to traffic, its net returns to Multnomah county have aggregated \$534,621.19, according to a report on file in the office of County Auditor Martin. Of the bonded indebtedness of \$1,250,000, redemption to January 1 was \$150,000, leaving a balance due in serial bonds of \$1,100,000.

Because of the fact that an outside auditor is employed by the county commissioners, the net figures as returned to County Auditor Martin do not tell the entire story of Multnomah county's participation in the receipts of the big bridge, but are sufficient to indicate that the returns should be adequate for the creation of a sinking fund to take care of maintenance—a fund that is non-existent at present, unless it may be said to be represented by \$97,931.33 diverted from the bridge receipts to construction of the new county hospital.

Bridge Financed by Bonds.

In the opinion of competent engineers no sinking fund is required for the reconstruction of a new bridge, as provided for in the 1919 statute, inasmuch as a steel bridge when properly cared for and kept up is practically indestructible and will endure for more than the average lifetime—even for a century, some contend, or until the type may become obsolete. The interstate bridge was financed for Multnomah county by the issuance of 5 per cent serial bonds of the state of Oregon, to the amount of \$1,250,000, the longest term bonds maturing in 25 years. In the original legislation it was provided that Multnomah county should repay to the state 15 per cent of its share of the toll receipts, in compensation for interest advanced by the state upon bonds, until such time as the tide of tolls made it possible for the county to defray all interest charges. The same measure called for the setting aside of 25 per cent as a maintenance and reconstruction fund.

Measure Wiped Off Books.

This measure was wiped from the statute books at the session of 1919, when the bridge was firmly established upon a paying basis and since which time the county has paid the interest on bonds as it falls due. Due the state was \$227,002.60 for interest advanced, and of this indebtedness the county now has discharged all save \$74,399.98. Though the balance is overdue the county commissioners deferred payment by reason of the fact that an insufficient amount was on hand in the bridge fund. On January 13, the auditor's report shows this amount was \$68,877.98.

Yet the report also shows that, but for diversion of bridge funds to other projects, the county could promptly have discharged its obligations to the state. A total sum of \$97,931.33 has been advanced from bridge receipts to the construction needs of the new county hospital in three installments—November, 1920, \$42,937.25; December, 1920, \$28,554.73; January, 1921, \$26,439.35.

Auxiliary Items, \$28,866.

It is apparent that the sum now on hand, or \$68,877.98, coupled with the amount advanced to the hospital project, and deducting the interest item due the state, would leave an actual balance of \$92,506.33 in the bridge fund, or an apparently adequate reserve for current maintenance. Auxiliary items, also diverted from the bridge fund and not appearing in the auditor's report, include \$28,866 paid the Warren Construction company for work on Herby street. It is understood that this sum, the county contends, was expended upon an approach and therefore is properly construction collections from the interstate bridge are paid in the proportion of three-fifths to Multnomah county and two-fifths to Clark county, Washington. The annual returns to Multnomah county have been: 1917, partial year, \$63,549.55; 1918, \$125,072.37; 1919, \$15,940.24; 1920, \$147,055.93, or a total of \$534,621.19.

Interest \$55,000 Annually.

Bearing 5 per cent interest, the interest charge on the outstanding indebtedness is now \$55,000 a year, but inasmuch as \$50,000 of the serial bonds are retired annually, it is apparent that the interest item will grow less by \$2500 annually, while the carrying capacity of the bridge will not decrease, but is expected henceforth to show a steady gain.

As the present audit is not conducted by the county auditor, but is supervised by a private auditor, employed at the expense of the bridge fund, the returns to County Auditor Martin do not indicate the cost of maintenance, but represent merely net returns, disbursements on interest and bonds, and funds diverted to other purposes.

The Interstate Bridge Commission.

However, by statute provisions of the 1919 laws, consists of the district attorney and the county commissioners, each of whom draws \$50 monthly from the net tolls due Multnomah county. The auditor appointed by the commission, A. C. Rae, receives \$150 per month from the gross tolls, of which Multnomah county pays three-fifths or \$90 per month, and Clark county pays two-fifths or \$60 per month.

Bill Up in Legislature.

A bill to abolish the extra compensation of the commission and the appointment of an outside auditor has been presented at the present session of the legislature by Representative Gordon of the Multnomah county delegation. The measure also provides for the investment of surplus funds at an adequate interest rate in state securities. County Auditor Martin, elected by vote and under \$20,000 bond, audited all claims and estimates on the construction of the interstate bridge without additional cost to the county, and the pending measure would restore to him entire supervision of the audit of the bridge fund.

The report of interstate bridge finances, as they affect Oregon and

Multnomah county, as compiled by County Auditor Martin, is as follows:

Interstate Bridge Bonded Indebtedness:	
Sale of bonds, 1914 and 1915	\$1,250,000.00
Annual redemption of 150,000	150,000.00
Redemption to date	150,000.00
Total indebtedness	\$1,100,000.00
Receipts:	
1917 collections	\$3,549.55
1918 collections	125,072.37
1919 collections	15,940.24
1920 collections	147,055.93
Total	\$334,621.19
Disbursements:	
June, 1919, paid redemption on bonds	20,000.00
June, 1919, paid interest on bonds	30,941.20
January, 1920, paid state on bonds	28,764.37
June, 1920, paid redemption on bonds	52,701.62
June, 1920, paid interest on bonds	30,000.00
June, 1920, paid interest on bonds	28,790.94
November, 1920, paid new hospital	42,937.25
December, 1920, paid new hospital	28,554.73
December, 1920, paid interest on bonds	27,513.75
January, 1921, new hospital	26,439.35
January, 1921, paid state of Oregon	100,000.00
Total	\$674,443.21
Balance on hand January 15, 1921	68,877.98
Addition for balance due	74,300.65
Total	\$143,178.63
Recapitulation of New Hospital:	
November, 1920	\$42,937.25
December, 1920	28,554.73
December, 1920	27,513.75
January, 1921	26,439.35
Total	\$125,445.08

CREDIT MEMBERS SOUGHT

50 PLEDGE ENERGIES IN PROMOTING NEW TIMBER.

Association's Monthly Banquet Is Held—Representation at Seattle Meeting Assured.

Fifty credit men of the city last night promised to devote their energies to procuring new members for the Portland Association of Credit Men at the association's monthly banquet held in the Crystal dining room of the Benson hotel. The response was made at the request of Phil H. Sessions, corresponding secretary, after the need for new members had been cited by Orin M. Pierce, chairman of the membership committee.

It was announced by Mr. Pierce that this year's results are in marked contrast with the first part of 1920. The Portland will be well represented at the meeting of northwest credit men to be held at Seattle next month, as assured by the addresses of several speakers.

New Bills Which the Association Plans to Present to the Legislature.

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New bills which the association plans to present to the legislature were discussed with the result that it was decided that letters will be sent soon to various senators and representatives urging passage of the association measures.

Two Solos Were Given by Miss Marion Bennett, Accompanied by Mrs. Fred Younger, E. P. Wagner, Vice-Chairman of the National Association of Credit Men.

Two solos were given by Miss Marion Bennett, accompanied by Mrs. Fred Younger, E. P. Wagner, vice-chairman of the national association of credit men, outlined the various phases of the bankruptcy law with reference to the work of the individual credit man. He asserted that the law was drafted to aid those persons financially ill.

A. J. Morris, chairman of the conference and conventions committee, urged all to attend en masse the convention to be held at Seattle while Charles H. Hill of the legislative committee told of the work that body has recently performed at Salem.

Songs Which Will Be Sung by the Portland Delegation at Seattle Were Heard Under the Direction of Walter Jenkins.

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H. J. Powers, chairman of the association, acted as toastmaster.

PYTHIANS MEET TUESDAY

Recent Changes in Regulation Will Be Discussed.

Members of the Knights of Pythias, first district, domain of Oregon, have received an order from Henry Saxrud, district deputy grand chancellor to meet in the Pythian temple auditorium, 288 Yamhill street, next Tuesday evening, 7:30 o'clock. Short addresses by prominent Pythians of the district will be delivered and a programme will be given. The meeting is open to all members of the organization in good standing. The important part of the discussion centering around the recent changes in Pythian regulations. Proposed changes in district laws will also be discussed.

On the third floor of the building a banquet, under the supervision of Grand Chancellor W. J. H. Clark and Walter Gleason, grand prelate of the district, will be served.

Lodges comprising the local district are Ivanhoe, No. 1; Cosmopolitan, No. 109, both of Portland, and Cascade No. 76 of Oregon City. An attendance of 2000 members is expected.

COTTAGES SAVE BOYS

Judge Kanzler Favors Plan for State Training School.

Jacob Kanzler, judge of the court of domestic relations, is an enthusiastic advocate of the cottage plan for a new state training school for boys, as recommended by Governor Ocott.

"The system of housing at the present training school is poor," he said yesterday. "There are no facilities and I, for one, hesitate to send a boy there now. There is no segregation of the boys. They are crowded into one building. If a new scheme of cottage segregation were effected, with vocational training taking the leading part in the programme, many boys who now cannot keep out of trouble because they have nothing to do, will be saved.

"If we had a state training school operated on the cottage plan, we should be able to reclaim practically every boy sent there. If we make a boy believe that we will come part way with him and that we are attempting to put him on his feet, he will become interested."

SUPPOSED THIEF ESCAPES

Stolen License Plates on Machine Cause Detention of Driver.

OREGON CITY, Or., Jan. 20.—(Special)—Leslie Ayres of Canby while he was driving to Portland today noticed a machine approaching him bearing license tags of the same number as the tags which had been stolen from his machine. Ayres accosted the driver and inquired where he got his tags. The man acted embarrassed and Ayres commanded him to drive to Oregon City and explain the matter to the sheriff.

Upon arriving here the man parked his car near the Hawley mill and started up the street with Ayres for the courthouse. About half way there the stranger, who gave his name as Kerry, ran onto a side street and disappeared. The car he drove to this city is now in the hands of the sheriff, who thinks that it has been stolen from Portland.

R. & H. Green Stamps for Cash.

R. & H. Green stamps for cash. Holman Fuel Co. Main 517. \$60-21.

MAN TRIES HANGING; SON, 12, TO RESCUE

Father, Accused of Cruelty, Defended by Boy.

LUNACY BOARD WILL ACT

Humane Society Investigator Reports Daughter of 10 Beaten by Parent for Playing.

John Spencer, a religious fanatic thought to be temporarily deranged, was saved from a suicide's death yesterday when his 12-year-old son George, who found him hanging by a rope in the basement of their home, 1136 Minnesota avenue, cut the rope with a butcher knife before Spencer had strangled to death.

Spencer was later taken into custody by Officer Churchill of the Oregon Humane society and lodged in the county jail pending an examination before a lunacy commission. The hearing will be at 2 o'clock this afternoon before Circuit Judge Tarwell.

Spencer, who is 62 years old and a laborer, was arrested after repeated complaints had been received by the humane society and the county authorities of his alleged cruel treatment of his children.

Rescue Revealed by Accident.

Mrs. F. W. Swanton, secretary of the commission, conducted an investigation yesterday afternoon and learned of the suicidal attempt which resulted in the young son saving his father. The boy ran from the basement to the kitchen for a butcher knife and cut the rope which was slowly strangling Spencer to death.

It is alleged that Spencer beat his 10-year-old daughter Tena several days ago and it was this last alleged beating which was being investigated when the other facts concerning the attempted suicide were revealed. According to Principal Dickson of the Ockley Green school, Tena went to school with her head and body badly discolored and disfigured as a result of being beaten by a plank.

Another daughter, 16 years old, is said to have left home because of the alleged cruelty of her father. The boy George sought to defend his parent from the accusations of the others and it was only after considerable questioning that he finally admitted cutting the rope by which his father was attempting to hang himself.

Child Punished for Playing.

Mrs. Swanton said that her investigation yesterday showed that the daughter Tena had been unmercifully punished because she was romping and playing with other youngsters in front of her house on her birthday anniversary.

Spencer is an extremist in religious fanaticism, said Mrs. Swanton, and punished his children for any harmless diversion. She also said that investigation showed that he had been adjudged insane on a previous occasion. Mrs. Spencer is afraid of her husband and has been too timid to protect her children from their father's alleged abuse, it was said.

Mrs. Swanton said she found the family living under the most unfavorable conditions and the children are a frightened, sickly-looking little flock because of the constant fear of their father.

Store Hours
9:15 to 5:45

ONE SALE THAT HAS STOOD THE TEST

The People Have Shown Their Confidence in Our Efforts to Give Them Lower Prices on EVERYTHING and We Shall Press Unflinchingly Forward.

Friday Begins the Twenty-second Day of Peerless Value-Giving

Every Article Reduced

(CONTRACT LINES AND GROCERIES EXCEPTED)

Surprise!

When everything in the store is reduced so wonderfully, anything that merits the name of "Surprise" must necessarily be of the sensational order. So it is with these values in

Suits
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A visit to the department will disclose extraordinary values for which patrons who look in our Fifth Street windows will be prepared.


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THAT'S All You Need to Know--You Don't Have to Make a Note of Specific Offerings--Simply Make a Note of Your Needs... All of Them... and Supply Them for Less at Meier & Frank's During the

January Clearance Sales

Now in Progress All Over the Store

See Our Wonderful Window Displays



by the construction of docks, railroad yards and warehouse sufficient to supply 400,000 men at the front, the work being completed in less than a year.

Old Water Rights Maintained. BOISE, Idaho, Jan. 20.—(Special)—Judge Reddock of the "third judicial

district court decided for the defendant in the suit involving right to water in the Wood river district in south central Idaho, established in 1883. Albrethson et al. brought suit against the Wood River Land com-

Jackson County Bank Prospers. MEDFORD, Or., Jan. 20.—(Special)—

pany to declare abandonment and forfeiture of the water rights.

Jackson County Bank Prospers. MEDFORD, Or., Jan. 20.—(Special)—

one of the most successful since the bank was organized 22 years ago. This was attributed to the lucrative price received for pears, the growth held, declared a dividend of 8 per cent on the dairy business and the generally sound condition of the valley.

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