

ROAD CONTRACTS EXCEED \$500,000

Awards Include 6 Bridges and 15 Miles Pavement.

BOARD REJECTS MANY BIDS

12 Counties Send Delegations to Session of Commission.

WORK ON PACIFIC HIGHWAY

8.6 Miles of Hard Surface From Monroe to Junction City to Cost \$248,558.

Contracts for more than half a million dollars' worth of road work, including construction of six bridges and the laying of 15 miles of pavement, were ordered entered into yesterday afternoon by the state highway commission following the opening of bids upon the proposed work. Bids on many other jobs were opened and rejected, and a second advertising of the work ordered.

The letting of contracts proved the most important feature of the day's session of the commission at the county courthouse, although the commission was busy a good portion of the day listening to delegations from 12 counties of the state.

Of the contracts which were let, the most important were two for paving work on the Pacific highway. The first, for 8.6 miles of hard-surfaced road from Monroe to Junction City, was awarded to the Pacific Bridge company, at a figure of \$248,558. The second, for 6.1 miles of paving from Walker to Divide, was given to the Blake, Compton company, whose figure was \$119,000. Bidding on pavement was specified in both cases.

Bids Referred to Engineer.

Bids on a stretch of 6.2 miles of paving from Roseburg to Dillard were ordered referred to the state highway engineer, with possible rejection by the commission. The bids were in the neighborhood of \$150,000 up for the work and were not considered satisfactory. Only one bid was received for 1.2 miles of pavement from Oakland south, in Douglas county. As this bid, approximately \$40,000, was not considered satisfactory, it was ordered rejected and new bids called for.

Construction of Two Bridges Also upon the Pacific Highway were Included in the Contracts Awarded.

One of the bridges will be over Canyon creek in Douglas county, while the other will be over the South Umpqua river near Myrtle creek, also in Douglas county.

Four Wooden Bridges Awarded.

The bid of James F. Clarkson for four wooden bridges over the John Day river on the John Day highway was accepted, the figure for all four being \$29,177. Other miscellaneous contracts let for highway work included a guard fence on the Columbia highway near Arlington, which went to McColl and Sheerin at \$3275. Bids for laying of culverts at the Horse ridge section, near Bend, were ordered referred to the state highway engineer.

Total of Contracts Let for Road Work Aggregated \$520,672.

Of this, \$47,938 was for paving, \$39,200 for bridges and \$232,75 for the Columbia guard fence.

The Commission Also Opened Bids for Construction of a Concrete Bridge at Park Place, on the eastern highway between Portland and Oregon City.

These bids had been advertised at the request of Clackamas county, which is putting in the structure, and following tabulation were ordered referred to the Clackamas county court. The lowest bid \$45,264, was submitted by Parker and Banfield and indicated that the structure will be in the \$50,000 classification.

\$1,000,000 in Bonds Sold.

One million dollars in 4 1/2 per cent state highway bonds was sold yesterday morning by the commission, following the opening of bids. There was keen bidding for the bonds and the competition was reflected in the sales price, which was \$250,500, said to be the next highest figure bid for this type of bond within a year. Carstens & Barlow, Inc., and William R. Compton & Co. were the purchasers.

Delegations from 11 Counties of the State Appeared before the Commission to Present Road Matters of One Kind or Another, but in Practically Every Instance no Definite Action was Taken in Cases in Which Considerable Sums of Money were Involved.

The various petitions were taken under advisement or referred to the state highway engineer for study and recommendation to the commission.

Little is Being Done by the Commission at the Present Time in Mapping out its Programme for the Future, as Much Depends upon What Action may be Taken on Road Matters and Appropriations by the State Legislature, Now in Session.

Many of the Oregon projects also have been dependent upon national aid, and the commission is awaiting

WILSON AT THEATER AFTER LONG ILLNESS

'ABRAHAM LINCOLN' FIRST PERFORMANCE IN 18 MONTHS.

Audience Recognizes Country's Chief Executive and Rises and Cheers.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—President Wilson tonight made his first appearance in public since his speaking tour in behalf of the league of nations was interrupted by illness at Wichita, Kan., September 26, 1919. Accompanied by Mrs. Wilson and her brother, John Edouard Bolling, the president went to a theater and saw "Abraham Lincoln," the American historical play written by John Drinkwater, the English playwright.

The president, with his party, reached the theater shortly before the play began, and walking with a cane, made his way through a stage door to a lower box, which had been reserved. His appearance was a surprise to the audience.

When he entered the box he was recognized and the audience rose and cheered. He responded by bowing and sat down. He did not arise until the final curtain and then was aided to his feet by Mr. Bolling. The audience cheered and he again bowed.

In leaving he used his cane and leaned upon the arm of Mr. Bolling. News of the president's attendance at the play began to spread and a large crowd expecting him to leave from the front entrance had congregated there. Only a handful had thought of the stage exit which he used and these were kept back by police.

The president appeared to enjoy the play and smiled at the humorous parts. White House attaches after the president returned to the White House said that he seemed to have suffered no ill effects from his appearance in public.

Prior to his illness Mr. Wilson attended the theater regularly. During his illness he has been forced to content himself with motion pictures shown in the White House.

Rear-Admiral Cary T. Grayson, the president's physician, said more than a month ago that the patient's health had improved so much that he might at any time attend the theater.

AID BRINGS GRATITUDE

American Relief to Hungarian Children Is Appreciated.

PARIS, Feb. 1.—Gratitude for American relief to the children of Hungary was being expressed in a message to the United States to which the signature of 1,000 children had been obtained, said a Budapest dispatch today.

Petes are being planned in schools in celebration of the American inauguration day, March 4.

DANIELS OBEYS EMBARGO

Oil Products Approved.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—Secretary Daniels has given his approval to a bill by Senator Phelan, democrat, California, authorizing the president to embargo petroleum exports. The Phelan bill is pending before the senate naval committee.

AIRPLANE IS DEMOLISHED

Engine Stops, Machine Crashes to Earth; Aviators Escape.

EL PASO, Tex., Feb. 1.—An all-metal airplane making a flight from Hollywood, Cal., to Mexico City was demolished and the American aviators, Thompson and Williams, were injured, not fatally, when the plane crashed to earth after the engine stopped near San Luis Potosi.

OUTLAWS ROB POLICEMAN

Gun, Auto and \$18 Taken and Beating Given When Star Seen.

CHICAGO, Feb. 1.—Fred School, a policeman off duty and in plain clothes, was kidnapped, robbed of his automobile, gun and \$18 by two highwaymen last night.

WOMAN IDENTIFIES BODY

Ragged Stranger Killed by Carl Wanderer Was Earl Keesee.

CHICAGO, Feb. 1.—The ragged stranger whom Carl Wanderer hired to stage a mimic holdup the night Mrs. Wanderer and the stranger were shot to death, today was identified by Mrs. Cora Oppendorf of Danville, Ill., as her nephew, Earl Keesee of Danville.

SENATE VOTES FOR ROOSEVELT ROAD

\$2,500,000 Highway Bill Passed; Vote 26-4.

HOUSE TO DECIDE LATER

Measure Declared Not Sectional in Character.

RESOURCES HELD TAPPED

Failure of Federal Government to Match Fund Regarded as No Reason to Quit.

STATE HOUSE, Salem, Feb. 1.—(Special).—By a vote of 26 to 4 the senate this afternoon passed the bill introduced by Senators Hall and Norford making available \$2,500,000 with which to start construction of the Roosevelt military highway. Opposing the bill on final passage were Senators LaFollett, Strayer, Porter and Vinton.

Senator Hall, in explaining the bill on the floor of the senate, declared that the measure was not sectional in its character, but that its approval by the legislature would prove to be an important and decisive step in the future development of the entire state.

"The states of Washington and California long ago realized the necessity of coast development," said Senator Hall, "and to that end they are now constructing highways which eventually will become a link in the trunk path extending from the Dominion of Canada to the Mexican border."

Voters' Approval Cited.

"The voters of Oregon, at a special election held in May, 1919, voiced their approval of the Roosevelt highway contingent upon the federal government matching states to the extent of \$2,500,000. For some reason the government has failed to respond to our appeal for assistance, but that in no reason why we should sit in idleness while our sister states continue to progress in the march of development."

Senator Hall then called attention to the vast wealth along the route of the proposed highway, the scenic attractions and opportunity for luring to Oregon the thousands of tourists who now pass their winters in California.

Senator Vinton said he agreed with Senator Hall that the law enacted by the voters at the special election was a handicap in the construction of the highway.

MASKED YOUTH ROBS WOMAN STOREKEEPER

ROBBER FLOURISHES PISTOL. TAKES \$25 FROM TILL.

Police Records Show Ransom Grocery, 87 West Killingsworth, was Held Up Last September.

Just after she had waited on a customer early last night, Mrs. J. C. Ransom of Ransom's grocery, 87 West Killingsworth street, was held up at the point of a pistol by a young man whose face was masked with a white handkerchief. The robber took \$25 in cash from the till and ran from the store. His improvised mask dropped from his face as he reached the street.

Inspectors from three stations, the St. Johns, east side and main headquarters, hastened to the scene. The robber had escaped. Police have no clue to his identity.

Mrs. Ransom told the police that when the youth commanded her to "throw up your hands" she thought he was joking and did not comply. Belled and took a chance on the shot. The robber was wounded in the thigh. Captured a few moments later by police he gave his name as Russell Deck. He was convicted, but records do not disclose his sentence.

VENDOR TO GET FORTUNE

Oakland Police Look for Pencil Seller Heir to Big Fund.

OAKLAND, Cal., Feb. 1.—Police here were searching today for Alred Newsome, a shoe string and pencil vendor, well known about the streets of Oakland, who has fallen heir to a fortune upwards of six figures. A communication received by police from a Philadelphia attorney, John B. Landberg, told of the peddler's good fortune, and asked that he be notified at once.

Newsome disappeared from Philadelphia, according to the letter, about five years ago.

SENATOR QUITS HOSPITAL

Chamberlain Takes Short Walk; to Resume Seat Soon.

THE OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Feb. 1.—Senator Chamberlain has left the emergency hospital, which he entered more than five weeks ago to undergo a serious operation, and is back at his apartments under the care of his physician and a nurse.

He was permitted to take a short walk today and the hope was expressed that he would be able to resume his seat in the senate in two or three weeks.

LEGISLATURE URGED TO SPEED UP WORK

522 BILLS ARE NOW BEFORE HOUSE AND SENATE.

Congestion During Last Two Weeks Probable Unless Committees Handle Measures Better.

STATE HOUSE, Salem, Or., Feb. 1.—(Special).—With 522 bills before them in various stages of digestion, legislators will have to speed up or be confronted with a congestion of business in the last two weeks of the session. To forestall such a situation, President Rittner and Speaker Bean have commenced to apply a little gentle pressure, with the expectation that tomorrow morning the senate and house will speed up.

This was the principal reason why the senate and house each took an early adjournment this afternoon in order that committees could get to work. All the late afternoon and tonight the committees were in session. There were meetings everywhere in the state house, but there were no important bills under discussion in any of these gatherings.

The president and speaker have called in the chairmen of the committees and explained the necessity of reporting out bills. Some measures have been sleeping in committee more than a week instead of being reported out and disposed of. The accumulation of measures has attained a somewhat staggering peak load, and each day new bills are offered.

One of the weaknesses being displayed is the improper manner in which bills are being reported out of committees. It is not infrequently occurrence for a bill, reported favorably, to be sent back for amendment because the committee has failed to observe the rules governing the preparation of bills. There have been bills with an emergency clause which was not mentioned in the title of the act, and similar slipshod methods are constantly developing. President Rittner has warned the senate committee chairmen that bills must come into the senate in regular legal form, for referring bills back to committee for amendment is adding to the delay.

Chief Identifies Letters.

Although he was loath to discuss this new angle to the gigantic blackmail plot, Chief of Police Jenkins last night admitted that these latest letters from "The Shadow" are identical in writing and contents with the first letters written more than two weeks ago and which baffled the entire police bureau as well as private detective agencies.

It was further learned last night that a squad of police detectives with shaggy stags and a mysterious manhunt for "The Shadow" last Saturday night, but their search was fruitless. The police believe that he will continue to send his threatening letters until he finally is captured.

Church to Aid Chinese

Adventists Set Aside February 26 for Taking Offerings.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—The general conference committee, Seventh-day Adventists, announced today that February 26 had been set aside for taking an offering from all churches of the denomination for famine sufferers in northern China.

Missionaries stated, the letter added, that 15,000,000 people would die "within the next few weeks" without aid.

SHADOW RENEWS \$50,000 DEMANDS

Two New Letters Threaten Immediate Death.

LIPMAN AND SELLING MARKED

Blackmailer Posts Mail at Central Postoffice.

MAN IS BELIEVED INSANE

Police Admit Futile Attempt at Capture Was Made Again Last Saturday Night.

Despite every effort of the police to run him to earth, "The Shadow," Portland's mysterious and daring extortionist, is still in Portland, and has continued to send threatening letters to prominent Portland residents in his efforts to blackmail them out of large sums of money.

It was learned from authentic sources at police headquarters last night that "The Shadow," in the course of the past several days has sent letters to Will F. Lipman and Ben Selling, well-known merchants, in which he has threatened them with immediate death unless they complied with his previous demands to pay him \$25,000 each.

The letters, it was learned at the police detective bureau, were mailed from the central postoffice in this city, which proves beyond doubt that "The Shadow" is still operating in Portland.

Although he was loath to discuss this new angle to the gigantic blackmail plot, Chief of Police Jenkins last night admitted that these latest letters from "The Shadow" are identical in writing and contents with the first letters written more than two weeks ago and which baffled the entire police bureau as well as private detective agencies.

Police Lose Outlaw.

The operations of "The Shadow" reached a climax about two weeks ago when police detectives kept a rendezvous with the man on the Base Line road after "The Shadow" had commanded Mr. Ladd to meet him with a package containing \$25,000 in currency of small denominations. The police jumped from several automobiles when they received the flashlight signal which the extortionist had announced he would give, and fired shotguns at him as he fled into the deep underbrush skirting the road.

All that night and until daylight a posse composed of more than 100 police and deputy sheriffs scoured the woods in that district in an effort to surround the man, but although deputy sheriffs exchanged shots with him near Montavilla, he escaped into the darkness. His identity remains as much of a secret as that of the day he first began to operate in Portland.

Letters Are Printed.

The letters which "The Shadow" is sending to well-known Portland residents are printed, and the work is cleverly disguised. In each instance during his operations several weeks ago, he commanded his intended victims to answer his demands through the personal columns of the local newspapers, thus being able to keep himself advised of their decisions, and at the same time keeping himself in the background and thus preventing the police from establishing any possible clue.

If it is true, that "The Shadow" is a crank in the police believe it will be only a matter of time when

MRS. HARDING PICKS HER NEW WARDROBE

NEXT "FIRST LADY" BEGINS SELECTING CLOTHES.

Modistes, Tailors, Furriers and Jewelers Follow One Another Into Hotel Suite.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—Mrs. W. G. Harding today began selecting the contents of her White House clothes cabinet. She did not go shopping, but conducted a hotel suite campaign for clothes. Modistes, tailors, furriers and jewelers followed one another into her rooms, where she passed nearly eight hours inspecting their offerings.

She granted admittance only to photographers and reporters, besides the salespeople.

Style dictators, pondering over the impressions they received, predicted that the laws of fashion will be blue after March 4. That is the favorite color of Mrs. Harding. She selected a tea gown and evening gown of blue tulle.

Mrs. Harding also made it clear that there will be no foreign frills in her wardrobe.

MIAMI, Fla., Feb. 1.—President-elect Harding returned from the Cocolobo fishing ground today with a sun-blistered face and a formidable catch of fish.

He was a guest tonight at a farewell dinner given by ex-Governor Durbin of Indiana. The president-elect's return to St. Augustine will begin tomorrow.

BANK ROBBERS MAY DIE

Arkansas Senate Passes Bill to Make Offense Capital.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Feb. 1.—The senate this afternoon passed, without a dissenting vote, a bill providing capital punishment for bank robbery. The bill puts bank robbery on a par with murder in that it gives the right to fix either life imprisonment or electrocution as a punishment.

CHICAGO, Feb. 1.—Half a dozen robbers held up the Kenwood Trust & Savings bank on the South Side today and escaped with a sum which bank officials estimate at \$50,000.

WIRELESS TO BE TAUGHT

22 Chicago High Schools Install Radio Instruments.

CHICAGO, Feb. 1.—Radio telephone and telegraph instruments are to be installed in Chicago's 22 high schools, the board of education announced today.

The board estimates that the school wireless system, the first of its kind, will cost about \$50,000.

RACE PARITY BRINGS FINE

Street Railway Company Penalized for Not Segregating Negroes.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Feb. 1.—The Nashville Railway & Light company was fined \$2000 today in a case in which it was alleged to have violated the statute providing for the separation of the races on streetcars.

The case will be appealed.

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GERMANY TO BALK AT BIG INDEMNITY

Rejection Is Forecast by Foreign Minister.

WHOLE NATION IS AROUSED

Demands Regarded as Fantastic and Impossible.

CABINET IS PUZZLED

General Opinion Is That Government Cannot Agree to Terms Fixed by Allied Council.

BERLIN, Feb. 1.—(By the Associated Press).—Dr. Walter Simons, Germany's foreign minister, declared in the Reichstag today that the government would refuse to negotiate on the basis of the extensive demands regarding reparations and would formulate counter-propositions. His position was supported by all the party leaders except the communists, who heckled and jeered him when he concluded speeches.

Dr. Simons said the German government was unable either to refuse to agree or to participate in the London conference, because it had not yet been invited to send representatives.

Germany's reparations demands are regarded as fantastic and impossible of execution and it was the general opinion the government cannot agree to them.

Cabinet Holds Session.

The cabinet which received the text of the allied note yesterday was in executive session until late last night.

"Madness" was the term reeling leaders used in discussing the terms used "produce chaos, not only in Germany but throughout central Europe, as the bankruptcy of Germany would also bankrupt part of Germany's war creditors, among whom is France."

"It is greatly to be deplored," he continued, "that the great American nation was only a bystander during the negotiations concerning reparations at Paris. The settlement of this question determines the fate of the world's economics and of world culture."

Figures Held Absurd.

Herbert Guttman of the Dresden bank said the reparations figures are absurd, and the tax levy on exports is "beyond understanding."

"The latter would kill Germany's export business, and how does the entente expect Germany to pay if she cannot export her products? It is inconceivable that America and England will permit Germany, their best customer, to be ruined by the enforcement of such terms."

"The German mark showed a slight decline towards the close of yesterday's session of the house, when the terms became generally known.

Berlin newspapers were as one in voicing the opinion that the reparations conditions sound the commercial death knell of the German nation and the economic ruin of central Europe, including France, Belgium and Italy. The press, however, does not presume to advise the cabinet as to its course, reaching the conclusion that Germany is powerless to oppose "this victory madness."

Tax Antimosity Is Shown

Some conservative organs, discussing the probable effect of the enforcement conditions, suggested they would leave Germany a plaything to the extremists. The newspapers displayed animosity against the provision for a 12 per cent tax on German exports. This provision, Vorwärts declared, will, in five years, force the world to desire free trade.

The Vossische Zeitung declared the plan as a whole means perpetual slavery for Germany. It casts a cloud over the European situation, engenders new hatreds and opens the way toward world revolution, this paper insisted. Only Great Britain would profit, it declared, but the Tagblatt did not agree with this, saying, on the other hand: "Lloyd George has betrayed the interests of the British people!"

IMPOSSIBLE, SAYS BRITON

Envoy to Peace Conference Says Germany Can't Meet Demands.

LONDON, Feb. 1.—It will be impossible for Germany to pay the reparations debt fixed by the supreme allied council at Paris last week, said Professor John Maynard Keynes, principal representative of the British treasury at the Versailles peace conference. He argued that Germany, to have surplus exports worth £200,000,000, must have total exports worth at least £700,000,000. Twelve per cent of this amount would be £84,000,000 and therefore, he said, with £700,000,000 of exports yearly against £860,000,000 of reparations, Germany would be unable to pay.

