

STATE ROAD BONDS  
SOLD AT PREMIUM

\$2,000,000 Block Brings  
\$2940 Above Par.

## LABOR COSTS DECREASE

Highway Commission Awards Contracts for Bridges and 28.5 Miles of Road Work.

## DOINGS OF HIGHWAY COMMISSION.

Sold \$2,000,000 highway bonds, bearing 5 1/2 per cent, for \$2,022,940.

Awarded contracts for 28.5 miles of road work, aggregating \$117,330.10.

Bridge contracts awarded amounting to \$16,912.

Shedd-Halsey section, Pacific highway, referred pending return of Commissioner Yeon.

Selected Brockway route for Roseburg-Coos Bay highway.

New record established when 21 bids were received for one grading job on Corvallis-Newport highway.

General tone of all bids much lower than of recent months, and bond bids better than a month ago.

More bids to be awarded at 10 o'clock this morning.

Two factors favorable to the Oregon road programme developed at yesterday's session of the state highway commission. One was the stronger market for the road bonds and the other was the lower bids of contractors. The bids made for a block of \$2,000,000 of bonds were considerably better than the tenders made for a block last month.

John E. Price and E. H. Rollins & Sons received the award of \$2,000,000 bonds for a premium of \$229,400. The interest, fixed by the bidder, was 5 1/2 per cent. This is especially encouraging to counties which have undigested road securities bearing 5 1/2 and 6 per cent. The bond market was bad a month ago, but judging from the bids yesterday, counties should be able to sell their holdings and apply the cash where it is intended, on the roads, for co-operation with the state.

**Contractors' Prices Slump.**

Without warning came the slump in the bids of contractors. It was not an isolated instance, but man after man bid low. Many were far below the estimates. The explanation is that the prices for materials are dropping somewhat. All told, it is said that the efficiency of labor and the prompt delivery of materials and the other factors represents about 30 per cent with a contractor.

Under the big contention at yesterday's meeting was the paving job on the Shedd-Halsey section of the Pacific highway. 7.3 miles in Lincoln county, the grade is such that a concrete pavement can be laid without further flaking, but if an asphaltic pavement is used, a crushed rock base will have to be provided. A. D. Kern bid \$257,131 for asphaltic pavement and Guy F. Kern bid \$225,720 for concrete. While the Kern bid is the lowest, it does not take into account a rock base. In the absence of John B. Yeon, his colleagues, R. A. Booth, chairman, and W. E. Smith, secretary, preferred to delay action and both bids were referred to Herbert Nunn, highway engineer, pending the return of Mr. Yeon.

**21 Bid on Job.**

When Commissioner Yeon returns there will be half a dozen matters to decide, such as road work in Baker, Union and Grant counties.

In the past there has been lively bidding on particular jobs, but yesterday the grading of ten miles on the Chitwood-Toledo section of the Corvallis-Newport highway established a new highwater mark. Twenty-one contractors bid on this work. There were so many bids to compare and analyze that the commission announced that awards would have to go over until this morning at 10 o'clock. There are a number of other contracts to be awarded at the same hour. So many bids were received yesterday that all forenoon and a part of the afternoon were devoted to opening and reading the bids.

No new projects were ordered at yesterday's session, although a number of delegations were heard and their wants noted in the record. Grant county made a proposal for the state to gravel one unit of the John Day highway while the county graveled another on a yard-for-yard basis. A award of telegrams were received wanting the La Grande-Perry road fixed this year and Baker county wanted a contract let for a connection between Burn and Baker and the Baker-Middle Bridge section.

## Contracts Are Awarded.

Contracts awarded last night were: Lakeview-La Pine highway—16.8 miles grading, awarded to Lake county for \$27,114.20.

Tillamook county—Wilson river to Rivermouth, 1.3 miles of gravel awarded to Tillamook county for \$11,812.

Douglas county—Emb No. 2, from Pauline bridge to Klamath county line, on the Dallas-California highway, 5 miles grading, awarded to Douglas county for \$11,948.00.

Clatsop county—Miles crossing to Skipanon, 2.4 miles shoulders, 1.3 miles grading and macadam John Slett & Co. \$24,323.

Bridge contracts awarded: Clackamas county—Bridges on Tryon and Sucker creeks, being on bridge floor; Warren Construction company, \$508.

Wallowa county—Bridge over Prairie creek; Oscar Oberg, \$985.

Washington county—Bridges at Gale creek; Beam Construction company, \$139.

A number of bridge and grading contracts were referred to the engineer.

## CLARKE HEADS LABORITES

Vancouver Plumber Is President of Central Council.

VANCOUVER, Wash., July 28.—(Special.)—O. E. Clarke of the plumbers' union, was chosen president of the Central Labor council, and C. S. Osborn of the carpenters' union, vice president, at the meeting of that body. Clarke, ex-mayor of Camas, has been active in labor circles, as

## OSBORNE, Farm-labor candidate for sheriff at the last election.

Claude Moran, ex-president of the council, was chosen secretary-treasurer, and Jack Carpenter, conductor of the laborers' union, M. Converse, painter, is warden, while F. Wheeler, carpenter, H. W. Jones, carman, and G. Thomas, carman, are trustees.

OAKS TO HAVE AIRMAN  
I. J. De Villiers to Do Stunts at Park Next Sunday.

To hurtle 5000 feet through space into the Willamette river from the deck of a hydroplane after performing acrobatic stunts in view of spectators, I. J. De Villiers, the "flying cowboy" and holder of the first world's record for altitude jumping from a plane, has arrived in Portland from Seattle to fill an engagement at the Oaks park.

De Villiers, who is the nephew of General P. G. De Villiers of Boer war fame, will appear on the river aboard the hydroplane some time in the afternoon at the Oaks park, and after some startling exhibitions from the wings, will ascend a mile into the air and then drop from a parachute directly in front of the Oaks grounds, or as near as is humanly possible.

De Villiers has performed other

## STAR WITNESS FOR STATE IN UNIQUE MURDER TRIAL AND CHIEF COUNSEL FOR THE PROSECUTION AND THE DEFENSE.



FROM LEFT—JOHN A. COLLIER, PRINCIPAL ATTORNEY FOR MRS. LOUISE AGEE, "GRIM WIDOW," DEFENDANT; JOSEPH H. KLECKER, WHO HAS SUDDENLY BECOME STORM CENTER OF REMARKABLE CASE, AND JOSEPH L. HAMMERLY, FIRST ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY.

feats, such as standing on the top plane of a machine as it does a loop, an Immelmann or a tail spin, leaping from one airplane to another while both are in the air without the use of a ladder, and last, but not least, bulldozing steers at round-ups on an airplane.

## MAN DEAD, WIFE WOUNDED

Couple's Domestic Troubles Culminate in Shooting.

MISSOULA, Mont., July 28.—Charles E. Mitchell, aged 47, is dead and his wife, Angeline, 39, is seriously wounded as a result of a shooting which took place in an unfinished attic at the home of Mrs. Mitchell's parents, where the two were alone this morning.

Following a succession of shots, Mrs. Mitchell was found shot twice in the breast. The husband later was found by officers in a dark corner of the attic with a bullet through his head. According to statements made to the officers, the couple recently had experienced domestic troubles.

Mrs. Mitchell, who formerly lived with her husband at McGill, Nev., had been visiting for several weeks at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. Ritchotte. Mitchell came a week ago from Gateway, Or., where he has been residing. He is survived by a son, aged 16, and a daughter of 17.

## RAIL RATE CUT FOUGHT

Labor Is Interested in Mr. Ford's Plan for Wage Rise.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 28.—The American Federation of Labor officials are considering the advisability of having a labor delegation investigate the reduction of rates on coal from the Ohio river to Detroit proposed by Mr. Ford's road. The complaint said that the proposed reduction would be prejudicial to the rates it has to pay on coal to the same points. The reduction proposed by the Detroit, Toledo & Ironville amount to 25 cents a ton on coal.

## HOTEL RATES SHOOT UP

Harding's Announced Visit Causes Boom in Village.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 28.—A commercial boom whose rumblings have been felt in Washington has been felt in Lancaster, N. H., since it developed that President Harding is to spend several days near there next week at the home of Secretary Weeks.

Before the president's plans became known a telephone call from the White House to the village had elicited the information that rooms with bath could be obtained for \$250 a week. Mrs. Agnes Ames, who is telegraphed: "All our baths engaged for next week. We are now American plan, \$6 a day."

## BOARD CONTINUING BODY

Attorney-General Holds Contract With Teachers Valid.

SALEM, Or., July 28.—(Special.)—I. H. Van Winkle, attorney-general, in an opinion given today, held that when a vacancy is declared in the office of a school director the remaining directors have authority to contract with teachers; also that the board, after the election of two new members, has no authority to invalidate such contracts.

The attorney-general held that the board is a continuing body and in contemplation of law the same board although its personnel may change from time to time. Hence it is bound by previous contracts.

Read The Oregonian classified ads.

STATE BACKING UP  
MUSICIAN'S ALIBI

Agee Defense Continues to Score on Musician.

## PROSECUTION ENDS CASE

Trombone Teacher Again Denies Ownership of Bloodstained Coat and Knife.

(Continued From First Page.)

contents, promised Collier, who also asserted that he was prepared to show that the sprinkled blood on the overcoat came from human arteries.

Yesterday's session opened with

her former statement that the men were not encouraged.

"Did either of you want to go?" demanded Collier.

"We didn't seem to," answered the witness.

John Goltz, police inspector, was called by the state to testify concerning the amount of light thrown into the bedroom of the Agee home by the arc light on a nearby corner. Judge Morrow refused to permit his conclusions to go into evidence, sustaining the objection of the defense to such testimony.

Goltz was the last witness offered by the prosecution, and when he was not permitted to testify, Hammerly announced that the state rested its case.

Engineer Is Witness.

George S. Edmonstone, civil engineer who drafted the sketches used by prosecution and defense depicting the arrangement of rooms in the Agee home and the map of the Portsmouth district in which the murder occurred, was the first witness to be called by the defense.

Collier laid much stress on the location of a clump of bushes on Wall street near Lombard street, with reference to ear lines and the Agee home. Though nothing was testified concerning the same, the inference drawn was that this was the spot where Collier would enter or by direct testimony to prove that the blood-spattered overcoat, the gory

AIR BOMBING HELD  
INCENTIVE TO PEACE

Dr. Ford A. Carpenter Pays Portland Visit.

## TESTS IN EAST RELATED

Sinking of Battleships Declared to Be Warning of Possibility of New Line of Defense.

"The recent bombing experiments on battleships off the Atlantic coast did more to advance peace than all the Paris peace conferences, Hague

tribunals and leagues of nations ever known."

This was the statement of Dr. Ford A. Carpenter, consulting meteorologist for the air service of the war department and widely known lecturer on climatology.

Dr. Carpenter is visiting at the home of Henry W. Fries, whom he knew when he was a "buck" private in the signal corps and acted as weather forecaster for Portland in 1888. He recently participated in the bombing tests.

"One of the smaller bombs dropped into the sea two miles from one of the smaller vessels of the fleet so damaged that ship that it had to be towed into port," said Dr. Carpenter. "Imagine the damage that can be done by one of the 1900-pound bombs dropped from an aeroplane at a high altitude. If it did not put the greatest super-dreadnoughts in existence out of commission as I believe, it surely would—it would obliterate the crew and render the ship worthless."

President Harding and he believes that the chief executive has done more in four months in office to advance the cause of peace than has ever been done by any president.

## Challenge Is Issued.

Dr. Carpenter issued a challenge to the "strong right arm of the service" will ever be the infantry." He expressed his belief in the air service and contended that the strengthening of this branch would be the salvation of the army and the navy in any war.

It is a long jump from a private second class in the signal corps in 1888 to "Who's Who in America" and a half-page writeup therein, but that is the history of Dr. Carpenter.

He came to Portland as assistant to Corporal E. J. Glass in the army signal corps office—which then gave out the weather reports—when he was a boy of 16 summers. He remained here two years and then was transferred.

Dr. Carpenter is also head of the department of meteorology for the State university at Los Angeles and is the author of a great many books on climatology and meteorology.

"The airplane has ceased to be an instrument of entertainment and exhibition—it is a commercial implement," said Dr. Carpenter. "It is the new life in the commercial world and is the safety of this country—if properly developed—in that of war. It is the dove of peace for which pacifists have been searching. It will bring peace because no nation can afford to go to war against another that has completely prepared itself for an air offensive."

Dr. Carpenter will remain here a few days visiting old friends and then will return to his home in Los Angeles.



FROM LEFT—JOHN A. COLLIER, PRINCIPAL ATTORNEY FOR MRS. LOUISE AGEE, "GRIM WIDOW," DEFENDANT; JOSEPH H. KLECKER, WHO HAS SUDDENLY BECOME STORM CENTER OF REMARKABLE CASE, AND JOSEPH L. HAMMERLY, FIRST ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY.

## KLECKER STILL ON THE WITNESS STAND.

The state attempted to repair some of the damage inflicted by the broad-fronted defense while Klecker produced a brown and a green overcoat, which he said were the only ones he had worn in years.

The prosecution asked the witness if he ever possessed a white hat. The defense had promised to show that a mysterious stranger seen not more than a few blocks from the murder scene shortly after the slaying had worn a white hat or had something white about his head. Mrs. Agee, according to police witnesses, had shown Klecker an unknown intruder in the house wore something white about the head.

Klecker said that he had owned a white hat, worn when he was in the navy, but he explained, it was given to his wife's brother in Los Angeles in 1919.

Asked what suit he was wearing the night of the murder, Klecker replied that he was wearing the same one he had on in the courtroom, minus vest.

## Identification of the sheet music, which the defense claimed was found in one of the pockets of the blood-spattered overcoat, was not made possible, but Klecker said that he thought it was the same that he had given Mrs. Agee to use in practice. He denied that he had ever taken it from the Agee home.

"Can you produce anyone who could testify as to your whereabouts on the night of June 10 until daybreak?" demanded Collier of the witness.

"No one but the man who took me home," replied Klecker, "and I am not sure he would remember me."

"Can you produce anyone?" began Collier again, when Judge Morrow interrupted to say: "Mr. Collier, the witness does not need to produce anyone."

## Clashes Are Frequent.

"Your honor, I take exception to and cite the remarks of this witness as prejudicial," responded the attorney whose clashes with the jurist have been frequent.

Judge Morrow demanded of Collier when court opened to state whether or not he expected to connect up the witness with the murder of Mrs. Agee.

Collier replied that he certainly intended to do so.

Mrs. Nellie Young, whose fainting spell as she was called to the witness stand the night before furnished the first statement, was able to testify yesterday. She was a neighbor of the Agees, a friend of Mrs. Agee and had taken care of the Agee children on numerous occasions.

She knew nothing about the defendant—or at least testified to nothing—though given ample opportunity to do so through leading questions by Deputy Prosecutor Pierce.

## Invitation Is Declined.

She did testify that on one occasion Mrs. Agee endeavored to persuade her to accompany another man on an automobile trip with Klecker. She said she refused and did not think Mrs. Agee went, though asserted she was not sure.

She testified that she was in the city that day. She testified that on June 8, about 14 hours before the murder, Mrs. Agee met Klecker.

## Remark Thought Joke.

The prosecutor elicited the information that as Mrs. Young and Mrs. Agee were walking along a downtown street an automobile drew up to the curb alongside. Mrs. Young signified that either she or Mrs. Agee should drive or encouraged him in any way, but testified that she recalled that Mrs. Agee had commented a moment later, "I believe we could go riding with those fellows if we wanted to."

Mrs. Young said that Mrs. Agee always said she married Agee to please her folks.

She said it before her husband and Klecker. Mrs. Young said that she and Mrs. Nelson in the Swiss hall, where Mrs. Agee danced several times with Klecker.

In cross-examination of Mrs. Young, Collier probed into the incident in which the two men in automobiles attempted to pick up a couple of passengers. Mrs. Young affirmed

knife and the trombone music score were found.

The spot was 2740 feet and 2115 feet by streets.

In cross-examination of Edmonstone, Hammerly asked the information that the most direct route from the Agee home to the Lombard street line was along Fiske street and only 1500 feet distant.

Epworth Camp Active

LEAGUE INSTITUTE ATTRACTS MANY YOUNG WORKERS.

Leaders of Church Are Present to Assist in Programme of Daily Sessions.

JEFFERSON, Or., July 28.—(Special.)—There were more than 200 registrations at the Epworth League Institute which will be more than 500 persons on the grounds by the end of the week, at the Epworth League institute now in progress at the Jefferson camp grounds here.

Nearly 100 tents were up and many persons were being entertained by friends in town.

From Astoria and Ashland they have come with their families, and as far in the other direction as Prineville.

Leaders of the Methodist Episcopal church from all over the state have arrived. Bishop Shepherd of Portland and addressed the classes in the morning session, leaving for Seattle in the evening. District Superintendent Youngson of the Portland section has been here twice.

He went to Albany last night. District Superintendent Danford, from the state's southern section, was mingling with the campers, and District Superintendent Gilbert of Salem, who was here, said he would like to be the "daddy" of the bunch of young Epworth Leaguers were it not for the expense, so earnest and happy were the youthful church workers in their pursuit of their labors and recreation.

Dr. J. O. Van Winkle was manager, with Professor Burrows Ford, assistant. Rev. Blaine Kirkpatrick was president, with Rev. Dr. Hickman backing him and delivering the evening addresses.

## BREAD PRICE REDUCED

Central Market Bakery's Action Presages General Drop.

What is believed may be a general drop in bread prices was presaged yesterday when the Central Market bakery announced a drop of 1 cent a loaf in the pound pan loaves, making the price 8 cents a loaf. The same establishment cut the twin-pound loaves baked together to 12 cents for the pair.

The price on the 14-pound loaves was made 13 cents and on two such loaves 25 cents.

The management of the company announced that the cut in price was justified by cheaper materials entering into the bread.

## 4550 Tons of Berries to Be Canned.

SALEM, Or., July 28.—(Special.)—Approximately 4550 tons of loganberry products will be manufactured by Salem canneries during the 1921 season, according to a survey completed here today. The total pack of the state last year was 3900 tons in the Wm and Sons 1920 tons of loganberries will be handled this season, reports indicated. Most of the Salem product will be shipped to eastern markets for disposition.

## North Dakota Banker Arrested.

FARGO, N. D., July 28.—T. L. Reisker of Fessenden, N. D., prominently known North Dakota banker, head of a string of banks and heavily interested in other business activities, which the two men in automobiles attempted to pick up a couple of passengers. Mrs. Young affirmed

## Victor Records for August

88635—T'm Arricorda e Napule.... By Enrico Caruso

84068—Country Dance..... By Mischa Elman

84070—Because You're Here..... By Edward Johnson

87327—When the Roses Bloom..... By Louise Homer

18760—Meditation..... By Florentine Quartet

Star of the Sea—Beverie..... By Florentine Quartet

15248—Mother Macbree (harp solo)..... By Alberto Salvi

Scherzo in Flat Minor..... By Alberto Salvi

33708—Golden Star..... By Sousa's Band

18762—Thinking of You..... By Sousa's Band

18775—Down Yonder..... By Peerless Quartet

Don't You Remember the Times..... By Campbell and Burr

DANCE.

18773—Listening—Fox Trot—By All-Star Trio and Their Orchestra

I'm Nobody's Baby—Fox Trot—By All-Star Trio and Their Orchestra

18777—Cho-Cho-San—Fox Trot—By Paul Whiteman and His Orchestra

Song of India—Fox Trot—By Paul Whiteman and His Orchestra

18778—Learn to Smile—Fox Trot—By Paul Whiteman and His Orchestra

Oh, Me! Oh, My!—Medley—Fox Trot—By Paul Whiteman and His Orchestra

Mail Orders Given Prompt Attention.

G. F. Johnson Piano Co.

149 Sixth St., Bet. Morrison and Alder.

geles to continue his experiments in meteorology.

## SCHOOL PLANS EXAMINED

Board of Control Studies Proposed New Plant for Boys.

SALEM, Or., July 28.—(Special.)—Members of the state board of control passed most of today considering plans prepared by W. C. Knighton, architect, for the proposed new plant of the state industrial school for boys.

The plant will cost \$280,000 and will be constructed on the cottage system. The plans, as prepared, include the major conveniences adopted in the training schools of other states, and in the system of buildings that will meet demands for a number of years. Some minor changes are to be made in the plans, however, and it is not expected that bids will be received for several weeks.

## TOURISTS THOUGHT SLAIN

Robbers Believed to Have Murdered 5 Men and Woman.

VIEKNA, July 28.—Five men and one woman, all tourists, have disappeared from summer resorts in Salabury province within a fortnight, according to reports reaching police here.

Police are inclined to believe that responsibility for the disappearance rests with a band of criminals who murder and rob their victims and bury the bodies.

## Prune Installment Paid.

VANCOUVER, Wash., July 28.—(Special.)—A total of \$67,000 in checks was mailed out Wednesday by the Washington Prune Growers' corporation to growers. This was the second payment on the 1920 crop, the first payment being \$37,000. A small third payment will be made in about a month.

All of the 1920 prune crop has now been disposed of by the corporation.

## Community's Morals Studied.

SALEM, Or., July 28.—(Special.)—That the morals of a community is an essential studied by easterners in search of a home in the west, was the statement made by S. M. Taylor, local manager for the Ellison-White.

## Newsboy Is Found Hanged.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 28.—The body of Patrick Ward, 12-year-old newsboy, was found hanging to a

hedpost in his home here today, according to reports to the police by the boy's father. A leather strap, used by the lad to tie newspapers, was found tight around his neck. Shortly before the finding of the body, the youth had been scolded because his face was dirty, the police said.

## How to Avoid Trouble.

You may save yourself a lot of trouble and suffering by obtaining a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Diarrhoea Remedy, at once. It is almost certain to be needed before the summer is over and when needed, is worth many times its cost. It is thoroughly reliable.—Advt.

## FREE LECTURES ON

## Applied Psychology

EVERY NIGHT 8:15  
America's Greatest Orator

Aug. 3—Applied Psychology. What is it?  
Aug. 4—Undiscovered Talent.  
Aug. 5—The Function of the Subconscious Mind.  
Aug. 6—What is Love? How to keep it.  
Aug. 7—Inspirational and healing silence. How to be beautiful.  
Aug. 8—Poverty a Disease. How to double your efficiency.

Dr. D. V. Bush  
World's Most Versatile Poet-Author

## MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM

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Present-day business conditions demand that all reasonable economies be practiced. Quick service to your patrons is the essential thing. The business world needs increased efficiency and reduced overhead expense.

The long-distance telephone service offers rapid, sure and economical communication and you don't have to wait for an answer.

By using Pacific long-distance telephone lines you can do in minutes what it would require hours or days to accomplish by other means of communication.

Ask for Pacific long-distance or dial 211 from Automatic telephones.

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ITCHING ECZEMA FOR 4 YEARS

On Limbs in Pimples, Burned and Could Not Rest. Cuticura Healed.

"I suffered for about four years with eczema on my limbs, from my knees down. At first they were very small pimples, and after a while the skin would begin to swell and get thick and crack open. My clothing rubbed the eruption, causing awful itching and burning, and I could not rest at all."