

30 MILES OF NEW HIGHWAY ORDERED

Contracts Totalling \$439,814 Awarded.

OTHER PROJECTS REFERRED

Counties Co-operating Are to Be Consulted.

MORE BIDS OPENED TODAY

Four Other Road Jobs Amounting to Approximately 40 Miles Are to Be Considered.

Thirty miles of highway construction, representing \$439,814, was awarded by the state highway commission yesterday. In addition to this, the commission referred to Chief Engineer Nunn 25.55 miles of work, aggregating \$271,256. The jobs which were referred were those in which counties are co-operating and the counties will be consulted before awards are made.

This morning, at the courthouse, the commission will open bids on four other highway jobs amounting to approximately 40 miles.

Owing to death of R. A. Booth's brother at The Dalles, the chairman of the commission left for that city a few hours before the time for the highway meeting. Commissioners Yeon and Barratt disposed of the mass of routine, including contractual matters pending until there can be a meeting of the full commission.

Klamath County Has Funds.

But for the absence of Chairman Booth the commission would probably have given an answer yesterday to the request of Klamath county for more road work. County Judge Bunnell asked for the reopening of 20 miles of The Dalles-California highway between Modoc point and Fort Klamath, on a 50-50 basis. The judge also requested that grading be done this year on the 15 miles between Keno and Hayden creek, on the Ashland-Klamath Falls highway, on a 50-50 basis. If the state is short of funds the county offers to advance the state's share for the two projects. The propositions of Judge Bunnell were taken under advisement.

George K. Allen, P. J. Gallagher and County Commissioner Dean moved in on the highway officers from Malheur county, asking and securing an order for a survey of the Central Oregon highway from Burrell's ranch to Harper, as the county has money to spend on the section when it is located. The Malheur men also asked for state aid in the rebuilding of a bridge across the Snake river at Ontario, where traffic from the John Day highway, Old Oregon Trail and Central Oregon highway converge. These requests were held in abeyance by the highway commission.

Plans for a highway improvement district have been abandoned by the people of Linn county as chairman J. Miller and County Commissioner Pierce requested that the state contribute toward \$38,000 from the county and a like sum from the government to grade the Santiam road from Foster to the ranger station.

The commission promised County Judge Wade of Cooper, J. C. Kendall and J. E. Norton that a decision will be reached soon on the location of the highway between Coquille and Bandon, the commission planning to make a personal inspection of the various suggested routes.

Work was ordered for grading and surfacing 2 1/2 miles from Merrill north in Klamath county. The right of way has already been secured by the county court.

Commissioners Farmer and Alley of Tillamook asked state co-operation in grading and surfacing south of Hebo and expressed preference for a tri-party project with the county, state and forest department. No action was taken on this.

Several Contracts Placed.

Contracts awarded yesterday were: Coos county—Roseburg-Coos Bay highway, Coquille-Myrice Point section, 7 miles grading and macadam, Scandia Shipbuilding company, \$63,729.20. Tillamook county—Coast highway, Merrill-Clatsop county line section, 4.7 miles grading, macadam, Tillamook county court, \$26,488.20. Sherman county—Sherman highway, Biggs-Wasco section, 0.42 miles grading and macadam, Pat Lonsberg, \$13,931.75. Lane county—Pacific highway, Hinesville-Harlingburg section, concrete paving, Scandia Shipbuilding company, \$18,252. Douglas county—Pacifi highway, bridge at Cottage Grove, Morse-Trowler company, \$18,477.

Plans referred to the engineer to take up with the counties, follow: Douglas county—Roseburg-Coos Bay highway, Winesburg section, 10 miles grading and macadam, Metzker & Hanson, \$22,717. Linn county—West Side highway, Rickard-Holmes section, 3.47 miles concrete paving, Oregon Concrete company, \$132,165. Lane county—McKenzie highway, Walden-Deschutes and Days section, 2.98 miles surfacing, Albert Anderson, \$22,225.

WALES GOES TO MANILA

Prince Completes Official Visit to Nippon Kingdom.

KAGOSHIMA, Japan, May 9.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Prince of Wales today completed his official visit to Japan.

He sailed for Manila on board the battleship Renown.

FREIGHT RATE CUT SOUGHT BY HARDING

RAILWAY EXECUTIVES ARE CALLED TO CONFERENCE.

Course Adopted Because Commerce Commission Doubts Power to Make Large Decreases.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 9.—President Harding has summoned 15 of the leading railroad executives of the country, it was said today at the executive offices, to attend a dinner at the White House May 29, for the purpose of discussing the rate situation. It is understood the president will ask the transportation chiefs to consider the possibility of adjusting railroad freight rates downward as a voluntary matter because the interstate commerce commission with the approval is said to have concluded that it cannot legally compel reductions to an extent satisfying to sections of public and business sentiment.

The administration, accordingly, is said to have decided to resume again the method of treating directly with the railroad organizations to consider what can be secured in the way of a satisfactory rate policy. Similar conferences were held last summer and fall.

The semi-judicial government bodies have jurisdiction in railroad regulation, the railroad labor board as well as the commerce commission, in the fixing of wage rates which enter into operating expenses. President Harding, however, is said to have concluded, as he did last fall, that the executives might be of some service in dealing with the problems, though not interfering with the judicial standing of the two tribunals.

The commerce commission has discussed for weeks in its chambers the decision to be reached by it in the general investigation of transportation rates, levels of the problems, was instituted last November and continued throughout the winter. Nearly every industry and locality in the country was represented in the record by a demand for some degree of relief from freight charges which stand now with war and post-war increases included.

President Harding has been told that the commission, in adjusting rates, is obliged to give "reasonable" return by edict of law and capital investment in necessary railroads under efficient and economic management, and that this requirement, notwithstanding recent increases in railroad earnings, ties the hands of the commission in attempting to lower rates. Although no longer required to fix rates which would assure railroads a 6 percent return on their investment, the vision of law having expired this spring, the "reasonable" requirement still governs.

Dr. Todd insisted that some measure should be provided by congress "to relieve the people from the burden of the motion picture industry."

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PROBE OF MOVIES URGED

Clergyman Pleads for Federal Regulation of Industry.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 9.—In urging adoption of the senate resolution calling for an investigation of the alleged political activities of the motion picture industry, Rev. S. Patterson Todd of Milwaukee, Wis., declared today before a senate judiciary sub-committee having the resolution in charge, that congress should regulate the motion picture industry, which he described as the third largest in the country.

BIG BEAR HUNT PLANNED

Federal Agents to Hunt Animal in Coos County.

An official bear hunt will be held in Coos county this month by Stanley G. Felt, head of the predatory animal division of the biological survey, in an attempt to rid the county of a monster sheep-killing bear, which has come out from winter headquarters and is again on the rampage.

All local attempts to trap or kill the bear have been unavailing. Within the past five years he has killed many sheep and cattle. C. B. Miller of Siletco finally wrote Jewett, seeking his aid.

\$4,250,000 CLAIMS DENIED

Receiver for Lincoln Motor Car Company Rejects Pleas.

DETROIT, May 9.—Claims aggregating \$4,250,000 against the Lincoln Motor Car company, preferred by seven individuals, were denied today by the Detroit Trust company, receiver for the concern. The claimants were indorsees of notes issued by the motor car company and the trust company today demanded that they pay these notes.

The government claims, it is understood, have precedence over all others.

COUNT TO WED AMERICAN

Niece of Hugh C. Wallace Today Becomes Bride in Paris.

BABY IS KIDNAPED BY RACING AUTOIST

Woman in Rear of House When Child Is Taken.

COUPLE RECENTLY SEPARATED

Unidentified Man Uses Car to Make Escape.

HUSBAND IS SUSPECTED

Mrs. Barbara Laird Believes That Mate Instigated Abduction. Warrant Is to Be Asked.

While cutting paper dolls in the living room of his mother's home, 724 East Main street, at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, little Billy Laird, aged 2 1/2 years, son of Mrs. Barbara Laird, was picked up and raced away in an automobile by an unidentified kidnaper.

Police detectives received an accurate description of the little fellow and a meager description of his abductor and telephoned to Vancouver and neighboring cities in an effort to locate the child. The mother believed her husband, from whom she was recently separated, instigated the abduction, although he did not appear at her home yesterday.

Husband Left Two Weeks Ago.

Mrs. Laird told Chief of Inspectors Moore and Captain Harms of the detective office that she was forced to leave her husband about two weeks ago while they were living at 1708 Grant street, Vancouver. She brought her baby son to Portland and went to the home of her mother, Mrs. Estella La Bounty, where she is now residing.

At the time of the separation, she said, her husband took their little daughter and she took the son. They signed an agreement before a Vancouver attorney, she said, to this disposition of the two children.

Mrs. Laird said she was in the rear of the house when the abductor rushed into the front door, snatched up the child and carried him out to a waiting automobile, parked in front of the house. She did not even know that the child had been taken until neighbors told her of seeing a man enter the house and leave with the little fellow in his arms.

Kidnaper About 25 Years Old.

The neighbors told police that the man seen carrying the child from the home was about 25 years old and had light bushy hair. This was the only description they could give. The automobile license number was not procured. All they could say was that it was an old touring car.

Mrs. Laird said her husband's parents live at Tekoa, Wash., near the Idaho border, and she believes the kidnaper is from that section.

(Concluded on Page 1, Column 2.)

FESTIVAL MAY WAIT UNTIL ROSES BLOOM

POSTPONEMENT OF ABOUT 2 WEEKS CONSIDERED.

Matter to Be Taken Up by Board at Meeting Tomorrow—Season Backward This Year.

The Portland Rose Festival, scheduled for June 7, 8 and 9, probably will be postponed about two weeks to assure a good supply of roses. The season has been unusually backward this year and rose specialists have declared that there will not be enough roses in bloom early in June for the brilliant display which in past years has made Portland famous all over the world.

The festival board will meet tomorrow afternoon to decide definitely whether it will be advisable to postpone the event. The board sent a telegram last night to Eric V. Hauser, president, who went to Washington, D. C., to invite President and Mrs. Harding to the festival, asking his opinion about postponing the fête. The board will consider his reply in reaching the final decision.

The dates, which it is understood are under consideration, are June 19, 20 and 21, or June 21, 22 and 23. Since the custom has been to hold the festival on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, June 21 to 23 may be the time finally chosen.

Rose bushes, except the climbers, have very few buds at present, and since it takes about 30 days to bring the roses to their best, prominent rose growers advised the postponing of the festival until such time as the blooms will be in abundance.

The proposed change in the date will necessitate changes in the plans of tourists. Those who are planning to attend the annual session of the Imperial council of the Mystic Shrine in San Francisco on June 13, 14 and 15, can stop in Portland on their return trip, instead of on their way to the convention, as many had arranged.

Arrangements for appearance of a detachment of Northwest Mounted Police at the festival are in progress. A telegram from Senator McNary yesterday advised Mayor Baker that permission of governor O'Leary is one of the requisites before the "mounties" may be brought here. The mayor will immediately ask the governor to grant this permission. A detachment of the Canadian mounted officers participated in the festival two years ago.

FESTIVAL FUND DRIVE BEGUN

Frank McCrillis, Chairman, Reports Optimistically on First Day.

Frank McCrillis, chairman, in charge of financing activities for the Rose Festival, reported optimistically last night on the results of the first day's work by the flying squad of solicitors who took the field early yesterday with a \$29,000 fund as their objective. Thirty teams of Royal Rosarians, together with a number of the 30 picked business men selected to serve on the "flying squadron" by President Hauser of the festival board, worked all day yesterday, and this morning 20 new Rosarian teams, together with the remaining members of the flying squadron, will join the drive forces.

Some substantial subscriptions were reported last night by Chairman McCrillis.

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CHURCH CHOIR GIVES CONCERT BY RADIO

JOHN T. DOUGALL SPEAKS TO PASCO CHAMBER.

Message Is About Columbia River Basin Project—Chorus Numbers Splendid Successes.

A concert of seven numbers, three of which were solos and the others by the entire choir of the First Methodist Episcopal church, consisting of 35 voices directed by E. Trevor Jones, and a speech by John T. Dougall for the benefit of the chamber of commerce at Pasco, Wash., comprised the radio programme broadcast from The Oregonian tower last night.

It was not The Oregonian's regular programme night, but because the station of Willard P. Hawley Jr. was closed, owing to the serious illness of George Cusey, a cousin, the programme which was to have been sent out from the Hawley station was given over The Oregonian's set so that the radio fans expecting entertainment would not be disappointed.

New adjustments made in the apparatus by J. B. Weed, local manager of the Shipowners' Radio service and operator of The Oregonian set, resulted in great improvement in the quality of voice transmitted, and the singers reported even better success than usual in getting the music. A new and better antenna is to be strung this week and is expected further to improve the transmitting.

Under the able hand of Director Jones the chorus numbers of the programme were splendid successes and the singing was declared as good as any large chorus which has been heard over the radio in the Pacific northwest. The broadcasting started with the speech which John T. Dougall, chairman of the members' forum of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, sent to the Pasco, Wash. chamber of commerce assembled in annual meeting.

A representative from the Portland Chamber of Commerce was asked to visit Pasco to deliver a message about the Columbia river basin project. Dougall agreed to talk over the radio and a receiving set with a magnavox was installed in the quarters of the Pasco chamber of commerce and the message was received as clearly as though he had been on the platform in front of the members.

Three excellent solos graced the musical part of the programme. They were by Mrs. Goldie Peterson Wessler, who has sung several times for radio, and who sang "I Bring You Heartsease" (Burscombe); Esther Collins (Chapin), also a favorite radio singer, singing last night "Deep River"; and B. L. Markee, soloist at the First Methodist Episcopal church, who sang "Morning Hymn" (Henschel). Solo numbers always bring spirited applause and those sung last night were no exception to the rule, both old and new listeners telephoning appreciation and thanks.

Exceptionally meritorious among the chorus numbers was "Seek Ye the Lord" with a solo obligato by E. Trevor Jones. All of the numbers, both solos and choir singing, were accompanied on the piano by Mrs. Edward Drake. The other three choir numbers were "Worthy is the Lamb" from Handel's "Messiah"; "O Gladsome Light" (Stainer) and "The Heavens Are Telling" from Hayden's "Creation." The Sotherling-Lucas concert broadcast.

(Concluded on Page 6, Column 1.)

PINCHOT IN RACE TO DITCH MACHINE

Governorship Big Issue in Pennsylvania.

FORESTER DEFIES BOSSES

Friend of Roosevelt Makes Fight as Outsider.

PROGRESSIVES GIVE AID

Insurgents Within Republican Ranks and Women Support Conservation Expert.

BY MARK SULLIVAN.
(Copyright by The New York Evening Post, Inc. Published by Arrangement.)

PHILADELPHIA, May 9.—(Special.)—The next political event in sight is the republican primary in Pennsylvania, to be held next Tuesday. For the understanding of the public outside of Pennsylvania, it can be said that the two United States senatorships concerned are not the cause of the excitement in political circles.

For the succession to Senator Knox there is but one republican candidate, a young lawyer named Reed, who was a junior member in the late Senator Knox's Pittsburg law firm. Mr. Reed will have no opposition in the primaries, and undoubtedly will win the fall election against the democratic candidate. It can be taken for granted that the successor to Senator Knox is practically chosen.

Senator Pepper Opposed.

In the same way, to only a slightly less extent, it is clear that the successor to the late Senator Penrose will be George Wharton Pepper. Mr. Pepper has some opposition in the republican primary. It is supplied by a railroad labor man, William J. Burke. Mr. Burke is making an energetic campaign, but he cannot win. Mr. Pepper has the support of both factions of the republican party.

He has avoided becoming involved in the fight within the party. Not only will Mr. Pepper get the republican nomination, but it is equally certain that he will prevail over Mr. Penrose in the fall election. In all probability the next senators from Pennsylvania will be the two republicans, Messrs. Reed and Pepper.

Mr. Pinchot Storm-Center.

But it is over the governorship of Pennsylvania that the most bitter fight is on that has taken place within the republican party in Pennsylvania within a generation. The candidate who is creating most of the interest is a nationally known figure, Gifford Pinchot.

Mr. Pinchot's career in politics has been that of an idealist progressive—a Roosevelt. Early in life, when he was still a student, he adopted a profession then comparatively little known in America, that of forestry. This profession he studied for several years in France, Germany, Switzerland and Austria. Since the completion of his student days, he has spent another of his life, one branch or another of this profession.

Champion of Conservation.

For 15 years he was head of the bureau of forestry of the United States government. This experience coincided for seven years with the presidency of Roosevelt, and Mr. Pinchot, as an intimate of Colonel Roosevelt, frequently was described as one of the members of President Roosevelt's "tennis cabinet."

Mr. Pinchot came conspicuously to the front as the champion and spokesman of the policy of conservation of national resources in the Balinger controversy during the presidency of Mr. Taft. It was during that fight that Mr. Pinchot left the government service. For the last few years he has been head of the forest service of the state of Pennsylvania.

Old Guard Makes Fight.

Under ordinary circumstances, especially as long as the late Senator Penrose was the head of the Pennsylvania republican machine, a man of Mr. Pinchot's type hardly would have the faintest chance to win an elective office in Pennsylvania. It is the partial disruption of the old Pennsylvania machine incident to Senator Penrose's death that has given Mr. Pinchot the opportunity he now has.

The fight is staged almost wholly between what remains of the old Pennsylvania machine, whose candidate is the present attorney-general of the state, Mr. Alter, and Mr. Pinchot, running as an outsider with the aid of some slight support from an insurgent section of the old machine.

Progressives Back Candidates.

The issues involved include largely Mr. Pinchot's personality and public record, which are of the sort to appeal to women voters and to all the old Roosevelt element in Pennsylvania. Added to this is the issue of charges of extravagance and other terms of mismanagement of the state government under the administration of the republican organization.

Mr. Pinchot's support is rather more powerful than that of any other man who ever has contended against the Pennsylvania republican machine.

WIFE HELD INSULTED; STUDENT KILLS PAL

TRAGEDY ENACTED JUST OFF COLLEGE CAMPUS.

Shooting Occurs While One Is Being Escorted to Home of Other to Make Apology.

STILLWATER, Okla., May 9.—(By the Associated Press.)—Beckham Cobb, 23, federal student at Oklahoma Agricultural college here, was shot and killed just outside the campus today by Earl Gordon, 25, another federal student, while escorting the latter home at the point of a revolver to demand an apology to his pretty young wife for an alleged insult offered by Gordon. Both Gordon and Cobb served in the army during the war. Cobb served overseas.

Gordon is held in jail pending an investigation by county authorities, but tonight no charges had been filed against him.

Bertie Sue Cobb, 15-year-old wife of Cobb, declared tonight that several nights ago Gordon met her on the street and insulted her. She refused to give the nature of the alleged insult, but said she told her husband.

Records show that Cobb was on the transport Otranto when it was torpedoed during the war. He was injured and suffering from chronic bronchitis. Mrs. Cobb said she thought her husband had been gassed in France. She denied that he was not unduly jealous.

Gordon did not make a detailed statement. "Cobb was after me," he said.

Cobb's home is at Birmingham, Ala., and that of Gordon is at Miami, Okla.

TURK SPOUSE IMPOSSIBLE

Constance Talmadge, Movie Actress, Sues for Divorce.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., May 9.—Constance Talmadge, motion picture actress, filed in the superior court today a suit for divorce from John J. Reardon, a native of Turkey, a subject of Greece and a cigarette manufacturer of New York," according to the complaint. She charges "cruel and inhuman treatment."

They were married September 26, 1920, at Greenwich, Conn., and separated April 5, 1921, the complaint states.

SCREEN STAR WILL WED

Engagement of Rudolph Valentino to Miss Hudnut Announced.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., May 9.—Word was received today from New York that Richard Hudnut, perfume manufacturer, had announced the engagement of his daughter Wilfred to Rudolph Valentino, motion picture actor, now employed in Los Angeles.

Miss Hudnut is an art director and professionally is known as Natacha Rambova.

MASTODON BONES FOUND

Parts of Skeleton of Monster Unearthed in Texas.

WICHITA FALLS, Tex., May 9.—What are believed to be fragments of a mastodon's bones have been unearthed by oil drillers in Gray county, according to reports here.

The fragments were found imbedded in dry sand and are said to be large enough to indicate they were part of a skeleton of a pre-historic monster.

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NORTHWEST CROPS HURT BY FROSTS

Further Freezing This Morning Predicted.

HEAVY DAMAGE REPORTED

Umatilla Losses Described as Being Calamitous.

HOOD RIVER IS HOPEFUL

Snow, Rain and Hail Go to Make Up Variety of Weather for State of Oregon.

COLD SNAP DOES DAMAGE IN WASHINGTON AND OREGON.

Portland—Rain, snow, hail, with chilling wind. Frost predicted this morning, with showers and westerly wind later.

Boond—Four inches of snow, which had fallen in ten hours, melts suddenly.

White Salmon, Wash.—Strawberry, peach and cherry crop reported ruined by frost; adjacent mountain district unharmed.

Roseburg—Snow, hail yesterday, with heavy frost predicted for this morning.

The Dalles—Wasco fruit and vegetable crop injured by frost.

Hood River—Fruit in lower valley damaged by frost, with further freezing predicted.

Tacoma, Wash.—Temperature 23.8, coldest May day on record.

Walla Walla, Wash.—Fruit and vegetables damaged by frost.

Boise, Idaho—Idaho fruit injured by frost.

Pendleton—Frost damage in Umatilla county declared calamitous.

Fruit and vegetables in most sections of the whole northwest suffered more or less damage from frost Monday night, according to reports received in Portland, and further frost was predicted for this morning except in regions close to the coast.

Pendleton described the damage as "calamitous," while reports from other sections ranged from that of Hood River, where it was hoped that the loss would be light, to that of White Salmon, Wash., where it was declared that the strawberry, peach and cherry crops were ruined.

The weather in Portland exhibited a wide range from sunshine to snow, rain and hail, with sunshine and snow mixed for one brief period in the afternoon.

The day opened with intermittent sunshine, a cold wind from the northwest. By noon the atmosphere had warmed appreciably. Later there was a severe storm, with rain, snow and hail mixed.

The prediction for Oregon today is: Fair, east; showers in the west portion of state; heavy frost in morning except along the coast; westerly winds.

SNOW FALLS AT ROSEBURG

Heavy Frost Expected This Morning by Growers.

ROSEBURG, Or., May 9.—(Special.)—The heavy snowfall experienced here last night was the first ever recorded during the month of May, according to a report issued this morning by the weather bureau. Twelve years ago today Roseburg was visited by the heaviest hail storm in its history, hail stones several inches in circumference doing a great deal of damage to roofs, awnings and skylights.

Considerable anxiety was caused by a severe hail storm today, but fortunately it was not bad enough to do any great damage. Late this afternoon clearing weather indicated that the weather bureau's prediction of a killing frost tonight would be true and fruit men are considerably worried over the prospects.

UMATILLA LOSS IS HEAVY

Fruit Men Describe Damage as Big Calamity to County.

PENDELTON, Or., May 9.—(Special.)—Reports on the killing frost which last night hit every section of Umatilla county, began to come this afternoon. Prominent fruit growers of both the east and west and stated that nothing short of a calamity has resulted from the sudden fall in temperature, which was reported to have gone as low as 27 above zero. There was ice on the water in Pendleton.

This morning at 9 o'clock at Hermiston, in the west end of the county, and at Milton-Freewater in the east end, the thermometer was reported still to be at the freezing point. The heavy frost has followed two weeks of sunny weather, but with cold winds which have delayed all crops.

The entire early tomato crop was destroyed in this county, according to reports.

(Concluded on Page 2, Column 1.)

