Morning Oregonian.

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$200,000 TAKEN IN RAID AT MINT

Denver Bank Guard Slain by Bandits.

BATTLE RAGES IN STREET

Mint Riddled by Outlaws While Big Sum Taken From Truck.

ONE ROBBER IS WOUNDED

Injured Man Is Pulled Into Speeding Automobile by His Companions.

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 18.—Masked bandits shortly after 10:40 o'clock this morning shot and killed Charles Linton, guard of the Denver branch of the Kansas City Federal Reserve bank, stole $200,000 in currency and escaped after waging a gun fight with armed guards on duty at the United States mint. Every peace officer in Colorado tonight is combing the highways leading from Denver in a search for the outlaws. The money was being transferred from the mint to a delivery truck of the reserve bank standing at the curb and was in 50 packages of $4000 each. All of the money was in $5 denomination.

Police expected to be aided in their search for the escaped bandits by the fact that one, apparently the leader, was shot seriously if not mortally by a government guard on duty at the mint as the bandit turned to fire a volley at the guards as the car sped away from the scene of the holdup.

Police Cars Go in Pursuit.

An automobile carrying seven men, two wearing masks and one drooping over the edge of the machine, bleeding profusely, was reported to police as having been seen speeding northward out of the city shortly after the robbery. Denver police unhesitatingly declared the robbery the most sensational daylight holdup ever executed in Colorado.

All patrolmen and detectives of the local police department were armed with riot guns and were being assisted in the search by the county and federal authorities.

Mint Door Bombarded.

The disregard of the bandits for human life marked the robbery, according to police, as one of the most determined in police annals. With sawed-off shotguns, two of the bandits bombarded the front door of the mint as they leaped from the automobile. Fifty government employes summoned by an alarm bell seized shotguns and rushed to the doors or windows of the mint, shooting at the holdup men, who returned the fire and at the same time calmly proceeded to load the 50 packages of currency into their own car.

Fusillades of shots ripped through buildings across the street and spat against granite walls as the guards and bandits exchanged shots.

Bandit Car Driven Alongside.

The four members of the federal reserve bank crew employed in the transfer of the funds—J. E. Olson, cashier; C. T. Linton, J. Adams and William Havenor—had just left the entrance of the mint and were walking toward their machine standing nearby when another car containing the bandits drove up alongside the wire-inclosed truck.

According to witnesses, two or three men carrying guns leaped from the car, and with a shout of "hands up!" opened fire on the reserve bank employes. The shooting attracted the attention of guards within the mint, who sounded the alarm to other inside employes, and they rushed out on the steps of the government building to shoot at the robbers.

Linton, according to information obtained by police after questioning several eyewitnesses, attempted to throw the money into the grilled

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LOOT FROM TOURISTS FOUND IN JOSEPHINE

CACHE LOCATED BY USE OF MAP IN CONFESSION.

Large Quantity of Clothing, Taken by Robbers Who Broke Jail, Is Recovered.

GRANTS PASS, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Some of the loot taken from motorists robbed on the highway near Grants Pass during the last summer was recovered today by Josephine county officials. Following the escape from the county jail of Oregon Jones and Ellsworth Kelly, held in connection with the crimes, Mrs. Jones confessed to the officers the exact location of the stolen goods. She drew a map which the officers followed and which led them to a cache of two suitcases.

In the suitcases were clothing, toilet articles and other things stolen from four different tourist parties. All the jewelry had been removed and it is thought that it had been sold. The sheriff expects to recover the remainder of the goods soon.

Nothing has been heard from either Jones or Kelly since their escape a week ago. A holdup in the Siskiyou mountains is thought a possible crime of the two, as the robbers took an automobile and headed south. Jones is considered one of the hardest criminals in the state, having served a term in the state reform school and a term in the Oklahoma state prison.

ROAD AWARD CRITICISED

Lane Commissioner Brands Contract as Gross Waste of Money.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Emmett M. Sharp, Lane county commissioner, declared today that the letting of the contract by the state highway commission last week to build the 8.73 miles of the Goshen-Lowell highway in Lane county, to the Warren Construction company for $82,571, or nearly $10,000 a mile, is a gross waste of money and that he would be able to construct the road for something like $3000 or $4000 a mile. Sharp is a road contractor and was engaged in that business before he was elected commissioner.

The letting of the contract, which was done by the commission on recommendation of the Lane county court, was bitterly criticised by Sharp. He also declared the Lost creek bridge on the same highway, which was awarded to E. D. Olds at $9033, can be built for half the money the contract calls for.

DEER POSSESSION DENIED

Accused Man Pleads Not Guilty of Having Meat Unlawfully.

ASTORIA, Dec. 18.—(Special.)—David Haine was arraigned in the justice court today on a complaint sworn to by C. P. Smith, deputy warden, and charging him with unlawful possession of deer meat. He pleaded not guilty and was held for trial. Mike Hagren will be arraigned on a similar charge.

George Hagren pleaded guilty recently to a charge tf killing a deer during the closed season near Elsie and was fined $100, which he paid. The other men are accused of helping to pack the deer meat out of the woods.

MISSOULA, MONT., JARRED

Residents Awakened by Quake; No Damage Reported.

MISSOULA, Mont., Dec. 18.—A slight earthquake was felt here at 9:55 tonight. Residents were awakened, pictures shaken from walls and dishes rattled.

No damage was reported in any section of the city.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Dec. 18.—A slight earthquake was recorded at the Harvard college seismographic station today.

The shock apparently centered in or near the West Indies.

POSTOFFICE TILL ROBBED

Creswell Station Broken Open but Revenue Stamps Are Ignored.

CRESWELL, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—The local postoffice was robbed last night, entrance being made through the woodshed to the door between it and the main office, which was broken. About $12 in cash was taken. Some iron instrument was used to pry open the door, as the doorjamb was splintered.

Some revenue stamps were examined but not taken, and some registered letters were left.

BIRD NARCOTIC CARRIER

Pigeon Bearing Tube of Drug Surprises Raiders.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 18.—While police searched a house in Chinatown yesterday for hidden drugs, a carrier pigeon flew in bearing a tube of narcotics.

Two men were arrested.

VALERA REPORTED HELD

Capture by Free State Forces Is Rumored in Paris.

PARIS, Dec. 19.—The Herald this morning says reports were current in Paris that Eamon de Valera had been captured by the Irish free state authorities.

LOAN TO GERMANY HELD 'IDLE TALK'

Decision on Reparations First Is Necessary.

U. S. AIM IS EXPL[illegible]

British-French Harmony Is Declared Big Object.

DEBT ISSUE TO STAND

Administration Not Willing to Cancel Obligations as Preliminary to Indemnity Pact.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18.—Adjustment of the reparations dispute between London and Paris is the crux of the European tangle, in the American viewpoint, as stated here today on competent authority. Talk of any American loan to Germany was described as "idle" until such an adjustment had been made.

It also was made clear that the question of allied war debts to the United States was not viewed in Washington as involved in the Anglo-French differences as to the amount Germany can pay. Beyond this official spokesmen refused to go in outlining what the Washington government had in mind. There was no hint as to the purposes or progress of informal discussions with allied leaders, which have been indicated both here and abroad to be under way. No answer was returned to inquiries as to whether Germany had again sought American intervention in the reparations difficulty.

British-French Harmony Aim.

With the field of operation thus narrowed, however, it was evident in official talk today that administration hopes that American influence can aid in the European situation were quite generally believed to be based on possibilities that may result in bringing British and French thought into harmony as to Germany's present economic plight and capacity to pay.

Since time lacks for lengthy process of examination on that point before expiration of the moratorium January 15, there was a tendency to believe that the Washington government had some hope of causing at least a delay in the definite action by France after that time, pending further light from recognized expert authorities.

U. S. Participation Expected.

In this connection, it is known that in some diplomatic quarters one impression prevails that American participation in some form when the council of premiers resumes its sessions in Paris January 2 is to be expected. The expectation appears to be based on the conclusion that the council meeting would afford natural and logical opportunity for a statement of American views.

Presumably Germany is not only

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST GETS WARM RAINS

UMATILLA AND HOOD RIVER ARE TWO EXCEPTIONS.

Cold Snap Broken in Portland and Elsewhere; More Rain Predicted for Today.

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REPORTS SHOW OLD BOREAS' GRIP ON NORTHWEST BROKEN.

Ashland has warm rain.

Pendleton has snow flurries, with temperature above zero.

Umatilla still in grip of cold.

Aberdeen snow melts rapidly under warm rain.

Albany cold spell broken by warm rain.

La Grande has warmer weather.

Astoria cold spell broken.

Eugene snow melts rapidly and silver thaw is averted.

Hood River sleet storm blocks highway.

The Dalles covered with ice as result of sleet storm.

Olympia weather moderates. Ice makes roads dangerous, but rain later clears highways.

Seattle cold wave dispelled by warmer temperatures.

Spokane reports snow and moderating temperatures there and at Yakima.

Bend gets relief when chinook and rain turn snow to slush.

Winter's grip on Portland and the greater part of the Pacific northwest appeared to have been broken yesterday when reports from nearly all districts heralded the melting of snow and ice-coatings on streets and highways under the gentle urgings of a chinook wind and warm rains.

The only exception to moderation in the weather seemed to be in the Hood River and Umatilla areas. From Pendleton came the tidings of snow flurries, with all of Umatilla county still in the grip of winter.

Hood River had a sleet storm which blocked the Columbia highway and halted the work of clearing the scenic road at least for the time being.

Points in Washington generally reported relief from the cold, as did western Oregon and the Willamette valley.

In Portland the melting of the snow in the downtown district and the disappearance of ice in the residential sections indicated the departure of the chilling east wind and the freezing temperatures. This was accompanied with a forecast of a rising temperature, more rain and warm southerly winds for the city today. The rain will be general over the western portion of the state, but the eastern section will again be blanketed with snow, according to Forecaster Wells.

The most serious effect of the deluge of sleet and "tapioca" snow was the blockading of the Columbia highway between Mist Falls and Multnomah Falls. A. S. Woodard, road supervisor in charge, telephoned to Roadmaster Eatchel that the pellet-like snow had rolled down the hills and drifted across the highway to a depth of four to six feet in various places.

Despite the slush which covered

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GIRLS PLAN ATTACK ON MARRIED WOMEN

STENOGRAPHERS PROTEST AT CORNER ON JOBS.

Preference in Selection for Work at Coming Session Demanded Over Wives of Solons.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—A number of unemployed Salem and Portland girls who are dependent upon work for a livelihood will swoop down on the lawmakers at the opening of the 1923 legislative session and demand that preference be given them over married women in the employment of clerks and stenographers.

One of the girls interested in the movement said today that she had completed a check of the legislative payroll extending back over a period of several years and had discovered that married women apparently had been favored in the distribution of positions.

In many cases it was found, according to this girl, that the wives of legislators had accompanied their husbands to Salem and had acted as their stenographers. In only a few instances had these women any stenographic training, she said, and in the large majority of the cases they were not able to operate a typewriter. Despite their lack of training these women were allowed the statutory fee of $4 a day and overtime.

One outstanding instance of putting it over the state was discovered in connection with the 1921 session of the legislature. This involved a legislator residing in a rural district, who brought his wife to Salem and later had her sworn in as his official stenographer. A day or two later she was sent to a hospital, where she gave birth to a child. Despite the fact that she remained in the hospital practically all of the time she was in Salem, she was allowed almost full-time pay as a stenographer.

FAMOUS EXPLORER DEAD

David Lindsay, Who Opened Australian Gold Fields, Passes.

MELBOURNE, Dec. 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—The death was announced today of David Lindsay, noted explorer, through whose pioneering investigations the great Australian gold field was discovered.

He was 66 years old.

TRAIN WRECKED, 2 DEAD

Locomotive Overturned and Engineer and Fireman Killed.

REVELSTOKE, B. C., Dec. 18.—M. Melville, engineer, and J. S. Field, fireman, were killed today when a Canadian Pacific passenger train, express No. 4, struck a broken rail.

The locomotive was overturned and the mail, express, baggage and colonist cars were derailed.

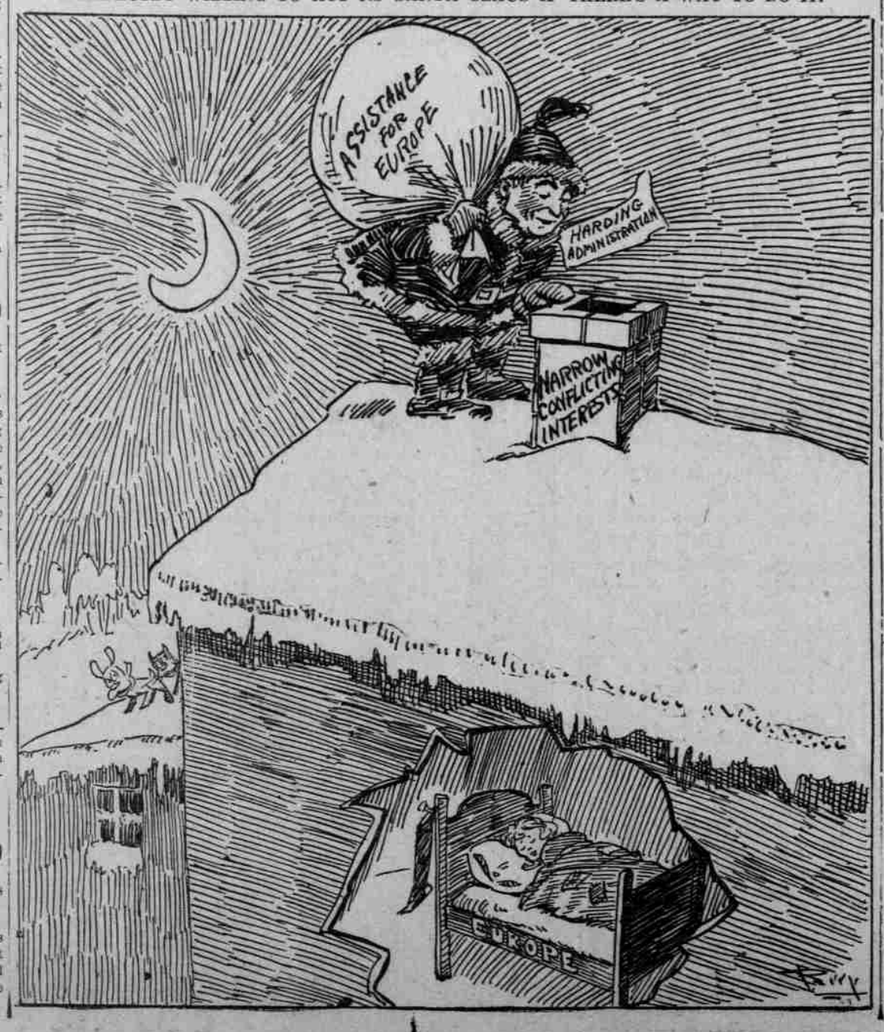
HARDING IS LUMBERMAN

President Re-elected Director of Marion, O., Company.

MARION, O., Dec. 18.—President Harding was re-elected a director of the Pendergast Lumber company at the annual meeting of stockholders here today.

He has been a director of the company for a number of years.

PERFECTLY WILLING TO ACT AS SANTA CLAUS IF THERE'S A WAY TO DO IT.



HOLLYWOOD EVIL PROBE IS ASKED

Los Angeles Council Is Asked to Act.

JUST JUDGMENT WANTED

Ministers Ask Naming of Unbiased Committee.

DOPE DEALER IS SOUGHT

While Wallace Reid Battles for Health, Narcotic Agents Get on Trail of Suspect.

BY EDWARD DOHERTY.

(By Chicago Tribune Leased Wire.)

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 18.—The city council of Los Angeles will be asked tomorrow to appoint a committee to make an investigation of the motion-picture industry, to the end that the truth or falsity of reports concerning immorality and the use of drugs may be determined.

The Methodist Ministers' association of southern California will make the request, submitting a resolution drawn up late today. The resolution cites the fact that the author of "The Sins of Hollywood" has been indicted, not for lying, but for sending obscene matter through the mails, and that following the Wallace Reid scandal it is persistently rumored that some of the biggest producers and actors in southern California are linked with the actor's ruin.

City Declared Suffering.

"In all this," the resolution reads, "the city has suffered irreparably. These stories are either true or false. The movie industry is either infested with an immoral element that threatens the industry, good morals and decency in our city and nation and the city's good name, or else it has been and is now being maligned and slandered in an unthinkable manner."

The resolution asked that the commission be made up of "unbiased men and women from the various walks of life in this city," and that it receive the authority and power to summon witnesses, administer oaths and take evidence. It asked also that the commission receive freedom to gather all facts unhindered and without restriction, and that an attorney be appointed to assist in the investigation. An appropriation sufficient for all expenses was recommended.

Producers' Aid Is Asked.

"We urge that all producers and others interested in the future of the movie industry to join us in this petition to the city council, and we call upon Will Hays to use his best endeavor to this end, looking to an adequate remedy, if the conditions reported obtain, and the complete vindication of the good name of the industry and of this city if they are found to be false," the resolution concluded.

J. Herbert Frank, film player, member of the Actors' Equity association and of the Los Angeles Athletic club, vehemently denied today that he was in any way connected with the Hollywood dope ring.

The name J. Herbert Frank was found on letters in the possession of William Williams, arrested as a dope peddler, according to Dr. Carleton Simon, special deputy police commissioner of New York city, in charge of the narcotic division.

These letters, it was said, asked Williams to send him morphine and cocaine. Other letters contained the initials "W. R.," Dr. Simon declared, and it was hinted the initials might be those of Wallace Reid.

Injustice Is Charged.

"I feel that a great injustice has been done me," Mr. Frank said. "I do not know Wallace Reid. I have never met him. I do not know this man Williams. I have never had anything to do with him. If a man named J. Herbert Frank wrote him, it was not I. I am willing to let anybody cross-examine me at length in this matter and I intend to visit District Attorney Woolwine as soon as possible. If the federal agents have wanted me, they have made little effort to find me."

While Reid, dope-shattered movie star, was fighting the crisis, narcotic agents were trying to locate the man who was alleged to have supplied him with drugs.

This man was said to be a moving picture actor, though not a star, and, it was said, fould be arrested as soon as the federal agents have learned his present abiding place.

Name Is Kept Secret.

His name was being held secret, but it was known that the man was arrested a short time ago and was released through pressure of certain movie cliques.

It was declared that the agents were trying to trap Reid through this man, that they had shadowed their quarry on a number of occasions, that they knew where and when he was to meet the movie star and that they planned to arrest both peddler and client as the rendezvous.

Reid, however, learned of their

(Concluded on Page 6, Column 2.)

CHILDREN IN POVERTY ASK FOR YULE GIFTS

APPEALS TO SANTA CLAUS MADE IN LETTERS.

Postoffice Turns Over Missives to Welfare Bureau and Cases Are Being Investigated.

Tragic stories of need and suffering amid "plenty" in Portland are being uncovered in some of the letters written by little children to their patron saint, Santa Claus, which are being turned over by the postoffice to the local public welfare bureau.

Among those received by the bureau in the last week are two particularly appealing to the charitable heart. One was written by a 8-year-old boy and the other by a 12-year-old girl. They are modest letters. The children ask for very little, but there is a world of appeal in each line for the things denied to them because of circumstances.

The names and addresses of the children are withheld, as the bureau is investigating their cases.

Some of the letters read as follows:

Dear Santa: I am whriting you to see if you rember my little brother and sister this christmas, for we all not have anything if you don't help us. we is all too little to work for only mother, but we are good to her. she was sick all summer, but we help with the washing and done dishes. we scrubbed. it was know little kitchen eather so if you come be sure you dont get lost in. we not got much in our kitchen or house but its home again for mother is well. well here my brother sister ages 13 boy 12 boy 10 girl 8 boy 5 girl boy 2 our darling baby sister. she is 6 months old. well I last in putting down my age but first of all know we not choicie, jest something, santa, so it not be so hard, you see we got a big doctor bill and some other payments to make. papa been sick, he got hurt when he worken so it nock all hopes in the head.

Dear Santa: It is not very long before Christmas, so I am sending my letter early so it will get filled. I am a little poor girl. The first thing I need is a new dress to fit a girl 12 years old, I pair skates and a new ribbon. I petticoat and a bag of candy if you can afford it. But if you cannot bring all these dear santa, bring me the dress because I need it. So dont disappoint me.

Two years ago letters like the foregoing were turned over to the dead-letter office, where they were buried in vaults and forgotten. On Christmas morn there were always many disappointed young hearts that Santa Claus had "forgotten" and who wondered sadly why other children were too well remembered.

No more are these children disappointed on Christmas morn, for all their letters are now taken care of by the public welfare bureau and where there is actual need assistance is lent.

By telephoning Broadway 8216 anyone who wishes to help the bureau in its work can get in touch with the men in charge of the work."

MME. BERNHARDT FAINTS

"Divine Sarah" Unable to Open With Her New Play.

PARIS, Dec. 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—Sarah Bernhardt had a fainting attack at the close of the last rehearsal this afternoon of Sacha Guitry's new play, "Un Sujet De Roman," which was to have been produced tonight with Bernhardt in one of the principal parts.

The production was postponed.

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AID FOR ASTORIA UP TO COMMITTEE

Five Legislators Named to Consider Relief.

ANOTHER MEETING PLANNED

Report Is to Be Made to Senator Klepper.

HASTY ACTION OPPOSED

Conference Held on How to Build Road Through City; Pierce Offers No Solution.

Solution of the problem of granting Astoria's appeal for state aid in reconstruction of the city's destroyed business section now rests with a committee of five members of the legislature appointed by Acting Governor Ritner at the conference held at the city hall yesterday between the Astoria relief committee of ten, Governor-elect Pierce, members of the legislature and the state highway commission and Mayor Baker, who called the meeting.

Members of the committee of five are Senator Robert S. Farrell of Portland, chairman; Senator O. B. Robertson of Condon and Representatives Loyal M. Graham, Forest Grove; E. N. Hurd, Seaside, and D. E. Fletcher of Independence. Under resolutions adopted by the conference this committee will confer with the Astoria executive committee of ten, Governor-elect Pierce and the state highway commission, with the view of devising a method of meeting Astoria's plea for construction by the state highway commission of a central street through the ruined business section.

Another Meeting to Be Called.

The committee is to report as soon as possible to Senator Milton R. Klepper, chairman of yesterday's conference, who will call another meeting of members of the legislature, at which a programme of action for recommendation to the legislature when it convenes in January will be adopted.

Ten members of the state senate and 14 members of the house of representatives attended yesterday's conference. All expressed a desire to aid the citizens of the stricken city, but a differenec of opinion developed as to how this could best be done.

Council Chamber Crowded.

At the opening of the conference the city council chamber was crowded with spectators who later were requested by Mayor Baker to withdraw and the members of the legislature then resolved themselves into a committee and elected Senator Klepper chairman.

Mayor Baker had previously explained the plight of Astoria's business men and the urgent need of action. "This is not a problem for individuals to solve but one which necessitates action by the state," Mayor Baker declared. "It is the duty of you members of the legislature and Governor-elect Pierce as representatives of the state to say how the problem shall be met. The buck capnot be passed."

Property Bonded to Limit.

Property in the destroyed business section had already been bonded to the legal limit for construction of the sea wall and other civic improvements, said Rev. William S. Gilbert, chairman of the Astoria committee of ten, and as a result it would be impossible for this property to bear the cost of reconstruction of the business area. Aid from the federal government to the extent of filling in the sunken streets and construction of a retaining wall is expected, he said, thus leaving the city with the problem of building hard surface streets.

Owing to the heavy bonded indebtedness, he explained, construction by the state highway commission of a central street which can be used as the core of the business district street system is essential. He did not explain how construction of the rest of the streets would be financed but asserted rebuilding of Commercial street, the main avenue of the business district, would be the only assistance the state would be asked to give.

Appeal Made to State.

"The only chance for Astoria to build again is for you people to find a way for our people to do this work," Rev. Mr. Gilbert declared. "We are appealing to the state because there is no alternative."

The attitude of the highway commission, which is barred by law from doing any work within the corporate limits of a city of more than 2500 population without special permission of the legislature, was explained by Commissioner Yeon.

"Conditions at Astoria are certainly disheartening," Mr. Yeon said. "The highway commission has surveyed the situation and is willing to go as far as possible toward granting the appeal of the city. I know of no move that has more merit than going to the rescue of Astoria."

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