

MR. PIERCE URGED TO RETAIN BOOTH

Experienced Highway Expert
Is Deemed Essential.

GARLAND FAVORS PLAN

Linn County Senator, Democrat,
Also Opposes Salaries for
State Commissioners.

Retention of Robert A. Booth of Eugene as a member of the state highway commission is being urged upon Walter M. Pierce, governor-elect. This action has been taken without the knowledge or consent of the chairman of the commission, and, on the other hand, Mr. Pierce has given no hint as to what he will do in the premises.

Sam Garland, state senator, one of the leading democrats of Oregon, who was elected in the strongly republican county of Linn, has strongly recommended to his fellow democrat, Mr. Pierce, that Mr. Booth, republican, be kept on the highway commission in the best interests of the state.

County Judges Back Booth.
A few weeks ago a number of county judges wanted to start an official petition asking the retention of Mr. Booth, but when this reached the ears of the road-builder, he requested that nothing of the kind be done. Confidence in the highway commission, however, was expressed in a strong set of resolutions adopted by the state convention of county judges and county commissioners, held in Portland this month.

Senator Garland, who is in Portland on business, said yesterday that he had a long conference with Mr. Pierce when the latter was in Lebanon, the senator's home town, last week. After the governor-elect read his inaugural message to the senate, the latter took up the matter of the highway commission.

Experienced Men Assets.
On purely practical and economical grounds Senator Garland bases his plea for Mr. Booth. He informed Mr. Pierce that it has cost a large sum of money to educate the highway commission in the road-building movement, and that to accept the resignations of Chairman Booth, John B. Yeon and W. B. Barratt at one fell swoop and replace them with "green" men would cost the state another large sum of money to educate them. Such a sweeping change would be consistent with Mr. Pierce's campaign promises of seeking to keep down expenses, he explained.

Whether Mr. Booth would consider reappointment at the hands of Mr. Pierce is another matter, and Senator Garland has no advice on that point. However, he is of the opinion that Mr. Booth's sense of duty is strong, and if requested by Mr. Pierce Mr. Booth might consent to serve six months, a year or longer, if not the full term, in order to break in two new commissioners.

Room Left for Democrats.
Retention of Mr. Booth, explains Senator Garland, would still enable Mr. Pierce to appoint two democrats to the commission, one from eastern Oregon and one from Portland, and these democrats would be educated in the highway work under the tutelage of Mr. Booth, without the cost otherwise involved of three men acquiring experience at the expense of the taxpayers.

There is another matter which Senator Garland has a firm opinion on—he is opposed to a paid highway commission. It was Senator Garland, in the 1917 session, when the bill creating the highway commission and working out the state road system was being considered, who defeated the plan for a paid commission and brought about the non-salaried commission. The senator has not revised his views on this subject.

Salary Proposal Causes Split.
Mr. Pierce has advocated a salaried commission, and he has said that he will recommend such a paid commission in his inaugural message. Senator Garland says that the idea of a salaried highway commission is about the only wherein he differs with the governor-elect's programme for the impending legislative session.

Nor is the Linn county senator alone in opposing this plan of Mr. Pierce. A number of senators and representatives from upstate who have visited Portland recently have expressed themselves as strongly opposed to paying members of the highway commission. An eastern Oregon representative declared he is in accord with all of the announced programme of the governor-elect with this single exception, and he intends opposing paying salaries to the board.

Propaganda Is Abroad.
On the other hand, there is propaganda abroad for a paid commission, and this propaganda can be traced back to a score of men who are aspirants for places on the commission, but who do not care to be members of the road-building department if there is no compensation attached. Some of these aspirants have friends in the legislature and are trying to line them up to support Mr. Pierce's plan.

Whether the highway commission should be paid or not will be one of the factors contributing to a lively legislative session.

Resignations Are Certain.
Reverting to the suggestion that Mr. Booth be requested to continue his service, his resignation held that of Mr. Yeon will be on Mr. Pierce's desk on January 8, when the new governor takes office, with the request that these resignations become effective at Mr. Pierce's pleasure at any time within three months. Commissioner Barratt's resignation has been forwarded to Governor Olcott, with the suggestion that it become effective January 1.

BONDSMEN LOSE ASSETS
Astoria Man, Out on Narcotics Charge, Is Jailed.

Echoes of the Astoria fire were heard in the federal court yesterday when James Martin, former proprietor of a second-hand store in that city, was sent to jail because the fire had wiped away the assets of his bondsmen. But Martin himself has insurance money coming, and as soon as it is paid will be able to secure his release from jail.

Martin was arrested several months ago on a charge of violating the Harrison narcotics act. Two Astoria business men want bail for

him to the extent of \$3000. Then followed the fire. A week ago the bondsmen notified United States Attorney Humphreys that the fire had destroyed their property and that they would not be able to pay in case Martin failed to appear for trial.

ROAD BODY MEETS TODAY

COMMISSION WILL HOLD ADJOURNED SESSION.

Whether Mr. Pierce and Legislators Want Officials to Help Astoria Will Be Learned.

To dispose of routine matters and continue consideration of the road construction programme for the coming year, the state highway commission will hold an adjourned meeting today in the office of John B. Yeon. The main reason the adjourned meeting was set for this date was to learn whether the governor-elect and a majority of the legislators wished the commission to aid reconstruction of Astoria by building the Columbia river highway through the burned area.

Inasmuch as the legislators, with few exceptions, displayed an utter indifference to the subject, the highway commission will take no further steps, but will await action of the legislature. When pressure was brought on the commission to help Astoria by building a paved highway through the destroyed district, the commission explained that it could do nothing without legislative approval, but would get ready to start work immediately if the governor-elect and a majority of the legislators promised to legalize their act.

The idea of having a paved street given the town did not appeal to all the property owners of Astoria. It develops. The highway would have gone on commercial street, probably the most high-priced property in the state outside of Portland, and property owners on parallel streets, less highly priced, would have had to pay for their own pavement.

In addition to this adjourned meeting, the highway commission will hold one more session before the change in administration at Salem. The January meeting will be devoted to work on the 1923 road programme and in preparing data for the legislature.

LUMBER GOES BY WATER

VESSELS GET 35 PER CENT OF NEW BUSINESS.

Production of 127 West Coast Mills in Week Reported at 19 Per Cent Below Normal.

Thirty-five per cent of the new lumber business reported by mills of the northwest for the week ended December 23 was the future water delivery, according to the weekly lumber review of the West Coast Lumbermen's association. Thirty-five per cent of the week's lumber shipments also moved by water. Unfilled domestic cargo orders totaled 130,685,595 feet.

"One hundred and twenty-seven mills reporting to the West Coast Lumbermen's association for the week ended December 23 manufactured 69,481,136 feet of lumber, sold 27,732,614 feet, and shipped 78,910,647 feet," said the report.

"Production for reporting mills was 19 per cent below normal. New business was 19 per cent above production; shipments were 5 per cent below new business."

"Thirty-five per cent of all new business taken during the week was for future water delivery. This amounted to 29,273,614 feet, of which 12,235,875 feet was for domestic cargo delivery, and 10,036,739 feet for overseas shipment. New business for delivery by rail amounted to 3742 cars."

"Unfilled domestic cargo orders total 130,685,595 feet; unfilled export orders, 60,916,547 feet; unfilled rail trade orders, 8321 cars."

"In 51 weeks production has been 4,345,231,650 feet; new business, 4,123,225,902 feet; shipments, 4,023,318,314 feet."

NEGRO FIGHTER FINED

Church Quarrel With Head Usher Leads to Battle.

When "Brother" William Turner of the African Methodist church chose to sleep in preference to listening to the Christmas sermon last Sunday morning, "Brother" Matthews, head usher, poked him in the ribs.

"Brother" Turner, awakened suddenly, turned around and loudly shouted "Merry Christmas" to the "sister" in the seat behind him. "Brother" Matthews promptly administered a "call-down" to the disturber of the services.

The following day the two "brothers" met on the street. A fight started and "Brother" Matthews was a living testimony of that battle, in the municipal court before Judge Ekwall yesterday. Turner's fine was placed at \$15 and costs.

HOTEL ACTION STAYED

Week's Delay Allowed Owners While Test Case Is Decided.

Members of the city council have agreed not to require compliance with the new ordinance requiring motion picture shows and elevators to be closed at 11 o'clock, and to allow a week's delay in order that a test case now pending in the circuit court may be disposed of.

W. W. Banks appeared before the council in behalf of several hotel owners who have been notified to comply with the ordinance and requested a week's delay. He pointed out that the test case was to be heard next week and a decision would not doubt follow the conclusion of the case. For that reason, he maintained it would be unfair to the hotel owners to require compliance until this decision was handed down.

Should the city win the case in

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Those women who for the first time are going to make the experiment of wearing "Sweet Sixteen" garments will share with old customers and friends of "Sweet Sixteen" in this event.

At the close of business on Saturday this institution will have achieved by this means its purpose of booking a 38 per cent increase in volume of business, and adding over 6000 new names to our list of delighted patrons.

THE SUPER VALUES OF THIS EVENT

Coats and Wraps of such a variety—wrappy, straight line and draped—that the many ideals of women as to what to choose and how to wear it can be instantly achieved.

Bolivias, Veldynes and Velours of unusual merit are shown, all full silk lined and many boasting deep fur collars.

There are top coats of mannish materials in new man-made styles, with a dashing, captivating swing.

Girls' coats of youthful lines give an entirely new version to the fashions for juniors in sizes 14, 16, 18.

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Portland Hotel, Sunday, December 31, 1922—3 P. M.

Other Free Lectures at Portland Hotel
Monday, January 1 to January 3 inclusive—12 o'clock noon.

\$1.00 Admission Lectures at Portland Hotel
Thursday, January 4, 12 o'clock noon.

Friday, January 5, 12 o'clock noon.

CLASSES—Mr. Rawson will give his course of instruction (5 classes) beginning on Monday, January 1, to January 5, inclusive, at 3 and 8 P. M.