

HEARING WILL BE HELD WEDNESDAY President's Country Life Commission to Be in Portland This Week. INQUIRES ABOUT FARMERS

Conditions of Living in Rural Communities to Be Set Forth in Report Which Will Be Basis for Legislation.

For the purpose of investigating and inquiring into rural life conditions in the Pacific Northwest, the members of President Roosevelt's Country Life Commission will spend next Wednesday in this city.

The Commission is composed of six members, as follows: L. H. Bailey, of New York, chairman, director and dean of the College of Agriculture, Cornell University; Walter H. Page, of North Carolina, editor of World's Work; Gifford Pinchot, National Forester, and E. W. Allen, assistant director of experiment stations at Washington, D. C. and secretary of the Commission.

That the Commission may be supplied with the desired information, the agricultural colleges, commercial organizations, granges and all other associations connected in any way with rural life conditions in this state have been invited to furnish the Commission with information.

Questions That Are Asked. The list of questions to which answers, including suggestions, have been requested by the Commission follows:

- Are the farm homes in your neighborhood as good as they should be?
Are the schools of your neighborhood training boys and girls satisfactorily for life on the farm?
Do the farmers in your neighborhood get the returns they reasonably should from the sale of their products?
Do the farmers in your neighborhood receive from the railroads, highways, freight lines, etc., the service they reasonably should have?
Do the farmers in your neighborhood receive from the United States Postal Service, rural telephone, etc., the service they reasonably should expect?
Are the farmers and their wives in your community satisfactorily organized to promote their mutual interests?
Are the interests of farmers in your neighborhood making a satisfactory living?
Are the supplies of farm labor in your neighborhood satisfactory?
Are the conditions surrounding hired labor on the farm in your neighborhood satisfactory to the hired men?
Have the farmers in your neighborhood satisfactory facilities for doing their business in banking, etc.?
What are the sanitary conditions of the farms in your neighborhood?
Do the farms in your neighborhood get together for mutual improvement and betterment?
Are the farms in your neighborhood getting the most of the soil?
Are the farms in your neighborhood getting the most of the water?
Are the farms in your neighborhood getting the most of the fertilizer?
Are the farms in your neighborhood getting the most of the sunlight?
Are the farms in your neighborhood getting the most of the air?
Are the farms in your neighborhood getting the most of the soil?
Are the farms in your neighborhood getting the most of the water?
Are the farms in your neighborhood getting the most of the fertilizer?
Are the farms in your neighborhood getting the most of the sunlight?
Are the farms in your neighborhood getting the most of the air?

From correspondence with Chairman Bailey, of the Commission, I understand that the Commission proposes to gather such information as can be had relating to conditions on the farms, and that Professor Lake yesterday, in a general way, the Commission's inquiry will relate to sanitary conditions, educational facilities, transportation and communication, including telephone, telegraph and rural mail delivery, railroads, etc. Information also will be sought as to the condition of the soil, whether the soil is wearing out, and the increasing fertility. Inquiry will be made as to the opportunity of the farmer for recreation, more particularly as to woman's opportunity for social recreation.

RUEF CLAIMED POSITION Told Knight He Was District Attorney.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 28.—A vigorous and searching cross-examination of Andrew M. Wilson, one of the Schmitz Board of Supervisors, occupied today a charge of bribery. The witness, asked who had been present at the night following the attempt to substitute Ruef for Langdon as District Attorney, testified that he had been present at a dinner at Ruef's restaurant on the night following the attempt to substitute Ruef for Langdon as District Attorney.

the District Attorney now. Later, Wilson testified, he had gone upstairs to see Governor Gillett, who was to resume his campaign the next day, Wilson being slated to speak in the same county as a candidate for Railroad Commissioner.

Wilson was questioned at length regarding his indictment on three counts after he had testified at one of the Ford trials. He was asked to define the relations that now exist between himself and the possession, and said: "I am satisfied with the conditions that exist. I am willing to stand by what I have done, and to face those indictments."

POPULAR PREACHER WEDS Dr. Clarence True Wilson and Mrs. Maude Akin Tift Made One.

Dr. Clarence True Wilson, pastor of Centenary Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mrs. Maude Akin Tift, both of this city, were quietly married yesterday afternoon at the First Methodist Episcopal Church, Rev. Benjamin Young, of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, assisted by Rev. J. W. McDougall, of the Mount Tabor Methodist Episcopal Church, performed the wedding ceremony in the presence of a few friends. Dr. and Mrs. Wilson left for a ten days' visit at Hood River, Ore., where they will spend the winter. Dr. Wilson came to Portland about four years ago from Newark, N. J., to accept the pastorate of Grace Church. In the summer of 1907, he was transferred to Centenary Church on the East Side. Mrs. Wilson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank S. Akin, for many years well known in Portland and prominent in Grace Church. She was formerly the wife of Arthur P. Tift, a prominent lawyer of this city, from whom she obtained a divorce a number of years ago. The marriage came as a surprise to the many friends of the contracting parties, who had managed to keep the event a secret until the wedding. They witnessed the wedding ceremony.

COSTA RICA STORMSWEEP Rains Fall Continuously for Full Month.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 28.—According to C. C. Smith, a mining engineer who returned yesterday from Central America, goods of a fertile nature have done great damage in the interior of Costa Rica, compelling many mines to suspend operations. Smith tells of a storm during which the rain poured down continuously for 30 days, washing out railroads and completely altering the appearance of the country. Thousands of native houses were destroyed and many natives killed. The house in which Smith was living, with several other men, was washed into the river before they could escape, and they were close to drowning. Finally they landed on an island, where they were held by the stream for many days, living on corn.

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 28.—The Los Angeles City Council has voted to call a special election for February 2, in which the voters will pass upon some of the most important charter amendments yet submitted to the voters. If adopted, they will make vital changes in the present method of municipal government.

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 28.—Dependent over financial losses, Herbert Quine, a native of the Isle of Man and for years, off and on, a resident of this city, committed suicide today by taking poison.

Quine came to the United States some ten years ago in search of a fortune. His family on the Isle of Man is prominent and quite wealthy. Quine lost several thousands of dollars in search for gold on placer mines.

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MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT COMMISSION ON COUNTRY LIFE, WHICH WILL HOLD A SESSION IN PORTLAND WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2.

Portrait of Gifford Pinchot, Walter H. Page, Dr. Liberty H. Bailey, K. L. Butterfield, Henry Wallace.

SAYS BRICK IS BEST Agent Defends the Vitrified Paving Material. DECLARES COST IS LESS

Another Chapter in Controversy Over Kind of Improvement to Be Used for Paving Wholesale District.

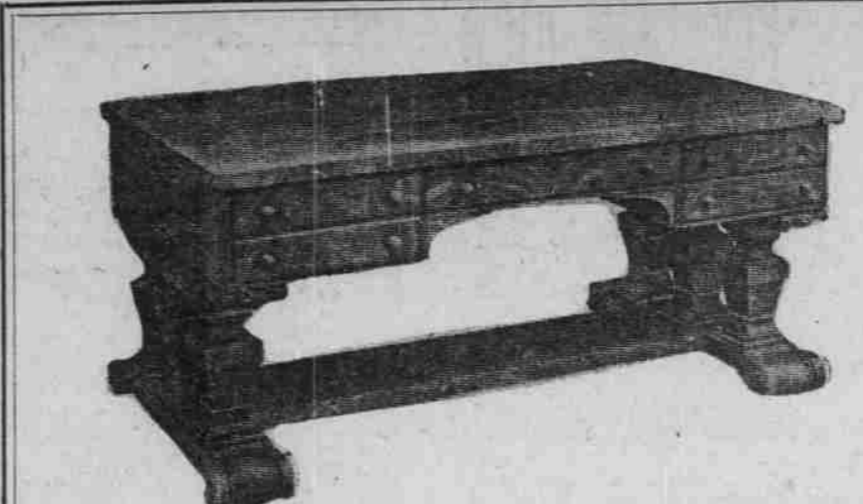
War between rival paving concerns as to which shall secure the contract for laying pavements in the warehouse district of North Portland goes merrily on. Arguments on the relative merits of brick as against Belgian blocks vary as the interest of the speaker. One of the chief objections to the vitrified brick as paving material in the new district is said to be that the material will come from Seattle, the Denny-Renton Company, the firm urging the use of that kind of paving, having a manufacturing plant near the Puget Sound city.

Rival petitions are being circulated throughout the district to be paved, supporting the two kinds of paving material. It was said last night that the extent of the district signed up by the backers of each kind of pavement is about equal. Howard Whiting, a local contractor, gives the following figures as the cost of the two pavements laid in Portland: "The City Engineer's figures are that the vitrified brick pavement will cost \$1.90 a yard. The stone block pavement will cost practically the same, a job lately put down at the foot of Third street costing \$2.63 a yard. This was the actual figure, I know, because our firm had the job. The brick, shipped from Seattle, will cost about \$2.80 a thousand laid down here. The price is \$20 in Seattle and the rest must be added for freight. Every cent paid for the brick goes to Seattle interests."

W. C. Mitchell, agent for the Denny-Renton Clay & Coal Company, says he has a long petition signed by property-owners in the district to be paved asking that vitrified brick be used. He maintains they were obtained without misrepresentation, limiting that so much cannot be said for the rival petition circulated among property-owners asking for stone blocks as the paving material. Mr. Mitchell insists the cost of bricks will not exceed \$2.50 a thousand. Said he yesterday, in a letter to The Oregonian: "Accuses 'Paving Combine.'"

I would like to ask the parties who are back of the stone petition why it is they have been in business in Portland all these years and have never considered the idea of circulating a petition for stone pavements in this particular locality until they found out that the Denny-Renton Company had organized this particular district and had been working on same for several weeks. The answer to this question is easily made by any one who is familiar with the circumstances leading up to it. In the first place, it is not possible to doubt that the paving combine of the city intends to use and is using every imaginable scheme to prevent any other paving company from coming into this market. It has in the past and is at the present time fighting every paving company which tries to enter this field, not because there is not sufficient work, but because it knows that the merits of some of the other pavements, and among them the vitrified brick, will in many ways surpass the present hard-surface pavements and that it is to its personal financial interests to prevent any new paving concern from entering the market if it possibly can. Relative to the comparative cost of the two different pavements, brick and stone, it has been stated that, from competent authority, the initial cost of the two materials is about equal. This authority must originate from some one who is directly interested in a competitive paving concern. It has been stated to the writer by one of the most prominent contracting companies in the city of Portland, that the modern Belgian block pavement, laid on a six-inch concrete base, exclusive of drainage, grading, curbing, etc. If this is the case, we can prove beyond a doubt that vitrified brick will not cost more than \$2.35 a square yard. This is a difference of from 65 cents to 75 cents a square yard in favor of the brick.

Statistics Show Use of Brick. The writer can prove that in over 400 of the principal cities of the United States \$2,500,000 of the vitrified brick pavement is laid of vitrified brick and less than 25 per cent of stone of all classes. I can also prove by some of the best civil engineers in the United States, among them George W. Tilden, president of the Engineers' Club of Brooklyn, N. Y., and also a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, that brick pavements, because of their superior strength, durability, smoothness of surface, light resistance to traffic, non-slippery-



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Northwest. At the same time the visitors inspected the company's local plant and the exchange through which the Portland public is served. Croker Gives Seat to Woman. NEW YORK, Nov. 28.—Although he had been in the city nearly a week, it was not until yesterday that Richard Croker took a ride in the subway. He made the trip from the Grand Central station at Forty-second street to Wall street, but gave up his seat to an old woman and was forced to stand up during most of the ride. The subway was not built when Mr. Croker left America to make his home in Ireland.

25 per cent off on diamonds at Metzger's, 242 Washington street.

THE NEW COATS ARE IN. EMPRESS AND PRINCESS NIPPONS. We will close out at 1/2 off all our regular Fall style Coats. These we are closing out at 50c on the dollar are same style coats as are being sold by other Portland stores. We'll give you real bargains.

MONDAY BARGAINS. \$15 Voile Skirts... \$7.45. Elegant \$14 Coats... \$7.00. \$12 Three fine black Evening Gowns at ONE-THIRD OFF. FUR SPECIAL—\$15 val. Fur Set, muff and scarf \$8.50. HAND-TAILORED WAISTS. Exclusive, elegant line of hand-tailored Waists, \$8.00 to \$15.00 values, special at... \$5.15. EVENING COATS. \$25 to \$40 value Evening Coats, special at... \$16.50. SUIT SPECIALS. New lot of elegant \$25 value Suits at... \$14.50. GIRLS' SUITS. Some two dozen new, elegant Suits for 10 to 15-year-old girls, well worth \$15.00; special... \$9.25. MISCELLANEOUS BARGAIN SPECIALS. Of lines we are closing out, and are indeed specials. Double woven, elegant imported linen Bath Robes, will launder—last a lifetime; \$9 to \$15 values. They are too good, too expensive for Oregon; were made for millionaires; will close them at from... \$3.25 to \$5.50. HOSIERY—All ladies' Hosiery... ONE-THIRD OFF. Kimonos—Have a few; close them out ONE-THIRD OFF. MEN'S SUITS—We have about a dozen men's hand-tailored suits—close out at one-third value.

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