

MADISON BRIDGE TO BRING WRECK

Experts Report Old Structure Is Not More Than Able to Support Itself.

REPAIR IS NOT SUGGESTED

Findings Before Mayor Lane Are to Effect That Span Is 50 Per Cent Bad and Valuable Chiefly as Ruin.

BY ERNEST M'GAFFEY.

The last batch of reports on the condition of the Madison-street bridge was turned in to Mayor Lane yesterday afternoon. To say they were "hummers" is but faintly to describe them. The summary of the entire situation, after one of the most exhaustive and scientific examinations of the structure that engineering skill and research could possibly devise, was: "You're a pretty good wagon, but you're done broke down."

The committee of experts appointed by the bridge committee here J. P. Newell and George Rae. They filed a voluminous and searching account of their scrutiny of the various timbers, supports, braces, stanchions, splines, splints, planks, rails, joists, basises, crutches and other tottering and decrepit wooden reminiscences of what may be familiarly termed the Madison-street bridge.

Eighty Supports Are Weak. They examined, as a matter of numbers, some 111 separate and distinct propositions in the way of timbers and "supports," alias crutches. Of these 80 were more or less rotten. Thirty-three were 50 chances to 32 that the bridge would fall of its own weight, some of the frail and feeble props which were masquerading under the name of plank of "supports" were 80 per cent bad; some were only 20 per cent good. They hovered between 20 and 50 per cent, with the majority of them from 40 to 50 per cent useless.

According to this report, the Madison-street bridge is merely a picturesque mass of water-logged and decaying junk, which even a mud-turtle might well hesitate to crawl out on. From "Exhibit A" to "Z" the report is a monotonous recital of rotten and rotted stanchions and supports, cracked and worn timbers, weakened and dangerous structural conditions and general average of perilous decadence.

The bridge has been battered at and bombarded by the driftwood and ice, burned by the devouring rays of the sun, soaked in the rains of the winter and spring months, eaten into by the slow-devouring agents of the wandering river and gnawed at like rats in the dark, by the conquering tooth of time itself. It is interesting as a ruin; it is a masterpiece of decay. It is something in the line of pure decay and sloughing away which resembles some old hulk, stranded on a sandbar, haunted by crows and gulls, and bleaching and crumbling to its inevitable destruction.

"O. K." Marks Very Few. My! but that report is a "sockdolager." If the facts are one-half as bad as the report figures out, there isn't enough sound lumber in the Madison-street bridge to build a goodly number of dachshunds. The occasional "O. K." marks scattered among the lists of bad, worse or no timber seem as lonesome as a woodshed in a heavy fog.

The experts have backed up their report by maps and drawings that cover every point. It's a convincing document, viewed impartially, and as carefully prepared and worked out as a problem in arithmetic. They have turned the bridge right side up, over, down again, inside out, to the left and back again. If they have left a knot-hole in the culture, I don't believe it. All the dips, surns, curves, lines, conformations, inequalities, irregularities, warps, bumps and excrescences have been thoroughly gone over, measured, weighed, squeezed, felt, dug into and otherwise experimented with and analyzed. And the result is that you can't find a hole for escape from the contention of the men who examined the bridge that this same bridge is "dead," "rotten" or "rotting" in the bridge line since "Bill" Johnson's tomcat broke down the bridge over Plum Creek by going over it with a walk—with "Bill's" dog after it.

Excerpt From the Report. Just listen to the verbatim "swan-song" of the expert. "In consequence of these defects, which are numerous, we do not feel safe in allowing more than one-half of the original strength of the splines. Their theoretical strength is 120,000 pounds, but the actual strength for the three leaves of the cord. The total stress on these splines due to dead weight only is 200,000 pounds. Assuming the splines to have deteriorated 50 per cent, it is only a little more than sufficient to carry the dead load. This condition is further borne out by the fact that some of the splines have failed under conditions precisely similar to those prevailing throughout the bridge. To provide for traffic, splines would have to be reinforced sufficiently to meet the live load stress. The joints between the end points and the lower cords are also deficient. In view of the conditions stated above, we do not hesitate to pronounce the bridge unsafe. The feasibility of making repairs has not been included in the scope of this report."

Wouldn't that cause you to vibrate? Fifty per cent bad. Just about strong enough to hold up the "dead" load, meaning the poor old invalid of a bridge itself. Nothing said about "repairs." Hardly! Might as well talk of "repairing" bursted seams in a boiler. And if this wasn't enough of a "paralyser" on the ancient craft aforesaid, along comes the report of George A. Tildon, the sub-aquatic "snack-maker" of the briny deep. George says the bridge is bad for "divers" reasons. And George knows! He donned his iron trousers, put on his mask, "bubblers," drew on his light and airy lead moose-horn goggles and from his goggle glass spectacles and was hoisted by a convenient derrick and went "plunk" to the bottom. He found a bullfrog at the bottom of the piers of the Madison-street bridge? Read George's report, after he came up from the ooze and rush and whirl of the blinding darkness. George tells us all about it, and his evidence adds overwhelming weight to the report of the experts.

What Diver Tildon Found. With the skill of the submarine diver, and with the patience of a Job or a married man, George explored the plectory depths of the tawny Willamette, and found that there were nine piers to be

overhauled. Eight of these piers were more or less in a badly crippled and rickety condition, needing plasters and lotion, and braces, and cables, and supports, and all sorts of "first aids to the wounded." When George came swirling up from the bottom he must have been kind to escape from such a mangled mass of misfit wreckage without getting his gossamer raiment tangled up in some part of the log-jam below. George really deserves extra pay for exploring the chaos he found there. It must have been like "cruising" in dense timber.

The City Engineer, D. W. Taylor, notes in his report the enclosure of the able and convincing findings of the appointed experts, and Mr. Tildon's "down went McDuffy" experiences at the bottom of the river, and also explain that he has, on various and sundry occasions, examined and inspected the bridge personally.

Mr. Taylor concludes, taking all these facts and figures into consideration, furnished by men whose ability is beyond question, and whose fairness cannot be successfully controverted—"that the Madison-street bridge, in its present condition, is unsafe for traffic."

Mayor Lane was blantly and affably non-committal. There were the reports. They apparently spoke for themselves. They were not in the least equivocal. If the Madison-street bridge was in good condition for traffic, how about the estimate that about only able to carry its own weight?

The reports, and the City Engineer's approval of them, as evidenced by his finding that the bridge was unsafe, has been turned over to the City Attorney and ammunition in the condemnation suit. And now, "cry havoc, and let slip the dogs of war," being your bears. The city is loaded for them.

And if you want some interesting reading, compared to the descriptions of the ruins of Pompeii, are simply an understudy and the willing away of the pleasant summer afternoon, read the report of Messrs. Newell and Rae, and the fearsome ventures of George Tildon.

CLUB TO HOLD EXHIBIT

PHOTOGRAPHERS WILL SHOW PRINTS THIS WEEK. Competition Promised for Various Prizes Offered—Pictures May Be Viewed by Public.

The Oregon Camera Club will open its annual print exhibit tomorrow noon, and it will continue the entire week, both afternoon and evening. The exhibit is the fourteenth annual show and it will be held at Sherman & Clay's Steinway Hall, at Morrison and Sixth streets.

It is expected this exhibition will be one of the best ever held in the city. It is competitive and it is expected new features in printing will be shown. Carbons and gum-bichromates will predominate in this year's exhibition. The subjects will include all classes of life and scenery and the rivalry for honors is quite keen in each class.

The aim of all amateurs is to capture the prize for a general exhibit, for here he shows his versatility. In order to stimulate enthusiasm in the direction, the camera club has for years pursued a wise course. E. Y. Judd, some years ago presented a beautiful cup for a general exhibit. It must be won three times before it passes to the permanent ownership of any member. In order to win this cup, it is necessary to hold the best exhibit for landscape, marine, portrait, still life and genre studies, as these comprise a general exhibit. Judges for this competition consist of one professional photographer, one amateur (not a member of the club) and one artist.

The cup has been won successively by the following members: E. Y. Judd, Harry G. Smith, Henry Berger, Jr., and J. A. Hagan. There are several entries for this prize.

There are also prizes for the best landscape, portrait, marine, genre, still life, animal and flower studies, for which there are also several entries.

It is expected there will be from 150 to 200 pictures hung and judging from the great interest shown and the past exhibitions of this popular club, a very interesting week is anticipated. The hall will be open each day from 12 to 5 and 7-10 to 10 P. M.

There will be no admission charge and catalogues will be free to visitors. The public and particularly those interested in photographic art, are cordially invited.

Crackmen Loot Safe. DES MOINES, March 20.—Safe-blowers last night dynamited the safe of the First National Bank of Imogene, Page County, and took several thousand dollars.

CLUB VERY POPULAR

Fully 1000 Expected to Join Poultry Association.

PLAN OUTLINED IN SCHOOLS

Portland Boys and Girls Show Great Interest in Movement to Study Scientific Methods of Raising Chickens.

Not in a long time has any movement been organized among the boys and girls of Portland that has taken the form of a public school, and the organization of the Portland Junior Poultry Association. The association was formed recently by a number of the business men of the city, and the organizer, G. C. Hatt, is now visiting the public schools of the city and explaining the plan to the boys and girls. In line of the schools visited, several of them the smaller schools, the response in the way of requests for the illustrated prospectus that is being printed indicates that when the full list is in there will be fully 1000 members in the association.

The association is open to all boys and girls in the city between the ages of 12 and 18, and cards to the number of 10,000 or more are being distributed in the schools to give the pupils an opportunity to send in their names to the prospectus. This prospectus will give a detailed and illustrated explanation in detail, and will contain directions to the boys and girls as to how to become active members of the association. A feature so far noticeable is the enthusiasm with which the principals of the various schools are encouraging the pupils to join the poultry association. The principal of every school so far visited has given the organizer, visited the Washington High school, and the large body of students in that school gave interested attention to the explanations given, and generally applauded the plan of organization. It is expected that 25 per cent of the students of the Washington High will become members of the association.

Boys and girls who are not attending school, or who attend private schools, can also join the association. Any of those who wish the prospectus can get it by telephoning to the Y. M. C. A. giving name and address, the school attended, and asking that the prospectus be sent. Some of the larger private schools will be visited by the organizer after the public schools have had the plan explained.

The schools already visited have been: Almsworth, Chapman, Arleta, Mt. Tabor, Glenwood, Washington High, Sunnyside, Montavilla and Kerua. During the coming week the schools to be visited are as follows: Monday—9 A. M., Thompson school; 10:30 A. M., Shaver school; 1 P. M., Irvington school; 2:30 P. M., Woodlawn school. Tuesday—9 A. M., Portsmouth school; 10:30 A. M., Peninsula school; 1 P. M., Oakley Green school; 2:30 P. M., Hollywood school. Wednesday—9 A. M., Highland school; 10:30 A. M., Williams Avenue school; 1 P. M., Clinton Kelly school; 2:30 P. M., Brooklyn school. Thursday—9 A. M., Sellwood school; 10:30 A. M., South Mt. Tabor school; 1 P. M., Woodstock school; 2:30 P. M., Hawthorne school. Friday—9 A. M., Holman school; 10:30 A. M., Shattuck school; 1 P. M., Stephens school; 2:30 P. M., North Central school.

ST. JOHN MAN IS WANTED

M. R. Burlew Is Charged With Numerous Forgeries.

Charged with passing bad checks, M. R. Burlew, a St. John resident, is being sought by Constable Wagner, on complaint of several St. John business men. Burlew is charged with forgeries amounting to \$200. Two of the checks for \$100 were cashed by Bonham & Currier. Other alleged victims were Frank Taylor, of the National Tea Store, Gains and Davis, grocers, and the St. John Hardware Company.

Burlew and his daughter and son-in-law, Arthur C. Smith, have lived in St. John for some time, and the man has always borne a good reputation. The checks were all made payable to M. R. Burlew, and purported to be signed by Anderson Bros., who keep a livery stable in Portland. Burlew and Smith have been engaged in clearing land for the firm near Vancouver. Smith and his wife have also left St. John, and it is believed that the three have gone together.

DIES AT AGE OF 89 YEARS

Mrs. Matilda McCall Was Prominent Pioneer Woman.

Mrs. Matilda McCall, widow of the late William McCall, of Pleasant Hill, Or., died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Emma Miller, 362 Stark street, Portland, at 5:30 A. M. Friday.

"Grandma" McCall, as she was familiarly known by hundreds of the old pioneer settlers, with her late husband and settled in Portland. Burlew and Smith have been engaged in clearing land for the firm near Vancouver. Smith and his wife have also left St. John, and it is believed that the three have gone together.



The Late Mrs. Matilda McCall.

ago. The later years of her life she has spent with her daughters, Mrs. L. B. Rowland, of Eugene, and Mrs. Emma Miller, of Portland. She was the mother of 11 children, of whom Mrs. L. B. Rowland, Mrs. Emma Miller and W. H. McCall survive her.

CELEBRATE AT CHAMPOEG

Pioneers Will Observe Anniversary of Oregon Territory.

One among the first of the open-air functions this year will occur on Saturday, May 1, the celebration of Champeog day, at the site of the old town of that name, at which point the first civil government in American territory west of the Rocky Mountains was born on May 2, 1842. Since May 2 comes on Sunday this year the celebration will be on the Saturday preceding, and it will be under the auspices of P. X. Mathison, Cabin, No. 12, Native Sons of Oregon.

Joseph Buchtel, a well-known Portland pioneer of 1852, has been invited to act as president of the day, and P. H. D'Arcy, a pioneer of 1857, and a lawyer of Salem, will deliver the annual address. Champeog may be reached from Portland by boat leaving the foot of Taylor street and by the electric line to Wilsonville.

Ainslie Mill Not to Be Rebuilt.

George Ainslie & Co., whose saw and door factory was destroyed by fire during the absence of Dr. George Ainslie in California, is not to be rebuilt. The doctor said yesterday upon his return that the company had decided to sell the grounds where the mill stood and that they owned one-half block of that bounded by Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Pettygrove and Quimby. The other half is also at their disposal to sell. The dividing line between the half blocks runs east and west. Dr. Ainslie did not care to announce a figure at which the property would be sold.

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EQUAL to the BEST \$20 SUITS sold in any other store in Portland only

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WARDS ARE TAKEN AWAY

ST. THERESA SANATORIUM IS VISITED BY OFFICIALS.

Institution Gives Up Care of Children, but Conditions Are Not So Bad as Reported.

As a result of an official investigation of the St. Theresa Sanatorium at Oak Grove by Dr. J. W. Norris, health officer of Clackamas County, W. T. Gardner, superintendent of the Boys and Girls' Aid Society, yesterday visited that institution and took from the custody of the management three children, ranging from 7 to 11 years of age. A fourth child, Alice May, aged 15 years, was not brought to Portland, Mr. Gardner being assured by the Sisters in charge of the sanatorium that she would be sent to her home during the day.

Following his investigation, Dr. Norris reported having found unsanitary conditions at the institution, where, he charged, children were required to occupy the same apartments with consumptive patients. Superintendent Gardner, however, did not consider the children as serious as they had been represented. He was accompanied by Dr. E. A. Pierce, of the State Board of Health, and ascertained that the children were not compelled to associate with the consumptive patients, although they were employed about the premises in various capacities.

However, it was agreed by Dr. Pierce that the children properly should not be retained at the school under the circumstances, and no serious objection was offered by the Sisters to surrendering their wards. Two of the children are the daughters of William Hayes, of this city, aged seven and nine years. The third is James Staines, aged 11 years, a charge of the Boys and Girls' Aid Society, who had been at the sanatorium since March 8.

"From my investigation," said Superintendent Gardner last night, "I learned that the sanatorium was started by Sisters Theresa and Gertrude several months ago as a children's home. Such it was not entirely a success and the management decided to convert it into a sanatorium for the treatment of tubercular patients. The children who were being cared for, however, were not dismissed, but remained and assisted the Sisters in their work. I found a patient at the sanatorium, two of whom were consumptives, who were kept in outbuildings, separate and apart from the main building, in which the children were housed and fed."

The two Sisters who conduct the institution are disowned by the Catholics and are pronounced impostors so far as the Catholic Church is concerned. The Sisters, however, profess to be connected with the Benedictine Order and say they were sent to Oak Grove by two bishops to conduct the work in which they are engaged. It is for this reason they assert the right to wear the garb of a Sister.

TALKS ON OREGON HISTORY

Series of Lectures Is Begun at City Library.

The children's department of the Portland Public Library is very fortunate in being able to offer during early life in Oregon. Mrs. Eva Emery Dye talked to a room packed with children and teachers Friday afternoon and told delightful stories of early days about Oregon City and Portland. On next Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock Frank H. Grubb, a son-in-law of Jason Lee and a pioneer of 1848, will tell in the same place his experiences in crossing the plains.

All engineering and technical magazines have been moved from the periodicals room to the engineering alcove of the reference department, where they can be consulted together with the files for preliminary reports and the reference material on technical subjects together with indexes to periodicals and trade catalogues near at hand. An attendant will be in this alcove for any assistance that can be rendered. In making this change the Public Library is following the example of such large and important libraries as the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and the Pratt Institute library of Brooklyn, both of which have done most efficient work in this line, and we hope this will be the beginning of a department of equal importance in this library.

DOCTOR SAID

Much Sickness Caused by Coffee Drinking.

It is wise to use care in the selection of your table beverage. The experience of several Illinois families proves this and one of them is a very interesting story. "We were induced to quit coffee about eight years ago because of its injurious effects. The doctor advised us to stop it entirely, and we began to use Postum."

"While we drank coffee we had headache, sleeplessness, stomach troubles, palpitation of the heart, etc. We have found no injurious effects from Postum, and are clear of all the old coffee troubles. It has a fine color, a delicious flavor, and we feel free to drink all we wish of it."

continuous service. No. 75 made the last trip late last night on the lines of the Chicago Railway Company and was forced, backing and hurdling rails to the last, to a fiery end. Surrounded by a horde of people, sunk in the mud, defaced by brutal curio seekers, and filled with kerosene, leered at and derided the ancient vehicle which had carried over 1,500,000 Chicagoans, blazed gloriously for a short time and then gave up the ghost.

"WATCH THE MOVEMENT

down the river." See Harborton adv. Page 6, Section 3.

Race With Death Is Lost.

SPOKANE, Wash., March 20.—Carrying a dying friend, three miners drove a handcar at top speed from Burke to Wallace last night. James Brennan had been stricken with apoplexy, and they were racing to reach the hospital. As the handcar entered the town, Brennan died.

READ

WHAT THE HIGHEST AUTHORITIES ON EYES SAY ABOUT THOMPSON.



NINE YEARS IN PORTLAND, TWO YEARS IN THE LEADING EYE CLINIC OF EUROPE.

Le Figero, Paris, June 16, '08, says: "R. A. Thompson, an American sight expert, astounding the medical world last evening with an important discovery for sight testing."

London Science Sittings, June 6, '08, says: "The wonderful skill with which Thompson discovers the various defects of the eye has caused quite a sensation among the eye specialists of Europe."

Thompson's method of sight testing has been endorsed by over 2000 of Europe's foremost oculists, and is the greatest discovery made in optometry in the 20th century.

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