Four Years Sees Great Change in Means of Conveyance for Officials.

MOTORS COME INTO FAVOR

Dr. Harry Lane, as Mayor, Intro duces First Machine, Which Carries Chief of Fire Department Thousands of Miles.

Expenditures for the operation and maintenance of automobiles by the city, to which attention was called last week because of some figures complied by City Auditor Barbur, brought out the fact that Portland has virtually trans-formed its departments, insofar as means of conveyance is concerned. It was but four years ago that the

It was but four years ago that the first city-owned automobile was purchased. Great ceremony attended the event. Dr. Harry Lane was Mayor and Marcus A. Fleischner was chairman of the fire committee of the Executive Board. David Campbell was the Fire Chief. He virtually selected the machine, which has been in constant use since and is considered as good as new. In it, the late Chief, who was killed in an East Side fire and explosion, drove thousands of miles on all kinds of runs and his successors have done likewise. Chief Dowell now operates it.

That machine was the envy of every department head. It started an epoch of automobile purchasing. Since then the city has bought 20. Nearly every department head has one; the water department head has one; the water department has several. And the end is not yet, for the fire service is to install 10 or a dozen hose and chemical combination carts of the same pattern as two that are now a part of the department. They cost a good deal of money to operate and to keep in repair. It is now proposed to build a municipal garage, equipped with sufficient force to attend to the upkeep of all city machines and where they all may be stored when not in use for public business. That the automobiles are a permanent feature and are doing excellent work for the city, is conceded. For the first time in many years, the city shall building is being cleaned with steel brushes and the exterior presents a splendid appearance. The stone looks like new and the workmen are receiving many compilinents. The

For the first time in many years, the City Hall building is being cleaned with steel brushes and the exterior presents a splendid appearance. The stone looks like new and the workmen are receiving many compliments. The eccasion for the cleaning up of the building is the approaching re-union of the Elka and the other festal occasions scheduled for the Summer. Chief Janizor Simmons is superintending the work. The City Council appropriated the necessary funds by unanimous vote. The Hall will be elaborately decorated this year to be in keeping with the spirit of the numerous special occasions.

An interesting point of law that frequently is brought to notice is as to whether the city officials actually have the right to award contracts for pawing, sewers or other improvements by waiver. City Attorney Grant has held that the city has such right, as is points out that the people of a community or the residents of a street have the right to any over their eigenatures what they want without reference to regular charter provisions, to the extent that, if they all agree to have a certain kind of improvement, they are entitled to it. This, notwithest and the first that they might get such improvement changer by means of calling for bids in the regular competitive manner. Many new sections are paved by waiver, the sewers are installed and water mains put in. By signing walvers, the people interested reliquish all rights guaranteed under the charter that they might other. signing waivers, the people interested reliquish all rights guaranteed under the charter that they might other-wise avail themselves of and the city s absolved from difficulties that might

In no manner is the rapid growth of Pertland better illustrated than with regard to 'the supply of water. It is found to be next to impossible for the Water Hoard to keep up with the numerous extensions demanded for every section. More crews than have ever been at work have been kept busy this season, but the demand still far exceeds the facilities of the department for installing mains. The water department this Summer has ample water in storage and the only problem now facing it is the laying of the required pipes to carry it to the residents of the different sections. The Board is not encouraging non-resident supply, the members feeling that it is a doubtful policy to cater to outsiders, although a comparatively few people are furnished with water who live beyond the city illmits. They are charged higher rates and have to install meters at their own expense. Numerous efforts of promoters to run pipes into tracts that are to be sold for speculation, with a view to having the city take the mains over later, are meeting with poer success, also. No process are

made, although the Board has the authority to purchase pipes put in in this manner when they yield a return of not less than 6 per cent on the cost of installation.

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With the advent of the Summer season, accompanied by dry weather and the usual amount of dust, there have developed a good many demands for sprinkling of macadamized streets and roads. Irate citisens, who do not realize the system now in vogus in Portland, register a good many complaints about this subject. As a matter of fact, sprinkling by the oid water wagon plan has been abandoned in Portland. Water is used only for the flushing of the hard-surfaced streets or ahead of the aweepers on these pavements. Rarely ever does the street-cleaning department resort to sprinkling by water on account of dusty streets. Oil is being used exclusively for this purpose, as it has proven more economical and one application lasts a long time. A sprinkling of water on a dusty street lays the dust less than an hour and is very expensive in operation for an entire season.

Need of a purchasing agent to look

less than an hour and is very expensive in operation for an entire season.

Need of a purchasing agent to look after the very large outlay of public funds for the operation and maintenance of the several city departments is constantly noted by those familiar with city business. Under the present system it is certain that the people are losing money through the amall quantities of materials, feed, etc., necessary to the proper operation of the different branches of the municipality. There is no unanimity of action whatever between departments. For example, the fire committee of the Executive Board orders separate supplies for that department, while the street-cleaning committee, police committee and the other committees act independently in every instance. Were it possible to store large quantities of supplies for all of the departments, having some one to supervise the purchases to the best advantage of the market, it is said that many thousands of deliars could be saved by the city every year, in fact, many times the saiary of a competent buyer. The charter does not provide, however, for such an agent and thus far the City Council has not seen fit to create the position.

EUGENE HAS CONFERENCE

Prominent Persons Will Speak at Commonwealth Sessions.

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, Eugene, May 18 .- (Special.)-The fourth annual commonwealth conference will be held at Eugene May 24 and 25 un-der the auspices of the University of

The programme as arranged for the

oming sessions follows: First sessions follows:
First sessions May 24, 9 A. M. "Taxation and Social Justice," paper by Charles V. Galloway, chairman State Tax Commission: paper by Forter J. Neft, City Attorney, Medited; discussion led by William B. Urlan, of Oregon City. "Justice in the Division of Cost and of Freduct of Industry Between Employer and Employer, paper by R. A. Harris; discussion led by James B. Kerr, of Fortland.

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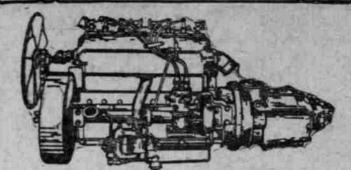
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Six stylich models—4 and 5-passenger touring cars, roadsters and raceabout—prices \$975 and \$1000. The beautiful La Marquise Coups \$1600.

STODDARD-DAYTON AUTO COMPANY EDWARD E. GERLINGER, General Manager, SERVICE DEPT., 86 Tenth Street. Marshall 2043.

SALESHOOMS, 690 Washington St. Marshall 1915, A 1917. PAIGE-DETROIT MOTOR CAR COMPANY, DETROIT, MICHIGAN

ENTRIES COME QUICK FOR VAN-DERBILT CUP.

Milwaukee Men May Build Perma-National Road Events.

Confronted with several serious problems of highway rehabilitation in preparation for the Vanderbilt Cup and Grand Prize road races, the race com-Instead of submitting separate measures, the executive committee of the State Federation of Labor has decided to propose under the initiative in the November election only one bill in which will be embraced the essential provisions of the minimum wage and maximum hout workday contained in measures originally considered.

Although not finally determined, it is understood the proposed minimum wage schedule will be 30 cents an hour for male and 20 cents an hour for female labor.

The measure will provide for a uni-

concrete roadways installed in the Hoosier territory. Test runs are to be made on the concrete roads from which technical experts will draw deductions on wear on tires, safety under speed conditions and the factor of engine ef-

fictency.

"Fifteen nominations are as good as made for the Vanderbilt race," says of the race committee. "That one of the race committee. That makes it look as if it were time for Milwaukee automobile interests to get die in regard to the course for the

"We have several routes available.
The co-operation of the city's commercial and professional leaders are
promises of funds for road improvement as well as offers of trophies.

Haste might mean waste, however, in
the matter of roadway preparation,
hence the desire to ascertain whether
or not we can afford a permanent con-



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Company believes its tires are the lowest-cost tires in the world.



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Mark that word season's.

It is your season's expense, and not the purchase orice that de-termines how much you ectually pay per tire.

Don't overlook that fact for a single minute.

The more experience you have had in tire-buying the more fully you know that last costs are the real costs, and the less apt are you to be influenced by the "cost less" argument.

You know-just as the makers of United States Tires know—that the stronger the tire the longer its life, and the lower its per-mile cost.

And it ought not to be difficult for you to believe that four immense factories, working as a unit, are better able to put strength and wear into tires than any one factory could be expected to put into

Take your tire question seriously, and select the tires that your best business judgment tells you are most certain to give you the biggest mileage return for your money.

The tires that can do this are the cheapest tires you can buy, regardless of first cost.

United States Tires offer you in a single tire a combination of the strongest features of four worldfamous brands.

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History's most phenomenal race record was made by National Cars last season, crowning their past performances. They won 84 firsts. Among these victories, proving National quality, are: World's fastest road race, averaging 74.63 miles per hour; world's fastest stock straight-away mile, 40.32 seconds; Elgin National Trophy (stock), 305 miles, average 66.4 miles per hour. Nationals have shown superiority over ears of greater cost on road, hill, beach, track, etc.

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