

ROAD BUILDING IN OREGON TO GO ON

Favorable Action on Highway Projects Under Way Secured by Mr. Meier.

TRUCK ROUTES NECESSARY

Message Sent to Highways Transport Committee Brings Favorable Response to Regional Chairman for Northwest.

Favorable action of the National highways transport committee on the continuation of road improvements in Oregon has been obtained as the result of a night letter which Julius Meier, regional chairman of the committee for district No. 10, dispatched to Washington, D. C., on September 5. Mr. Meier informed the transport committee that there was no shortage of road material in this state. Yesterday he received a telegram explaining that only in cases where work has not been started and materials cannot be secured is it necessary to make application to the United States Highway Council.

Road Work Imperative.

The telegram follows: "Mr. H. S. Hargrave: Many connecting roads contracted prior to April 5, 1918, are very near completion in Oregon. J. E. Pennypacker, of United States Highway Council, Willard building, in your city, issued bulletin No. 1, of United States Highway Council, apparently prohibiting the use of certain road materials in completing unfinished contracts. See bulletin mentioned. I believe the Government determined that there was no shortage of fuel oil on this coast. There is no shortage of road material in this state. "Great damage will be caused on account of the long rainy season unless the roads are completed prior to that time. Note bulletin mentioned. No road material can be obtained after September 10 without permission of the United States Highway Council, which might cause the closing down of work in Oregon on projects mentioned, entailing great loss financially and otherwise. The State Highway Commission has not sufficient time to secure permission to purchase road materials required under the bulletin. "All the projects under way are under bond issues approved by the Federal capital issues committee. The completion of these roads is absolutely necessary for the establishment of truck routes, inasmuch as these roads must be hard-surfaced to be used during the winter. If it is not presumptuous on my part, you will see Pennypacker and have the United States Highway Council telegraph our State Highway Commission to proceed with unfinished work in Oregon?"

"JULIUS L. MEIER, "Regional Chairman, District No. 10." Mr. Meier received the following reply yesterday: "Julius Meier, Regional Chairman Highways Transport Committee, The United States Highway Council today telegraphed Oregon Highway Department that when material and supplies could be secured by them they would proceed with construction work; that only in cases where the work is not going on and they could not secure materials or supplies it would be necessary to make application to the United States Highway Council."

ROAD MATERIALS AVAILABLE

Work in Oregon Will in No Way Interfere With Government Plans.

SALEM, Or., Sept. 7.—(Special.)—Highway work in Oregon will proceed regardless of the recent order of the Fuel Administration requiring approval by the Federal Highway Council before further work be done. Secretary Pennypacker, of the council, telegraphed to the State Highway Commission today granting the right to go ahead on all work now under way, providing materials for such work are available.

The order which threatened to close down the work here was issued particularly to conserve fuel oil, although it aimed also at conservation of railroad cars and equipment and materials needed in highway construction generally.

"Fortunately, the materials which we need for the completion of our roads are not difficult to obtain," said State Highway Engineer Nunn today in commenting upon the lifting of the order. "We use very little fuel oil in road construction here and completion of the jobs will not interfere with the Government's work in any way. The only possible conflict would be in the use of railroad equipment, in case heavy shipments of materials were needed, but with Federal control of the railroads this could not last long, as the use of cars would be shut off and we would accept the ultimatum without a protest, as we have no desire to hamper the Government in any way."

12 WITNESSES ASKED FOR

Attorney Robison Seeks Testimony in Behalf of Client in Court-Martial.

Attorney C. W. Robison, representing Private Vivian Stanley Davis, a member of the Spruce Division Intelligence Bureau, who was sent to Lincoln County to investigate operations of the Warren Spruce Company, yesterday filed an application for permission to call 12 witnesses to appear and give testimony in behalf of his client, whom he charges is being "railroaded" to prison for having done his plain duty. Davis is charged with having violated instructions in making his identification while conducting the investigation, and with having spoken in uncomplimentary terms of his superior officers.

The taking of testimony in the court-martial has been fixed for a week from Thursday, at Vancouver. While no statement would be made yesterday by officers of the Spruce Division, it was intimated that the affair would prove far less sensational than recent developments seemed to indicate.

RAILWAY MAY BE FOR SALE

Tacoma Expects to Be Solicited to Buy Streetcar System.

TACOMA, Wash., Sept. 7.—(Special.)—City officials were of the opinion to-

day that some offer will be made soon to the city by the heads of the Tacoma Railway & Power Company for the Tacoma streetcar system.

"If the sale of the Puget Sound Traction, Light & Power Company railways to Seattle goes through it is highly probable we will be next in line for an offer of a railway sale," said Mayor Riddell.

"We don't want the Tacoma Railway & Power Company on our hands," he added. "It would only be a burden. Besides more modern methods will be used for transportation within a few years at the most."

"Of course," said Commissioner Pettit. "Wait and see. Some one representing the Stone-Webster people will very likely call on us soon to ask us to buy the Tacoma Railway & Power system, especially if Seattle buys the line there."

BAKER HAS NEW CURTAIN

Old-time theater-goers of Portland, who have sat in the Baker year after year and gazed upon that familiar scene on the curtain with the ancient beggar near the wall at Monaco, will never gaze upon it again, for it has given way to the march of progress. During the summer the old scene was replaced with a new curtain and a new scene. In the new scene the picture of old Europe we have a scene showing Betsy Ross making the first American flag, and it is a beautiful, patriotic, inspiring work of art.

The location is a trellised garden, with tea table set and two dainty Colonial ladies, one of them Betsy Ross, with the folds of the first American flag falling gracefully from her lap as she lovingly sews on the stars, while her companion is reading a letter evidently just received from the front. At the top hangs the liberty bell and at the bottom, in striking pose, a superb American eagle looks out towards the audience.

The grand drapery is a rich, deep-red and the entire picture gives a most pleasing effect of harmony and sweet thoughts.

The artist who painted the curtain is Thorwald Schultz, who has been chief scenic artist for Baker Stock Company for the past 12 years and who is recognized as one of the leading scenic painters in the country.

A. B. RICHESON IS MAJOR

Ex-Newspaper Man, Now in France, Rises Rapidly in Service.

A. B. Richeson, formerly a copy editor for The Oregonian, has been promoted to the rank of Major in the American expeditionary forces in France, according to word reaching friends in Portland last night. The message was received from Mrs. Richeson, who is now in Seattle.

Major Richeson won a commission as Captain in the first officers' training camp at the Presidio. He was stationed at Camp Lewis, Wash., for a year. He left for France three months ago.

The news last night included nothing of how Major Richeson won his new honors. He had served in the regular Army as sergeant-major before the outbreak of the present hostilities, however, and his military ability was recognized from the first.

YOUNGSTERS MAKING GOOD

Hood River County School Fair Promises to Be Triumph.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Sept. 7.—(Special.)—County School Superintendent L. B. Gibson, says the exhibits of corn, wheat and other grains to be shown at the annual county school fair next Saturday, will be a revelation even to local residents of the progress made in this district in diversified farming. Mr. Gibson is collecting scores of corn and other cereal exhibits.

Hundreds of cans of fruit and vegetables have been prepared for contests between girls' teams of canners, and young gardeners will compete for free trips to the Salem fair. Nearly \$500 will be given in prizes.

Captain Keizer Killed.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Sept. 7.—(Special.)—Word was today received of the death in France of Captain Phil Keizer, formerly a physician of North Bend.

Captain Keizer was killed July 13, a year from the day he left North Bend. He was in the gas and flame battery, and was killed while on duty. He was to have been married to a Marshfield woman upon his return here.

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BOLSHEVIKI FLEE ON USSURI FRONT

Enemy Dismayed at Presence of Entente Allied Forces in Battle.

SEMENOFF'S ARMY ACTIVE

Enemy Destroys Trans-Siberian Railway West of Dauria; Czechs Said to Control Line Nearly to Tchita.

VLADIVOSTOK, Sept. 1.—(By the Associated Press.)—On the Ussuri front Japanese cavalry has occupied Iman, at the junction of the Iman and Ussuri rivers.

Prisoners report consternation in the ranks of the Bolshevik forces on the discovery of the presence of entente allied troops, which they did not suspect until they were in actual contact with them.

On the Manchurian front General Semenov's Cossacks have reached the fortifications of Borgia, on the Trans-Siberian Railway, 180 miles southeast of Tchita, the capital of Trans-Baikal.

A detachment of Japanese cavalry covered the right wing, took Ching Tang after a sharp fight and captured 100 prisoners and a baggage train. The enemy is retiring toward the Onon river, 80 miles northeast of Borgia.

Currency Situation Desperate.

The Japanese are issuing gold yen notes in an effort to improve the desperate currency situation.

Dr. Rudolph B. Teusler, of the American Red Cross, is preparing a Red Cross hospital base at Bohnaldon. The French commander has accepted the tender of Red Cross services for his troops.

HARBIN, Manchuria, Aug. 31.—(By the Associated Press.)—Bolshevik forces have destroyed the trans-Siberian railway in the region west of Dauria, a town 20 miles from the point where the railroad crosses the Manchurian border.

The water problem in that district is acute, as the water stations have been destroyed by the Bolsheviks, who also have poisoned the wells.

There is an unconfirmed report that the Czech-Slovak troops operating in the vicinity of Lake Baikal have fought their way eastward, and now control the railway thence nearly to Tchita.

Forces Soon to Unite.

If this report is true, the Czech-Slovak forces in the Ussuri region will have no difficulty in joining hands with them.

SHANGHAI, Sept. 7.—(By the Associated Press.)—Japanese forces have occupied the town of Khabarovsk, Siberia, according to advices received here from Vladivostok.

Khabarovsk is the seat of the general government of Amur and capital of the Littoral, or maritime, province. It is situated at the junction of the Amur and Ussuri rivers and is on the Ussuri branch of the trans-Siberian railway.

TOKIO, Aug. 30.—(By the Associated Press.)—Japanese cavalry on August 28 occupied Krasnoyarsk, on the Ussuri River front in Siberia, 60 miles northeast of Lake Khabarovsk, according to an official statement issued today by the Japanese war office.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—General Horvath, leader of a large faction of Russians in Siberia, and many years manager of the Chinese Eastern Railway, has gone to Irkutsk and joined forces with the Czech-Slovaks, according to information reaching Washington today. This removes the most troublesome factional differences among the anti-Bolshevik elements now virtually controlling Siberia and promises a quick solution of the governmental problem in that part of the world.

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CANDIDATES TO SAVE COIN

Up to Present No Space in Voters' Pamphlet Is Purchased.

SALEM, Or., Sept. 7.—(Special.)—Although its pages will be closed on September 25, so far no application has been made for space in the voters' pamphlet for the next general election. Under the law candidates may file statements through the central committees of their respective parties, or statements may be filed by friends and supporters of the candidates.

In event the statements are filed through the committees, the cost is \$50 a page, or through friends the cost is \$100 a page, and the space limited to four pages. Such matter also must be accompanied by the written consent of the candidate. Two years ago the voters' pamphlet contained about 50 pages.

Call for Fighters Issued.

ESTACADA, Or., Sept. 7.—(Special.)—The fire warden on the Federal Reserve sent for 10 men yesterday to help fight a fire in the vicinity of Pike's Peak. The blaze covers about 100 acres, but it is under control.

Fouts Country Home Menaced.

Seneca Fouts, attorney, received a message from Hood River Saturday afternoon to the effect that the fire raging in the National Forest, south of Mitchell's Point, was spreading rapidly and had reached a point near his country-place. Mr. Fouts will leave for Hood River tonight to assist the 150 men now fighting the flames.

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