

HOME CONSTRUCTION GAINS HERE

Houses Are Under Way in All Parts of City.

PORTLAND HELD EXAMPLE

United States Department of Labor Publishes Statement of Plans by Paul C. Murphy.

Portland has entered upon an active construction program. The momentum of this program will increase rapidly as the building season approaches and as soon as the public is convinced that price reductions on materials have been made, according to members of the "own-your-home" committee.

The announcement by the committee that a purchasing bureau had been installed, assisting builders in obtaining materials at wholesale prices, has created a great deal of interest and has been instrumental in leading builders and prospective home owners to proceed with construction.

Evidence of the building activity in Portland is furnished by the following: W. P. Fuller & Co. has just sold materials for 20 houses.

L. Hartman of Hartman & Thompson announces the sale of 30 lots in Rose City Park.

Groups of Homes Under Way.

H. E. Fritschauer is building a home at 524 Station street.

P. W. Clark is erecting a home at 1674 Rodney street, valued at \$10,000.

The Rose Building company has proceeded to construct two houses at Fifty-third and Alameda drive.

The Pond Building company has begun work on four houses in Rose City Park.

The Pajuna Building company has started construction of a home in Laurelhurst.

The C. J. Johnson company has likewise begun construction of a residence at 515 East Forty-third street North.

N. P. Peterson is building a home in Irvington.

Turner & Winslow Building company has arranged to construct two houses at Seventeenth and Fremont streets, Irvington.

In Rose City Park a large number of homes are now under construction.

George Weller, builder, is erect and Sandy boulevard.

Watts building company is building five houses in Rose City Park.

Danmore Orchard have started three houses at Fifty-fourth and Alameda drive.

N. O. Ecklund is building a \$7000 home at Sixty-second street and Alameda drive.

Coe A. McKenna company is preparing for an extensive building program and is building three houses at Macrum and Lombard streets.

Read College Building.

Announcement is made that the Reed College Foundation will immediately proceed with the building of five five-room bungalows near the steel plant in South Portland. These homes will be built to sell, and the college trustees, through its endowment fund, are erecting these homes as an investment of institutional funds.

These building operations will be carried on in connection with the purchase of the "own-your-home" campaign, through which bureau contractors, building companies and individual home builders will secure the advantage of whole sale prices, thus effecting a large saving in connection with construction.

Portland is cited as an example for the nation in the "own-your-home" movement by the information and education bureau of the United States department of labor in a circular on the housing movement which has just been issued.

Paul C. Murphy of Portland, who has just been selected to take charge of the "own-your-home" section of the division of public works and construction development of the department of labor, is quoted as considerable length in the circular.

2000 Houses Planned.

"The city of Portland, Ore.," says Mr. Murphy, "expects to build approximately 2000 houses this year. The population has grown from 223,000 in 1910 to 277,000 in 1917. In 1917 there were permits issued for 223 houses, aggregating in value \$7,915,250. The next year 2700 houses, aggregating in value \$6,847,282, were built. In 1918 there was a record of 2700 houses, valued at \$3,858,175, being constructed. The record for the next five years was: 1919: 2700 houses, valuation \$2,173,415; 1920: 2700 houses, valuation \$1,314,150; 1921: 2700 houses, valuation \$1,102,020, in 1918.

"We had expected in the building of homes during 1919, directly and indirectly, about 2700 men, but in 1918 we did not have more than 1000. Now we have carpenters thrown out of employment by the government's demand of the wooden ship contracts, and, as lumber is our chief resource, we expect to begin in earnest to provide adequate dwellings for the city's increased population. Lots are low in price.

"A large part of our population is living in old, run-down houses that are insanitary and have long ago served their purpose. Well-built, modern homes for workmen will be made to make labor contented and to reduce the unusual labor turnover that has existed recently than any other one thing. The increase in the cost of labor during the last year is due in no small degree to the workmen's continual change of positions, dissatisfaction being attributable to living conditions as well as shop or factory causes. Modern homes will make labor more permanent in position, more efficient in productive power, and we in Portland intend, if possible, to provide sufficient new houses to keep the people who have come to the city as securely established residents, happy and satisfied in their environment."

COUNCIL CREST HOME SOLD

Modern Seven-Room Residence Sells for Approximately \$5000.

George N. Barker and Semel G. Oregon, Bids.

Directory of Prominent Life Insurance Agencies Members of Life Underwriters' Association of Oregon.

Wm. Goldman, General Manager, NATIONAL LIFE OF VERMONT, Oregon, Bids.

H. G. Colton, Manager, MASSACHUSETTS MUTUAL LIFE, Oregon, Bids.

E. H. Harrison, General Agent, PENN MUTUAL LIFE, Northwestern Bank Bldg.

NEW ENGLAND MUTUAL LIFE, Northwestern Bank Bldg.

NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL LIFE INS. CO., Northwestern Bank Bldg.

Barker have purchased from Henry von Greenwald, the seven-room residence at 821 Council Crest drive in Council Crest Park. The house is modern in every respect, and was built for a home by Mr. Von Greenwald.

The consideration was in the neighborhood of \$5000. The sale was made by Mrs. John Brooks, exclusive agent for Portland Heights.

REALTY FIRM DOUBLES FORCE

Johnson-Dodson Company Men Predict Active Home Building.

The Johnson-Dodson company, Northwestern bank building, has doubled its office force and equipment as a result of an increase in business. A farm department has been established, with an experienced farm specialist as manager and an insurance department soon will be added.

All the salesmen own machines with which to show property. The company is optimistic over future prosperity for Portland, and believes that the coming season will see many modern homes constructed here.

Another Big Polk Ranch Sold.

DALLAS, Or., March 8.—(Special.)—T. J. Robinson, a recent arrival in this city from South Dakota, has purchased from Beckman & Cox of Hubbard, Kan., a ranch formerly owned by James Boynton of this city and located several miles north of here, the consideration being somewhere in the neighborhood of \$30,000.

The new owner expects to erect a new residence on the property this spring, and make other needed improvements. The ranch consists of 110 acres, 65 acres being planted to prunes, walnuts, apples and pears. The walnut orchard on the place is one of the oldest in Polk county and each year produces an enormous crop.

W. P. RICHARDSON HOME PURCHASED BY R. D. FONTANA.

Modern residence at 1400 Alameda Drive sold to Oregon Packing company man by S. S. Batten of the Fred A. Jacobs company.

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manager of the Metropolitan Building company of that city, in an address delivered Tuesday evening at the annual meeting of the Portland Association of Building Owners and Managers in the Benson hotel. Major Douglas said that he had secured all his property and finding pleasure in the company of younger men, according to the divorce complaint of Patchen filed in the circuit court yesterday.

Patchen asks to be awarded the deed to a lot in Morningside park, Mount Rainier, and a half of \$4200 as his share of the profit in the sale of the Amosden lot, 263 Third street. He desires \$250 for attorney's fees to enable him to prosecute the suit, asserting that he has no funds with which to go ahead.

The Patchens were married in St. John in 1908. The wife is accused of infidelity, the husband naming W. L. Smith and a man named French as being guilty of the crime.

W. W. Bunn, veteran police sergeant of the Portland force, is sued for divorce by Hattie M. Bunn, whom he married at John, Or., July 3, 1906. She says she refuses to speak to her for weeks at a time. She asks the custody of an eight-year-old son and \$35 a month.

Other divorce suits filed yesterday were: Kellie A. Douglas against Arthur Douglas, a divorcee; May A. Paulson, desertion, and Marie M. Tibbets against Victor L. Tibbets, cruelty.

AGED MAN ASKS DIVORCE

ROBERT PATCHEN, 72, WEARIES OF WIFE, AGED 49.

Plaintiff Says He Is Destitute and That Defendant Has Taken All His Property.

During their ten years of married life Anna M. Patchen, aged 49, made of Robert Patchen, aged 72, a broken and desolate old man, according to her property and finding pleasure in the company of younger men, according to the divorce complaint of Patchen filed in the circuit court yesterday.

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GRADE TEACHERS HOSTS

DELIGHTFUL LUNCHEON IN HOTEL PORTLAND GRILLROOM.

Short Addresses of Congratulatory Character Given by Members of Various Organizations.

Members of the four women teachers organizations of the Portland public school, the Grade Teachers association, the High School Women's club, the Home Economics association and the Portland Kindergarten council, joined in a delightful luncheon in the grill of the Hotel Portland yesterday when covers were placed for 150. The grade teachers were hosts and the president of the organization, Miss Harriet Thayer, presided.

The programme was opened with vocal numbers by Miss Ruby Goulet with "The Song of the Sea." Miss Nina Louise Greathouse, gave two enjoyable readings: Miss Florence McElroy, violinist, played with Mrs. Thelen as accompanist.

Short addresses of a happy, congratulatory character were given by Miss Nellie McCreary, president of the Home Economics association and Mrs. Samuel Norton of the Kindergarten council.

With a 70 days' fighting record and several months of overseas duty behind him, Mr. Charles returned from France recently. His corps was demobilized at Camp Lewis. He battled at the Argonne, St. Mihiel and Verdun.

Miss McCreary is the daughter of a well-known banker and lumberman of Astoria. The couple plan to be married some time in the near future and expect to make their home in Portland.

Bliss Chief of Wurttemberg.

STUTTGART, March 8.—(Havas.)—Herr Bliss, president of the state council of Wurttemberg, has been elected president of the state of Wurttemberg.

PORTLAND CHAMBER TO GREET DISTINGUISHED GUEST.

Member of House Naval Affairs Committee to Visit Niece at Multnomah Hotel.

Representative H. Z. Osborne of Los Angeles, member of the house naval affairs committee, will arrive in Portland Monday to visit his niece, Mrs. George R. Smith, at the Multnomah hotel.

Special entertainment for Mr. Osborne will be arranged by the Chamber of Commerce, a committee of which will meet him upon his arrival in Portland. If he arrives here in time he will be taken to speak at the regular Monday noon luncheon. A special dinner or luncheon may be given in his honor by the Commercial club.

Mr. Osborne will leave Portland Wednesday, and expects to join the house naval affairs committee in Los Angeles on March 17. He will be accompanied by Mrs. H. Z. Osborne.

Twelve representatives, holdover members of the house naval committee, left Washington last night for a tour of the Pacific coast. The delegation will be accompanied by Representative McArthur of Oregon and Representative W. D. Dodson, executive secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, will appear at the entertainment of the delegation while in Portland.

ROAD WILL BE IMPROVED

Cottage Grove-Walker Route Work to Be Started.

COTTAGE GROVE, Or., March 8.—(Special.)—That extensive highway improvements are to be carried on in this section this year is evidenced by the fact that E. B. Bishop of the state highway department has taken up his residence here for the summer and will soon have a crew at work surveying the proposed new route for Pacific

PERSONAL MENTION.

Judge O. P. Corbow of Roseburg came to Portland yesterday to attend a meeting of the Baptist Laymen's association, of which he is a trustee. Judge

PORTLAND PROPERTY DECLARED VALUABLE

City Good Investment Field, Says Major Douglas.

BRIGHT FUTURE IS SEEN

"Improve Ahead of Times." Building Owners and Managers Are Told by Army Authority.

"In the long run, no safer or more satisfactory investment will be found in this section of the country than well located, well-improved and well-handled property in the city of Portland." This statement was made by Major J. E. Douglas, acting depot quartermaster for Seattle and secretary and

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