

## WILL START WORK SOON

(Continued from page 1.)

to anyone who made any public announcement of it.

Mr. Hitchcock said that he expected to return here shortly and he will probably make frequent visits while the construction is under way the next two or three years.

### No Coast Line Now.

When asked about the prospects for a line on down the coast beyond Coos Bay, Mr. Hitchcock said there was nothing doing in it, now at least so far as his people are concerned. He said that the project looked good for the future. Nor is there anything doing on an east and west line from here now as far as he knows. He said that the Eugene route was the logical way to build to Coos Bay, anyway.

MacArthur Brothers company is one of the largest contracting firms in the United States and have headquarters in New York City. They rather make a specialty of railroad work but handle almost anything in the construction line.

### Others Won't Talk.

The others of the party did not want to discuss railroad matters at all, each of them referring the newspaper men to Mr. Hitchcock as the spokesman of the party.

Although all of them were more or less tired by the hard trip, all were good natured and elated over the fine spell of weather they had had for the trip.

### Only One Line.

Mr. Weir, the locating engineer of the Southern Pacific, laughed when asked about the possibility of the new line being used jointly by the Hill or other systems with the Southern Pacific.

"You know that one road is all that Coos Bay is going to get just now because there isn't business or tonnage here for more than one," he finally replied.

Mr. Weir has been in here a number of times and has many friends here.

### Porter's First Trip.

Despite all the rumors that have been started from time to time for the last three or four years about someone of the Porter Brothers being on Coos Bay incognito for the Hill interests, R. B. Porter stated last night that positively this was the first trip of himself or any of his brothers to the bay. He said Mr. Hitchcock was the man to talk about the railroad. He said he was along with a view to securing part of the work for his firm if they could make some money out of it.

Mr. Porter spent a large share of the evening visiting with A. L. Powers of the Smith-Powers Logging company. The two are old time friends, having been boyhood acquaintances in Minnesota thirty odd years ago. Mr. Porter is just a month older than Mr. Powers and is of a similar wiry build. They two operated in the same territory near Duluth for a time, logging off large areas side by side. Later the Porter Brothers began specializing in railroad construction and it has been quite awhile since R. B., or "Dick" as Mr. Powers calls him, had a visit together. R. B. Porter looks after the office end of the Porter Brothers business.

The Porter Brothers aside from being interested in the railroad from the possibility of getting a contract for the construction of a part of it, have great timber holdings along the Siuslaw which the line will tap. Owing to these big timber holdings, it was presumed that they had much to do with getting a railroad started down the Siuslaw to make the timber available.

### Start Out Early.

It was about 9 o'clock when the party got in last evening and all were pretty weary from the strenuous trip but they remained up until about 11 o'clock talking with friends and new acquaintances.

They were up at 6 o'clock this morning and started a little after 7 o'clock in a launch for North slough to inspect the balance of the route. They will take dinner at Lakeside and it will probably be late today before they return. Part of the route along the lakes will require some big cuts and fills and all were anxious to view it closely.

A. H. Stutsman took the party out from here in a launch. Even Mr. Weir, who is accustomed to the strenuous tramping over the hills and through the brush in making the surveys for the line, admitted this morning that he was "a little stiff." He is of an athletic build and the way he went through the brush coming down won the admiration of R. B. Porter who declared he was a wonder. However, they all had to take off their hats to F. C. Hitchcock who, despite his 250 avoirdupois, did not lag and whose jovial, good nature kept them in the best of spirits all the time.

### Advance Time On It.

A. R. McDonald of Black Creek, who was in Marshfield today, stated that he had just received notice from the Southern Pacific to remove the buildings from the right of way across his property by June 15. His original contract specified that the buildings should be removed by July 15 but they have advanced the date a month, indicating their intention to hasten the work.

The end of the big tunnel is on the McDonald property, the tunnel being about 4,200 feet long. The line has caused Mr. McDonald to raze his barn but he is erecting a newer and better one.

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## DEFER ACTION ON FRANCHISE

(Continued from page 1.)

the city had taken steps to force better water service and notice had been served on the company and that the latter had replied that Mr. Nolan would probably have to attend to it. Now that the Nolan deal has been called off, it was understood that the city would go ahead and force better and more adequate water service.

### Revives Paving Contest.

Carl Albrecht last evening revived the contest as to the kind of paving to be put in here. He appeared before the council and asked that bids on bitulithic as well as bituminous be asked for the Market avenue district. He said that he was circulating a petition among the property owners and nearly all the resident property owners were signing it. He asked that the council defer the action for a week in the matter so that he could present the petitions. He claimed that under the present specifications, the bituminous people have a monopoly and claimed that it might be possible by getting some competition to get better bids than \$2.2 per yard. He asked that tentative bids on bitulithic as well as bituminous be called for.

E. F. Morrissey of the Coos Bay Paving and Construction company denied that they had a monopoly of the bituminous paving, saying that anyone could lay it. He said that the Warren Construction company with their bitulithic had the monopoly, having patents on the material as well as the machinery for laying it and charging a bounty on it. He claimed that the courts had held the bitulithic a monopoly.

C. F. McKnight said that the contracts which the Warren company entered into were questionable and asked that the city attorney be instructed to look into them before anything was done about it.

R. A. Copple said that he would like to see competition for the work and also see the different kinds of paving tested out.

The matter was not slated to come up for final action last evening and it will probably be brought up for further discussion next meeting. P. A. Sandberg is representing the Warren Brothers on the Bay and in reply to Mr. McKnight's attack on their form of contract said the company had one on file with the city officials.

### Improve Water Front.

Eugene O'Connell urged the council to take further steps looking to the improvement of the waterfront. He said that since Front street was being converted into railroad right of way, it would be essential to afford a street for teams and the people to travel. He said the government had once offered to extend the harbor lines twenty feet further and suggested that the council take steps to have this done and then open a street forty feet or so wide along the water front. He said the buildings could then be made to face that way and greatly improve the appearance of the city from the water front.

C. F. McKnight said that the government engineers had once stated that they would recommend that the harbor line be set out twenty feet if the property owners would give a similar strip, the whole to be used for a waterfront street.

The matter is now being looked up by the city attorney and city engineer.

### New Alarm System.

Mayor Straw reported that the Coos Bay Home Telephone company and the Oregon Power company had offered to operate a new fire and burglar alarm system here if the city would simply pay the cost of stringing the wires in putting it in. The new system consists of a number of brilliant colored electric flash lights. The lights will be operated by the Central girl at night and will insure prompt responses by the patrolmen who might otherwise be difficult to locate. The council voted to accept the offer and instructed the fire and water committee to take the matter up at once with the companies.

Mayor Straw reported that he had decided to appoint Dorsey Kretzer, W. E. Douglas and Fred Nelson as members of a committee to investigate the matter of purchasing a combined fire engine and auto truck for the fire department. He said that agents of the manufacturers of this equipment were willing to bring some of them here to be tested.

### Street Settles.

Mayor Straw reported that the paving on North Front street, north from the city hall, had settled two or three inches and was now below grade. This was discovered by the engineers of the Terminal railway. It was decided to have the street brought back to grade so that the railway tracks can be laid on the established grade.

### Other Matters Up.

Councilman Ferguson reported that he was not aware that he and his committee were to look up the matter of a new electrical inspector and consequently he was not ready to report on it.

There was quite a crowd present but when it was announced that no action would be taken on the railway franchise matter, most of them left. The only "C" street contract was partly cleared up by one claim for about \$200 being paid out of the general fund.

Contractor Morrissey was ordered paid \$982 on his Hall avenue contract.

This afternoon Dan Keating announced that he had selected A. H. Stutsman, Will Chapman and J. L. Koontz as a committee to determine which was the best auto driven apparatus.

## JESS DAY IS FINED TODAY

Jess Day, the prizefighter who was arrested on the charge of assault and battery, this morning through his attorney, R. O. Graves, entered a plea of guilty when the case was called by City Recorder Butler. His fine was fixed at \$20 which was paid.

Whether this will end the fracas is not known. The offense of Day in chewing Dick Noble's finger, at the time the latter had him down in the billiard parlors the other day, has been reported to Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Liljeqvist. Whether Mr. Liljeqvist will prosecute him on the more serious charge of mayhem is not known. Mr. Noble is not disposed to prosecute the case further now.

### TURNS FRANCHISE DOWN

Southern Pacific Rejects One Long Sought at Tillamook.

TILLAMOOK, Ore., May 14.—Members of the city council are inclined to be wroth at the action of the Southern Pacific railroad in declining to accept the franchise granted at its request. For some time, pressure was brought to bear on the council to grant the railroad the privilege of laying three tracks on Front street. There was much opposition to the plan, as it was claimed that this would give the railroad the street. The council finally passed the franchise practically as requested, and forwarded it to the railroad for acceptance. Several days ago it was returned with a statement that the railroad does not want it.

An explanation is given that after deliberation the railroad company decided to build the freight and passenger stations of the road on the terminal grounds east of town instead of at Front street and Stillwell avenue. The property on Front street is said to be too low, the track on that street being very little above high water line.

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◆ Portland	13	21	.382

PORTLAND, May 16.—Portland defeated Vernon 14 to 1 yesterday. The Coast league results follow:  
At San Francisco R H E  
San Francisco ..... 1 6 2  
Oakland ..... 3 6 0  
At Los Angeles R H E  
Vernon ..... 1 7 4  
Portland ..... 14 12 2  
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Sacramento ..... 0 11 0  
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