

SCARCITY OF LABOR

Contractors Explain Why Extensions on Street Improvement Work Are Necessary—Bad Weather and Slow Deliveries Retard.

In answer to the many complaints from property owners along streets now undergoing improvement against granting extensions of time to contractors several members of the executive board at the meeting yesterday afternoon explained the cause of delay and expressed confidence that the residents would see the matter in the same light.

Unfavorable weather, inability of the railroads to make deliveries on time and the scarcity of labor are advanced as the principal reasons for asking for extensions of time. Practically every contractor in the city has been forced to request more time and in nearly every instance the board has granted it.

It is believed to be a contingency accompanying the great forward growth of the city and the board is of the belief that it should be lenient with contractors who could not foresee the conditions they are compelled to face in finishing the work. The board has the power to fix the time for the completion of the work and heretofore as before it will be liberal in its allowance.

It was explained in the meeting that contractors do not receive a cent of money from the city for their work until it has been completed, approved and accepted. Under such circumstances it was pointed out that the slowness with which some contractors are doing the work is not willful. Splendid weather for the past 40 days has enabled a number of contractors on small portions of the work to complete their work easily within the allotted time.

NOTABLE GATHERING OF PRESBYTERIANS

Rev. E. Nelson Allen Enthusiastic Over Results Accomplished at Late Ohio Meeting.

Rev. E. Nelson Allen, pastor of Hawthorne Park Presbyterian church, and O. M. Scott, returned home Wednesday last from Columbus, Ohio, where they have been in attendance at the Presbyterian general assembly. Rev. Mr. Allen represented the Portland Presbytery and Mr. Scott was lay representative. Mr. Allen said:

"The meeting at Columbus will go down in history of the Presbyterian church as one of the most notable. It was the first united national assembly of the Presbyterian church of the United States and the Cumberland Presbyterian churches. The action taken regarding the attitude of the temperance committee of the assembly toward the Anti-Saloon league was important and the way in which the decision was arrived at speaks well for the accomplished union of the churches.

"The vote was unanimous, although debate was sharp and prolonged. The committee was continued and instructed to pursue its work hereafter independent of the Anti-Saloon league and wherever possible to aid in the work taken up by the league, instead of repudiating its policies.

"The meeting was attended by 900 commissioners, representing every state in America. Next year the assembly will meet in Kansas City, the old home of Rev. Mr. Allen.

THIS ANNUAL EDITION CREDIT TO PORTLAND

Brimsful of timely topics of particular interest to the Hebrews of America, masterly handled by some of the brightest minds in the ranks of Jewish theologians, typographically gem among annual sectarian publications and really marking an epoch in the history of northwest journalism, the fourth annual number of the Jewish Tribune of this city, which has just made its appearance, is attracting widespread attention and reflects great credit on the editors.

A particularly striking decorative cover in gray, black and white, and

28 pages of clever matter embracing such subjects as "The Jew as an American Citizen," "The Sabbath Question," "The Vindication of the Jew," "The Jewish Bible—the Compass of the May-Flower" makes the fourth annual number of the Jewish Tribune far superior to anything of the kind ever published in the northwest.

ROCKPILE IS GOAL OF NOTORIOUS MR. RANKIN

F. S. Rankin, one of the members of the gang arrested several months ago in a front street lodging-house for implication in the Bellwood and St. Johns postoffice robberies and who escaped indictment at the hands of the federal grand jury, was before Judge Cameron yesterday on the charge of vagrancy entered against him at the time of his arrest.

Rankin was subjected to a searching examination covering over an hour and at the conclusion of the proceedings Judge Cameron imposed a sentence of 30 days on the rockpile.

Spray of Life at The Oaks.

A great show will be offered at the Oaks today. The feature will be Professor Catalie's most famous illusion, Professor Catalie has the reputation of being the most clever illusionist in this country, and the "Nalads in the Phosphorescent Fountain" is his finest work. It is simply a series of beautiful pictures enhanced by the use of living performers and curious mechanical effects. One apparently sees upon the stage a beautiful fountain of crystal water with three lovely women performing all sorts of evolutions in the spray. The forms of the ladies dart around, turn somersaults and rest suspended in the falling water of the fountain. One cannot see how the effect is accomplished, as the forms are apparently moving in mid air. The most beautiful effect is secured, when the water seems to suddenly change to a shower of gold. There are six tableaux in all, as follows: "The Fishes Sleeping on the Moon," "The Hunt of Cupid," "The Three Nalads in Aerial Evolutions," "Two Nalads Performing Macabre Dances," "Three Nalads in the Luminous Fountain" and "The Shower of Gold."

Not a Betting Man.

Individually the name of J. T. Wilson, who conducts an auction house on First street between Yamhill and Taylor streets, was mentioned in The Journal in connection with a bet made the night of the election. Mr. Wilson was not instrumental in getting the money placed and had no connection whatever with any bets made on the result of the contest.

Monday positively the last day of discount of west side gas bills.

HUSBAND COOKED WIFE DESERTED

Lineman Swan Unable to Buy Diamonds and Spouse Left Him.

Though he cooked his own breakfast every morning, ate lunch away from home and cooked his own dinner nearly every evening, Heber v. Swan was deserted by his wife, Nellie Swan, for failing to support her, according to the testimony given by Swan before Judge Fraser in the circuit court in seeking a divorce.

Swan said his wife wanted diamonds, and he was unable to buy them for her on the salary he earned as a lineman. The only reason given by Mrs. Swan for leaving, according to her husband's testimony, was that she could do better alone than with him, and did not care to live with him any longer. They were married at Corvallis in July, 1904. Mrs. Swan had deserted once before, said Swan, when she went to the sea coast with her parents and refused to return to her husband. Later she was persuaded to return to him but again deserted in August, 1905. Swan said he always cooked his own breakfast and nearly always cooked his own dinner, while his wife was away visiting with the neighbors. Swan was granted a divorce.

After much litigation, "Mysterious Billy" Smith is without a wife. His wife, Mamie Smith, was granted a divorce from him on the ground of desertion by Judge Fraser. Mrs. Smith alleged that she married Smith in New York in July, 1898, and that he deserted her in June, 1905. Smith sued for a divorce more than a year ago, but the case was thrown out of court. Later Mrs. Smith sued him for maintenance and the court ordered him to pay her \$25 a month.

Mrs. L. F. Ross was granted a divorce from A. M. Ross on the ground of desertion beginning in January, 1906. They were married at Vancouver, Washington, in March, 1884. Mrs. Ross testified that there was "another woman" in the case. She was allowed a divorce, the custody of their minor children and \$25 a month alimony.

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City Engineer Taylor's report of street and sewer improvements contemplated and under construction in Portland during the month of May, which was presented at the meeting of the executive board last evening, shows an amount unimproved and in one of the surest indications of the city's great prosperity.

The report shows that during the month the number of streets under construction by ordinance amounted to 34 and that the number of streets under preparation for construction but not yet under contract reached the unusual number of 321. The number of sewers in course of preparation and under construction reached 61.

In the streets cross-sectioned under permit the gain shows greatest. Grading on portions of different streets during the month reached 4,424 lineal feet. The grades and lines set for sidewalks under permit amounted in lineal feet to 16,548. In grades that had not been previously established the lineal feet and levels run totaled 72,940 lineal feet. Surveys for streets opened widened or extended during May covered 47,168 feet, and the restating of work under construction reached 116,119 lineal feet.

The streets cross-sectioned during May preparatory to making estimates in accordance with petition or resolution and the portions of the different streets to be improved in various ways follow:

Macadam, 4,429 feet; gravel, 11,223 feet; stone blocks, 240 feet; bituminous, 5,896 feet; asphalt, 1,060 feet; bituminous macadam, 490 feet, and earth grade, 7,082 feet.

City Treasurer J. E. Werlein left this morning for Greenville, near Forest Grove, where he will deliver the principal address tonight at the burning of the mortgage on the Macabean temple at that place. Mr. Werlein is commander of Portland tent, No. 1, K. O. T. M.

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TAYLOR REPORT SHOWS GROWTH

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are eligible. There will be physical examinations, as well as examinations in reading, writing, orthography, geography, history, arithmetic, algebra, geometry and grammar. A standing of at least 85 per cent will be required. One candidate and three alternates will be certified to Senator Bourne. A second examination will be held at Annapolis on June 18, and should the candidates fail, the first alternate will be appointed.

Monday positively the last day of discount of west side gas bills.

Badly Mixed Up. Abraham Brown of Winterton, N. Y., had a very remarkable experience; he says: "Doctors got badly mixed up over me; one said heart disease; two called it kidney trouble; the fourth blood poison, and the fifth stomach and liver trouble; but none of them helped me, so my wife advised trying Electric Bitters, which are restoring me to perfect health. One bottle did me more good than all the five doctors prescribed." Guaranteed for blood poison, weakness and all stomach, liver and kidney complaint, by Red Cross Pharmacy, 50c.

EXAMS FOR ANNAPOLIS ARE CLOSE AT HAND

Examinations of applicants for admission to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis will be held at the public library beginning next Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock with the following subjects: English, mathematics, science, history, geography, and general knowledge. The candidates must be between the ages of 16 and 20 years only.

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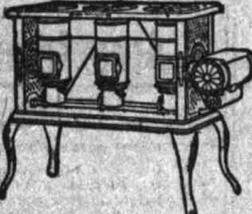
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