

HARRIMAN ROAD DOWN THE SNAKE TO BE BUILT SOON

Survey of 120 Miles Through Canyon Practically Finished and Reports Indicate Early Construction.

(Special to The Journal.)
Lawton, Idaho, Jan. 16.—The survey of the O-W. R. & N. company's line from Homestead to Lawton is expected to be completed within two weeks, and the information that drifts to the engineering department from the Short Line offices is that construction will be commenced in the spring.

Homestead is the lower terminus of the Snake river line constructed out of Huntington three years ago. The gap between Homestead and Lawton is but 120 miles. Engineers were placed on the permanent survey early in the fall, and during the winter months three crews have worked about the cliffs and bluffs in carrying the grade line through the box canyon sections of the river.

Problem in Engineering.
The construction of the Snake river road will represent a gigantic engineering problem, and will give the Harriman system the longest water grade route in the world, and one over which an engine can haul as many loads as it is possible to start on a level track.

The Lewiston bench mark is 741 feet above sea level, while at Homestead the reading shows 1775 feet. The grade to be made in the 120 miles being but 1034 feet. The line follows the shore of the river the entire distance and will open a country of wonderful resources now given over to cattle and sheep raising because of its isolation.

Open Rich Country.
Where the mountains fall back are rich bench lands, large areas of which are now irrigated by water brought from adjacent canyons by gravity systems, but the only crop is alfalfa. For the first time during the severe winters.

From the Grand Ronde valley alone will come a tonnage equal to that of the rich Camas and Nez Perce prairie sections, is the statement made by railroad statisticians who have made reports on the country to be developed by the construction of the Snake river line. The proportion of bar land along the river which will become valuable for fruit or vegetable production is equal to that of the river valley below Lewiston, while the mineral districts will be taken an immense tonnage.

Early German Settler Dies.
(Special to The Journal.)
Gervais, Or., Jan. 16.—Mrs. Eleanor Savage, pioneer and widow of the late John Savage Sr. of Salem, died Sunday morning at the home of her stepdaughter, Mrs. Nick Kopping, four miles southeast of Gervais, age 78 years. She had no children and was a native of Canada. The body was taken to Salem and burial will take place there Tuesday.

POSTOFFICE PLANS TO BE OPEN TO ALL ARCHITECTS.

Bourne's Bill Provides for Competition Among Architects.

(Washington Bureau of The Journal.)
Washington, Jan. 16.—There is now a very good prospect for Portland to get an adequate postoffice building, since Senator Bourne's bill passed the senate on the eighth instant. The bill was introduced by the senator December 5, and December 21 was reported from the committee on public buildings and grounds without amendment. The bill provides as follows:
"That the secretary of the treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to enter into contract for the construction of a suitable building for a postoffice only upon the site heretofore acquired, bounded by Seventh, Eighth, Hoyt and Gilman streets, in the city of Portland, Oregon, at a total limit of cost for said building, including mechanical equipment, heating, ventilating, vacuum cleaning and air washing systems, machinery, mechanical appliances and devices for handling mail, intercommunicating telephones and clock system, and such other labor-saving devices and appliances as may be deemed necessary, at a total limit cost, exclusive of site, of one million dollars."

"Sec. 2. That the secretary of the treasury be, and he is hereby, further authorized and empowered, in his discretion, to secure the plans, specifications and estimates for said building and the local supervision of its construction by competition among not less than five architects, and to make payment for the services of the architect whose plan may be selected out of the appropriation for said building, any statute to the contrary notwithstanding."

The second section caused the only discussion that the senate indulged in over the bill. However, whether or not it be good public policy to employ outside architects for public buildings, this plan will have the effect, as Senator Bourne pointed out, of hastening construction, and it should result in a building of greater merit architecturally. Naturally, it is to be presumed that Portland, or at least Oregon, architects should have an opportunity to compete. It is to be hoped that Portland will not have the same experience as San Francisco, where a competition for the substructure plans led to the employment of an architect in Cleveland, Ohio.

Linn County Fair Meeting.
(Special to The Journal.)
Scio, Or., Jan. 16.—Owing to the high water in all the streams in this vicinity, the meeting of the stockholders of the Linn County Fair association was not as largely attended Saturday as was expected. Dr. A. G. Prill declined to serve longer as president, owing to other business. His determination to resign has brought the stockholders face to face with a hard problem. Six directors will be elected at the next meeting who, with the three appointed by the governor, constitute the executive board. There has been some dissatisfaction expressed because the appointees of the governor have failed to attend the meetings of the board.

AGRICULTURE IS COMING IN ALASKA

Governor Clarke Shows That Market Gardening Is New Business.

Washington, Jan. 16.—The annual report of the governor of the district of Alaska to the secretary of the interior, covering the fiscal year ended June 30, 1911, has been given out for publication. The report, compiled by Governor Walter E. Clarke, touches every branch of industrial and social progress in the great territory of the northwest, and it recommends the adoption of numerous legislative measures necessary in the development of the country. In spite of the big demand for mechanics, miners and laborers at good wages, the report shows that there was no increase in population during the last year. Governor Clarke attributes this fact to the lack of a more liberal governmental policy, and suggests the enactment of new ones. The governor also complains of the apparent indifference on the part of the press and people in the states toward the development of Alaska by highly capitalized interests.

Population Increases Slowly.
The total population, which is equally divided between whites and natives, is now 64,356, only 764 more than that shown in the census of 1900. This is indeed surprising in view of the fact that there is remarkably little poverty in Alaska, the comparatively few cases of destitution usually being the result of physical accidents or old age.

The possibilities of agriculture in the northwestern region are given considerable space in the report, the attempts at raising cattle, hay, vegetables and live stock having been successful far beyond expectations. In the vicinity of the larger towns, market gardening is being carried on extensively, all vegetables that are commonly raised on New England farms apparently thriving in the Alaskan climate. This domestic production was felt in the marked decrease of shipments of potatoes and other household vegetables from the states to Alaska during the year, as compared with those of 1910.

Railroads Badly Needed.
Very little progress in the construction of railroads is shown, an extension of 65 miles on the Copper River & Northwestern R. R. from Chitina to Kennecott, being the only improvement in railroad transportation accomplished. Because of the present condition of small earnings or no earnings at all, the suspension of the federal tax of \$100 per mile per year, which the railroads are urged to pay, now amounts to nothing more than tax upon the people who are unable to pay the charge in addition to the high rates of transportation.

More aids to navigation on the Alaskan coast were installed during the year than in the whole history of the territory. Since April, 1910, 41 acetylene gas lights, 1 fog signal and 18 buoys were added to the system of warning vessels at dangerous points on the coast. Regarding the establishment and maintenance of public schools Governor Clarke recommends the amendment of the school law so as to permit the building of a schoolhouse in every district where as many as 15 white children of the required school age reside. He also asks that the maximum sum of \$1000 allowed for the construction of a school building be raised from \$1200 to \$2500, according to the size of the school. Last year the 21 schools throughout the district of Alaska had a total daily attendance of 761, the school with the largest daily attendance having 148 pupils registered in its roll book, while one school, the smallest in the territory, had an average daily attendance of 12 pupils.

PLIGHT OF GIRL MOTHER SHOWS TRUE CONDITION

Berlin, Jan. 16.—Mitigation of the misery which comes to the 8000 to 10,000 illegitimate children born in every year—one birth in every five in the city is unlawful—is likely to come through the plight of 19-year-old Louise Schroeder, sentenced for attempted child murder.

Herself illegitimate, the girl had to pay \$3 a month out of her \$3.75 wages to support her child. That left her 75 cents a month for clothing. For two years she slaved at this rate. Then, discharged, she buried the child in a rabbit hole in the woods. Boys rescued the infant and the Schroeder girl was arrested.

The court when it heard her story of disgrace and poverty, placed her on probation, and she has not yet become moving to succor other unfortunates in a like plight.

SQUAW DIVIDES LAND AMONG TRIO OF BUCKS

(Special to The Journal.)
Pendleton, Or., Jan. 16.—Toptal, an Indian woman who died Friday at the Umatilla reservation left a will in which she bequeathed to Thomas Ka-ta-tams, Parsons Motainic and August Alexander, all redmen, an eighty acre tract of valuable farm land. However, Ka-ta-tams will be the only one to secure his legacy because of a government ruling making it impossible for an Indian to transfer the title of his land. The pieces left to Motainic and Alexander are both heirship lands while that bequeathed to Ka-ta-tams was the dead woman's allotment. The practice of making wills among Indians is a new one and they have not yet become schooled in the restrictions with which the government has surrounded the ownership of the land.

Wickersham to Name Judge.
(United Press Leased Wire.)
Seattle, Wash., Jan. 16.—According to advices from Washington, President Taft has referred the nomination of a successor to Federal Judge George Donworth to Attorney General Wickersham for consideration. The attorney general has returned from Panama, and it will be several days before he can consider the appointment. Congressman W. E. Humphrey of this district is being considered, but a protest against his appointment has been made at a public meeting.

Educator Dangerously Ill.
(Special to The Journal.)
University of Oregon, Eugene, Or., Jan. 16.—Dr. Bennett, head of the department of education at the University of Oregon, is critically ill at his home in Eugene, with a severe attack of pneumonia. Dr. Bennett has been sick for three weeks. His recovery is doubtful.

TACOMA SUMMONS COAST IMMIGRATION MEETING

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Tacoma, Wash., Jan. 16.—Plans for a coastwide immigration conference, to be held in Tacoma February 21 and 22, to

which delegates from Vancouver, Victoria, Bellingham, Everett, Seattle, Portland, Spokane, Boise, San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego and other cities will be invited, were announced here today. Governor West of Oregon, Governor Johnson of California, Governor Hawley of Idaho and the lieutenant governor of British Columbia have been invited to be present by Governor Hay of Washington. The plan originated as a result of the demonstration of the work of the local Y. M. C. A. in behalf of men of foreign birth at the recent state convention held at Ellensburg. The Tacoma Commercial

club, assisted by the Y. M. C. A. industrial secretaries of the northwest, is arranging the program.

The convention is for the purpose of considering the serious problem of caring for the huge tide of immigration that is expected on the Pacific coast when the Panama canal is opened.

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