

### BILLS RELATE TO WATER POWERS

#### Oregon City Man Has Batch; Working Hours in Mills of State.

Christian Schuebel, candidate for the legislature in Clackamas county, has already gathered a little bunch of bills he proposes to put before the legislature next January if he is elected to membership. Desiring criticism and suggestions that may improve them, he has sent out drafts of the bills.

Two of these bills relate to water powers, in which Clackamas is much interested because of the power development at Oregon City and along the Clackamas river. One of these bills would impose upon all water powers, beginning in 1914, a uniform yearly license of not less than 50 cents nor more than \$2 for each theoretical horsepower claimed. Exemption is provided for power owned by municipalities, also in favor of small users who claim water for the generation of 25 theoretical horsepower or less.

Amount Is Small. "Under the present law," says Mr. Schuebel, "the Portland Railway, Light & Power company is paying 1 cent license per horsepower per annum for the same privilege that costs any other company organized since May 25, 1909, from 95 cents to \$2 license per horsepower per annum."

Another bill requires the assessment of all waterpowers in the county where located on the value per horsepower of the water claimed, and says they shall be listed separately from the land and improvements.

This bill further requires assessment of each franchise and right of way of a public service corporation by the state board separately, and the listing separately of all personal property and all improvements "on, in and under land." A detailed report is provided for on all waterpower claims, and experts employed by the county assessor are authorized to make computations and verify the reports that are turned in.

This bill also provides that no public service corporation shall own a vested right in its franchise, but is declared to hold all its franchise rights as a trustee for the people of Oregon and for the people of every county and municipality in which it operates.

Would Abolish School Supervisors. Mr. Schuebel has introduced a bill for the abolition of school supervisors, repeating the present law on that subject. An effort to knock out the supervisors at the 1911 session was defeated after a lively fight.

Another bill by the Oregon City man provides a new system for permits for burning slashings. It makes each road supervisor ex-officio a fire warden within his district, with power to issue and revoke permits for burning slashings between June 1 and October 1 of each year, provided that no such permit may be issued for land where a dead tree or snag over 20 feet high remains standing. Twenty-four hours' notice to adjoining resident land owners is required before a fire is started. It is objected

### NEW MANAGER OF EMPRESS THEATRE



H. W. Pierong.

H. W. Pierong has been installed as manager of the Empress theatre. Mr. Pierong succeeds Johnny (Frisco) Williams.

The new manager of the Empress has been in the show business for more than 15 years. He was born and raised in Canton, Ohio, and his first executive position in showdom was the management of the old Euclid-Avenue Opera House in Cleveland, Ohio. He traveled with productions on tour for four years and for seven summer seasons he was the manager of Pain's Fireworks of which he had charge in that company's early visit to Portland.

Mr. Pierong also served as business manager of the Metropolitan Opera House in Chicago and presided over the destinies of the Metropolitan Opera House of St. Paul, Minn. In recent years Mr. Pierong has been allied with the Orpheum circuit. He also served as business manager of the Orpheum and the Orpheum of Lincoln, Neb. He comes to Portland from the Lincoln Orpheum.

Mr. Pierong's wife and child will join him in Portland within a fortnight. That the present law makes the permit too difficult to obtain. Mr. Schuebel also gives notice of his intention to propose a bill for stricter regulation of working hours in mills. He says he will have a bill for a maximum of 60 hours per week in the mills and factories of the state. A bill providing eight-hour shifts for the factory workers at Oregon City caused one of the bitterest fights of the last session, and it was finally lost.

Boys Will Be Boys. Long Beach, Cal., Aug. 21.—Three boys are under surveillance by the police because they staked crates beneath the life lines on a bathing beach. Their delighted howls when their schemes were fruitful led to their capture.

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### SOIL PRODUCTS BEST EVIDENCE

#### Show Intended Settlers What Land Produces, Then They Will Take Interest.

The best way to reach prospective settlers and get them interested is by showing them products of the soil, says C. E. Arney, western immigration and industrial agent of the Northern Pacific, who was in Portland yesterday on his way home to Spokane from a trip into central Oregon.

"Let the people see what you can produce and give them an apple or pear or two to taste and you have them interested and they seek more information," said Mr. Arney at the Portland hotel yesterday afternoon.

"Realizing this, the Northern Pacific is now keeping me busy getting together a very comprehensive exhibit of products of Oregon, Washington and Idaho that will be shown at the state fair at Detroit, the Northwest Land Products show at Minneapolis and then to be taken to various cities in the middle states on an exhibit train.

"I have already secured a great many splendid specimens and we have a professor, M. J. Wessels, at work at Spokane putting up the exhibits in fine shape. The exhibit car will be started out January 1 and will be kept on the move until July 1. At the fair and land show the company will have practically every member of its immigration and industrial department on hand to explain to the visitors conditions in the Pacific northwest states.

"The crops in central Oregon and throughout the entire Pacific northwest are simply magnificent this year, and the farmers are happy. It is a pleasure to travel through the country these days. The demonstration farms in central Oregon were a revelation to us and they will prove of immense value in encouraging development work.

"One thing that impressed me was that the most reasonable land values I know of in the northwest were in the central Oregon country, and especially around Bend. And again, speaking of conditions in general, the great problem that confronts the commercial organizations of the Pacific northwest today is an adjustment of land values so that they will meet the hopes and expectations of prospective settlers. On the whole, land values in the Pacific northwest are held too high and this is impeding the immigration movement.

"The railroads are doing all they can to interest a 'good' type of settler and with success, although perhaps not as great as they would like."

Mr. Arney is a former newspaper man and was appointed to his present position last March, when the office was created. He plans to make a tour of the Willamette valley in a few weeks and will also make an extended trip through central Oregon to get closer in touch with the field. He left last night for Spokane.

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### SHELDON TO GUARD REPUBLICAN CASH

#### Hilles, Holds a "Suggestion" Meeting With G. O. P. Members of House.

(United Press Leased Wire.) Washington, Aug. 21.—For the purpose of seeking suggestions Charles D. Hilles, chairman of the Republican national committee, held a conference with Republican members of the house yesterday.

No progressives attended the meeting. Congressman William H. McKinley, head of the Taft publicity bureau, denied that the purpose of the meeting was to "smoke out" the progressives.

Hilles announced later that George Sheldon of New York had been selected as treasurer of the national Republican committee.

Thirty-five Republican congressmen saw Hilles. Only three members of congress classed as progressives called upon him. These were R. B. Rees of Kansas and G. N. Haugen and I. W. Wood of Iowa. Wood and Rees shook hands with the national chairman and then hurried away, but Haugen remained and chatted briefly with Hilles.

Angered by Trucks, Destroys Auto Road. Hauling of material to the site of the new home to be erected by H. L. Pitcock on Inspiration Point, Kings Heights, has been temporarily suspended because of a controversy over the use of a road running through the grounds of Tully Villa, the home of Dr. Andrew C. Smith, on Barnes Heights.

Dr. Smith has kept the road in repair and in good condition for the use of his automobiles. In the belief that it was a private thoroughfare, or as much so as he wished to make it. With the starting of work on the Pitcock place, the road was commissioned by the contracting company for haulage purposes.

The heavy auto trucks cut through the road's surface and damaged it considerably, and Dr. Smith found further cause for grievance because the traffic was disturbing to the quiet of his home. The road winds through the garden patch and the lawns of the Smith home, and the trucks on their journey passed close to the front door of the house.

Dr. Smith, to break this traffic, had a section of the road scraped out, making it impassable to the trucks, and to his own machines as well. Further to tie up the thoroughfare a wire fence has been stretched across it at the entrance to the Smith grounds.

Now Dr. Smith is lending his efforts toward the building of a new road, which will pass to the west of his yard, and continue on over the streetcar tracks to the Pitcock place.

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### SLUM'S POOR BEAR TAXATION BURDENS

#### Small Homes in Washington Over-Assessed; Millionaires Get Off.

(United Press Leased Wire.) Washington, Aug. 21.—Denunciation of the system by which the poor of the slums of Washington are made to bear the heavy burden of taxation, while millionaires escape, was made to the House in a report returned by a special investigating committee. The report asserted that the over assessing of small homes had discouraged laboring men and resulted in paralysis to building operations.

The report alleges that the homes of August Belmont, Levi Z. Leiter, William Boardman, Lars Anderson, John R. McLean and former United States Senator William A. Clark, all millionaires, are undervalued.

Referring to John R. McLean's country home, the report says that it is assessed at \$3500 per acre, adding: "The land could not be bought for \$25,000 per acre. Improvements are assessed at \$25,000, which amount would not pay for the stone wall in front of the property."

### LOGGED-OFF LAND PLAN LURES MANY OWNERS

A score of land owners have been seeking John B. Hibbard and the Italian consul since an article appeared in The Journal last Sunday telling how Italians had cleared and put into a condition of the highest cultivation a tract of 40 acres bought by Mr. Hibbard, the arrangement being that for their work they should get two thirds of what the land produced. Mr. Hibbard one third.

"For years men who own logged-off lands or partially cleared tracts have been seeking plans for utilizing it at reasonable cost," said Mr. Hibbard. "They say this plan of dividing with the workers and making a contract of length sufficient to give the Italians a chance to make something is like discovering a treasure."

"Others say they don't believe it can be done. I assure these that it is all true. If there is anything in the plan we are using out at Wapinitum, that will answer the question for the problem of developing rich unused lands about Portland, I am glad of it. Thousands of acres should be gotten into use and would be if at a reasonable cost."

### Pioneer Bridge Torn Down.

(Special to The Journal.) Elgin, Ore., Aug. 21.—The old wooden bridge which spans the Grand Ronde river at Elgin on the Wallawa county road and which has stood since early days, is being torn down by County Road Supervisor Campbell and replaced with a modern steel structure.

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### DEBS CRITICIZES TURN AT FISH BALL

#### "Monkey Parties," He Says, "Foreshadow Doom of Modern Aristocracy."

(United Press Leased Wire.) Terre Haute, Ind., Aug. 21.—Bitter denunciation of Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish's ball at Newport Monday night, when live butterflies and white doves were freed in the reception hall, was voiced here by Eugene V. Debs, the Socialist nominee for president.

"Seely dinners and monkey parties," he said, "foreshadow the doom of modern aristocracy. The latest exhibition of morbid self conceit and heartless defiance of the social misery of the masses has been given by Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish. The descriptions of this riotous affair are well calculated to impress upon the minds of thoughtful people the fact that there is something radically wrong with a country in which such a display of luxury can be made within a stone's throw from where hundreds of thousands of men, women and little children are struggling for a mere existence."

### Both Claim Same Mate; Trouble.

Baltimore, Aug. 21.—Each claiming George F. Shepherd of Cumberland, Md., as husband, Emma Stewart and Mary Compen held a conference here today. One of the women then started for Los Angeles, where Shepherd is now in custody, to file bigamy charges against him.

### Early Trial for Dean.

(United Press Leased Wire.) New Westminster, B. C., Aug. 21.—Charles Dean, accused of the robbery of the Bank of Montreal here on September 11 last, when nearly \$300,000, the largest amount of loot ever secured by bank robbers on the continent, was arranged before a magistrate yesterday and remanded for trial on August 28.

### Two Given Hearing.

(United Press Leased Wire.) San Francisco, Aug. 21.—Mrs. Cora M. Perkins and Frederick Pattison, under indictment by the grand jury for the theft of a \$4500 automobile belonging to Nicholas J. McNamara, a retired San Mateo banker, were given a preliminary hearing in the superior court yesterday.

### GARNISHES SELF AND PRISON CELL

#### Schepps Asks Whitman for Blue Silk Bed Quilt, Turkish Rug, Silk Sox.

(United Press Leased Wire.) New York, Aug. 21.—Police Lieutenant Charles Becker, held in the Tombs here for the murder of Gambler Herman Rosenthal, was denied permission of Judge Mulgreen to inspect the notes of the grand jury in indicting him. Becker was indignant when informed that his motion had been denied, charging that he is being discriminated against.

Sam Schepps, who testified before the grand jury, sent District Attorney Whitman a requisition for a long list of things he said he would need in prison. The list included a blue silk bed quilt, house slippers, a Turkish rug, white silk socks, newspapers, magazines and writing material. After testifying Schepps sent a long message to the mayor of Hot Springs, Ark., thanking him for the courtesies extended to him while he was held there awaiting the arrival of representatives of Whitman's office.

Jack Selig, whom Schepps says is the man who engaged the gangsters to kill Rosenthal, was brought here from Providence today and taken before the grand jury. He testified that he was arrested on a trumped up charge several weeks before the Rosenthal murder by Detectives White and Steiner, declaring that White and Steiner slipped a revolver in his pocket.

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