

CORRESPONDENT HOLDS A RECREATION PIER IS PERFECTLY FEASIBLE

Says Adoption of Proposed Plans Means Better and Safer Dock Construction.

Portland, Or., Aug. 30.—To the Editor of The Journal.—David Harum has told us that a reasonable amount of fees is good for a dog, because it keeps him from barking over being a dog. To prevent barking, a public official needs occasional criticism.

Being kicked, whether considered as a process, an attitude, or a condition, is not to be viewed in the light of a penalty. It is the right and the prerogative of the official, and a kick is the sacred privilege of the citizen.

For the relief and amusement of the public, and to discourage profanity, a kind Providence has furnished the public official and the yellow dog. They generally get what is coming to them.

Commissioners Getting Theirs. Just now the city commissioners and the Public Dock Commission are getting theirs. Their action in proposing to have built a recreation pier on the roof of an east side dock is variously designated as "silly," "an unnecessary expense" and "a waste of public funds."

We are told that the people are everywhere "voicing disapproval of the proposition to spend approximately \$200,000 of public money for the sole purpose of making the roof of the east side public dock a recreation center."

At the inception of its work, the public dock commission was advised by its New York board of consulting engineers to build only fireproof docks. It was with the greatest reluctance that they finally decided, because of lack of funds, resulting from the high price of river frontage, to erect docks of mill or slow burning construction.

Combination Means Saving. The proposition appealed to both the city commissioners and the dock commission as a measure of economy on both sides, for by combining the two propositions we are able to get the great desired fireproof dock, in addition, a recreation pier 100 feet wide and over 2 blocks in length along the river front at a very reasonable cost.

Would Utilize Waste Space. On the other hand the city commissioners are getting a recreation pier for many thousands less than they could in any other way. They are simply using space, to the public advantage, that the dock commission has no use for, and using it in such a way as not in any way to interfere with the utility of the dock.

Not Personally Interested. It may not be amiss to say that the writer is not himself a park recreation pier enthusiast and that he has not been, and is not yet convinced that there was an immediate urgency for an east side dock in preference to a location north of the bridges where there was opportunity for slip and pier construction that would have afforded several thousand feet of dock frontage.

Labor Seems lighter, the day seems shorter, when you add to your noonday lunch the cool, sparkling Edell Kräu. Its purity exhilarates. PHONE YOUR ORDER Portland Brewing Co.

FIRE WARDENS HAVE KEPT LOSS TO FORESTS DOWN TO A MINIMUM

Season Has Been Dangerous and Incipient Blazes Numerous But Organization Wins.

The past month has seen the woods of the state far drier than at any time last year or the year before, and the danger of forest fires has been correspondingly greater. Rains were frequent in June and again fell in July, but the season since then has been normal as regards fire danger.

Unlike previous normal years, however, there has been no loss of green timber and no fires have been allowed to burn unchecked. Although numerous blazes have occurred, these for the most part have been discovered by the wardens and extinguished by them unassisted.

In a few cases where fires have reached any size, they have been confined to slashings or old burns through the prompt action of wardens.

Prompt Action Saves Loss. As an example of the promptness with which serious and menacing fires are handled, and the dire results which might follow lack of such prompt action, the recent fire in Columbia county south of Marshland last week may be cited.

The blaze started about noon, August 21, in an old burn. It escaped from burning being done by employees of the Columbia National river railroad to clear its right of way. The road is building south from Wood's Landing to tap a large body of timber in the Nehalem country.

Wardens in the employ of the Blodgett Company Limited, which owns the road, the Columbia County Fire Patrol association and the state, were on the ground to fight the fire within a few hours. The railroad company before night had 100 men putting a fire trail around the burned area, falling snags and taking other necessary steps.

Menacing Fire Controlled. Without losing any green timber, the fire was brought under control, but failure to act quickly and with good judgment would have resulted in a fire which would have been recorded among the most costly the state has ever had. To the west of the point where the fire started, lies one of the most valuable blocks of fir timber in Oregon. Due south, over the ridge, lies the big Nehalem timber belt, one of the largest sections of untouched timber left in the United States.

Head Consul Boak to Address Big Class. Five Hundred New Woodmen to Be Installed Wednesday; Here a Week.

Before 500 new members of the Woodmen of the World, who will be ushered into the august ranks of the order at the Council Crest skating rink tonight, Head Consul I. L. Boak of Denver, will deliver an address on the duties and privileges of Woodcraft. Mr. Boak arrived in Portland last night and is participating in this afternoon's Labor day celebration of the 12 local camps of the order at the Crest.

Mr. Boak will be in and around Portland all this week. As special guest, he will attend the reception and banquet of the uniformed drill teams of several local camps tomorrow night at the East Side Woodmen's hall and will visit the camp at Vancouver Wednesday. Multnomah Camp No. 77 will entertain him Friday night and he will leave Saturday or Sunday for western Washington and later will visit California camps.

grivance, however, it is against those who entered with the duty of preparing the necessary provisions to continue them in the public service, fell asleep at the switch, and started them out anew without any authority to issue bonds, and limited their jurisdiction in the purchase of sites to locations within the boundaries of the city corporation. The best available sites lie just without the city boundaries.

Barring legal obstructions, there has not been at any time any question but that every dock facility that the funds at the disposal of the commission would provide, would be available months before any ocean vessel passed through the Panama canal, all suggestions of dilatory methods to the contrary notwithstanding. CHAS. B. MOORES.

MICHIGAN SOCIETY'S 'HOME-GOING' FRAUGHT WITH GREAT PLEASURE

Excursionists Were Entertained All Along Route of Travel; Detroit Welcomes.

"We did not need any fire during the trip," declared Harriet Hendee, secretary of the Michigan Society of Oregon, referring to the "home going" trip of the society. Mrs. Hendee has just returned from Michigan after two months spent in visiting her former home.

"We had the most delightful time I have experienced," she said. "With two special cars and 45 congenial people we enjoyed every minute. Each night we would gather in one car and sing Michigan songs and tell stories. At each town where we stopped we were entertained by the commercial clubs or other organizations with automobile rides and other enjoyable features."

"At Salt Lake City a special service was held in the great tabernacle for us. Our cars were parked whenever we stopped and we lived in them until we reached Detroit, where the party broke up. At Detroit a great gathering of thousands was held in Belle Isle park at which people from all parts of Michigan, including Governor Ferris, were present and the welcome we received was as hearty as could be wished."

"At Detroit the members of the party said goodbye and left for their old homes. Many are yet there and will come wandering back between now and the last of October."

During the trip Mrs. Hendee was presented with a beautiful gold watch and a diamond ring. She is highly appreciative of her services in behalf of Michigan residents of Oregon through the society.

A social meeting of the society will be held next Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock in Manchester hall, 85 1/2 Fifth street. Refreshments will be served and the question of holding a picnic will be discussed.

'PERQUISITE' PUZZLES MANY CITY EMPLOYEES

Opinion Differs as to Whether It Signifies "Vacation With Pay" or "Side Graft."

Those far away looks and puzzled stares, corrugated foreheads and contracted eyebrows, which are marked, very marked, expressions among several hundred civil service employees of the city have been explained at last.

Their old looks are mysteriously no longer in short, each and every one of them has been stuck by the word "perquisite." This word appears in the historical record cards now being filled out by city employees. The cards will be used later in compiling the efficiency ratings, on which the new system of standardizing salaries will be based.

Opinions came hot and heavy when the cards bearing the word were issued. Some insisted that "perquisite" meant "side graft" and others who declared it meant keys, street car tickets, and others still were loud in the assertion that "perquisite" could mean nothing more nor less than the number of days allowed for vacation on pay. And so the battle of opinions raged.

It was a question easily solved. Recourse to one of the New Modern English dictionaries would have done it. There, in big, black type, on page 614, the word is defined, clearly and concisely. But apparently no one thought of looking it up. Therefore, frowns and deep delving into the clogged channels of memory in a vain effort to find the answer.

For their benefit and others to whom the word is a mystery, it might be well to say that "perquisite" means— Well, the best way to find out is to clip just one of the dictionary certificates in The Journal today and present it at the office with a check for a bonus of 98 cents. This procures the book, a 1300 page volume, bound in limp leather—then look on page 614. Better hurry, too, because the dictionary offer closes in a few days.

News of County Board. A request of the Lewis-Wiley Hydraulic company, Frederick H. Strong and Clara K. Strong, that part of the Thurman street branch of the St. Helens road be relocated has been referred to County Surveyor Holbrook by the county commissioners.

A letter received from the Pacific Coast Casualty company, who furnished the \$10,000 bond for the Lewis A. Hicks company, contractors for the west wing of the court house, asking whether the work has been accepted yet or not. It was filed for the present.

Dr. E. F. Geary, county physician, submitted a request that the taxes on the home of Mrs. Isabella French be remitted. She has been receiving county aid for three years. Commissioner Hart will investigate the case.

A physician from the county hospital, District Judge Dayton's court room was received and will be allowed. Whidden & Lewis, architects of the court house, filed a report containing suggestions regarding the fitting up of rooms for the court reporters.

RATES OF UTILITIES COMPANIES WILL BE OBJECT OF HEARING

State Railroad Commission Will Investigate the Prices Charged in 11 Cities.

Tomorrow morning the State Railroad Commission will meet in Portland at 10 o'clock to receive the report of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company as to the valuation of its public utility holdings, and to start an investigation of the company's power and light rates.

Rates in all cities including Portland, Salem, Woodburn and Oregon City, are to be considered. The investigation results from requests that the commission equalize rates for commercial power and light. It is not expected, however, that consumers of small quantities will be affected.

For some months the company has had a force of men making an inventory of its holdings and at the same time the commission has had experts checking the same property. Where discrepancies of importance are discovered the company will be asked to explain its valuation.

This investigation will be the first on so large a scale since the Malarkey bill empowering the railroad commission to regulate rates of public service commission, was enacted. The valuations made by the company are very complete and include everything used directly or indirectly in its public service departments. In addition to preparing the valuation, the company segregated, as far as possible the power and light from the street and interurban railway business.

The commission intends to take up during the hearing the question of a five cent fare between Portland and Lents Junction on the Mt. Scott line, and 10 cents for the same trip over the Springwater line.

According to figures compiled by the company, its real estate holdings alone are worth approximately \$8,000,000.

CITY TREASURER HAS \$2,622,923.74 ON HAND. On hand in City Treasurer Adams' department up to date is a total of \$2,622,923.74. The money is divided among the various funds as follows:

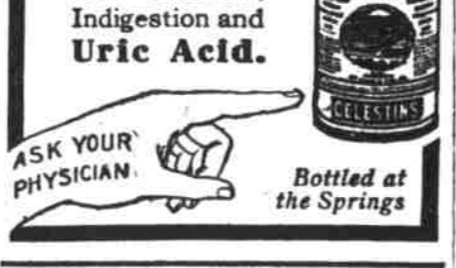
Table with 2 columns: Fund Name, Amount. Total: \$2,622,923.74

NATIONAL GUARDMEN TO HOLD SHAM BATTLE. Field sports, a sham battle and maneuvers will be the features of a big military tournament to be staged by the Portland members of the Oregon National Guard, September 21, at the Clackamas station rifle range.

Other events on the program are a basket picnic and dancing. Music will be furnished by the band of the Third Regiment and the Coast Artillery Corps.

The annual electric dry battery production of the United States has passed the \$10,000,000 mark.

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BISHOP COOKE MAKES ANNUAL ASSIGNMENTS

Announcement of Appointments Follows Close of German M. E. Meeting.

With the German Methodist Episcopal conference coming to a close last night the following appointments were announced by Bishop R. J. Cooke:

E. E. Hertzler, superintendent Pacific district; E. J. Traglio, Bethany, Or.; H. E. Mann, Butler and McMinnville; Joseph Hepp, Clarke and Logan, Wash.; H. Hanson, Conell and Paradise, Wash.; A. F. Hilmer, Davenport, Wash.

STEEPLEJACK BOGART IN MOVING PICTURES

Moving pictures of Steeplejack Bogart climbing the flag staff of The Journal building form the feature of the Gaumont Weekly at the Oaks amusement park this week.

The Weekly is usually interesting from an Oregon standpoint, showing also the steel bridge fire and a rock-drilling contest for a world's championship at Baker, Or.

The picture of Bogart was taken by the camera man from the turret of The Journal building and shows him making his hazardous climb at close range. Then there is a capital picture showing the tower of The Journal with Bogart at the peak of the tall flag staff, the latter view being taken from an adjacent building.

Applause greeted the performance at the Oaks, although Bogart's feat was only shown in film form.

Girl Falls Through Skylight. Los Angeles, Sept. 1.—After falling four stories through a skylight Katherine Dale, 17, was rescued uninjured from the debris caused by her precipitous arrival in a hotel lobby. She fell from a window while scuffling with a girl friend.

Advertisement for Emporium Portland's featuring September Sale New Fall Blue Serge Suits for \$19.50, 100 Dozen New Tailored Waists for \$1.25, and Untrimmed Hats. Includes an illustration of a woman in a suit and a hat.

Advertisement for Round-Up at Pendleton, featuring a large circular logo with 'OW' and 'OREGON-WASHINGTON RAILROAD & NAVIGATION'. Text includes 'HAVE YOU PLANNED TO GO TO THE Round-Up AT PENDLETON' and 'September 11, 12 and 13'.