

OWNERS ARE REMOVING OLD BUILDINGS WHICH ARE DECLARED UNSAFE

Already 110 Dilapidated Structures Have Been Torn Down; Find Decayed Piling.

Following out the plans of a campaign against dilapidated buildings and those which are unsafe, the city building department since January 1, 1912, has notified owners of 251 buildings to have the structures removed. Already 110 of the buildings have been removed and owners of others are now arranging to observe the instructions.

Several owners have asked to have the matter arbitrated, as the value set by the building department was questioned. So far most of the decisions of the department have been upheld by the board of arbitration, but where they were not sustained, the owner was allowed to make repairs.

The building department recently completed inspection of the docks and wharves along the river and in many cases found them overloaded and in some cases unsafe.

Find Decayed Piling.

On these docks are piled sacks of cement, wheat and other material in large quantities where the safe capacity is about one third less.

According to a report turned in to Building Inspector Plummer by his deputies, the Oceanic dock has some decayed piling which should be renewed, the Pacific Coast Elevator company's dock in Albina is overloaded, the Northwest Door company's dock is badly overloaded, the Irving dock is overloaded to some extent, the Superior dock is overloaded, Standard Box & Lumber company's dock is overloaded about twice its safe capacity, S. P. & S. dock in the same condition, while the dock of Alber Brothers, the Crown Mill dock and several others are in good shape.

The building code specifies that a frame building within the fire limits deteriorated more than 40 per cent from any cause must be torn down on five days' notice from the building department. If deterioration is less than 40 per cent repairs may be made, but not to exceed 25 per cent of the value of the building for any one year.

Owners Obey Orders.

Following is a partial list of owners who have removed buildings after receiving orders from the building department:

A. H. Birrell, R. C. Yenney, F. W. Mulkey, Fred Block, Burrell Investment company, Eugene Hoch, George Barr, T. J. Benkert, T. Woodward, Mr. Hogue, A. J. Smith, M. J. Baker, Rosenfeld & Ellis, Rosetta Sherlock, J. P. Kell, C. M. Tucker, Corbett estate, Swedish Salvation army, Crown Trust company, Dr. C. W. Cornelius, A. K. Wilson, E. M. Lytle, D. G. Woodard, Mr. Hogue, Mrs. Clara E. Morey, Whitney, Stenches & Hawkins, J. T. Kamm estate, Dr. A. S. Nichols, Hartman & Thompson, Hedwig Smith, Frank Wilder, Fred Fritz, O. G. Barlow, Haworth, J. J. Shemanski, William E. Honeyman Jr., Charles Hinstel, Miss Zimmerman, Lambert, Whitman company, Gustav Friedwald, Dr. Rafferty, J. P. Buchanan, E. A. & N. A. King, J. N. Fieschner, Daniels Land company, Green estate, John Kiser, William J. Tom, Buckman, Portland Gas & Coke company, Mrs. Wonder, Mary J. Catlin, Otto M. Nelson, E. E. Morgan, Sarah A. Stevens, Fisher, Thorsen & Co., C. J. Cook company, Dr. J. S. Joseph, Mrs. McDonald, Mr. Hogue, J. J. Keadley, R. E. Montgomery, Terminal Investment company, Wakefield, Fries & Co., J. C. Costello.

UNCERTAINTY OF GUILT REASON FOR PARDON

Characterizing the conviction of George Blum, serving a year's sentence in the county jail on conviction of contributing to the delinquency of a minor, as a "miscarriage of justice," Governor West signed a pardon for him and he was released yesterday. Blum was convicted in Circuit Judge Gatens' court on April 1.

One of the features of the pardon was a statement signed by J. Landigan, the foreman of the jury, in which he said that he discussed with the other jurors during the deliberation a similar case which happened 20 years ago in which the man was sentenced to 13 years in the penitentiary.

Landigan said that he believed the talk about that case influenced the other jurors and that he has since come to the conclusion that Blum was not guilty and that a grave injustice had been done to Blum. The petition for the pardon was signed by Judge Gatens, Sheriff Word, Jailer Grafton and other prominent men.

More Inquiries About Bridge.

Another request for information as to the \$1,250,000 bonds to be issued to build Multnomah county's share of the interstate bridge has been received from Parson, Son & Co., of Chicago, by the county commissioners this morning.

Ferry Webster Ties Up.

The ferry Webster is to be tied up all day tomorrow, that necessary repairs may be made. Regular runs will be resumed Monday morning.

SEES NEED OF HAVING STATE STATISTICIAN

No Way Offered Now of Finding Amount of Manufactured Articles.

How is one to estimate the amount of manufactured articles purchased annually within the state? Such information, it is pointed out, would have value in attracting manufacturing industries to Portland and would give a more exact idea of the amount of goods that could be manufactured and sold in the state.

"One of the biggest handicaps I have is our inability to secure absolute figures on yearly purchases of different manufactured articles within the state. All the eastern and central states have special departments for the exclusive purpose of compiling statistics, and it is a subject that should have attention," today said R. H. Brown, vice president of the Peninsula Industrial company, which has inaugurated a national campaign to bring industries to Portland.

"The next session of the legislature should supply the deficiency," he suggested, "by providing for an inexpensive office of state statistician.

"Manufacturing industries will not only add to wealth by increasing payrolls and keeping money at home, but will furnish means of using raw materials and incentive for making use of now undeveloped resources.

"We can call on the chamber of commerce and the Portland Commercial club, both tireless workers in the interests of our great state, but neither having any facilities for keeping statistics of the annual purchases within our state of certain manufactured commodities and other valuable information which the progressive business man of today requires from time to time. One has then the alternative of taking a trip to Salem, only to find that no provision is made there, for the compilation of the statistics referred to.

"We understand that the last legislature made some provision for a state statistician, but the matter was not finally carried, as its promoters wished to make a separate department out of it at an expense which would be prohibitive, considering the services rendered. A department could be operated under the supervision of a labor commissioner at a cost of not to exceed \$2000 a year."

COMPILES FIGURES IN COST OF THE ELECTION

The actual cost of the special election held November 4, at which referred measures and the interstate bridge bonds were voted upon was \$11,531.19, exclusive of a small amount of permanent election expenses. County Auditor Martin compiled the report, taking into consideration only the expenses which were contracted for the election and not those which were for equipment which will be used at future elections. The statement is as follows: Judges and clerks, \$6940.80; meals, \$1164.55; rent for polling places, \$1208.50; delivering election equipment, \$1650; locating election booth, \$430; miscellaneous, \$247.25; total, \$11,531.19.

In addition to the cost to the county, the city paid for a portion of certain of the items which cover supplies and expenses for equipment to be used at the city election to be held next month.

FAVOR ADVANCE IN ALDERMAN'S SALARY

Believing that Superintendent Alderman's salary of \$4000 a year is not in keeping with the responsibilities of his office and the practice of other cities, the Highland Parent-Teacher association went on record yesterday afternoon as favoring an increase. A committee was appointed to bring the matter to the attention of the school board. Mr. Alderman was not consulted. It was explained that Mr. Alderman is nationally known as an educator and that the superintendent of Seattle gets \$7000; at Pittsburgh, \$9000; at Chicago, \$10,000. The association is fearful that some other city will come along and grab Mr. Alderman by an offer of a higher salary than he is now getting.

OLD COMPANY G TO MEET IN A REUNION

A reunion of members of old company G of the Oregon National Guard will be held at the Imperial hotel tonight. Between 50 and 75 veterans will meet at the armory at 8:30 p. m. Following a drill they will parade to the hotel, where arrangements have been made for an elaborate program. Colonel Charles H. Martin, Charles Beebe and Robert A. Miller will be among the speakers.

Company G was formed November 15, 1883, and was the beginning of the present Oregon National Guard. About 125 members of the company are now living, with 80 of that number in this state.

Sleeth's Case Is Continued.

The case against Dana Sleeth, editor of the Portland News, and Phil Polsky, charged in municipal court with reckless driving, were yesterday continued until next week because of the absence from the city of John F. Logan, attorney for the two men. Sleeth and Polsky were arrested several nights ago following numerous complaints regarding their conduct in the car.

WORK FOR JOBLESS MEN COURT'S AIM

Municipal Judge Stevenson Is Planning Relief for Needy Prisoners.

Municipal Judge Stevenson this morning announced that he is working on a plan to give all jobless men coming before him work.

This plan is to ask cooperation of the employment agencies and request employers of labor to attend court for an hour each morning, when the men wishing work may be told of the various positions offered. This afternoon, the judge will personally visit the employment agencies.

The agencies have numerous calls from all parts of the state for laborers, offering free fare. It is said there is work for practically all men following common labor, but many prefer staying in Portland where living in lodging houses is cheap.

Each morning Judge Stevenson has from one to two dozen men before him, who complain they cannot get work. It is the judge's idea to bring the employers and employees together at the court room, giving all a fair chance to get employment. With the advent of winter, the number of the men in the city increases, thereby increasing the number of men taken in by the police.

WOMAN WANTS TO WHIP HUSBAND IN COURT ROOM

Mrs. Robert Moran, manager of the Bungalow apartments at Eleventh and Jackson streets, wanted to whip her husband in the municipal court this morning, but attaches of the court took Moran away and averted a lively time between the couple.

This woman had her husband arrested for being mean to her. He told the court the fault was with his wife, making accusations the woman resented. "You're the lowest man in the town, to come in and make such false charges when you know they are untrue," defiantly declared Mrs. Moran, as she shook her fist at the husband. "I ought to whip you for it. If it wasn't in the court room, I'd make you take that back. Believe I'll do it anyway."

When the quarrel was at its highest point the judge announced a 25 day sentence for Moran and Bailiff Johnson took the man to the prisoner's box.

BLIND PEDDLER'S CASE IS PUZZLING OFFICIALS

A blind man, W. H. Courter, is to be given a trial by jury Thursday afternoon in the municipal court on a charge of vagrancy.

This case has been puzzling the city officials and members of the Associated Charities for several weeks, and the hearing will be chiefly to determine the right to refuse the infirm a permit to peddle on the streets. Courter applied to Commissioner Bigelow for a permit to peddle pencils and shoestrings. The permit was refused. The Associated Charities offered the man assistance, but he refused, and began his street work over the protests of the city. He was arrested Monday and demanded a jury trial. The jury was selected yesterday.

EXPONENT OF SOMERS SYSTEM COMES TUESDAY

To explain and demonstrate the Somers unit system of property valuation, Walter W. Pollock, president of the Manufacturers' Appraisal company of Cleveland, Ohio, will arrive in Portland Thursday morning. Friday noon he will address the Portland realty board and during the following few days he will address various civic organizations. Assessor Reed is responsible for his coming, and it was at his suggestion that the board of assessors' committee recommended that \$25,000 be set aside to install the new system in this county.

TWO MEN SIGN JURY FINDING UNDER PROTEST

Two members of the coroner's jury that held Joseph Moessl responsible for the death of the shack-dweller near Troutdale, signed the verdict under protest. It is customary and regular for jurors in coroner's cases to thus sign a verdict if the juror chooses. There was some argument over the question of Moessl's part in the tragedy, but the verdict finally agreed upon places the blame upon him. The body of the dead man is at the undertaking establishment of Dunning & McEntee awaiting identification.

STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH LAW REQUIRED

Educational institutions must comply strictly with the law regarding exemption from taxation in order to secure its benefits, according to a decision by Circuit Judge Davis yesterday. Judge Davis sustained a demurrer to the suit of Columbia university to have Sheriff Word enjoined from collecting the taxes on some of its property for 1907. Deputy District Attorney Hammett argued that the university was not

incorporated at the time, and that though the property was held in trust for the institution, it could not be exempted, because the law provides that only incorporated institutions shall be eligible for exemption from taxation. The university was not incorporated until 1908.

A. T. O. to Dine.

Members of the chapters of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternities of the Universities of Oregon and Washington will meet with the members of the Alumni association of this city at a dinner this evening, following the Oregon-Washington football game. The dinner will be held at the Commercial club and will begin at 6:30 o'clock.

VERNON CLUBS TO ASK BETTER CAR SERVICE

Complaint against the car service on the Alberta line was heard Thursday night at a meeting of the Arcadian club in Irvington Park. It was declared that President F. T. Griffith of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company has taken away all the concessions the district was allowed by B. S. Josselyn, the former president, including the no-stop cars, modern cars and well-ventilated cars. Instead of a six-minute service that the line once had, it is claimed that 20-minute service is now the rule.

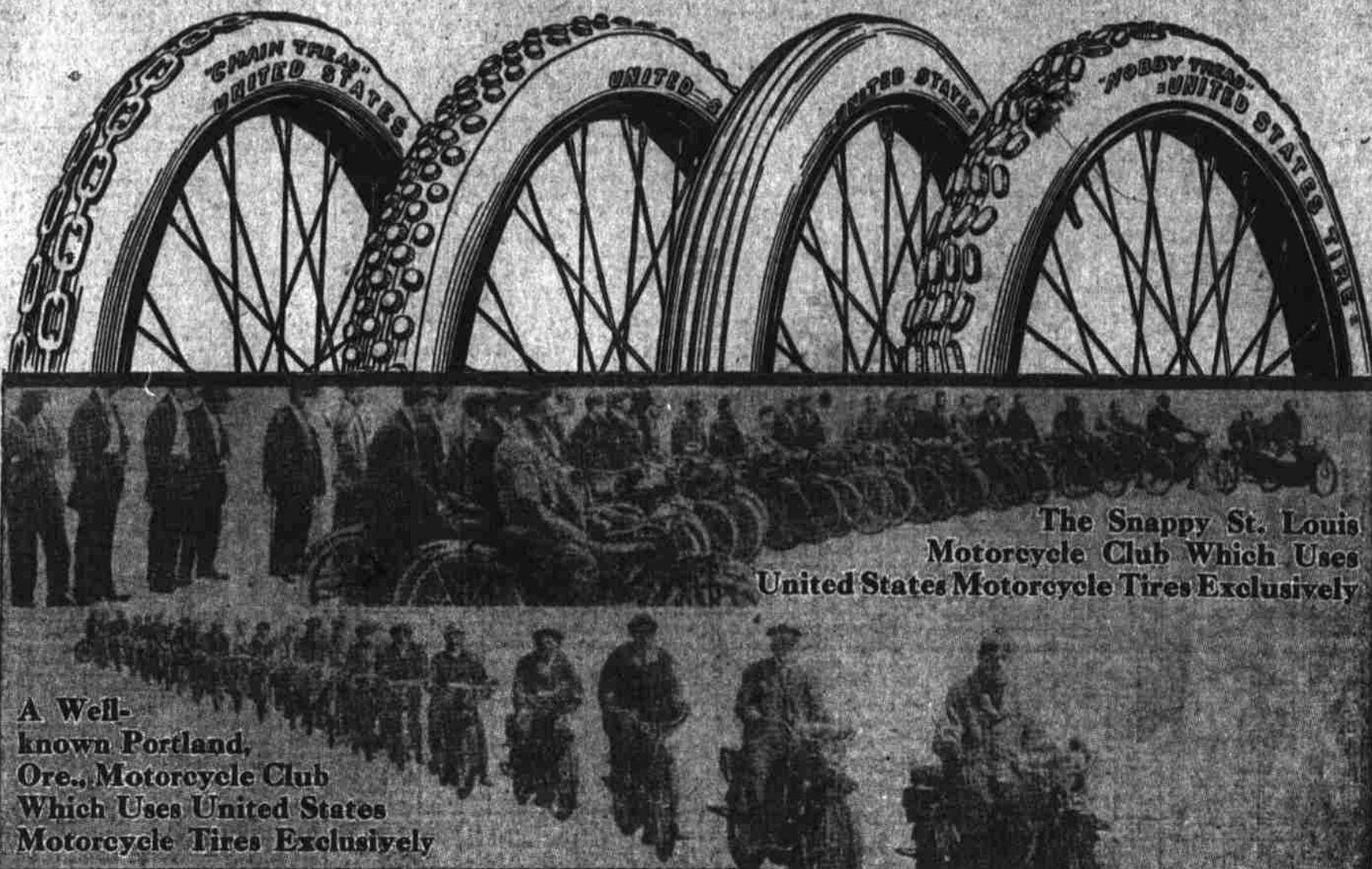
After the meeting of the Arcadian club adjourned, the members went in a body to a meeting of the Alberta Women's Improvement club, where Commissioner Bigelow was speaking. The women were incensed, it is said, over the poor car service, and a committee was named to call on Commissioner Davis to ask for an improvement in service.

HARMONIZING OF LAWS IS SOUGHT BY HOLMAN

Chairman Holman of the county commissioners has sent a letter to President Judge Kavanaugh of the circuit court of Multnomah county asking that the judges suggest to the county commissioners the proper procedure for the appointment of a commission to tabulate the conflicts in laws governing the administration of county affairs.

His purpose is to have amendments submitted to the next legislature to simplify the laws in question.

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