

DEICH EXPLAINS HIS POLICY ON CONTRACTS

Time Limit on Street Work Not Enforced When City Would Be Loser.

Many recent complaints have been made that contractors on city work are disregarding their contract obligations and time limits. A statement generally answering these complaints was made yesterday by Robert G. Deich, commissioner of public works. He says he has not been inclined to force contractors to do their work within time limits set if such a demand would result in loss to the city. His statement, in part, reads: "At this time there are approximately 43 improvements under contract. Of 13 delinquent as to time, three may be directly charged to the responsibility of the contractor. "There has been ground for complaint in the past, since it has not, heretofore, been the practice to limit contract time to the extent of the work, nor has it been the practice to enforce the provisions of the contract in respect to time allowed. However, it has since become the established practice of the council to regulate more closely the time allowed and to enforce the provisions of penalty for delay, and these objections will eventually disappear.

"Street grading and paving operations are, to a considerable extent, discontinued during the winter months, since conditions will not allow of work being performed except on occasional days, and contractors are unwilling to maintain their plants during such time. Furthermore, a high grade of work may not be obtained under conditions prevailing during the rainy season.

"In several conferences with contractors the matter of continuing work during the winter months has been discussed. From these conferences it is quite evident that if the city should demand execution of contracts during unfavorable weather a direct loss to contractors would ensue. It is my belief that a demand of this sort is not only unreasonable but manifestly unfair, since it would impose a hardship on contractors which they could not have foreseen. It is realized that during the winter months prosecution of public work would assist in solving the labor problem, but insistence upon execution of contracts under conditions do not warrant merely turning the burden upon the contractor and would have the effect finally of increasing unit prices in future contracts."

GAME INSPECTOR MAKES TRIP TO CRATER LAKE

State Game Warden William L. Finley has received a communication from Harry Telford, inspector of state game refuges, who is now collecting specimens for the biological collection in southern Oregon, stating that, accompanied by J. J. Ferber, deputy game warden of Klamath Falls, he had just completed the trip to the rim of Crater Lake. Leaving Fort Klamath a week ago Tuesday morning, they journeyed six miles in a sleigh. Then the road ended and the rest of the journey was made on ski. The snow grew a foot deeper every mile. At Camp Grant, where they spent the night, they were two hours digging 12 feet down through the snow to the door of the cabin. The rim of the lake was reached at noon the next day. Moonlight pictures of the lake were taken. Wild life was scarce, but Telford found many signs and later in the month he will return prepared to secure specimens. Four days were spent at the lake.

GRANGE WILL HEAR TEMPERANCE LECTURE

S. W. Grathwell, of Pacific University, field secretary for Oregon of the Out-to-Win Prohibition campaign, and winner of two intercollegiate oratorical contests, will deliver a lecture on "Temperance" tomorrow evening before Woodlawn Grange, in Greene's hall, east seventh street and Dekum avenue, Woodlawn. The remainder of the program, arranged by the lecturer, Mrs. Frances J. Hyatt, is as follows: Reading on the life of Lincoln, W. H. H. Dufer; instrumental solo, Miss Nina England; song, Miss Mithale Hadley; song, Miss Regina Hyatt; and instrumental solo, Miss Esther Circle. The following chairman of committees have been appointed to arrange for the Grange's exhibit at the Multnomah

AGAIN COOS COUNTY POSTPONES ROAD ACTION

Marshfield, Or., Feb. 13.—The county court has again postponed the matter of calling a special election to vote on the proposition to bond the county for good roads. The matter will be taken up next Monday. All day Wednesday Mayor Morrison of Coquille and others pleaded in favor of the petitioners who are anxious that the election be called at once. The discussions were heated and the county judge was threatened with mandamus, and even recall if something were not done at once. The judge takes the stand that everything must be in proper order so that the election cannot be contested. He also thinks the expense is unnecessary, inasmuch as the election could be held with the regular election in May.

KING'S VISIT MEANS HIS ABDICATION, IS BELIEF

Sofia, Bulgaria, Feb. 12.—Commenting on Czar Ferdinand's expression to the visiting American commissioners that he hoped to visit San Francisco during the 1915 exposition, well informed Bulgarians said today that there really was very little chance his majesty will do such a thing unless, in the meantime, he abdicates. "They did not think this improbable. There have been dozens of reports since the Balkan war that Ferdinand would step down in favor of his oldest son, and although thus far he has clung to his position, many believe in the end he will be forced to yield to pressure of public opinion, which holds him responsible for the war's disastrous ending, from the Bulgarian standpoint. Should this happen, it was thought likely enough he would visit San Francisco.

BUYS CONTROL OF HILLSBORO TELEPHONES

Hillsboro, Or., Feb. 12.—The Hillsboro Telephone company has sold a controlling interest in the local telephone system to Charles E. Wells of Kingsville, Texas. The deal involves an investment of about \$20,000. Mr. Wells will take over the management of the system March 1, and says he will later add several improvements. Previous to March, 1910, there were two telephone lines here. At that time they were consolidated. Through the local exchange connections can be made to every part of Washington county, and long distance service can be had through Portland on the lines of the Pacific company. O. C. Wilkes and George Stevens, former president and secretary of the company, respectively, will still be connected with the institution.

SEEK PARDON FOR TWO HOP FIELD MURDERERS

San Francisco, Feb. 13.—As a preliminary to their appeal to Governor Johnson for the pardon of Richard Ford and Herman Subr, sentenced to life imprisonment on a second degree murder conviction in connection with the Wheatland hopfield riot last August, representatives of "General" Kelly's army of the unemployed, were circulating the following petition today: "Firmly believing, from a close investigation of the evidence submitted at the trial, that there has been a

ART ROOM FEATURE OF OREGON EXHIBIT

Allen H. Eaton, Eugene Will Make Exhaustive Report, Tomorrow.

Eugene, Or., Feb. 13.—To make the art room of the Oregon exhibit at the Panama-Pacific exposition a model of utility and beauty, on the principle that utility is the basis for beauty, will be the keynote of the report of Allen H. Eaton of this city to the Oregon Panama-Pacific exposition commission in Portland Saturday. At the January meeting of the commission, Mr. Eaton was asked to prepare a complete plan for the art room and for the grounds for the state building at the San Francisco fair. Some time ago the suggestion was made that it would be desirable to plant the grounds around the Oregon building entirely to native shrubs, plants and trees. The suggestion met with popular favor. After an investigation as to whether Oregon plants can be made to grow in California and whether the desirable plants are available, Mr. Eaton has decided that this can be done, and will inform the commission Saturday that, with the cooperation of the commission and others who are to assist, is ready to proceed with the development of the plan. To add to the truly natural effect of the Oregon site native song and game birds and fish will be added. As a basis for the scheme of decorating the grounds, the following plants are to be suggested to the commission: Dogwood, madroñas, ferns, bearberries, maple, rhododendrons, Oregon grape, Lawson cypress, Mt. Hood azaleas, salal, alder or hemlock, Mt. Hood lilies, fritillaries and vines. The list may be extended, State Game Warden Finley will make the selection of birds. So far no expense has been incurred. Mr. Eaton will submit estimates, but says that he believes the cooperation received will modify the estimates. In addition to the general plan, Mr. Eaton will submit a number of original suggestions. One of these will be that schools and communities help out the exhibit by sending quantities of cut flowers or plants peculiar to the community. For example, he suggests that the town of Florence might send rhododendrons; Grants Pass, scarlet berries; Eugene, mistletoe, and Ashland, pine needles and cones.

WASHINGTON COUNTY SUED BY CONTRACTOR

Hillsboro, Or., Feb. 13.—W. Foster, a Portland contractor, has filed suit in the circuit court at Hillsboro against Washington county to collect \$651.65 he alleges is due him as the balance of the contract price for building an annex to the courthouse. Foster was to receive \$32,872.85. The work of building the annex was completed the first of April, 1913, and Foster was paid all the money due him with the exception of the amount sued for. Difficulty arose between Foster and the county because it was alleged by the latter that the contractor had not fulfilled all conditions of the contract, and the commissioners' court

ASHLAND NOT IN FAVOR OF DISSOLUTION

Ashland, Or., Feb. 13.—One thousand people visited the O. A. C. demonstration train here. Five hundred were out at Talent and many are expected at Medford, as schools were closed for the train. Two hundred people attended the booster banquet last night. President Withycombe, of the O. A. C., was one of the speakers of the evening. Bond issue for the maintenance of a county exhibit was favored, and resolutions opposing the Central Pacific and Southern Pacific dissolution were passed. Wallace R. Struble will discuss the upper Columbia and Snake river projects and other speakers of note will present arguments for general development work. The invitations are being sent out by Dr. Alfred Kinney, chairman of the committee on direction.

WILL ORGANIZE TO BOOST AT ASTORIA

Astoria, Or., Feb. 13.—Boosters of Astoria are preparing for a big rally at the Weinhard-Astoria hotel Saturday night, February 21. Invitations have been sent to a number of Portland men. The organization of a boosters' club will be the prime object of the gathering, and speeches covering the great development problems will be on the program.

NEWBERG COMPANY WOULD RAISE RATES

Salem, Or., Feb. 13.—The Newberg Telephone company has applied to the state railroad commission for authority to increase its rates. It gives as reasons that the increase is necessary to meet the additional operating expenses caused by the ruling of the state industrial welfare commission regulating the hours of employment and wages of women employes, and to provide for adequate dividends and interest on the investment.

FIRM NEVER EXISTED BUT RECEIVED GOODS

Centralia, Wash., Feb. 13.—The latter part of January, Murphy & Son, purporting to be a new firm opening a shoe, furnishing goods and grocers business in Centralia, sent out letters to jobbers of Portland, Tacoma and Seattle, stating that they were just

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FRANCE ORDERS ENTIRE OUTPUT OF CANNERY

Eugene, Or., Feb. 13.—After having sampled Eugene's canned Bartlett pears, dealers in France have ordered all that the Eugene Fruitgrowers' association can send. Four months ago the association shipped a carload of the canned pears to Havre. This order marked the success of the experiment. Eugene sells pears in London, in Hol-

DONNELLY PLANNED A BANK ROBBERY

Walla Walla, Wash., Feb. 13.—Mike Donnelly, negro, who escaped from Walla Walla state prison last fall, and who has committed a number of burglaries and minor crimes while at liberty, will be returned, following his capture Tuesday in Everett. Donnelly was captured once before by railroad company agents near Hood River, Or., but jumped from a handcar, though handcuffed, and got away. Later he and a companion were surrounded by a posse near Toledo, Wash., and in the fight which followed his companion was killed. Donnelly got away. Donnelly says his pal's name was Dale and that he was not a crook. Donnelly was heavily armed when taken, and says yesterday was the day he had set for robbing the bank at Marysville. He had over \$600 in money on his person. He was serving a life term for killing a man.

SALEM BAKER IS BANKRUPT

A petition in bankruptcy was filed with the federal court yesterday morning by attorneys for August Thomas, proprietor of the California bakery at Salem. The listed indebtedness is \$6,238.32, with assets of \$669.67.

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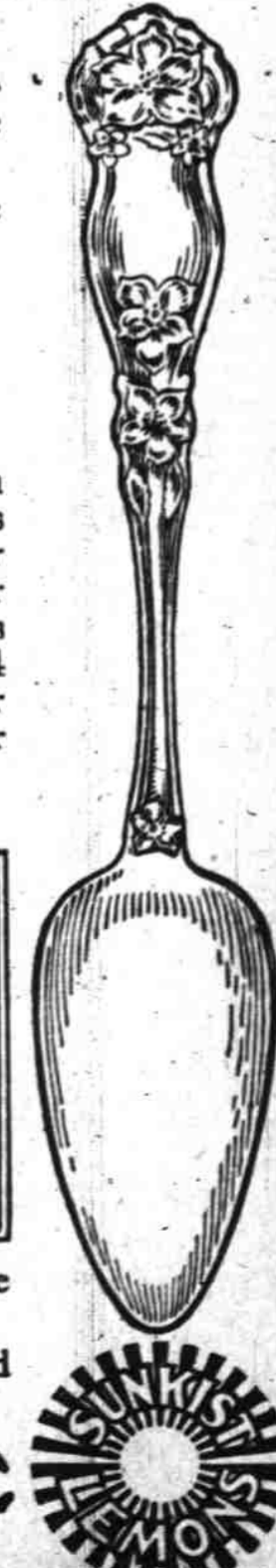
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| Table Knives | Berry Spoons | Butter Serving Knives |
| Table Forks | Ice Cream Forks | Pepper Shakers |
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