

BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY AGAIN CALL FOR BIDS FOR TEXTBOOKS

Misunderstanding Over Fact
Awards Not Yet Made Be-
lieved to Warrant Course.

Although the question of re-advertising for bids for the adoption of school text books was volubly discussed at yesterday's meeting of the board of education, the matter was left undecided but it is probable that it will be brought up for settlement soon.

The discussion arose from the fact that 23 book concerns put in bids last July and only 29 were represented in the bidding last month. Knowing that several of the 12 unrepresented were not cognizant of the fact that the question of text book selection had not been settled, the board members discussed the advisability of throwing down the bars again and allowing all to compete.

Tonight the board will hold a meeting, when the final hearing in connection with the selection of history and geography text books will be had.

Music Books to Come Up.

On March 15 the public hearing on books for the musical courses will be held. On this evening it is understood that representatives of the Parent-Teacher association will make another protest against the selection of Frank Higley's arithmetic, "Numbers, Step by Step."

Should the board decide to re-advertise for bids on other text books, it has the right to do so at any time, but it is expected early action will be taken to settle the matter one way or another so the publishers will have plenty of time to get the books in Portland before the opening of the next school year.

J. H. Mason was elected to prepare an exhibit of the Portland schools for the Panama Pacific exposition. His salary was placed at \$150 per month.

Property which had heretofore been offered the board for school sites at prices which they failed to consider, was again offered yesterday at materially lower quotations.

Property Prices Reduced.

Mall & Von Borstel offered 25.89 acres at the southeast corner of Fifty-second and Division streets at \$70,225, a reduction of almost \$10,000 under the proffer made a month ago.

J. H. Middleton, for V. Cook, offered block 155, between Hall, College and Fourth streets, for \$110,000, which is \$15,000 less than they wanted previously.

Others who offered property options were Kumer & Kumer, block 200 by 250 feet at Marshall, Lovejoy and Nineteenth streets at an outside price of \$90,000 or \$95,000. H. H. Madman offered block 180, each 200 by 650 feet, between Twenty-seventh and Twenty-ninth avenues, at East Seventy-fourth street, at about \$1,700 per block. Thomas G. Myers offered all of block 189, Couch addition, at a price of \$141,000, and block 24, Caruthers' addition, between Third and Fourth streets, at \$150,000. The options were referred to the grounds committee.

Bills Ordered Paid.

Bills amounting to \$44,982.56 were ordered paid. Superintendent of Schools L. R. Alderman transmitted a request of E. D. Curtis, principal of the Sunnyside school, for authority to teach Esperanto in the school. It was referred to the teachers' committee.

The building committee's recommendation that the Hoffman school be accepted was adopted, as were the plans for a school building at Fulton Park.

A proposition of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company to pay \$70.35, half of the damage to one of the district's automobiles in a collision with one of the company's cars, was accepted.

On the recommendation of the grounds committee a policy of installing shower baths in the schools was adopted and will be carried out as rapidly as conditions permit.

The board also authorized the supplies committee to purchase items in the open market whenever it sees fit to reject bids from heretofore.

The board also decided to advertise for eight pianos with the intention of providing instruments in the Chapman, Fernwood, Hoffman, Kenton, Jonesmore and Terwilliger schools.

In the future all buildings will be provided with translucent window shades, and it was ordered that they be installed immediately in all south fronting windows.

**JOHN READY LEAVES
MONEY TO CHURCH**

Of an estate consisting of \$1240 cash John Ready, who died February 18, left \$700 for masses for himself, his deceased wife and for perpetual membership of himself and his wife in Diocesan Directors of the Propagation of the Faith, New York. The latter bequest was \$400. Other bequests were \$100 to the Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel college, \$100 to the Mission of the Immaculate Virgin for the Protection of Homeless and Destitute Children, New York, and \$100 to Father Hughes, of St. Lawrence Parish. Francis W. Slack, a nephew, was bequeathed \$300 and the residue of the estate was left to Mary J. Courtney, a sister-in-law. William H. and Frank J. Courtney were named executors of the will.

Fickle Seal Seeks New Fields Wanderlust Gets Him Into Hole



Dick Abandons Mates and Takes Up With Swan Family;
Then Deserts New Loves Only to Come to Grief
by Falling Into Deep Trench.

Dick Seal, the peripatetic pinniped of Washington Park, with a nose for adventure, a propensity for breaking out and a sinister liking for dry land, who deserted his brothers and sisters of the genus phoca, vitulina, last week for a family of swans, had an attack of spring fever yesterday that almost got him into trouble.

Dick, as he is called by the park employees, found a hole in the fence surrounding the swan pond and proceeded forthwith to crawl through it and seek brighter and greener fields. He started down the hill and might have reached the bright light district but for a pecky hole in the ground behind the Ford street car barn, into

which he fell and from which he was unable to extricate himself.

As a hole it was a very ordinary sort of a hole but it was enough to seal Dick Seal's fate, with the hole all around and the azure cell of heaven above him.

The moanings and gnashings of beaks on part of the disconsolate swans attracted the attention of park employees to Dick's absence from the pond and a posse was sent forth to bring him back to water and captivity. After an hour's search he was located in the hole and ignominiously dragged back on a rope across the same ground over which he had so merrily flipped and flapped but a short time before.

The fence around the pond will be repaired and Dick returned to the swans. If he escapes again he will be anchored.

APPRAISAL OF BUSH ESTATE IS DECLARED UNDER REAL VALUE

Those Informed Say This Is
Particularly True of Home
Place, in Business Center.

(Salem Bureau of The Journal.)

Salem, Or., March 6.—The appraisal of the Asabel Bush estate, which was placed at \$1,550,475, has caused much discussion among persons who are acquainted with land values. The opinion is freely expressed that the appraisers' estimate of the value of the real estate is far below the actual value.

The appraisal was filed yesterday with the state treasurer, whose duty it is to collect the inheritance tax, which in this instance will be a per cent of the appraised value, less \$10,000 exemption. It has developed that the appraisers, who were H. B. Thielsen, J. Baumgartner and Russell Catlin, were disqualified to serve as appraisers because of their indebtedness to the estate.

State Treasurer Kay said he had not had time to go into the matter yet, and was not prepared to say what action he would take.

Those who are acquainted with property values here declare that practically all the real estate holdings are greatly under-appraised. This is particularly true, they assert, in regard to the Bush home place, which consists of a few blocks of land, and about 95 acres within the city and within a few blocks of the business center. The property is surrounded with residences, with improved streets on two sides. It is appraised at \$47,500, which is even \$3500 less than its assessed valuation.

The appraised value is \$500 an acre, while disinterested persons say that adjacent city lots are valued at that figure. The lowest estimate they place on this property is \$1200 an acre, or more than double the appraisal.

Another piece of property which is said to be appraised at less than its assessed value is the 560 acre farm located a few miles north of Salem, between the Oregon Electric and Southern Pacific railroads. It is appraised at \$50,000, and is assessed at \$60,300, or more than \$10,000 higher than the appraisal.

This farm is appraised at a fraction over \$89 an acre, while an estimate of its true value, said to be conservative, is \$200 an acre, or a difference in valuation of \$22,000.

A similar valuation, and then declared to be very low, is placed on the 350 acre farm on Lashley which is appraised at \$25,200, or \$70 an acre.

Aside from the home place, most of the town property is appraised at a slight advance over the assessed valuations. But it is declared that the appraisal of the Chicago Store building property, which is placed at \$26,000, is very low.

Spelling Bee Probable.

Monmouth, Or., March 6.—According to the plan of Supervisor James of eastern Clackamas county, the best six spellers in the county will be secured to challenge the champion spellers of Polk county schools. The winners of county spelling will be determined in Clackamas by a number of spelling bees. When these counties clash it will be the first intercounty spelling match held in the state.

THREE SECTIONS OF BONDING ORDINANCE ARE DECLARED VOID

Measure Affecting Hotels Is
Passed Upon by Circuit
Judge Morrow.

Circuit Judge Morrow, in a decision filed yesterday, declared void three sections of the ordinance passed in October, 1912, known as the "hotel bonding ordinance." The decision came on a demurrer filed December 17, 1912, which Judge Morrow has had under consideration since it was argued, shortly after it was filed.

The demurrer was filed to a suit instituted by Philip Gevurtz, of the Multnomah, Malloy and Carlton hotels; Thomas J. Hammer of the Oakley hotel; J. H. Diets, J. W. Blaney and Edward W. Mueller of the Rainier, Rowland, Parsons and Minook hotels; J. W. Bushong of the Netherlands hotel; Frank A. Clark of the Clark and Clyde hotels, and C. Venable of the Venable hotel. The plaintiffs asked that the city be enjoined from putting the ordinance into effect. They alleged that 300 hotels and rooming houses would be affected, and that 200 of these authorized the suit. The hotels represented by the plaintiffs have approximately 1600 rooms.

Judge Morrow declared void the section providing that the ordinance shall apply to only such hotels and rooming houses as shall contain 10 or more rooms; the section giving the council power to revoke any permit given under the ordinance; and the section prohibiting any hotel

or lodging house proprietor or employe in a place coming under the terms of the ordinance from letting a room to any persons of the opposite sex of whom one or the other is a minor, unless the persons have baggage or are properly identified as man and wife.

The first section is declared unreasonable, because it creates a distinction; the second is held to permit deprivation of property without due process of law, and denial of equal protection under the laws, and the third is called "an unreasonable restriction on the conduct of a lawful business."

The section requiring a \$1000 bond from the proprietors of all hotels and lodging houses is upheld. Attorney A. E. Clark, who represented the plaintiffs, declared this morning that the findings of the court practically meant the nullification of the entire ordinance, as the section designating the class of hotels and lodging houses to come under the ordinance has been declared illegal. If the remaining portions of the ordinance are held to constitute an ordinance he said it would mean that any person renting one or more rooms must file the \$1000 bond required.

**RAILROADS SUE FOR
REFUND OF EXCISE TAX**

O.-W. R. & N. Subsidiaries
Allege They Are Not in
Business for Selves.

Suits directed against Milton A. Miller, collector of internal revenue, and David M. Dunne, former collector, to secure refund of special corporation excise taxes paid the internal revenue department, were filed in the federal court today in the name of four of the branch lines of the Oregon-Washington Railroad and Navigation company.

The complaints allege that these companies are not in business for themselves, their property being leased by the O.-W. R. & N. company; that despite this fact, the collectors of internal revenue forced them to pay the excise tax; that they applied to the commissioner of internal revenue at Washington for a refund and that he ordered them to make a more complete statement. For this purpose, that a detailed investigation may be made, the suits are brought.

The plaintiffs and the amount of taxes each is suing to recover are: O. W. R. & Idaho R. R. company, \$68,956; the Columbia River and Oregon Central R. R., \$486,51; the Snake River Valley R. R., \$870,70, and the Columbia Southern Railway company, \$370.

The complaints recite that all the plaintiffs were made subordinate corporations of the O.-W. R. & N. in 1907 and that the collecting of the corporation excise tax was not begun until 1911. The suits were prepared by W. W. Cotton and associates of the O.-W. R. & N. legal force.

Kansas City has a 12 hour day law for horses.

**BAKER ATTORNEY HAS
TROUBLE WITH RANCHER**

Baker, Or., March 6.—Charles F. Hyde, former district attorney of Baker, Union, Wallowa, Grant and Malheur counties, at his preliminary hearing today on a charge of assault with a dangerous weapon, was bound over to the grand jury by Justice of the Peace Hubbard.

The courtroom was crowded. Interest in the case running high, because of the prominence of the defendant in legal and business circles.

Hyde is accused of shooting Tom Williams, a Grant county race horse man, following a quarrel over a case in which the latter's son is defendant. Williams was shot in the hand.

Hyde claims the shooting was accidental. He was admitted to \$250 bail.

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