

BROADWAY BRIDGE IS SAID TO BE MENACED BY DOCK UNDERNEATH

Investigation Said to Show Frame Structure Inadequately Protected.

REMOVAL RECOMMENDED

Construction of Concrete Wharf on Property Which is Owned by City is Urged by Mayor.

After an investigation by the building department, Commissioner R. G. Dieck has sent a recommendation to the city council that the frame dock built and occupied by Albers Bros. beneath the west approach of the Broadway bridge be removed immediately and other steps taken for the protection of the bridge from fire.

The investigation made by Deputy Kramer of the building department, and he points out that the bridge is seriously menaced so long as this frame dock is allowed to stand and the other frame warehouses and docks in that vicinity are allowed to remain so near the bridge without better facilities for fire protection.

The dock directly under the bridge was built in 1911 by Albers Bros. to connect their docks Nos. 1 and 2. It is an ordinary wooden dock, and Mr. Kramer reports that it has no fire protection. He points out also that in case a fire in Albers Bros. dock No. 2 should get beyond control, the fire apparatus in docks No. 1 and No. 2 would be out of commission.

"No fire protection was noted on any of the other docks, except in the Alsworth dock No. 1," he reports, "which has fire hose on the upper level only about 200 feet apart with water barrels."

"It is apparent that if the structures on either side of the bridge were consumed by fire, the steel members of the Broadway bridge, which are unprotected from heat, would be badly damaged, even if the wood floor did not catch fire, as it probably would."

He makes a number of recommendations which are approved by Commissioner Dieck, and sent to the council for action.

Mr. Kramer says that the strip of land on which the dock is built is the property of the city and he recommends that the city construct a reinforced concrete warehouse under the bridge. The cost he estimates would be about \$50,000.

He recommends that an ordinance should be passed requiring all docks, within 500 feet of any steel bridge, to be provided with automatic sprinkler systems.

SIGNS WILL BE DISPLAYED

City Extends "Safety First" Movement to Traffic.

The "safety first" movement is to be extended by the city traffic department by the erection of warning signs at some distance from dangerous grade crossings and other points where it is difficult or impossible for motorists to see what is ahead of them.

Plans have been completed for a disc sign, which will be topped with an arrow pointing to the point of danger, and a local sign company has offered to make a number of samples so they can be tried out at the most dangerous places.

In the center of the sign will be the words "safety first," against a circular green background, which will be bordered with a broad red strip. In this strip will be the various warnings, such as "bad crossing," "bad turn," "fire station—drive slow," and "silent—hospital."

Over 80 places have now been found where it is reported such signs are needed.

CHALK LINES ARE EFFECTIVE

Pedestrians Obeying Rule at Street Corners.

That the "chalk lines" at important street intersections has practically stopped the careless crossing of streets by pedestrians, is shown in a report made to the bureau of highways and bridges by Inspector Kirkpatrick.

Before the lines were made, out of 25,000 persons who moved across one of the principal street intersections in an average eight hour day, 11 per cent, or 25,000 out through the intersections and 19 per cent, or 42,000 crossed the streets beyond the intersections.

Since the lines were made observations show that only 2400 persons in eight hours out through the lines bounded by the curb. This indicates a reduction of 22,600 pedestrians, cutting across the intersections, or an improvement over old conditions of 90 per cent.

TRACK CAUSES PAVING DELAY

Contracting Company Protests to City Council.

Representatives of the Montague-O'Reilly Construction company, which has the contract for paving East Eighth street, protested to the city council yesterday afternoon against any further delay to the completion of their contract. Their work has been held up because of the controversy over the location or removal of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company's street car tracks where they turn from East Eighth to Hawthorne avenue. The turn in the present tracks is so short that big cars cannot go over it.

An ordinance was introduced and passed to third reading which grants the street car company authority to abandon its franchise on East Eighth street, from Hawthorne avenue to East Morrison, and on East Yamhill from East Eighth to East Ninth, and likely will be passed at its next reading by a vote of three to two. Mayor Albee and Commissioner Bigelow are opposed to allowing the company to abandon its service on those streets.

After the ordinance is passed, how-

ever, it will be 30 days before it becomes effective as the charter provision that all ordinances granting franchises are subject to the referendum and cannot go into effect for 30 days after their passage. The ordinance provides that the street car company must remove the tracks within 48 hours after the ordinance goes into effect, or not remove them at all.

GRADE CROSSINGS DOOMED

Bureau of Highways and Bridges Completing Plans.

Plans for the elimination of the O. W. R. & N. grade crossings at East Thirty-seventh and East Forty-second streets have been completed by the bureau of highways and bridges, and Chief Holmes of that department stated today that construction work on lowering the tracks will be commenced as soon as the plans for one more crossing at East Fifty-third street are completed.

Five grade crossings are to be eliminated by lowering the railroad tracks about 12 feet along the grade along Sullivan's gulch. The cost is to be borne at the ratio of 60 per cent by the O. W. R. & N. and 20 per cent each by the city and the Portland Railway, Light & Power company.

Early next week the work of making borings for foundation tests at the other two crossings to be eliminated will be taken up.

BUILDINGS MAY BE TALLER

Council Passes an Ordinance Permitting Fifteen Stories.

Fifteen-story buildings of fireproof construction may be built in Portland under the provisions of a general ordinance, which was passed by the council yesterday. Heretofore the building code restricted buildings to a height of 160 feet, or 12 stories, and to build higher than that required a special permit. Under the new ordinance the maximum height is 200 feet.

The council was opposed to the issuance of any more special building permits and enacted the new ordinance at this time to allow for the construction of the Meier & Frank building, which is to be about 190 feet high.

Commissioner Brewster voted against the ordinance, saying he did not think such tall buildings were needed or beneficial to a city.

EXCAVATION WORK INSPECTED

Mayor and Councilmen Visit Summit Avenue Drive.

Mayor Albee and members of the city council yesterday afternoon inspected the excavation done on Summit avenue drive by Medlin Brothers to determine whether the excavation was through cement gravel or just plain earth, and thereby come to a conclusion as to whether the city should allow the contractors' claim for \$1400 in excess of the contract price, George B. Sellers, representing the contractors, appeared before the council and urged the allowance of the claim, on the ground that the contract had been made on the basis of excavating earth when in fact cement gravel had been encountered early in the way.

JOKE SURELY ON SOMEBODY

Mayor is Telephoned to Send the Police for "Highwaymen."

The joke seems to be on somebody. Is it Mayor Albee, or is it Skinner, traffic manager of the S. P. & S., or the police department, or the two unsuspecting "highwaymen" Mr. Skinner "spotted" last night for a telephone call from Mr. Skinner, who wanted to know why he could not get the help of a policeman when he had two highwaymen in sight.

"I know highwaymen when I see them," he told the mayor, "I've been robbed by a house in Bonhomme street. I called the station over 20 minutes ago and not a cop has showed up."

This morning the police department reported to the mayor that officers J. B. White and McCulloch had been

sent out in response to Mr. Skinner's call. These officers reported that Mr. Skinner had followed two men from Eleventh and Morrison to Twenty-fourth and Couch and from his description of them the officers located them at Twenty-fourth and Marshall, where they live with their parents, who are regarded as being very respectable. The boys said that they saw a man following them and that if their actions were queer it was because they thought the man was a "bad one". Mr. Skinner threatened to invoke an investigation of the police department.

MIXTURE IS TO BE INSPECTED

City Hears Complaints Against Paving Material.

Complaint has been made to the department of public works that the Oregon Independent Paving company, which has the contract for paving Greeley street, is not using bitulithic cement in the wearing course, as called for in the specifications.

As the department had no information on the subject, City Engineer Dater required an affidavit from the foreman of the job to the effect that the company was complying with the specifications.

Commissioner Dieck then put the question up to the city attorney as to whether the affidavit was sufficient to protect the city in the matter. The city attorney today advised him that it was not, and suggested that as the city receives five per cent commission for superintendency over the work that an inspector be sent to the mixing plant to see that the mixture is as required.

Can Build Sawdust Conveyor.

County Assessor Reed will make assessments for taxation this year on the sawdust conveyor to be built by the Inman-Poulsen Lumber company, but which is formed of portions of streets crossing the company's property.

Deputy District Attorney S. H. Pierce rendered an opinion to Mr. Reed in which he held that these street lands could be legally assessed without prejudicing the rights of the city in case the open-

Spokane avenue, to be used in conveying sawdust from the company's mill to its burner. The company will be required to give a bond in the sum of \$5000 for the protection of the city, and will pay \$25 a year rental. The permit received the approval of the dock commission.

"Bug Juice" Investigation Interferes

The scheduled meeting of the county commissioners with Governor West and Mayor Albee for the purpose of discussing and settling the right-of-way question in connection with the approach to the interstate bridge, was postponed because of conflict of dates with the "bug juice" investigation hearing this morning. The meeting will be held Saturday morning. It is probable that in addition to the right-of-way question the effect of the European war on the sale of the bridge bonds will be discussed.

Will Insist on Repairs.

Immediate repairs for the safety of the Grand avenue bridge are to be insisted upon by City Commissioner R. G. Dieck, who has called representatives of the S. P. & S. railroad company and the Portland Railway, Light & Power company to meet with him this afternoon. It is reported that the bridge has settled about four inches owing to fills being made by the S. P. & S., and that its condition is such that immediate attention is required.

Street Land Assessments.

County Assessor Reed will make assessments for taxation this year on the sawdust conveyor to be built by the Inman-Poulsen Lumber company, but which is formed of portions of streets crossing the company's property.

Deputy District Attorney S. H. Pierce rendered an opinion to Mr. Reed in which he held that these street lands could be legally assessed without prejudicing the rights of the city in case the open-

ing up and improving of the streets should later be desired.

Lewis Tenders Resignation.

Ion Lewis, who has been chairman of the board of appeals in the city building department since the board's creation about four years ago, has tendered his resignation to Mayor Albee. His successor has not yet been appointed. Mr. Lewis, who is a member of the firm of Whidden & Lewis, architects, was a member of the committee that drafted the building code now in effect.

For Protection of City.

Commissioner Dieck has had an ordinance prepared, and it is expected it will be rushed through the council, providing for the insertion of a clause in all future paving contracts giving protection to the city against any suit for infringement of patents. After the ordinance is passed, such a clause will be placed in the general requirements of specifications for paving.

More Than 100 at Institute.

Chemawa, Aug. 6.—Arrivals yesterday brought the total enrollment at the teachers' institute for employees of the Indian service, up to 110. H. A. Larsen, special officer of the Indian service, and W. L. Johnson, editor of "The New Republic" of Westerville, Ohio, spoke last evening on "The Liquor Question."

War Cancels Fish Orders.

Astoria, Or., Aug. 6.—F. Klevenhagen of Berlin, Germany, head of the big salmon packing plant at Astoria, was in Astoria yesterday, and said: "One effect of the present war has been to bring our business to an absolute standstill. We expect to make no shipments at all. One four car shipment lately sent out by us to Europe has been recalled from the high seas and returned to New York."

where it will be stored subject to our future orders. Our case is easily paralleled over the Pacific coast, since every other dealer and packer of salt and pickled fish, all mild cured processes, is in exactly the same boat. "When I left my home in Berlin on June 27, no one suspected the possibility of war, and certainly no one wanted it."

Campmeeting Closes Tonight.

Jennings Lodge, Or., Aug. 6.—The campmeeting of the Portland district of the Evangelical association, which has been held at Riverview camp grove here since July 28 and was followed by conventions of the Women's Missionary society, the Young People's Alliance and the Sunday school, will come to a close tonight. Divine services will be held at 7:30 o'clock.

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\$2.50 Colonials, patent or gunmetal leather... \$1.95

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