

NEW ENGINEER COULD COMPEL TAXPAYERS TO SHELL OUT BIG SUM

If Bowley's Successor Plays Into Contractors' Hands People Must Foot Bill.

AMOUNT IS CONSIDERABLE

Difference in Three Counties Between Official Estimate and Contractors' Is About \$175,000.

Columbia county—Amount due, according to state highway engineer, \$45,514.58. Additional amount claimed by contractor, approximately, \$50,000.

Clatsop county—Amount due, \$760,181. Additional amount claimed by contractor, \$73,000.

Jackson county—Amount claimed by contractor, \$40,000.

Where are the taxpayers going to get off in the shift of state highway engineers?

Will the new engineer stand on the classifications and measurement of quantities made by the old, or will he yield to the demand of contractors for extra allowances?

These questions are of vital importance to the taxpayers of the counties concerned.

Take Columbia county: The final estimate shows that the total amount due the Consolidated Contract company was \$262,861.96. On this there has been paid \$208,347, leaving a balance due of \$54,514.96.

In this estimate no provision has been made for defective masonry walls near Palm. The amount due for the work on these walls can only be determined when the walls are rebuilt. The total cost of walls under dispute does not exceed \$5000.

\$80,000 More Is Claimed.

It is claimed by the Consolidated Contract company that, in addition to the \$52,000, or 25 percent of the total contract, retained until the final estimate is made, there is coming to the company the sum of approximately \$80,000 for extras. The company will ask for a recalculation of materials and a remeasurement.

In Clatsop county the final estimate on the contract on the Columbia Highway, between Astoria and Westport, held by the Boyajohn-Arnold company, was \$166,356.24.

Final payment was made on this contract by the Clatsop county court and accepted by the Boyajohn-Arnold company under date of November 11, 1914.

Peterson & Johnson had a sub-contract for the direct haul of material. They recently made a claim for \$73,000. It would seem that, if their settlement with the general contractor was not satisfactory, it is not a matter in which the taxpayers of Clatsop county are concerned.

Where Do Taxpayers Come In?

After the completion of the Boyajohn-Arnold company's contract, Clatsop county entered into a contract with Peterson & Johnson to do additional work on the Columbia Highway. Their total estimate on December 1, 1914, was \$38,300.92. A voucher for \$13,034.35 was issued to this firm in October, and another voucher for \$17,806.38 on November 30, 1914, leaving due on that date \$7,460.18.

In Jackson county the contract for the Siskiyou mountain road, held by Pacific Highway was held by J. W. Sweeney. The final estimate on this contract was given Mr. Sweeney March 29.

The total of this estimate was \$195,960.91. Mr. Sweeney had been paid \$159,960.91, leaving due on that date \$35,999.99. Mr. Sweeney has accepted this sum, but will present to the county court claims for approximately \$40,000 more.

If the new state highway engineer yields to the demands of the contractors, where will the taxpayers come in? If he is not, how illegal is the position of Governor Withycombe and State Treasurer Key in demanding a change of engineers?

Property Goes to Eight Heirs Named

Two Brothers, Two Sisters and Four Nieces Will Share Estate of Mrs. Lida H. Rumbaugh.

Two brothers, two sisters and four nieces will divide estate of Mrs. Lida H. Rumbaugh, who died March 8 in San Francisco, according to her will filed yesterday. C. E. Williamson, her brother-in-law, was named executor. In the petition for probate of the will the estate is estimated to be worth \$5000. A petition was filed for appointment of P. M. Shaddock as administrator of the estate of his brother, A. S. Shaddock, who died March 29, in which the estate is estimated to be worth \$5000. G. A. Shaddock, a son, and Vera Shaddock, a daughter, are the heirs.

Christian Union Elects.

Albany, Or., April 2.—J. Deo McClain was elected president of the Young People's Christian Union, of this city, at the meeting Tuesday night. C. E. Williamson was elected vice-president; Mrs. Homer Dowd, secretary; Mrs. Roy Newton, treasurer; Paul Dawson, reporter; and Rev. W. P. White, spiritual adviser. It is planned to make the organization a force in the community that will be recognized. The meeting was held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Roy Newton.

Mrs. Donlan Commits Suicide.

(Clatsop News Service.) Seattle, Wash., April 2.—Mrs. Anna Donlan, divorced wife of Police Sergeant W. F. Donlan, who asserted that her husband obtained his divorce through fraud last November, and who had been despondent over her domestic affairs since that time, swallowed a number of bichloride tablets in the home of a friend last evening and died.

Would Abolish Legislature.

(Pacific News Service.) Seattle, April 2.—Abolition of the state legislature and the enactment of all laws by direct legislation is the end sought by a resolution that has been introduced in the Seattle Central Labor Council by delegates from the United Brotherhood of Carpenters.

Dee Section Sees Prosperity Ahead

Extension of Mt. Hood Railroad to Deer Creek Means Employment of a Number of Men During the Summer.

Dee, Or., April 2.—With the extension of the Mount Hood railroad to Deer Creek, the construction of two bridges was started this week and 40 workmen will be employed eight weeks on these bridges. The Oregon Lumber company owns probably 18,000 acres of fine timber between this place and Lost Lake, in which direction the road is extending. When the lands are logged off, the company disposes of it to those who will settle upon and improve the same. Ever since the company established its mill at this point, 10 years ago, it has followed the policy of disposing of its logged off holdings with persons who will make improvements, with the result that a beautiful valley now has several hundred homes, where 10 years ago stood giant firs, and where wild animals roamed unmolested, except by an occasional hunter or trapper. The starting of work on these bridges and the extending of the road toward the scenic Lost Lake section means the employment of more men, the shipping out of millions of feet of valuable lumber, an easy transit into and out of the region that is without even a fair wagon road, and later the building of homes in a section commanding an everyday view of Mount Hood. With a million trout fry planted within the last two years in the several forks of Hood river, and the increasing number of grouse and pheasant, as well as deer, this locality will be soon favored by a wide variety of fishing and hunting.

COUNTY COURT NEWS

Mrs. Elizabeth Hyde paid the county commissioners \$11 for expenses of James J. Hyde, who died recently at Multnomah farm, in addition to \$9 left by Lawless and now in the county treasury. The money was turned over to the treasurer and Wise E. D. Muhs, superintendent of the farm, was directed to give Mrs. Hyde a watch belonging to Lawless.

A bond of \$500 given by Otto Kleiman, grand adjutant of the Indian War Veterans, for faithful performance of his duties in connection with distribution of relief funds was approved and filed.

A petition by J. H. Weeks and others for improvement of the Beaver Creek road was referred to Roadmaster Yeon.

Correspondence between Whidden & Lewis, architects of the courthouse, and Ferdinand Mayer of San Francisco, relative to scaffolding work on the courthouse was approved and filed.

A request by Ridgeway & Johnson, attorneys, that Harry M. Courtwright be reimbursed \$7.50 costs incurred in a tax foreclosure suit was referred to District Attorney Evans.

A letter from J. N. Teal inclosing a communication from Thorpe Babcock, secretary of the Western Lumber Manufacturers' Association, relative to wood block paving was placed on file.

The board denied two claims of \$74.05 each presented by County Clerk Coffey for services of Deputies D. J. Gregory and J. E. Miller in connection with the Western Lumber Association.

Henry Cromer of Lents offered to improve 2 1/2 miles of the Foster road within the city limits by the penetration method in place of the wheel and bound macadam. He agreed to furnish equipment provided the county furnish labor and material with the exception of asphalt and pay him \$5 a day as superintendent. Roadmaster Yeon was requested to cooperate with the board in the matter, as the board desires to make the experiment.

Replanting of the Vancouver trestle recently completed cost Multnomah county \$118.86, according to a report by Roadmaster Yeon to the county commissioners. The commissioners allowed \$12,000 for the work, and the remaining \$481.44 was credited to the general fund, from which it was appropriated.

Light Plant at Bar View.

(Special to The Journal.) One improvement which will greatly aid to the convenience of those who spend their vacation at Bar View is the installation of the electric lighting system at that place. The plant was recently put in by Captain C. Bar View Smith and R. E. Jackson, and is now furnishing light to the residents. Water from a four inch main is piped into a Pelton wheel which runs the dynamo that generates the electric current.

Later in the season a larger dynamo will be installed, one capable of running 1400 lights, and also furnishing sufficient current for a movie picture show. Louis Terwilliger is local manager of the plant.

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M'HARG'S HAND IS SUGGESTED IN NEW BLOW AT PRIMARIES

New York Politician Who Tried to Throttle Self-Government Bobs Up Again.

1909 SESSION RECALLED

Leader of East Ditch Fight Against Statement No. 1 Tries to Unite Republicans and Progressives.

Ormsby McHarg has bobbed up again. Oregon has not heard much about McHarg since his unsuccessful attempt to throttle popular government in this state in 1909, but now he has bobbed up again and at his old tricks.

Recent reports from Albany, New York, are to the effect that McHarg has been appointed chairman of a committee of five named by the executive committee of the Republican League of Clubs of New York to ascertain on what common ground the Republicans

and Progressives of New York state can unite.

With the appointment of this special committee the executive committee adopted resolutions entitled, "Suggestions to the Anti-Democratic Voters of the State as to Issues." In these resolutions they urge the repeal of New York's direct primary law and assail the present Democratic congress for "interfering with honest business."

Flavor Is McHarguesque.

The advisers don't state whether McHarg had a hand in drawing up these resolutions, but these two clauses certainly have a McHarguesque flavor.

It was McHarg, it will be remembered, who came to Oregon when in lieu of the direct election of United States senators the people of the state means of assuring that the popular will should hold good in the choice of a senator from this state.

At a popular election the voters overwhelmingly expressed themselves in favor of George E. Chamberlain for senator. A majority of the candidates for the legislature pledged themselves by signing Statement No. 1 to abide by the popular choice in choosing a senator, and were elected with the understanding that they would keep their word.

And then the legislature of 1909 went into historical session. Hardly had it convened before influence was brought to bear from divers quarters to induce subscribers to Statement No. 1 to break their word to the people.

A few days before the joint session of both houses was to be held for choosing Oregon's senator, McHarg appeared on the scene from Chicago, to pull an oar in preventing the election of Chamberlain. It was intimated to the legislators that he was an emissary of President-elect Taft, that he was the personal representative of National Chairman Hiram Bland, that he even came from President Roosevelt.

Leaders Repudiate Him.

Taft, Roosevelt and finally Hitchcock repudiated him; but McHarg stayed on, went to Salem and with the Bourbons of Oregon politics, tried his level best to get the honor bound legislators of Oregon to go back on the popular choice.

How Chamberlain was elected is an old story, and McHarg, his mission having proved fruitless, returned east, making the statement, before going that he came to Oregon purely from patriotic motives. Statement No. 1, he asserted, was a perversion of the time honored constitutional way of electing United States senators by legislators, in that the people had something to say about the matter, and for this reason he came to Oregon to induce Oregon legislators to sq back on Statement No. 1.

It has never been definitely stated just whom McHarg did represent, on

his Pacific coast trip, but he left stating that he was done with politics, and was going back to New York to practice law.

Partial to Big Business.

He had hardly reached Washington before he was made assistant secretary of commerce and labor, however, and after serving for a few brief months, he did so into comparative retirement.

But now he has bobbed up again, apparently consistent in his disbelief of popular government, for he subscribed to the going away with primaries in New York, and is still partial to big business.

And there is believed to be a striking analogy between trying to get Oregon legislators to repudiate Statement No. 1 and inducing real Progressives to repeal the direct primary.

People will be wondering whether McHarg will be more successful in New York than he was in Oregon.

Albany Has New Postmaster.

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