

CONTRACTORS FIGHT COMPETITION ON THE MARION-POLK BRIDGE

Gehlhar Declares Scheming of Companies Seeking Monopoly on Work Is Rank.

WOULD BUILD IT CHEAPLY

Present Outlook for Substantial Bridge Joining Marion and Polk Counties Is Poor.

Salem, Or., Dec. 21.—With bridge contractors working strenuously to the end that competition may be stifled and fat profits secured from the construction of a new bridge across the Willamette river between Polk and Marion counties, the outlook that the taxpayers will get a structure which will be substantial and not unreasonable in cost is not any too promising.

Representatives of bridge firms first found fault with the plans drawn by the state highway department and it was decided to have new plans for competitive bids, based on specifications furnished by the state highway department.

Contractors Object.

The successful plan, according to announcement, would draw \$1,000,000 for the bridge. The plans were to be submitted to December 24. This proposition did not suit the bridge contractors, however, and lately certain bridge companies' representatives have been working to secure a change of specifications so that they can submit bids on a light steel structure and shut out competition. The state highway department has not mentioned in this respect. It was reported here that all three of the members of the Polk county court and two of the Marion county court had been won over to the plan.

Will Receive Plans.

News from Dallas was to the effect that the plan for plans would be withdrawn and a new call result from a conference of the highway department held by Clerk of Court Max Gehlhar today, however, that the plans would be received and considered, despite the Dallas reports.

Work Is Rank.

"If this proposition did not come from the contractors who have had a practical bridge monopoly for a long time and who have so ineffectively fought the bridge department after the highway commission in looking after the interests of the public in bridge matters the matter might not appear so rank."

"The people of Marion county insist on a good bridge on the fastest competition, both as to design and on the construction supervised by disinterested engineers, who are not under the thumb of the bridge trust."

Italian Laborer Is Killed at Eugene

Eugene, Or., Dec. 21.—James Bely, Italian railroad laborer, aged about 30 years, was instantly killed at 9:35 this morning when a string of freight cars ran over him, severing his head and one shoulder from his body. Bely was employed with a crew of laborers in the local yards. He stepped across the track to get a pig when the train backed up on him.

Few Will Be Turkeyless.

Dallas, Texas, Dec. 21.—(U. P.)—Sufficient turkeys to feed 3,500,000 persons have been shipped from Texas to the Christmas markets, chiefly in Chicago and New York.

Driven by electricity, a machine has been perfected for opening letters at a rate of 300 a minute.

An Old, Family Cough Remedy, Home-Made
Easily Prepared—Costs Very Little, but Is Prompt, Sure and Effective.

By making this pint of old time cough syrup at home you not only save about \$2, as compared with the ready-made kind, but you will also have a much more prompt and positive remedy in every way. It overcomes the usual coughs, throat and chest colds in 24 hours—relieves even whooping cough quickly—and is excellent, too, for bronchitis, bronchial asthma, hoarseness and spasmodic croup.

Ruppert Estate Is Over Six Millions

Rich Brewer Leaves It All to His Widow and Four Children—Colonel Jacob Ruppert to Manage Business.
New York, Dec. 21.—(U. P.)—Colonel Jacob Ruppert, former head of the Ruppert establishment of Jacob Ruppert, Inc., left an estate valued at \$6,322,750. This was discovered today when his executors filed an accounting in the surrogate's court.

One Marriage License.
Vancouver, Wash., Dec. 20.—One marriage license was issued today at the office of the county auditor, this being secured by Alfred Erickson, 29, and Miss Iva Courtney, 19, both of Portland.

City's "Best" Take Underworld Profits

Baltimore's Vice Commission Report Accuses Clergymen, Society Workers and Prominent Business Men.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 21.—(U. P.)—Clergymen, society workers, bankers and prominent business men participated in the profits of Baltimore's underworld, said the report of the city vice commission today, though it withheld names.

LA GRIPPE IS CAUSE OF EARLY CLOSING OF O. A. C., CORVALLIS

So Many Students Are Ill That President Kerr Decides to End Work.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Or., Dec. 21.—An epidemic of la grippe which has been going the rounds at the Oregon Agricultural College, has now arrived to such a stage that President Kerr announced last night that a college work will be adjourned this afternoon at 6 o'clock for the holidays instead of next Thursday noon, as originally scheduled in the college calendar.

Rumors of a possible adjournment of college work before next Thursday due to the large percentage of students absent from classes on account of sickness, have been prevalent for several days, but not until this afternoon when the city health officer, Dr. R. L. Bosworth, held a conference with President Kerr and advised the closing of college, was any definite action taken.

Absences in some of the courses total as high as 20 per cent, while the average throughout the student body is 14 per cent. There are over fifty women students in the dormitories that have been taken down with severe cases of the grippe during the past week. Regular college work will be resumed after the holidays on January 10, as originally scheduled.

The Eugene Schools Close.

Eugene, Or., Dec. 21.—Because of the increase in the number of cases of la grippe in the Eugene public schools during the past few days, W. H. Rutherford, city superintendent, after classes were called Monday morning, decided to dismiss all of the schools until January 2.

This is one week ahead of the time planned for the end of the school year, but there are so many absences on account of an epidemic of la grippe it is thought advisable to close now, in hopes that the worst of it will be over by the time vacation is finished. At the high school alone 129 were absent this morning, making a total of 351 in all the schools of the city. In the grade schools the absentee numbers ran from 25 to 69 on account of sickness.

Man Drowned When Little Vessel Sinks

A. E. Garret Goes Down With President of Seattle Near Dock at Camano, Camano Island, San Juan.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 21.—Within less than 100 feet of the dock at Camano, Camano Island, San Juan group, the little power schooner President of Seattle, under charter to the Union Oil company, was swamped in heavy weather at 3 o'clock Monday afternoon and, turning turtle, sank in deep water.

A. E. Garrett, a traveling salesman of the oil company, whose home was in Seattle, went down with the little craft and was drowned. The President had just backed away from the dock at Camano to let the steamer Calista berth when she was engulfed in heavy seas.

Captain Victor Findlay, Master of the President, and Her Crew Swam ashore after the schooner had gone down.

The President was a vessel of about 20 gross tons, 72 feet long and 17 feet beam. Her charter to the Union Oil company expired Friday.

Making Counterfeit Coins on Increase

Report of Government Shows 75 Per Cent More Bad Money Than for Year Previous; California Third.

San Francisco, Dec. 21.—(U. P.)—The making of counterfeit coins has increased 75 per cent over last year and exceeds any year since 1902, according to a report ending October 15, received today by Harry B. Moffatt, head of the local United States secret service from the United States treasury department in Washington.

Lebanon Loses Pool Hall

Lebanon, Or., Dec. 21.—Fire Sunday morning partly destroyed the building occupied by J. E. Smith as a pool hall. Damage to the building, owned by ex-Senator Miller, now of Portland, was about \$300. The fixtures, which belong to Smith, were slightly damaged by water.

Rev. Mr. Shields Visits

Lebanon, Or., Dec. 21.—Rev. Mr. Shields, who for 12 years has been pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Medford, Oregon, is in this city, and Sunday preached to the congregation of the Presbyterian church.

MULTNOMAH COUNTY TAX LEVY PLACED AT TOTAL OF 25.4 MILLS

Levy for Road Purposes Is Made 1.95 Mills as Advised by Budget Committee

John F. Mossberg, reputed to have been wealthy at one time, dies at County Hospital here.

STATE LEVY \$937,561.05

But \$62,500 Will Be Retained to Pay Year's Interest on the Interstate Bridge's Bonds.

Total Portland Tax Levy.

State	2.70
County school	1.86
County road	1.38
Library	.45
County general	2.45
Port of Portland	1.10
City of Portland	8.30
Docks	.60
School District 1	6.50
Total	25.49

Tax levying bodies in Portland finished their work yesterday when the county commissioners fixed the county levy for road purposes at 1.95 mills, following the advice of the advisory budget committee. The total levy for property inside Portland is now 25.4 mills, made up as shown above. Last year it was 23.1.

The total levies for Multnomah county incorporated outside Portland are: Gresham, 23 mills; Fairview, 19.9 mills; Troutdale, 23.9 mills.

State Levy \$937,561.05.

The state levy will raise in Multnomah county \$937,561.05, of which \$62,500 will be retained to pay the annual interest charge on \$1,250,000 of interstate bridge bonds issued by Multnomah county and on which the state agreed to pay the interest.

The levy of 1.95 mills to secure \$555,000 recommended by Roadmaster John B. Yeon and by minority report of the advisory budget committee was first voted by the county commission upon motion of Commissioner Rufus C. Holman, who added to his motion that 92 mills be added to the levy to support a county agricultural. This also carried.

After the vote on the tentative budget had been carried, a motion by John Hall adding 10 per cent to the levy for the purpose of extending the Base Line road on a new and easy grade to connection with the Columbia river highway at Sandy river was carried by standing vote.

Cost of Extension \$50,000.

The estimated cost of the extension is \$50,000, and Roadmaster Yeon when pressed for an opinion, said he thought it would be a wise investment to lay out the road and do the grading next year, so that it could be paved the following year.

The Roadmaster also expressed his gratification that citizens and taxpayers are disposed to uphold a liberal roadbuilding program, his position being that roads constitute most excellent investment.

John Hall supported the Holman motion, saying now is a good time to build roads when Multnomah county has a roadmaster who builds \$1 worth of road for every \$1 appropriated.

C. H. Lewis and J. J. Johnson advocated adding \$1000 to the \$2500 appropriated for the county fair at Gresham. No action was taken on this.

Former Chemist at Battle Creek Is Dead

John F. Mossberg, Reputed to Have Been Wealthy at One Time, Dies at County Hospital Here.

John F. Mossberg, aged 61 years, chemist at one time attached to the staff of the Battle Creek, Mich., sanatorium system, and at one time very wealthy, died penniless at the Multnomah county hospital Sunday night.

Mossberg, who had been in the city for several years endeavoring to re-

juvenate his shattered fortune, was stopping at the Taylor hotel, Third and Taylor streets. He was taken violently ill Sunday from a complication of diseases from which he has been a sufferer, and after the police were notified, he was taken to the county hospital.

Mossberg refused to say anything of his past life, but his former connections were learned from friends. A daughter is supposed to be living somewhere in Minnesota, and she has been notified.

Cruelty Is Alleged.

Nina McIntire yesterday sued Robert McIntire for divorce, alleging cruelty.

Arranging for Signs On West Highway

Newberg, Or., Dec. 21.—Dr. George S. Wright and A. L. Jameson of McMinnville, were in Newberg Sunday in the interest of the West Side highway between Portland and Eugene. It is proposed to have road signs put up along the entire distance with arrows pointing in the proper direction, pointing south on one side of the road and pointing north on the other side. The mission of these visitors Sunday was to select locations for the signs.

In order to know how many should be painted.

Each Will Keep Children.

For the next six months Mrs. Jessie Hamblet will have charge of her two sons while Eugene B. Hamblet has control of his two daughters. At the end of the six months the children will exchange places and each six months will mark corresponding changes. Circuit Judge McGinn decreed these changes yesterday, when he allowed Mrs. Hamblet a divorce and \$20 a month alimony. Judge McGinn granted divorce also to Florence J. Swafford from Calvin G. Swafford, and to Iona B. West from Ed West.

Appointed Head of Tuskegee Institute

Major R. R. Moton, Commandant of Cadets at Hampton Institute, Will Succeed Late Booker Washington.

New York, Dec. 21.—(U. P.)—Major R. R. Moton, commandant of cadets at Hampton Institute, Va., was appointed Monday to succeed the late Booker T. Washington as principal of Tuskegee Institute, receiving the unanimous endorsement of the selecting committee, of which Seth Low is chairman.

Clipped from The Oregonian of December 10

FINE GRADE HIGHER
Peculiar Conditions Exist in Coffee Market.
EFFECT OF WAR IS SEEN
Central Americans Advance Sharply, But Santos Grades Are Lower Than Year Ago—Cost to Consumers Unchanged.



1 lb. Tin Now 35¢ After Jan. 1st 40¢
3 lb. Tin Now \$1.00 After Jan. 1st \$1.10

We Have Saved the People of Portland and the Northwest Thousands of Dollars on Coffee the Past Year—

When the coffee market dropped because of the closing of many European countries to coffee importations, we "dropped" the retail price of ROYAL CLUB and GERMAN AMERICAN — giving the consumer the benefit.

We were the only coffee roasters on the Pacific Coast to give the public the benefit of this reduced cost. Other roasters feared to reduce the price because of the necessity of raising it again when the market should advance. They pocketed the increased profit and said nothing.

It has always been our theory that it pays to be "square" with the public—that there is never anything lost by taking you into our confidence and giving you the benefit of any savings we ourselves enjoy. We had faith that you would appreciate the saving we had shared with you and would understand when necessity forced us to increase the price again.

That necessity is now a reality—as shown by the article reproduced herewith. High-grade coffees are advancing steadily. These highest-grade Central American coffees—together with the expensive Sumatras (used only in the most expensive blends) are all a part of the ROYAL CLUB blend. All have advanced decidedly.

ROYAL CLUB will advance to its former price of 40c on January 1st. Lay in a supply now at the old prices and save money.

Royal Club Advances Jan. 1st.

Buy Now & Save Money

5 Pound 30¢ The Pound

Tins Now After Jan. 1st 5 Lbs. \$1.75

There is no better coffee on the market at 40 or 45 cents than ROYAL CLUB. Its wonderful, smooth coffee flavor and its delightful pungent aroma have won for it a host of friends.

In ROYAL CLUB we give the most in coffee value at the lowest possible price

We have put the entire value into the coffee—we use no fancy, expensive can—on the other hand, we give unusual care to its blending, neutralizing and roasting processes.

In ROYAL CLUB you will find the coffee you've been looking and longing for—a thoroughly satisfying beverage—fit for the most exacting requirements.

Order from your grocer today—serve this delightful coffee during the holidays—you may never have the opportunity again to buy so good a coffee at so low a price.

Lang & Co.

The "Royal Club" House
Portland, Or.