

W. C. BRISTOL MAKES PEREMPTORY DEMAND ON PORT COMMISSION

All Vouchers Issued in Favor of Various Companies and People Since 1913 Sought.

INVESTIGATION COURT

Members to Aid Inquiry in Every Way If It Is Open and Not Sub Rosa.

W. C. Bristol, as a taxpayer and as an attorney representing various but unnamed bankers and business men, wants to know how, where and for what the funds of the Port of Portland have been spent and are being spent. The Port of Portland commission at a meeting held yesterday afternoon unanimously voted to furnish Mr. Bristol all the information he desired regarding the operations of the commission, and to assist him in any manner possible. Members of the commission declared after the meeting that they welcomed investigation.

Mr. Bristol sent a written demand to the commission on December 19, asking for copies of all vouchers covering the period from February 1, 1915, to December 31, 1916, inclusive, showing payments of port money made to the Oregon Round Lumber company, the Columbia River Pilots' association, the Portland Shipbuilding company, the Shaver Transportation company, and also all vouchers showing salary and expense payments made to Manager B. W. Wright from the time of his appointment to December 31.

The port met yesterday afternoon and directed its secretary to notify Mr. Bristol that the information would be furnished him at a charge of 10 cents per folio, the same rate charged by the city of Portland for furnishing copies of its records. While the meeting was in session, the secretary had determined upon the proper charge to be made, Mr. Bristol telephoned to the office and gave warning that if he did not get the vouchers at once he would bring suit this morning.

Commission to Assist. The significance of Bristol's demand was voiced by R. D. Inman, chairman of the commission, who stated that the meeting had been called to consider the demand made by Bristol, and who said, in discussing the demand, that "underlying this is evidently an attack upon the honesty and integrity of some of the commissioners, and it ought not to be delayed."

The action of the commission directing that the information asked for be furnished, and that the assistance of the commission in making any investigation desired be offered to Mr. Bristol, was taken upon the motion of Commissioner Drake C. O'Reilly.

Commissioner J. W. Shaver is connected with the Shaver Transportation company. Mr. O'Reilly is connected with the Oregon Round Lumber company, and Captain Pease is a member of the Columbia River Pilots' association. The statute under which the port operates provides that the port shall enter into no contracts with any person, firm or corporation in which a member of the commission is interested directly or indirectly, so that the evident inference is drawn from Mr. Bristol's demands that he intends to charge the three commis-

THESE CHARMING GIRLS, students at Carlisle Indian school, recently took part in an operetta based on an Indian legend. They are Mamie Heaney, Chippewa; Sara Fowler, Choctaw; Lucy Green, Cherokee; Marie Poupert, Chippewa; Mary Annmiller, Choctaw; Sophie Newago, Chippewa; and Roberta Seneca, Seneca.



stoners with having run counter to that statute.

Two Out of Harmony.

For some time past Commissioners Spencer and Patterson have been out of harmony with the other five members of the commission. Captain Spencer was placed on the commission by act of the legislature of 1913. His son was then a member of the legislature from Multnomah county and his energies during the session were chiefly devoted to securing for Captain Spencer a place on the Port of Portland commission. Captain Patterson was made a member of the commission by the legislature of 1915.

It is supposed that politics enters into the affair, although this is denied by Mr. Bristol. The appointment of Mr. Tucker has not been confirmed by the state legislature, as is required by law, and when he was elected by the commission to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of S. M. Mears, both Patterson and Spencer cast their votes for George Kelly, who, it is said, would still like to be a member of the commission.

Bristol Keeps Own Counsel.

Mr. Bristol would make no statement yesterday afternoon other than to say that he had been asked to make an investigation into the affairs of the commission by various influential men of Portland, all of them taxpayers and some of them bankers and business men; that he was not at liberty to disclose their names at this time, and that he could make no definite statement of his purposes until after he had been furnished the data called for and had examined it.

Lieutenant Loses In Courtmartial

Lieutenant Harold H. Taintor, United States army, who will be remembered by many Portlanders as being attached to the Twenty-first Infantry at Vancouver Barracks at one time, has been

dismissed from the army. President Wilson concurring in the sentence of a courtmartial. As a first lieutenant in the Twenty-fourth infantry Taintor was recently tried on the charge of overdrinking his bank account, with being drunk and disorderly, and with having broken his arrest. He was found guilty and dismissed from the service. The president concurred in the sentence, December 28. Taintor was before two courtmartials during the year. Taintor enlisted in the army in 1907 and worked his way up to a commission.

Women of Woodcraft Guardian Returns

She Thinks Farmers and Laborers in Montana Will Avail Themselves of Credit Laws of That State.

Mrs. Carrie C. Van Orsdall, grand guardian of the Women of Woodcraft, has recently returned from a visit to Montana. In addition to regular official visits to local gatherings Mrs. Van Orsdall addressed several organizations of farmers and laborers on rural credits and cooperation for civic advancements. On January 18 she will be in Denver and will address a conference of Farmers' union and Grange delegates on the same subjects. In February in Helena, Mont., she will attend a cooperative congress consisting of delegates from a number of labor and agricultural organizations. Most of last Christmas day was spent by Mrs. Van Orsdall in waiting for delayed trains in the depot at Helena, Mont.

Mrs. Van Orsdall is of the opinion that the farmers and workmen in Montana are going to get together to use the state credit for the relief of the workers in city and country. One of the movements in Montana is to compel school funds to be loaned to the farmers at 5 per cent instead of to the banks at 2 per cent.

Blinding Lights Are Held Responsible

Automobile Driver Who Ran Down Milk Wagon Claims He Was Blinded by Another Car's Lights.

Blinding headlights on an automobile are thought responsible for the accident at East Ninth and Morrison streets Thursday night, in which Ernest Gehring, driver of a milk wagon for the Willamette dairy, was seriously injured and the contents of the wagon were strewn over the street for half a block.

Thomas Hazlett, 251 East Forty-ninth street, was the driver of the automobile. The milk wagon was being driven north on Ninth street, while Hazlett was going east on Morrison. The wagon was struck squarely by the machine and upset, Gehring being pinned underneath. C. R. Nutting, 993 East Taylor street, passing by with his machine when the accident occurred, stopped and pushed Gehring to the hospital as soon as he was extricated from the wreckage.

Mr. Hazlett told Police Sergeant B. F. Sherwood that a westbound automobile with glaring headlights so blinded him that he could not see the milk wagon when it crossed the intersection in front of him.

Receiver Is Named For Ben A. Bellamy

A receiver has been appointed by Judge Wolverson on the petition of Closet & Devers, Northwest Butter & Produce company and the Pacific Coast Syrup company for the property and stock of Ben A. Bellamy, grocer, having stores at 142 Second street, 401 Hawthorne avenue and 595 Washington street. The creditors claimed that debts owing them were not forthcoming and B. K. Knapp of Portland was appointed receiver.

RUFUS C. HOLMAN IS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF COMMISSIONERS

Board Initiated New Policy of Having Monthly Reports From All Departments.

The board of county commissioners was reorganized today by the election of Rufus C. Holman as chairman. The vote was unanimous.

A new policy was initiated by the passage of a resolution requiring the heads of all departments to appear before the board once a month in person and render a report on the conduct of their several departments.

A communication was received from State Tax Commissioner Gallaway, regarding the opinion that in counties of more than 100,000 population it was not mandatory upon the county court to advertise delinquent tax lists in all the daily newspapers which can qualify according to law in the matter of circulation. He said that the county court could legally advertise by selecting two papers.

Coroner Dammsch asked the board what it was going to do about a public morgue. He recommended that a morgue could be erected in the court of the county house at an expenditure of \$2500 or \$3000. He suggested a small, neat building which would be perfectly sanitary. At Seattle and San Francisco and other cities he said that the county morgue was located in the county building.

Commissioner Muck indicated that he was inclined to favor a morgue at the court house, but Commissioners Holman and Holbrook said that they did not like the idea. "If we put it there," said Commissioner Holman, "all the morbidly curious and all the nuts in town will gather around it."

It was finally agreed that the commissioners would accompany the coroner next Tuesday on an inspection trip to the present morgue, which the coroner characterizes as disgraceful.

Sheriff Hurlbut asked for authority to buy a new automobile, trading in an old one as part payment. The request was left to further consideration, as was also a request of the roadmaster for salary increases in his department. A number of petitions were received for new offices in the building by County Judge Taxwell and others.

It was decided to spend the afternoon in going over the entire building with a view of adjusting the room problem.

Students Shown Pictures of Plants

Workings of Portland Gas and Coal Industries Are Displayed in Films at Reed College.

Motion picture films, taken in Portland plants, showing the working of the gas and coal industries, were shown to Reed college students Thursday as a part of the course in commercial methods.

Dr. William C. Morgan explained the pictures of the Portland Gas company's plant as they were shown. The gas is made by distillation of crude oil, the entire process requiring only 15 minutes. Thirty per cent of the oil is wasted in the foot in the process. This is collected and made into briquets. Dr. Morgan said that the Portland plant is one of the most efficient in the country.

Professor H. B. Hastings explained the manufacture of briquets from coal. His lecture was accompanied by a film made in the plant of the Pacific Lumber and Coal Co. Only 12 per cent of the coal, he said, can be used in the condition in which it is taken from the mines. The remainder is made into "diamond" briquets.

The industrial pictures were preceded by a film showing the laying of the cornerstones of Reed college. Six more industrial films will be shown at the college next Thursday morning.

Supposed Robber Dropped Ten Feet

Mrs. Lewis Surprises Suspected Burglar Who Disappeared Without Loot; Suspect Is Arrested and Identified.

Aroused by sounds at her living room window at 8:30 o'clock Thursday night, Mrs. G. Lewis stepped out upon the second story porch of her house at 508 Mississippi avenue and saw a man hanging by his hands from the banister of an outside stairway between her house and the next. He made no answer to her call, she told the police today, but dropped 10 feet to the ground and took to his heels.

Harvey J. Drath was later arrested by Patrolman T. C. Freiberg in a poolroom on Russell street and positively identified, say the police, as the intruder at the Lewis house. He is a cook, 26 years of age. He was arrested two years ago on a charge of burglary.

Selects Committee To Name Candidates

President Allan M. Ellsworth of the Multnomah Amateur Athletic club, in accordance with the bylaws, today announced the personnel of the nominating committee for the annual election to be held next month. The committee is W. A. Holt, chairman; Alma D. Katz, James F. Ewing, R. F. Prael and Edgar B. Frank.

The retiring members of the board of directors of the club are as follows: M. Ellsworth, E. Snowden Stott, F. W. Lewis, C. Henri Labbe and John R. Latourette. The hold-over members are: B. C. Ball, W. W. Banks, L. P. Bruce, G. A. A. D. Wakeman and M. H. Whitehouse.

Federal Tax Levied On Billiard Parlors

Local billiard parlor and bowling alley managers today received notice that the first payment of the federal tax levied on each billiard and pocket billiard table and each bowling alley, except those in private homes, was due.

Under an act of congress passed last September a tax of \$5 was put on each table and each alley. The first half of the tax is due today and the other half in June. The tax on the Multnomah Amateur Athletic club billiard room and bowling alley amounts to \$50.

Foreclosure Order On Brewery Bonds

Under Federal Court Order Property of Brewing Company Will Be Sold to Pay Sum of \$184,816.66.

A foreclosure was ordered by Judge Wolverson this morning in federal chambers of the first mortgage bonds amounting with interest to \$184,816.66 held by the Northern Brewing company in order to satisfy interest owing the Security Savings & Trust company, who were trustees of the bonds and complainants in the suit in federal court against the brewing company. Property owned by the defendants, principally in Vancouver, will be sold at public auction also, as well as their business building and machinery, according to the decree. Earl C. Bronaugh has been appointed master commissioner in the foreclosure and auction proceedings.

The United Banking & Savings company were trustees of a second bond issue and were made defendants with the company indebted to them for the interest on the mortgage bonds. The amount of this mortgage with interest was \$141,214.75 and was included in the foreclosure order.

All other creditors of the brewing company were ordered to present their claims before next March for satisfaction.

ADDITIONAL PAY FOR TROOP AND BATTERY MEMBERS IS SOUGHT

Legislature Is to Be Asked to Pay Boys 75 Cents a Day in Addition to U. S. Pay.

The legislature will be asked to provide for the payment of all members of Troop A and Battery A not mustered out of service on September 1, 1916, at the rate of 75 cents a day from September 1 until the date of their discharge, by the provisions of a bill now being drafted.

At a meeting of Troop A Auxiliary a resolution was introduced by Tom Sweeney, who went to the border with Troop A, providing that a bill be drafted and presented to the legislature, asking for the payment of 75 cents a day. Should the bill become a law, the compensation provided by it would commence September 1, 1916, and continue until the troops were sent back to Oregon and mustered out of service.

There are 300 members of the two troops, so that the bill would have to provide an amount equal to \$225 a day from September 1 until the men were mustered out. Up to the time the bill would ordinarily go into effect would require an appropriation of approximately \$2,000. The payment contemplated by the bill, plus the amount paid by the government, would give the men a wage of \$1.25 from September 1 last until the time of their discharge.

The bill is now being drafted by Barnett Goldstein, formerly a member of Troop A, at the request of the auxiliary.

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