

LAW ENFORCEMENT PUBLIC SAFEGUARD

Automobile Smashups and Loss of Life Could Be Reduced if Guilty Are Caught.

The Portland public is entitled to safety on the streets. Thoroughfares were never constructed for a shambling. They were laid for utility and convenience of the traveling public.

Laws were enacted to regulate the motor vehicle and pedestrian for the safety of both. Provision was made for enforcement of those laws. But they are not rigidly applied. An extremely small minority of accidents occur in which at least one party does not violate the law. He fails to give right of way, cuts a corner, violates the speed ordinance at intersections, or is reckless in at least one particular.

GUILTY FREQUENTLY ESCAPE

But he is not arrested except in a comparatively few instances. An adequate investigation is not made of the causes of collisions. Parties to them often report that the law was violated and then violate the law. He fails to give right of way, cuts a corner, violates the speed ordinance at intersections, or is reckless in at least one particular.

Two attorneys walked into the police station within an hour last week and asked to see certain accident reports. "Why that man did not report," was the answer in each case. And he hasn't reported yet.

BENCH WARRANTS UNSERVED

Bench warrants are issued and never served. The warrants molder in the police station. No attempt is made to locate the offender. In one instance, that of a notorious driver, the policeman telephoned for him to come to the station, that he had a warrant for his arrest. The man hasn't since been found.

Other bureaus do not cooperate with the traffic department. They pay little heed to violations of the traffic ordinance. Offenders arrested have been turned loose by other captives.

Even after the arrest is made, prosecutions are haphazard. Charges are altered, some are left out, and others dismissed without great effort to secure witnesses and assemble facts.

Officers complain that traffic offenders are not always adequately dealt with in the municipal court.

FORCE IS INSUFFICIENT

Captain Lewis of the traffic bureau maintains that he hasn't sufficient force of men to investigate accidents and bring in those who do not report. He requested more last fall.

Judge Rossman declares that he does not impose more severe penalties because the police are not getting at the backbone of the accident cause. The people who are in collisions are not arrested, he maintains, and they are the ones to be prosecuted, rather than those charged with minor offenses.

At any rate, a heavy toll has been exacted in automobile accidents in Portland. And the law against violators has not been and is not being rigidly enforced. There are too many holes for escape in the walls of justice.

The facts are bared for consideration of city officials and the public.

Baker Man Seeks Water for Use on Eighty-Acre Tract

Salem, Jan. 30.—F. P. Vogel of Baker has made application of State Engineer Cupper for the appropriation of water from Union creek for the irrigation of 80 acres of land. The project includes the construction of a small reservoir.

Other applications for water rights filed include:

Wey Welter of Wonder, Or., for water from Slate creek and Bridge gulch for the irrigation of a 20-acre tract and for domestic use.

Marion F. Worten of Jordan Valley, for the construction of a small reservoir on Skull creek and the appropriation of water for stock watering purposes.

In the temporary absence of Governor Olcott, who is spending the week with Dr. E. L. Steiner, warden of the state prison, at his summer home on the coast, the executive offices are undergoing extensive housecleaning operations.

Governor Olcott has named Otto Hartwig as a member of the state board of vocational education to succeed E. J. Stack, resigned. Hartwig is president of the State Federation of Labor.

Oregon dogs are not limited to any one particular style of collar under the state dog tax law, according to an interpretation placed on the statutes in question by J. A. Benjamin of the attorney general's office. For Gilbert L. Hedges, district attorney for Clackamas county.

Application has been filed with the public service commission by the Union Oil company for permission to construct a grade crossing over a county road at Tillamook.

C. A. Bradford, who owns the telephone system at Prairie City, has filed application with the commission for a 25-cent increase in rates.

President of U. P. Leaves for Seattle After Oregon Tour

Completing inspection of all the O-W R. & N. property east of Portland, Carl R. Gray, president of the Union Pacific system, and local officials arrived at North Portland Thursday morning, made a thorough inspection of the yards there and proceeded to Seattle.

After an inspection of the O-W properties north of Portland and conferences in Seattle, Gray and the accompanying officials will return to Portland either Sunday or Monday.

Arrangements are complete for a luncheon to be given in honor of the president of the Chamber of Commerce Tuesday noon. Admission will be by ticket only. Gray will address those gathered at the luncheon.

City Sues for Taxes

Suit against the Postal Telegraph company was filed in the circuit court this morning by Deputy District Attorney Sam H. Pierce on behalf of T. M. Huriburt, sheriff and tax collector. The action is to recover \$570 said to be due on taxes for the years 1918 and 1919, under the franchise granted the city in 1887. Interest at 10 and 12 per cent on the sum is asked.

Philmore H. Buxton, Sheriff of Sherman County, Is Dead

Forest Grove, Jan. 30.—Philmore H. Buxton, aged 41 years, whose death occurred from pneumonia at his home in Moro, Sunday, was born on the old homestead near this city.

For several years he was a manager for a general merchandise establishment at Moro, and at the time of his death was sheriff of Sherman county.

His great grandfather, Henry Buxton, in 1841 came to Puget Sound from Manitoba, then known as the Red River of the North. They came to Oregon in 1842, settling in the Tualatin plains.

Buxton is survived by his wife and two children, Miss Theima Buxton, at home, Willis Buxton, in naval service at Constantinople.

Legion Is Not to Have Jury of Its Own at Trial at Montesano

Courthouse, Montesano, Wash., Jan. 30.—No move has been made as yet by the American Legion towards having a "jury" of its members hear the many offered in the Centralia murder case, according to J. R. Van Gilder, today. Van Gilder is in charge of the Legionnaires who are gathered here from various sections of the state.

Van Gilder said that rumors of such action had come to him, but that no action had been taken by the legion and there was nothing to indicate such action would be taken.

"Why not let the regular jury try the case?" asked Van Gilder.

Man Who Lost Memory May Have Lived Here

Spokane, Wash., Jan. 30.—(U. P.)—Unidentified, except for two-year-old receipt from a Portland Gas company, a man whose memory is a complete blank was brought to the county jail Friday. He was picked up wandering on the Medical Lake road. The receipt is made out to George E. Raymond, 203 West Third street, Portland. He is clad in well-kept clothing. He is in good physical condition.

Portland police have received no communication from Spokane regarding Geo. E. Raymond.

Logging Camps and Timber Tracts Sold

Aberdeen, Wash., Jan. 30.—Sale of the timber holdings and logging camps and outfit of the Wilson Bros. Lumber company near Independence to the Independent Logging company has been recorded. The principal owners of the new company are said to be Krumm brothers and Synnesvedt, known as the K. & S. Logging company of Oakville. This is one of the largest timber deals in months. The timber included in the sale amounts to 150,000,000 feet. The consideration is not public, but the amount runs into six figures, it is said.

To facilitate serving several persons at once a double decked tea tray has been invented.

HINSHAW WILL ASSIST FEDERAL RAILROAD HEAD

Southern Pacific Company Man To Have Charge of Local Operations in Southwest District.

H. A. Hinshaw, general freight agent of the Southern Pacific lines north of Ashland, will become assistant to Federal Manager W. R. Scott of San Francisco, Saturday midnight when the S. P. lines are taken from under the supervision of the Northwestern region and placed under the Central Western region, according to advice received from Scott this morning.

Hinshaw will have entire charge of all local operations and will take over the control from J. P. O'Brien, who has had management during the control of the S. P. by the Northwestern region. Hinshaw will also continue to act as general freight agent for the S. P.

General offices of the Southern Pacific system in Portland will be removed from the Wells-Fargo building to the seventh and eighth floors of the Yeon building by March 1, according to announcement made Thursday following a conference of local Southern Pacific officials with Charles S. Fee, passenger traffic manager, and G. W. Lucic, freight traffic manager of the system.

It was also announced following the meeting that an assistant general manager would likely be named soon to take charge of the S. P. upon return of private control.

The Southern Pacific took a 10 year lease on the Yeon building rooms early in 1917, moved from the Wells-Fargo building to the new offices February 1, 1917, and then moved back with the O-W R. & N. August 24, 1918, to consolidate with the other railroads in Oregon under federal control.

Profit Estimates Of Douglas Plant At Wide Variance

Roseburg, Jan. 30.—Wide divergence in estimates of the profits or losses of the Douglas County Water & Light company appeared at the hearing before the state public service commission in progress here. Company officials asserted that the company made but \$11 profit in 1918, without allowing for executive officers' pay or traveling expenses.

City officials asserted that the company's revenue for the year totalled \$75,000 and that operation expenses were \$26,000. An item of interest on bonds was held the same as a dividend as stockholders of the company are also the bondholders. The city brought out testimony that the plant was valued at present prices of first class materials and that the materials used are not first class and were bought at much lower prices.

The company is seeking an increase of rates which the city opposes, asking that the company show that first class service is being given.

Miss Veryl Burkhardt of Harrisburg was elected to fill a vacancy in the Rose school of this city. The election of Stanley D. Eaton as principal of the school was ratified.

A stranger, giving his name as J. D. Morris, passed a forged check at Grants Pass against William K. Hart of the local telegraph school, who had befriended the man on his representation that he was a telegraph operator.

Eugene M. Bowers, S. P. engineer, died in the company hospital in San Francisco from pneumonia. He had been with the company for 15 years, running out of Roseburg. He was 45 years old and is survived by his wife and one son.

Expressman Is Under Arrest on Charge Of Attacking Woman

Jess H. Wilson, an expressman, was arrested at his home, 425 Hancock street, Thursday by Patrolmen Gordon and Wright who were armed with a complaint signed by Harry E. Butanke, charging assault and battery.

The complaint followed the investigation of Patrolman E. Huckins, who was called to the Butanke home, 924 Grand avenue, after neighbors had been attracted by the screams of Mrs. Butanke. According to her statements to Huckins, Wilson appeared at the apartment seeking someone he said had called him. He returned later and is said to have forced his way into the apartment and grappled with Mrs. Butanke.

Butanke declares Wilson is the expressman who moved their goods into the home a few weeks ago. Wilson's stand is at Yamhill and Fifth.

Would Bring Mother Back From Germany

La Grande, Jan. 30.—Herman Roesch will leave in a few days for Philadelphia en route to Germany to see his aged mother. They have not seen each other since Herman was a small youngster. If his mother will come to America, he expects to bring her back.

Irrigation Project At Silver Lake Is Awaiting Approval

Bend, Jan. 30.—The only matter now holding the beginning of work on the Silver Lake irrigation project in Lake county is the report of the state irrigation securities commission for the approval of the bond issue. The projectors of the project have obtained a purchaser for the \$300,000 bond issue and appraisers have passed upon the plans. The irrigation project will cover about 10,000 acres near Silver Lake.

A campaign for Americanization of its employees has been systematically going on at the lumber plant of the Brooks-Scanlon Lumber company here. Out of 371 employees in the yards and sawmill only seven have neither taken out naturalization papers or made application for them.

State "Dry" Agents Tried at Lakeview

Lakeview, Jan. 30.—Trial of state prohibition agents, arrested here on charges of bootlegging began with the agents represented by M. Batchelder. A motion for dismissal was overruled. The court house will not hold all the eager spectators.

Patriotic Rally Held

Castlerock, Wash., Jan. 30.—Richard Sugras post No. 71, American Legion held a patriotic rally in the high school auditorium Thursday evening. Judge Cedric Miller of Vancouver spoke.

Vacationists Will Go to Seaside by Air Next Summer

Astoria, Jan. 30.—The Oregon-Washington-Idaho Airplane company will establish a daily commercial passenger airplane service between Portland and Astoria, with Seaside as the western terminal, this summer, according to three members of the company, who flew from Portland Thursday in a three-passenger "Seagull" hydroplane.

The trip was made from Portland in one hour 15 minutes. In the machine were Oliver K. Jeffery, manager of the company, Victor Vernon, pilot, and Captain F. S. McClurg. The big plane alighted in the Columbia river near the Tongue Point buoy station. Jeffery advised Astorians to establish a landing stop near the water and a landing field on top of the hill, as many airplanes are to make the trip to Astoria this summer.

Vaccinate Pupils or Close Schools, Order

Bend, Jan. 30.—Failure of the school authorities of various districts to comply with order of the state board of health regarding vaccination for smallpox will mean the closing of those schools dis-regarding the school board, according to Dr. David N. Roberg, state health officer. The prevalence of smallpox in Oregon is the cause of the strict order. There has been considerable objection in Bend to the vaccination order of the state authorities, but the school board will back up the state board to the limit.

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