

COUNTY REFUNDED PENDING DECISION ON PATENT PAVING

The sum of \$2950 has been refunded to Multnomah county by the Warren Construction company, pending court decision as to the validity of patent pavement royalty claims of the company.

The money was originally paid to the Warren company about a month ago through an inadvertence in the roadmaster's office. It represents the percentage claimed by the concern for laying patented pavement on the Pacific highway, Macadam road and East Seventeenth street in Sellwood.

Since the question of legality of these patents first arose, all contracts entered into between the board of county commissioners and the Warren company have contained the proviso that the 12 cents a yard claimed by the company as royalty was not to be paid until the matter was definitely settled in the courts.

"When the county commissioners contracted with the Warren Construction company, who were the lowest bidders, on certain road building, the commissioners reserved in those contracts the right of retaining 12 cents a yard from the bid price for the payment, for a reasonable time in which the attorney general of the state could establish the status of the Warren patents if it was possible to do so," said Commissioner Rufus Holman today.

"When the contracts were completed and the payments became due the county through an oversight in the roadmaster's department and through the failure of the auditor's office to detect the failure on the part of the county to exercise its option of retaining 12 cents a yard, paid the Warren Construction company's bills in full."

"Immediately upon the attention of the county commissioners being called to the matter the commissioners communicated with the Warren company and requested that, under the conditions, they felt the county was entitled to a return of an amount equal to the 12 cents a yard, paid the Warren company, approximately \$2950."

"The Warren Construction company thereupon advised the county commissioners that they would immediately refund the said sum of money so that the status of the county would be the same as if the county commissioners had withheld the 12 cents a yard, which it was originally contemplated it should."

\$7500 Damage Suit Filed

Carlo Borelli, administrator of the estate of Ottavio Borelli, the boy who was killed February 23 on Davis street, between First and Front, when a woodpile fell on him, has instigated suit in the circuit court in an attempt to recover \$7500 from the Nicola-Neppach company. Borelli claims that the woodpile was piled in the street by the company contrary to a municipal ordinance.

\$1200 Damages Asked

Suit against The Oregon Journal was started today by Maurice O. Sherman through his guardian, Nellie Bliss. The complaint asks for \$1200 alleged personal injury damages and states that Sherman, while employed as a helper, injured his foot in a sidewalk elevator.

Suit Follows Collision

For alleged personal injuries sustained in an automobile collision on March 15, 1918, at the corner of Thirtieth and Multnomah streets, Mitchell Heilmann has filed suit in the circuit court against G. W. Case to collect \$2500.

Pershing May Visit

Portland in June

If General Pershing can possibly arrange his business affairs he is expected to visit Portland for the Shrine convention in June, he states in a letter received by Mayor Baker this morning. Mayor Baker recently wrote General Pershing reminding him of the verbal invitation extended him during his recent visit, on behalf of the city, to come to Portland in June.

Boy Breaks His Leg

Coasting Into Auto

Eleven-year-old Lee Stanffer coasted underneath an automobile at Lownside and Alder streets shortly before noon today and is now in St. Vincent's hospital with his left leg broken above the knee. The automobile was in charge of C. G. Blesdale of 530 Alder street. The lad is said to have coasted down a hill into the intersection at too rapid a pace.

Removal of Head Takes Wildness From Wild Duck

Newport, Or., March 11.—When is a wild duck not a wild duck?

According to Justice of the Peace King of the Salmon River section, when it is headless.

Louis Jackson, a resident of that district, was arrested on a charge of killing wild ducks out of season. In his possession he had a duck from which the head had been wrung. He pleaded not guilty.

Justice King viewed the remnants of the duck and decided that, inasmuch as the head was missing, he could not identify the bird, and freed Jackson. Deputy Game Warden Emery secured the body of the fowl and is preserving it in the hope that another court may express another opinion.

WARRENTON'S BOND

ISSUES ARE IN DOUBT

(Continued From Page One)

action on the dock bonds as a result of the action of the voters of Warrenton.

In addition to the \$250,000 in dock bonds, the city of Warrenton authorized and issued \$100,000 in bonds for purchase of land. One hundred and forty thousand of these bonds were sold to Morris Brothers and by that firm to the state treasurer. The city of Warrenton received the cash and purchased 100 acres of land on the Skippan river, covers river bed.

The authorization and purchase of land was not approved by the voters in the recent election. But it remains for the courts to decide the validity of the bonds in this case also, attorneys declare, regardless of the action of the electorate.

There is some doubt as to the recourse of the state treasurer in case the bonds are invalidated by the courts, although the prevailing opinion would indicate that the treasurer would have recourse to Morris Brothers and through the failure of the auditor's office to detect the failure on the part of the county to exercise its option of retaining 12 cents a yard, paid the Warren Construction company's bills in full."

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ORDER IS GIVEN FOR AUDIT

STATE TREASURER'S BOOKS

Salem, March 11.—An audit of the state treasury department books will be begun at once under the direction of the governor's office preparatory to the grand jury investigation into the conduct of the office by State Treasurer O'Connell.

The audit was authorized by Governor Olcott Wednesday upon receipt of a letter from Attorney General Brown requesting such action in order that he might be able to proceed intelligently with the grand jury inquiry, which he has been instructed to conduct. The expense of the audit will be paid out of the special agent fund in the hands of the governor, it was stated.

"In undertaking to execute the duty placed upon me it shall be my end and aim to make the inquiry entirely fair to the state treasurer and his assistants, yet exceedingly searching and most complete," the attorney general assures the governor in acknowledging the receipt of the governor's direction to institute the grand jury investigation into the affairs of the state treasurer's office.

"Pursuant to law and particularly section 2 of chapter 198 of the laws of 1915, I will first appear before the grand jury of the circuit court of the state of Oregon in and for Marion county for the purpose of making an investigation into the methods whereby the officials of the state treasurer's office purchased the securities with the trust funds held by that office for investment."

"In order to enable me to carry out my instructions I request that you cause an audit to be made of the state treasurer's books either under your own direction as the chief executive officer of the state or under the supervision of the secretary of state, who is the fiscal agent of the state of Oregon."

Governor Olcott stated Wednesday, upon receipt of the attorney general's letter, that the audit would be conducted immediately as requested and under the direction of his office as chief executive of the state.

PAPERMILL WORKERS OF TWO CITIES WILL RECEIVE WAGE RAISE

Oregon City, March 11.—The paper mill workers of Oregon City will receive a decided increase in their wages, beginning March 16, announcement to this effect having been issued from the offices of the Crown Wiltch and the Hawley Pulp & Paper companies late Wednesday afternoon. All employees whose wages have been less than \$4 per day will receive an increase of 40 cents per day, or 5 cents per hour; those receiving from \$4 to \$5 a day will be paid 32 cents additional, while those receiving more than \$5 are to get an increase of 24 cents per day. Nearly 2000 men are affected, and the increase means \$228,000 additional to the payroll of Oregon City.

Similar increases have been granted at Camas, Wash., mills of the Crown Wiltch company, affecting about 1000 employees.

Business Men Seek New Members for Community Service

This is Progressive Business Men's club day for Community Service and this morning members headed by J. J. Dundore went out to seek supporting and sustaining memberships. Wednesday 12 members of the Ad club devoted the morning to solicitation.

Miss Kathleen Cook, secretary of the girls' department of Community Service, was given an ovation following her address before the Rotary club, Tuesday, and volunteers offered to solicit eight clubs for financial support.

The "army" and "navy" competitive teams organized among the girls of Community Service to obtain memberships, are doing much work. A few of the girls' names are: Gladys Ballard, \$200; Mrs. J. H. Goldstaub, a volunteer worker; \$100; Gladys Johnson, \$70; Marie Gilmore, \$50; Nell Kaufman, \$40; Margaret Byrne, \$40; Nellie Atkins.

The Junior council of Jewish Women has assumed the responsibility of obtaining memberships among the senior citizens' members. Marion Siegel, president and she has appointed 15 captains, each to have two helpers.

W. W. Pangburn, national director of Community Service, with headquarters in New York, and Miss Nellie Joan Olesen, district secretary for girls' work, are in the city today conferring with the local board and staff in ways and means of furthering the work. The board and staff and the national representatives lunched today at the Hotel Portland, where Pangburn and Miss Olesen spoke.

Glendale Girl Dies

When Truck Runs Into Logging Train

Roseburg, March 11.—Ada Roberts, 12-year-old daughter of Ed Roberts of the Glendale Lumber company, was almost instantly killed at Fernvale, near Glendale, when a logging train struck her as she was riding on a lumber truck. The driver lost control and crashed into a logging train on the crossing. Several other children were thrown off and bruised.

John Bookman, an aged resident of Canas valley, was found dead in his cabin by neighbors. Investigation showed he died from exposure and had been dead about six weeks. He was a native of Switzerland, but naturalized here in 1906. He lived alone.

F. C. McCulloch to

Seek Legislative Post From Baker

Baker, March 11.—A. A. Smith has announced that he will not seek reelection as Baker county representative to the state legislature, and that rumors to the effect that he will run on the Democratic ticket for congressman from the Second district are unfounded.

Frank C. McCulloch, former major in the Ninety-first division and now president of Baker post No. 41, American Legion, is being pushed by local Democrats and Republicans alike as a successor to Smith. Announcement of his candidacy is expected shortly. He is a brother of Claude McCulloch, Portland attorney.

Growers to Decide

On Cannery Plans

Roseburg, March 11.—The Umpqua Growers' association will meet here Saturday to adopt plans for the new Roseburg cannery, to be built this spring. The building is to be of concrete, one story and basement, covering two thirds of a block. The latest machinery for canning fruit and vegetables will be installed. From present indications all of the \$75,000 capital stock will be subscribed before the building is completed, about June 1.

Charles Sauvain of 690 Water street and Hyman Rosenbloom of 226 Arthur street were fined \$25 each this morning in municipal court when they pleaded guilty to a charge of dumping rubbish in a vacant lot owned by Mrs. I. H. Beyer. The court afterward suspended payment of the fine.

Many Are Taking Up

Wheat Selling Plan

Spokane, Wash., March 11.—Seventy-two applications for membership in the Washington Wheat Growers' association were received Wednesday, according to Secretary A. D. Cross. This swells the total number of farmers affiliated to 473 and nearly 5,000,000 bushels of wheat have been pledged.

Man and Woman Fined

Becky Carbond, who asked police for protection several days ago charging her husband threatened to kill her, was arrested Wednesday at East Third and Washington avenue with Frank Clovis. Both were charged with being disorderly and were fined \$5 each by Judge Rosen. Carbond was ordered out of town.

Defective Vision Is Found in 326 City School Children

Out of 12,268 school children examined by the six city school nurses during February, 326 were found to be suffering from defective vision, according to figures presented by Dr. Edna Sherrill, in charge of the school nurses' work.

Yacinations numbered 3577. Two hundred and eleven children examined showed enlarged tonsils, while 166 are suffering from defective breathing.

Records compiled by Dr. John Abele, assistant city health officer, assisted by G. W. Jones of the sanitary bureau, show that the quarantine division of the city made 3215 visits, inspections and examinations during February, exclusive of influenza cases. In January over 2500 visits were made by Dr. Abele, assisted by Dr. R. W. Wipple and Dr. James Walsh, on various contagious disease cases over the city.

Leading Authority On Immigration Is Visitor in Portland

Dr. Peter Roberts, one of the foremost authorities on immigration in this country, and a specialist working for the Americanization committee of the Y. M. C. A., Wednesday night spent several hours visiting citizenship classes held by the local Y. M. C. A. in the foreign quarters.

Today he is en route to California on his nation-wide tour of Americanization survey.

Pointing out that soon about 1,000,000 immigrants annually will seek admission to the United States, Dr. Roberts believed that proper training of these foreigners alone can make them good citizens.

"We must establish schools and teach them the English language and our ideals of government," he said.

He was escorted about Portland by J. B. Dinsdale, Americanization secretary of the Portland Y. M. C. A.

Violators of City

Traffic Laws Fined

Three automobile drivers who left their cars unattended while the engines were running at Broadway and Stark streets yesterday night were fined in the municipal court this morning. H. Snow, \$5, and C. E. Denmore, and W. McRendolls, \$2.50 each. For driving his machine without a license tag, L. R. Campbell was fined \$4. Speeding cost H. A. Morton \$25, I. A. Santell \$17.50 and H. H. Brown \$5.

Rearrested on Vagrancy Charge

John Witherspoon failed to keep his word with Municipal Judge Roseman and stay out of the north end district, so he was arrested again Wednesday night and charged with vagrancy. The judge turned Witherspoon over to the doctors today for an examination. His report will guide him Friday in passing on the case.

Pershing Going to Panama

Washington, March 11.—(U. P.)—General Pershing will leave Washington for Panama, March 25, for a week's inspection of the canal zone, the war department announced today.

LAST TIMES

ARE TODAY AND FRIDAY

LIBERTY

Here's the

Fastest

Funniest Show

in Portland

WALLY

REID

in

"Some Speed"

A Picture That

Is Just One Long

Thrill of Daring,

Dashing,

Thundering

Motor Cars and

Drivers

AL ST.

JOHN

In the First

of His Two

Part Comedies

"SPEED"

'n You Get

to See It All

for

TWO

BITS

Saturday

William Farnum

SCORES INDICTED IN COAL INQUIRY

Indianapolis, Ind., March 11.—(U. P.)—One hundred and twenty-five persons and firms were indicted under the Lever fuel and food control law today by the federal grand jury, which has been investigating the activities of coal mine operators and their employees.

The report was submitted to District Judge A. B. Anderson here late this afternoon. The names of those indicted will not be made public until the arrests are made.

It is understood that two-thirds of those indicted are mine operators and the remainder are miners.

Dr. Seely Elected Head of Roseburg Commercial Body

Roseburg, March 10.—Dr. A. C. Seely was elected president of the Chamber of Commerce and G. V. Wimberly vice president Tuesday evening. Dr. Seely succeeds W. C. Harding, who resigned the American Legion post, and Wimberly succeeds G. W. Young. The chamber will put on a membership drive.

The Umpqua post, American Legion, has taken steps to get Robert Riggie, a returned soldier, temporarily suffering from shell shock, and who was committed to the state asylum at Salem, removed to a government hospital, where special treatment for such cases is given. Riggie was a resident of Sutherlin.

State of Oregon medals for ex-service men have been received by the local American Legion post and will be distributed Tuesday at the local armory.

Lath Mill and Good

Roads for Sherwood

A lath mill and better roads are the two things the people of Sherwood are going after strong, says George Quayle, secretary of the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce, who spoke at the dinner meeting of the Sherwood Business Men's association Wednesday night. A committee has been appointed which will meet with the county court at Hillsboro Friday in the interests of the road.

Federal Operation

Of Merchant Ships

Has Its Difficulties

Washington, March 11.—(U. P.)—Difficulties in the way of the government operating a merchant marine were shown to the senate commerce committee today by John Payne, chairman of the United States shipping board.

RENDS REMAIN SAME

No one organization, Payne said, could efficiently manage the number of ships that would be required and the government could not afford to pay the high salaries competent men would demand.

Forgery Laid to Boy

La Grande, March 11.—Shirley McLaughlin, who gives his home address as Vale, was arrested here, charged with buying a car in Baker for which he gave a check for \$380, supposedly signed by his father, but which his father said was forged. He was returned to Baker.

British Rent Hogs Curbed by Statute As War Emergency

By Ella Anker

Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News

London, March 11.—Soon after the beginning of the war it was realized that house rents would rise to a high level as cottage building would practically cease. Consequently a law was passed in 1915 for regulating house rents for the duration of the war and six months afterwards. This prohibited the raising of any rents higher than the August, 1914, level except in such cases where the landlord had to have additional compensation for his increased taxes.

IN 1919 THE ACT WAS AMENDED SO AS TO extend its duration until 1921 but allowing an increase of 10 per cent in rents provided the houses were kept in repair. The act is now being applied to houses having a rental value of not exceeding 70 pounds (normally \$350) a year in London, 50 pounds (\$250) elsewhere. Landlords will not be able to raise the rents of small houses to the "scarcity level" during the period that the building of new houses is going on.

The tenants have security of tenure up to the date of the expiration of the act. "How have these acts operated?" I asked of Captain Richard Reiss, chairman of the Garden Cities and Town Planning association and an expert both on labor and housing questions.

"In the case of the small houses to which the first act applied," he answered, "the rents remain exactly the same. It operates somewhat unfairly. The landlord is forced to pay much higher prices for repairs than before the war and keeping the rents down to the pre-war level has proved disadvantageous to the tenants because the landlords will not make any repairs. In six months there will be an increase of 10 per cent but this will not be sufficient to pay the extra cost of the repairs."

"In a year's time the act comes to an end altogether but I have no doubt that a new continuing act will be passed. A special committee has been appointed to consider this matter. The shortage of houses will continue though it will be lessened by the building this year. I expect that the committee will recommend a further increase in rent to cover repairs."

UNION PLAYS PART

"Has the tenants' union been a factor in the housing situation?" I inquired. "The original act was not proposed as a result of the existence of the tenants' union but because of public opinion. The union, however, has done much towards the proper enforcement of the act and has fought many cases in the law courts where the tenants have been threatened with a notice to vacate if they did not pay higher rents. The tenants' union also took a leading part in getting the law extended."

The new homes being built according to the act of 1919 will rent for four times as much but they will be subsidized by both the state and the municipalities. Labor now favors house rationing to meet the present house famine as is done in Germany. If a man has 10 rooms and only five persons in them he must provide for five extra persons. He is permitted to choose these lodgers himself and he does not let the authorities will supply them."

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