

CITY ATTORNEY'S RUBING MEERS ON CARCON OVERSRY

City Attorney W. P. LaRoche's legal mind has undergone considerable change within the last two years.

He declared in an opinion filed with the city council Wednesday that bridge tolls might be lowered by vote of the people, but that they could not be entirely eliminated. He said the bonded assessments and extension of Portland Railway, Light & Power company for paying hereof could not be assumed by the city. He asserted that there is "some doubt as to the legal competency of the city to exercise the company, and through the company the car riders, from payment of future street improvements, from free carriage of certain city employees and from franchise and license taxes.

ONE CHANCE POINTED OUT

He added that the Oregon supreme court might hold elimination of the tolls illegal if unfairness to car riders and pedestrians for toll services were conclusively shown to be results of their continued collection.

On October 29, 1917, LaRoche, in an opinion submitted to the city council, said the cost of paying tolls could be removed by an amendment to the charter. He told the council that the tolls could be removed by voluntary relinquishment by the city. He said that the charter required payments to the city of tolls for each car that crossed the bridge, and that this could only be changed by charter amendment. He said that no direct payment of tolls was required "if certain services shall be in lieu thereof."

LA ROCHE'S OPINION GIVEN

To the Council:

"The communication of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company to the mayor and council of the city of Portland, a duplicate of the 16th inst., asking for an extension from the council as to the disposition and ability of the city of Portland to remove the burdens from the railway company of paving and maintaining street areas between its tracks, between its rails and for one foot on each side of its rails; transporting without cost to the city certain employees; bridge rental and franchise fees—suggested to the public service commission by the city of Portland to remove the burdens from the railway company which the public service commission suggests may be removed by relieving the company of their payment. We report on these in their order:

"1. The cost of paving between the tracks, between the rails and from one foot on the outside thereof, on street areas are improved, and of maintaining same, is imposed upon franchise holders. The charter, and any relief thereof could only come through an amendment to the charter.

"2. Franchise requirements for free transportation of certain city employees. This is a franchise condition and can be changed by an amendment to the franchise or by voluntarily relinquishing this right on the part of the city.

BRIDGE RENTALS CONSIDERED

"3. Bridge rentals. The charter requires that the franchise shall contain a provision requiring the payment of bridge rentals on the basis of not less than 3 cents per car. This can only be changed by a charter amendment.

"4. Franchise fees are required by the franchise. The charter provides: 'No franchise shall be granted without fair compensation to the city, therefor, either by way of direct payment or by reduction of rates, fares or charges, and in addition to the other forms of compensation to be therein provided the franchisee may be required to pay annually to the city such part of its gross receipts as may be fixed in the grant of said franchise.' No minimum fee is fixed in aid payment of a direct compensation is not required if it is agreed that certain services shall be in lieu thereof."

SENT TO VOTERS

While Mr. LaRoche was city attorney, acting on his opinion, the measure providing for elimination of bridge tolls, franchise and license fees, cost of paving between tracks and free rides was placed before the voters by the city council at a special election held on May 17, 1918. The measure provided that the council of the city of Portland shall be authorized in its discretion to relieve a person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of a common carrier of passengers within said city of any or all of the following charter or franchise terms, restrictions and conditions: Bridge tolls, cost of street improvements on the track area, franchise and license fees, free carriage of city employees."

On April 26, 1918, the measure was placed on the ballot by votes of Mayor Baker and Commissioners Barbur and Mann. Commissioners Bigelow and Kellner voted against submission. The amendment was rejected by the voters.

Bigelow Transferred To Auto Theft Bureau

A. L. Bigelow of the day relief of the police department was transferred to the newly created auto theft bureau this morning by Chief of Police Jenkins. Bigelow will act as desk sergeant on the day shift. Before the creation of the auto theft bureau Bigelow was clerk at the information counter. Though information given him over the telephone by citizens Bigelow returned many stolen automobiles to their owners.

Ad Club Goes North When It Intended to Head Toward South

After Mayor Baker, Charles F. Berg and half a dozen others had given eloquent support to the daylight saving plan before the Ad club Wednesday afternoon, and after the members of the club had given evidence of their enthusiastic desire to go on record in favor of daylight saving, President Strong called for the vote.

Franklin Community Club Elects Meers as Its New President

E. L. Hoskins resigned as president of the Franklin Community club Wednesday night and J. A. Meers was elected to fill the vacancy. Hoskins pleaded the pressure of other duties in presenting his resignation at the meeting held in Franklin high school.

Dr. Buttrick Finds His Prediction About Reed College True

Dr. Wallace Buttrick, president of the general education board, spoke at Reed college Wednesday on "American Ideals in the United States." He predicted that in 12 years there would be a college of liberal arts, and it was in accordance with suggestions made in a report to the general education board that Reed was founded in 1911.

Held on Suspicion Of Stealing Magneto

Dan Holm is being detained in the city jail by Motorcycle Patrolman H. Horak for investigation in connection with a \$75 magneto which Horak says he found in Holm's garage Wednesday. Holm is part owner of a garage at One Hundred and Second street and Foster road. Horak says the magneto was stolen from H. S. Rosenbeek, 9811 Foster road, March 7. The number has been filed off, but Rosenbeek is said to have identified the magneto's peculiar marks. Horak says Holm has not given satisfactory explanation as to how the magneto came into his possession.

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JAVA ENGINEER'S VISITOR TO PORTLAND; PORT IS INSPECTED

Inspecting American harbors and dredging methods, J. F. B. Regensburg, M. E., chief of the dredging department of the Netherlands East Indian government, today is a Portland visitor at the Benson hotel. He will spend several days here and then proceed to Seattle.

"Your American harbors impress me very much," said Regensburg. "Here you have piers, but in Java we must dredge and anchor our boats in basins. Our equipment is really small, with only 40 dredges and 50 tugs, and I am interested to see you decide on new machinery and methods."

Regensburg has been in Java for 12 years. He is a graduate of Delft, the great Holland engineering school, and in addition has pursued engineering studies all over the world.

"I am especially interested in Portland," said the visitor, "because it is a river port. I am anxious to see how you do your shipping. And then I want to see how you dredge the mouth of the Columbia river."

Java sent most of its exports to the United States during the war, because commerce with Europe was practically stopped and Regensburg hopes that these trade relations with America will continue.

"Our trade with San Francisco, for instance, increased \$10,000,000 from 1915 to 1917," he pointed out.

Electrically operated dredges are of special interest to him. He advocated their use several years ago, and is now thoroughly inspecting American models. From Seattle he will go to Vancouver, E. C. Toronto, Washington, New York, Buenos Aires, and then Holland.

Knights Templars' Ball Promises to Be Brilliant Affair

Rumor has it that the grand ball to be given at the Multnomah hotel Saturday evening will be the crowning event in the most successful social season of the York Rite Masons.

This party is given by Washington commandery No. 15, Knights Templar, in honor of Oregon commandery No. 1. The grand march will be led by Right Eminent Grand Commander Frank S. Gattie, and staff in full Knights Templar uniform, followed by the officers of Oregon and Washington commanderies, also in full uniform, thus giving their use several years ago, and is now thoroughly inspecting American models.

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Loving Cup Presented Retiring Principal of Sunnyside School

More than 300 students, alumni and teachers of Sunnyside school attended the reunion held Wednesday night as a farewell for Edward E. Curtis, retiring principal. Curtis has been with the school for 29 years. He was presented with a loving cup and a set of resolutions expressing the appreciation of students and teachers of his work.

Raymond Staal of the class of 1909 presided. William E. Singularity, of the class of 1904 made the presentation. Carroll Day, 1910, and Mrs. Marguerite Moore Bourne, 1908, sang, and Miss Ceila Ward, 1909, played the accompaniment.

Yep, Happy Times, Them, on Farm, But Spuds Is Spuds Now

Happy days are past when the young urban could rob the henhouse and exchange his loot for a sack of potatoes for a pasture bonfire feast.

Wednesday afternoon a frugal woman who keeps a pen of chickens at her home in the Woodlawn district carried two dozen fine, fresh eggs to her grocer. She exchanged them for potatoes. The eggs she received 25 potatoes.

CASON'S TRAGIC DEATH PROMPTS NEW POLICE RULES

Inexperienced officers will no longer be allowed on the plain clothes details of the police force. Several boy policemen who did not pass the recent civil service test are not to be given any more chances to make good.

Police officers are to be courteous at all times. The patrol wagon must be called whenever drunken persons are found. No more prisoners are to be "clubbed" in the police station. All new policemen must go to school and learn how to handle a gun and club. Crowds of curious people are to be kept outside the police station.

Guardian Seeks Fee of \$100,000

For his services as guardian of the late Thomas Prince, a compensation of \$100,000 is asked by Winthrop Hammond in his final report on the stewardship, made to Probate Judge George Tazewell late Monday.

This is said by the judge by all odds to be the largest fee ever requested in Multnomah county for services of this nature. The Prince estate is said to be worth over \$800,000, and Hammond claims in his statement, a voluminous document, that out of "this apparent financial wreck" he has saved in excess of \$257,000, represented in cash, notes, government bonds and collectible contracts on real estate. The latter were taken at appraisal value. Upon these the mortgages have been lifted and in so doing, Hammond claims, he has released all liability upon approximately half a million dollars' worth of eastern assets.

Prince died February 3 of this year at Santa Barbara, Cal. His immediate heirs were a son residing at 901 Alameda Drive, and six nephews and nieces. Winthrop Hammond is president of the Hammond Mortgage company and also of the Winthrop Hammond company, clothiers.

Call Patrol Wagon

"When a prisoner is unruly before being brought to the station, always call for the patrol auto, thereby preventing unnecessary trouble. All persons who are under the influence of liquor must always be brought to the station in the patrol auto.

"Instruct your men to be courteous at all times, but to be firm and protect themselves when necessary. Remember, we are peace officers and servants of the people.

"Should a crowd of people follow a prisoner to the station, the officer in charge must post officers at the doors and keep all persons not connected with the arrest out of the station."

Transfers to Follow

New officers who have been trying out as patrolmen will have to quit their jobs or get uniforms. Some of the smaller men in the department who have seen overseas service are to be transferred to the motorcycle squad

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