

# CHARTER FRAMERS TO PLACE A LIMIT ON WATER BONDS

Limitation of water bond issues or unlimited authority for such issues was the crux of hours of discussion at the meeting of the charter revision committee Monday night. It is preparing a proposition to place on the ballot at the election November 7, to meet emergency conditions, and settlement of this question is vital to the whole proposal.

The result was that the report of the sub-committee, which proposed unlimited authority to issue water bonds, was amended, although in face of the protest of City Engineer Laugaard, Fred M. Randlett, chief engineer of the water bureau, and City Attorney Grant, who urged that unforeseen situations might arise which would necessitate the speedy issuance of large amounts of water bonds and the limitations in the charter would tie the hands of the municipal government.

## DANGER IS SCENTED

Randlett pointed out the possibility of the destruction of the timber in the Bull Run watershed, necessitating acquisition of new areas for drainage and storage purposes, and the uncertainty of congressional action, so that some future congress might take away from Portland the use of the government reserve and throw it open to the public.

City Attorney Grant declared that for several years there has been a constant agitation by private interests to open up the Bull Run reserve and also to open roads through it, and that "no man can foretell what some session of congress may do." He indicated that if the proposed restriction of bond issues was to be adopted, his committee would prefer the entire rejection of its report and appointment of a new committee to formulate the proposal.

Committeesmen Kerr, Powers and Knapp were strongly in favor of placing a limitation on the bond issues, but the argument of Randlett that laying of a third main from the headworks to Portland and creation of additional water storage space on the west side of the Willamette river is

vital, and that the proposed limitation would prevent this being accomplished for years, caused them to hedge.

**AMENDMENT ADOPTED**

Finally the committee voted by a bare majority to adopt an amendment to that section of the report giving unlimited bond-issuing powers so that they would be limited as follows:

"The amount of bonds which may be issued under the provisions of this section is hereby limited as follows: Before any bonds shall be issued hereunder, an account shall be had of the total amount of water bonds then outstanding and from such amount there shall be deducted the sum then in the sinking fund applicable to the retirement of such water bonds and the difference shall be held to be the net water bond indebtedness. An account shall be at the same time taken of the total amount paid into such sinking fund during the five preceding fiscal years and the yearly average so paid into such sinking fund during each of said five fiscal years shall be ascertained. No bonds shall be issued hereunder which with the net water bond indebtedness as ascertained shall exceed 70 times such average annual amount so paid into such sinking fund during such period of five fiscal years."

On this basis, it is to be re-drafted today and it will be again considered at a meeting of the revision committee at 8 o'clock tonight.

## ZIEGLER AMENDMENT

The committee also has before it, as measures to be considered for placing on the ballot at the next election, a change in the so-called Ziegler amendment, modifying it so that streets adjacent to the waterfront and railroad terminals may be vacated when four fifths of the city council and the commission of public docks so decide; provision for issuance of refunding bonds for outstanding water bonds due and payable July 1 of next year, and for which there is no adequate sinking fund; creation of one or more additional municipal judgeships and courts; providing for a assessment of not to exceed 5 per cent on all local improvements to meet the cost of engineering fees, inspection, superintendence and advertising, which heretofore has been paid out of the general fund; revising the system of charging grades on streets; authorizing the dock commission to lease to private interests public lands for a period of not more than 20 years for not less than 5 per cent of the market value of the lands so leased, and a pension system for city employees.

All of these measures must be in the hands of the city council by October 8.

# Services Held for Overseas Man Who Committed Suicide

Roseburg, Sept. 26.—Orville Wesley, former service man who shot himself while at Arrowhead Springs, Cal., using a revolver given to him by an unidentified person, was buried at Canyonville Monday. Wesley was hopelessly paralyzed, endured terrible suffering from rheumatism.

The theory is that he prevailed upon some friend to get a revolver for him so he might end his life. He was discharged from the service owing to disability and since that time has been cared for at the government hospital at Palo Alto and Arrowhead Springs.

Wesley was the son of Mrs. L. L. Perdue of Eugene, formerly Mrs. George F. O'Leary, restaurant owner of Roseburg. He was born at Eagle Creek, Douglas county, April 10, 1893, and was the son of Frank Wesley, one of the pioneers of that section. He resided many years in Roseburg, Ore., Douglas county, and his two sisters, Mrs. C. A. Alley of Portland and Mrs. W. H. May of Bend; a half sister, Mrs. Mary Levens of Roseburg, Ore., and two brothers, Andrew J. Wesley of Denver, Colo., and Joe Wesley of Canyonville.

# PERJURY SUSPECT GIVES HIMSELF UP

Spokane, Wash., Sept. 26.—Maurice P. Codd, principal in the Codd-Frank T. Brinton murder case, who for a week has been sought on a charge of subornation of perjury and conspiracy, surrendered himself in superior Judge Linstead's court at 1:30 Monday afternoon.

The charges against Codd, the outgrowth of testimony given at the murder trial where a jury found him not guilty, also have been placed against 15 other persons, including several attorneys associated with the defense.

Ambrose Codd, a brother, and Reuben Grandell, attorney, accompanied Maurice Codd to the court house, where they were met by George Grandell, attorney, who also is charged with subornation of perjury and conspiracy as an outgrowth of the murder trial. Surety bond of \$2500 was produced in court for Codd's appearance in court today, when the 15 defendants on similar charges will enter their pleas. With the surrender of Maurice Codd and the arrest of Madeline Tompkins in Tacoma Saturday, all defendants in the case have been apprehended.

# Astoria Fisherman Has Narrow Escape At Mouth of River

Astoria, Sept. 26.—John Heitangas, troll fisherman, narrowly escaped drowning and his boat was nearly swamped Monday, while crossing into the Columbia river.

The choppy sea and strong wind blowing tore away the canvas covering the bow of his craft, pieces of the cloth becoming entangled in his engine. The boat was partially filled with water and while pulling off his boots, Heitangas was thrown into the sea but managed to swim back to his boat, correct his engine trouble, and weather the heavy swells until he was safely inside the river.

Heitangas was none the worse for his thrilling experience. He was alone.

# Circuit Court for Wasco Opens; New Grand Jury Ready

The Dalles, Sept. 26.—The fall term of the Circuit Court for Wasco county convened Monday and the session was devoted to the empanelling of a new grand jury. Those selected for vice are: Thomas Gavin, Shaniko, foreman, Ed Ball, The Dalles, E. W. Davidhiser, Mosser, S. J. Farre, Kaseka; Joseph Hoera, G. A. Potts, and Clint Kilsack, The Dalles.

The jury is expected to conduct a hold-over criminal investigation and may return one or two indictments. Following this the jurors will make an examination of the county offices and the county poor farm.

Monday afternoon the first formal session of the fall term was held, presided over by Judge Fred W. Wilson. The jury was selected and the state opened its case against Earl Gamber of of, Friend, charged with a statutory offense involving a 21-year-old girl.

## FRESHMAN CLASS BIG

Willamette University, Salem, Sept. 26.—Green caps were donned at Willamette university yesterday by more than 80 boys and 100 girls of the freshman class. With the closing of registration here Saturday noon the enrollment stood at an even 800 and by Monday evening nearly 25 additional students had registered.

## THIEF TAKES REVOLVER

A revolver and \$4 in change were taken from the office of J. C. Henderson, No. 427 Northwest Bank building, Henderson reported to the police Monday. The police say they have a clue to the identity of the burglar.

# Emergency Board Is Called to Meet Deficits of State

Salem, Sept. 26.—The state emergency board has been called to meet in Salem Saturday morning, September 30. The call, issued by Secretary of State Koser, Monday, at the request of the state board of control, is based upon the emergency presented in the destruction by fire last week of the old dormitory at the state industrial school for girls. It is expected that repairs to the building will require an appropriation of approximately \$25,000. The girls of the institution are being temporarily cared for in the new dormitory, just completed.

The financial needs of the state prison, state school for the deaf and the state training school for boys, all of which institutions face a deficit before the end of the biennium, will also be up for consideration at the Saturday session of the board.

In the case of these institutions it is expected that the board will probably pledge itself to authorize a deficiency appropriation when the emergency necessary to such action becomes an established fact.

## THREE INFANTS DIE

Kelso, Wash., Sept. 26.—Three infants died in the Kelso vicinity in two days, Robert Ball, 2-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Ball of Kelso; the 2-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Usselman of Kelso, and the infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Wall, who reside on the F. G. Barnes farm south of town.



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# Madras Hotel Lost By Fire at Bend

Bend, Sept. 26.—The old Madras hotel was destroyed by fire Monday afternoon. The brick garage beside it

was saved, but a dwelling and a barn were burned to the ground. The loss is estimated at \$15,000.

Burglars entered the home of J. S. Johnson at Aberdeen a few nights ago and escaped with more than \$500 worth of clothing, jewelry and personal articles.

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