

COMMITTEE IS NAMED TO PLAN HELP FOR ASTORIA

A score or more of representatives and about a dozen senators of the next Oregon legislature assembled in the city council chamber Monday afternoon, in conference with Acting Governor Rittner, Governor-elect Pierce and the committee of 10 from Astoria, and indicated their willingness to do what is possible in the way of state aid for the rebuilding of a street through the stricken city.

Those present were not pledged to a definite program of procedure, but a committee of five was appointed to outline such a plan, after it confers with Governor-elect Pierce, the state highway commission and the Astoria relief committee. This report is to be forwarded to Milton R. Klepper, who was chairman of the meeting, and he may then call a meeting of the legislators to further consider it.

BANKRUPTCY THREATENED

This action followed a general discussion of the situation and the declaration from members of the Astoria delegation that if aid is not extended to the unfortunate city it will go bankrupt. Governor-elect Pierce, who was greeted with hearty applause, declared that one of the saddest things in the history of Oregon has happened to Astoria, and that he is in full accord with the idea of state relief.

"I cannot tell you what I am going to say in my message," said Pierce, "but I do want to help. Show me the way and I am with Astoria."

The meeting was opened by Mayor Baker, who had called the assemblage together. He declared that as the federal government has recognized Astoria's need for outside help, the state of Oregon also must do its part. After the situation had been reviewed by members of the Astoria committee, Mayor Baker turned the meeting over to the legislators, and Milton Klepper was elected chairman and Mrs. C. E. Simmons secretary.

YEON PROMISES SUPPORT

John B. Yeon, speaking on behalf of the state highway commission, expressed his desire to aid the city of Astoria if legal way is opened. He stated the commission is willing to go as far as possible, and recommended that if the federal government provides the means for constructing bulkheads along Commercial street and fills the street, the state highway commission should pave the street as a part of the state highway, and also have two connecting links, the total to cost approximately \$270,000.

One of the telling features of the meeting was the statement of Mrs. Kinney senator-elect, who was called upon to represent the conditions at Astoria. She told of the physical conditions of what was the business section of that city, with its streets as well as its buildings wiped out of existence, and of the inability of Astorians to carry the financial load of reconstruction.

"If we do not receive aid our town will go bankrupt," she declared. "We have come to the point where we simply have got to appeal for outside aid."

NOT EASY TO ASK

"It is not an easy thing for us to ask aid. Five generations of the Kinney family and six generations of my own family have been trail-blazers in Oregon and pioneers in its development. Not once have they asked special favors for themselves or their localities; but the need is desperate, otherwise we would not be here, for our pride is too great. We have come to the position of supplicants, and the main point is: Will you give us aid?"

Upon motion of Representative Graham of Washington county it was decided to authorize the chairman to appoint a special committee to confer with the governor-elect and the state highway commission and Astoria committee, and then formulate plans for proposed legislation to give Astoria relief.

Chairman Klepper appointed as this committee Senators Robert S. Farrell of Portland and O. B. Robertson of Condon, and Representatives L. M. Graham of Forest Grove, D. E. Fletcher of Independence and E. N. Hard of Seaside.

The 19 members of the Astoria committee present were Major W. S. Gilbert, O. C. Fulton, attorney; Frank Barker, hardware merchant; C. R. Higgins of the Astoria National bank; O. B. Setters, mayor-elect of Astoria; James Brenner, mayor of Astoria; W. F. McGregor, president of the First National bank; George W. Sanborn, fish dealer; Frank Patton of the Astoria Savings bank, and John Tait.

NEW BRICK CONCERN WILL AID IN RECONSTRUCTION

Astoria, Dec. 19.—One of Astoria's brand new industries as a result of the fire will be a huge brick making factory to be erected at 30th and Franklin avenue immediately by the Shope Brick company of Portland. The concern expects to incorporate as the Astoria Shope Brick company with a capitalization of \$250,000 and a maximum daily capacity of 100,000 common and fancy faced bricks.

Astoria Business Men Plead Stricken City's Cause



Parties of men who laid case of fire-swept city before Portland and Oregon Monday.

They had just completed payments on the store, one of the finest in the city, when the fire swept everything away. The firm already has

opened a temporary establishment in the basement of the Y. M. C. A., and will stay in Astoria, opening a permanent business later.

ELKS PLAN MONSTER TREE

Hundreds of Astorians were entertained for two hours Sunday at the high school auditorium by the band of Al Kader temple of Portland.

W. F. McKenney, president of the Oregon State Elks' association, conferred by Exalted Ruler Fertig and other officers of Astoria lodge concerning final details for the Elks' Christmas trees for 2500 kiddies next Saturday evening. The Elks of Portland and other Oregon lodges are sending 2500 Christmas baskets here for distribution. The Elks' bank of Portland will play at the exercises.

E. G. Gearhart, city auditor and police judge, Monday was exhibiting an ordinance passed by the city council of Astoria, June 8, 1889, immediately following the great fire in Seattle in which the city fathers of Astoria, then a town of less than 5000 inhabitants, appropriated the sum of \$500 for the relief of the Seattle fire victims.

SIGNED BY MAYOR PAGE

The old ordinance proves of extraordinary interest just at this time when offers of aid and cash are coming in from all parts of the country. Seattle included. An interesting fact in connection with the accidental discovery of the old ordinance is that one of the largest of the local wooden structures in the big fire here December 8, known as the Page building, and housing business establishments on the lower floor and the Merwyn hotel on the two upper floors, was built by the late Mayor Page, who signed the Seattle relief ordinance.

discover the damage until Monday morning, when he opened the store for business, but students told him that they had noticed the hole in the window when passing their lane Sunday.

SHOPLIFTING ON INCREASE

Eugene, Dec. 19.—Shoplifting is increasing rapidly, local merchants report. One woman was halted yesterday at the door of a store and \$150 worth of goods removed from under her coat. No charges have been filed.

NORRIS OWEN

Eugene, Dec. 19.—Funeral services for Norris Owen, 59, farmer of the Lorane section, were held here Monday. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Jasper Owen, Lane Pioneers.

Paline Frederick, Screen Star, and Doctor-Mate Part

Los Angeles, Dec. 19.—(U. N. S.)—Pauline Frederick, stage and screen star, has separated from her husband, Dr. Rutherford, well known Seattle physician, whom she married at Riverside last June, according to information obtained from friends of Miss Frederick today.

Incompatibility was given as the cause of separation, but no mention was made of plans for a divorce.

Dr. Rutherford has returned to his home in Seattle and the palatial home of Miss Frederick in Beverly Hills is being occupied by her aunt and uncle, who was her business manager. According to friends of Miss Frederick, she and Dr. Rutherford never lived together as man and wife. Dr. Rutherford is a second cousin of the star, being a first cousin of her mother. Dr. Rutherford, however, it was stated, made plans to retire from his profession after his marriage. He was said to have refused several offers of connections in his work in the city.

The marriage of Dr. Rutherford and Miss Frederick was a big surprise to the many friends of "Polly," as the star is affectionately known.

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Thief Uses Brick At University to Rob Co-op Store

University of Oregon, Eugene, Dec. 19.—The first campus robbery that has taken place in years was staged Saturday night when a thief or thieves threw a brick through a front window of the University Cooperative store and made away with about \$15 worth of pipes and candles.

Manager Marion McClain did not

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announces the appointment of

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