

# ATLANTIC COASTAL HIGHWAY NOW OPEN FROM MAINE TO MIAMI

### Automobile Tourists Southward Bound This Season Will Find Big Gaps of Bad Roads Now Smooth Highway; Millions Spent on Work in 1925.

Written for Heppner Gazette Times By SAMUEL ELLIS Thru Autocaster Service

The Atlantic Coastal Highway, Maine to Miami, Florida, is virtually completed—a great ribbon of highway which threads the Atlantic seaboard as does the Pacific Coastal Highway Seattle to San Diego and Tia Juana. This early completion of the Atlantic Highway is due, in a great measure, to the unusual development in Florida during the last two years, that commonwealth living up to her reputation of progressiveness by spending more than \$10,000,000 on this highway during 1925. Practically all of the Florida portion of this new coastal highway is now ready for the army of sun-bathers which will wend its way panward during the next three months.

Eventually the Coastal Highway will not end at Miami, Florida, but will bend around in a graceful curve over the Connors Highway and Tamiami trail through the Everglades, and to the west coast. Thence it will join with the Gulf Coastal highway and proceed up the west coast to Pensacola, the metropolis of western Florida and terminus of the Frisco lines southern branch. This highway will join with the Old Spanish Trail at Pensacola.

Another extension of the Coastal Highway will be the highway over the keys from Miami to Key West. Another year will see work started.

While the upper end of the Atlantic Coastal Highway passes through the territory which made the first history of the United States, touching Salem, staid old Boston, New York, Washington, Fredericksburg and the cities made prominent in the war between the states, it has nothing to offer of more historic value than Florida.

Duval County, of which Jacksonville is the seat and the gateway to the South, has just spent \$2,000,000 on its roads, is spending another appropriation of \$1,500,000, and is considering bonding itself for \$5,000,000 more. The Atlantic Coastal Highway will have an optional route through Duval County with the completion of the proposed oceanic highway from Jacksonville beach to the St. Johns County line. This highway allows travel on the ocean beach for thirty miles. It affords Southbound tourists their first opportunity to drive upon a beach which at low tide is more than 700 feet wide. Jacksonville is the first point at which access is given to the only beach of its kind in the world.

Then the Coastal Highway enters into the land of Ponce de Leon and approaching St. Augustine, passes what is advertised as the "Fountain of Youth." It is about at this point where the Spanish explorer landed on the peninsula. A little further on the Coastal Highway passes the historic gates of St. Augustine, swings to the left, and the tourist finds himself gazing upon Ft. Marion, the oldest fort in America. This stronghold was completed by the Spanish in about 1750. A distinction of Fort Marion is that it never was taken by an enemy. In St. Augustine also is found the oldest house in the United States.

Going into Flagler County the Coastal Highway tourist strikes, at Bunnell, one of the finest roads in the state, and through the first densely growing semi-tropical vegetation, passing the home of John D. Rockefeller, and the residences of many other kinds of industry and finance. Daytona, Seabreeze and Ormond, lying within a few miles of each other, recently combined themselves into one municipality which has taken the name of Daytona Beach. It is on Daytona Beach where the world's speed records for automobiles have been made since automotive vehicles were first manufactured. After passing through New Smyrna where the Atlantic Coastal Highway is swept by ocean breezes until



it reaches Miami, the tourist is well into the Blue Gooze, or Indian River, country, from where comes the famous Blue Gooze orange, the pineapple, and almost every kind of vegetable and fruit.

Melbourne is equidistant between Jacksonville and Miami, because of this it is known as Midway City. It is the Atlantic Coast terminus of the cross state highway from Tampa and furnishes a junction point for those who wish to leave the Coastal Highway for points on the West Coast.

Long before he reaches Stuart the motorist will sight the lighthouse at Jupiter and find the highway taking him up and down dale as the vegetation changes from semi-tropical to tropical. Crossing Jupiter Inlet the scenery becomes more and more pleasing and 15 more miles carries the car into West Palm Beach. West Palm Beach and Palm Beach are separated by Lake Worth, a body of water surrounded almost entirely by parks, lagoons and hostleries. The winter tourist traveling in search of pleasure will be in the center of activities here.

From West Palm Beach on down to Miami tourists on the Atlantic Coastal Highway find themselves traveling through a series of small towns. Dade County, at the extremity of the Atlantic Coastal Highway, is one of the chief contributors to good roads in Florida, having spent \$1,240,000 during the last year.

Although the Atlantic Coastal Highway will be the main thoroughfare of the east coast of Florida, there are many lateral roads which provide for side trips from the main highway. One of these junction points is Jacksonville, where the Old Spanish Trail may be taken to the western part of the state. This Trail extends all the way to Pensacola in Florida and on to New Orleans.

#### RHEA CREEK GRANGE.

Rhea Creek Grange meets the first Sunday of each month at 10 a. m., and the third Friday night of each month at 8 p. m. Visiting members welcome.

Lon Chaney in THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA, January 10 and 11.

## WHERE HIGHWAY GOES ON BEACH AT JACKSONVILLE



## The Black Gang

By CYRIL McNEILE SAPPER  
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W N U Service

(Continued from Page Three)

you. And you, you reptile"—his voice rose a little—"you would do that here."

Zaboleff shrank back, and the other laughed contemptuously.

"Search him—and Waldoek, too."

Two men stepped forward quickly.

"Nothing more," they said after a while. "Except this piece of paper."

There was a sudden movement on Zaboleff's part—instantly appressed, but not quite quick enough.

"Injudicious," said the leader quietly. "Memory is better. An address, I see—No. 5 Green Street, Hoxton. A salubrious neighborhood, with which I am indifferently acquainted. Ah! I see my violent friend has recovered." He glanced at Flash Jim, who was sitting up dazedly, rubbing the back of his head. "Number 4—the usual."

There was a slight struggle, and Flash Jim lay back peacefully unconscious, while a faint smell of chloroform filled the room.

"And now I think we will go. A most successful evening."

"What are you going to do with me, you scoundrel?" sputtered Waldoek. "I warn you that I have influential friends who—who will ask

questions in—parliament if you do anything to me; who will go to Scotland Yard."

"I can assure you, Mr. Waldoek, that I will make it my personal business to see that their natural curiosity is gratified," answered the leader suavely. "But for the present I fear the three filthy rags you edit will have to be content with the office boy as their guiding light. And I venture to think they will not suffer."

He made a sudden sign, and before they realized what was happening the two men were caught from behind and gagged. The next instant they were rushed through the door, followed by Flash Jim. For a moment or two the eyes of the leader wandered around the now empty room taking in every detail; then he stepped forward and blew out the two candles. The door closed gently behind him, and a couple of minutes later two cars stole quietly away from the broken-down gate along the cart track. It was not until the leading car turned carefully into the main road that anyone spoke.

"Deuced awkward, the police being there."

The big man who was driving grunted thoughtfully.

"Perhaps," he returned. "Perhaps not. Anyway, the more the merrier. Flash Jim all right?"

"Sleeping like a child," answered the other, peering into the body of the car.

For about ten miles they drove on in silence; then at a main crossroads the car pulled up and the big man got out. The second car was right behind, and for a few moments there was a whispered conversation between him and the other driver. He glanced at Zaboleff and Waldoek, who appeared to be peacefully sleeping on the back seat, and smiled grimly.

"Good night, old man. Report as usual."

"Right," answered the driver. "So long."

The second car swung right-handed and started northwards, while the leader stood watching the vanishing tail lamp. Then he returned to his own seat, and soon the first beginnings of outer London were reached. And it was as they reached White-

chapel that the leader spoke again with a note of suppressed excitement in his voice.

"We're worrying 'em; we're worrying 'em badly. Otherwise they'd never sent Zaboleff. He was too big a man to risk, considering the police."

"It's the police that I am considering," said his companion. The big man laughed.

"Leave that to me, old man! Leave that entirely to me."

(To Be Continued.)

## LEXINGTON

Mr. and Mrs. Eph Eskelson, Mrs. Ruth Barnett, Miss Gladys Benge and Fred Benge were dinner guests on Christmas day at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Benge in Heppner.

Grandma Booher spent the holidays at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Tom Beymer, who lives on Hinton creek.

On Wednesday night, under the direction of Mrs. Turner, Mrs. White and Miss Vail, grade students of Lexington presented a cantata, "The Night Before Christmas." A large audience was pleasantly entertained for an hour or so by clever songs and scenes which showed skill and work on the part of both teachers and students.

Mrs. Ruth Barnett of Walla Walla accompanied by her nephew, Fred Benge, from near Spokane, arrived by auto on Thursday last to make a Christmas visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eph Eskelson.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Keller and family enjoyed Christmas dinner in lone with Mrs. Alice Keller, Mr. Keller's mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Munkers and sons motored from Salem in their new Chrysler coach on Thursday of last week. They are spending the Christmas season pleasantly among Lexington friends and relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Slocum and family drove to Arlington Friday where they partook of the season's

festivities at the home of their daughter.

Mrs. Elmer Hunt, who is a student at Ellensburg Normal, is in Lexington for the holiday season.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hunt were victims of a near serious accident on Sunday morning when an explosion followed some cleaning which was in progress in an upstairs bedroom. While trying to save the furnishings of the room from the flames Mr. Hunt thrust his hand through a pane of glass, receiving a painful injury. Mrs. Hunt suffered a like injury when she ran to the telephone office to call assistance. Forgetting in her haste the office key, she attempted to break through the window and was severely cut about the wrist. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt were taken by friends to Heppner where they received medical

treatment. They extend to their friends sincere appreciation for their timely help.

LOW ROUND TRIP FARES FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Via Union Pacific between points in Idaho, Oregon and Washington. Sale dates, December 18, 19, 22, 23, 24 and December 30 and 31; return limit January 4, 1926. For further particulars see agent.

FOR SALE—At reasonable price, a gramofona and good selection of records. See W. T. McRoberts.

You'll love Jackie Coogan in THE RAG MAN, tonight and Friday.

Lon Chaney in THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA, January 10 and 11.

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## Star Theater

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JACKIE COOGAN in "THE RAG MAN"

As real as life, this great child actor brings to you a story of a city waif that will draw your tears and win your hearty laughter. Not since *The Kid* has Jackie appeared in a more human and lovable picture.

Also "ANTHONY AND CLEOPATRA" one of the Hysterical History comedies, and "THE RIDDLE RIDER"

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2:  
GEORGE O'BRIEN in "THE ROUGHNECK"

Supported by Billie Dove, Cleo Madison and Harry T. Morey, from the story by Robert W. Service. A thrill play of thrills which play on the heart-strings. Adventures galore.

Also Arthur Lake in "NOBODY WINS"

SUNDAY and MONDAY, JAN. 3 and 4:  
TOM MOORE and EDITH ROBERTS in "ON THIN ICE"

From the story, *The Dear Pretender*, by Darryl Francis Zanuck. A tale of a fortune, love and a crime, spiced with fun. Also two reel comedy, "ITCHING FOR REVENGE"

TUES. and WEDS., JAN. 5 and 6:  
BETTY COMPSON and JACK HOLT in "EVE'S SECRET"

Based on Elsie Ferguson's bgi Broadway stage hit, *The Moon Flower*. The story of a beautiful siren and the men who learned about women from her. Two big stars and a cast of favorites. Eve told it to Adam—We'll tell it to you.

Also REGINALD DENNY in COLUMBIA THE GEM OF THE OCEAN One of the Leather Pushers.

NEXT WEEK:  
Geo. O'Brien and Dorothy Mackaill in THE PAINTED LADY.  
Richard Dix in THE SHOCK PUNCH.  
Lon Chaney in THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA.  
Alice Joyce and Mary Brian in THE LITTLE FRENCH GIRL.