

STATE CAPITAL NEWS

- Utilities Change
- New Buildings
- Highway Plan

By A. L. LINDBECK

Salem—Resignation of N. G. Wallace as public utilities commissioner and appointment of O. R. Bean of Portland as his successor has quieted speculation as to Governor Sprague's intentions in that direction, but the change in department heads has only served to increase the uneasiness felt by the commission's small army of employees. While it is not believed the new commissioner will go in for any general housecleaning there are a number of highly lucrative jobs in the department now being held by democrats which look mighty tempting to republican patriots who are becoming impatient at the administration's delay in distributing what they regard as the rightful spoils of a partisan victory.

Judge Wallace's resignation was not entirely unexpected. While Governor Sprague had indicated no intention of removing the commissioner for whom he held a high personal regard, Wallace's health was such as to force his retirement.

Over in the Department of Agriculture the situation is entirely different. The re-appointment of J. D. Mickle as director has served to quiet the tension that has prevailed in the department for the past several months. This appointment did contain an element of surprise inasmuch as it had been pretty generally understood that Mickle who has been in the service of the state for many years, was about ready to retire to private life and only awaited the selection of a successor before stepping out of the picture.

The Board of Control this past week gave its approval to plans for two new building projects. One of these was the new dining room and hospital to be constructed at the state prison proper. The other was the new dormitory to be constructed on the site of the prison annex, five miles south of Salem and which will house first offenders sentenced to short terms for minor crimes. This latter project calls for a three-story concrete building 52 by 150 feet in size with dormitory accommodations for 200 prisoners, all of whom will be employed in the farming activities of the prison. Prison labor will be employed in the construction of both buildings.

The 1939 session laws will be ready for distribution in about ten days. The 555 new laws enacted by the recent session will cover 1275 pages and will constitute the largest volume of its kind in the history of Oregon.

Evert's Oregon Almanac, a photostatic copy of which has just been secured by the state library, reveals the fact that the needs of the poor was one of the first considerations of of the earliest settlers of this Pacific northwest country. In the first public meeting held by the settlers south of the Columbia river, provision was made for the appointment of two "overseers of the poor." This meeting was held in the American Mission station on February 17, 1841.

Oregon's industrial curve points definitely upward, according to statistics compiled by the Industrial Accident commission. Business in this state during the first 4 months of 1939 was better than for any similar period during the past ten years with the exception of 1937. Industrial payrolls for the four month period aggregated \$46,884,797, an increase of approximately \$2,500,000 over the same period in 1938. Oregon industries employed 109,400 men during April this year or 7000 more than were given employment in the same industries in April of last year.

The recommendation of Thos. H. MacDonald, chief of the federal bureau of public roads, for a system of interregional highways is the greatest forward movement for highway development that has been suggested since the original federal aid highway act of 1917, in the opinion

of R. H. Baldock, Oregon's state highway engineer.

At the direction of the highway commission Baldock has written each member of the Oregon delegation in Congress urging their support of the MacDonald program which calls for the utilization of present free traffic facilities through reconstruction to meet modern needs.

Improvement of the Pacific highway and the Columbia river highway—Old Oregon Trail in Oregon would be included in MacDonald's program.

"The most pressing highway problems in Oregon today," Baldock declared in his letter to the Oregon congressmen, "are the modernization of the upper Columbia river highway and the building of highway arterials into and thru cities."

In order that prisoners now in the Oregon penitentiary shall not be discriminated against through operation of the new indeterminate sentence act which becomes effective June 14 Governor Sprague has let it be known that he will resort to his authority to extend executive clemency to prisoners whose sentences are shown to have been unduly harsh. The governor has instructed his parole board to review the record of all prisoners now in the institution and to make recommendations in such cases as the board may regard as entitled to the governor's attention. A difference of opinion exists among attorneys as to the effect of the new law on old prisoners. Some of the sponsors of the measure are of the opinion that the act is retroactive. Others disagree. Attorney General Van Winkle in a memorandum opinion to the parole board gave it as his view that the act will not apply to prisoners sentenced prior to the effective date of the new law which will be June 14.

While the state will pay a total of \$1,771,287 interest on its outstanding bonds this year this amount represents a reduction of \$1,150,000 from the state's interest bill at the peak of its debt load back in 1928. The state's bonded debt has been reduced in the 11-year period from \$66,062,810 to \$40,425,660. This latter figure includes \$17,841,750 in highway bonds, \$20,375,000 in veterans' bonus bonds, \$81,000 in farm credit bonds and \$2,127,910 in irrigation district interest bonds.

The new state parole board which met here last week at an informal conference with Governor Sprague, is spending this week visiting penal institutions in the state of Washington and conferring with parole officials of that state which has been operating for several years under the same parole system which Oregon is just adopting. The new parole board will be vested with outright parole powers and will meet in Salem once a week to give consideration to cases demanding their attention. Selection of a parole director and staff of office and field workers will probably not be made for another ten days or two weeks.

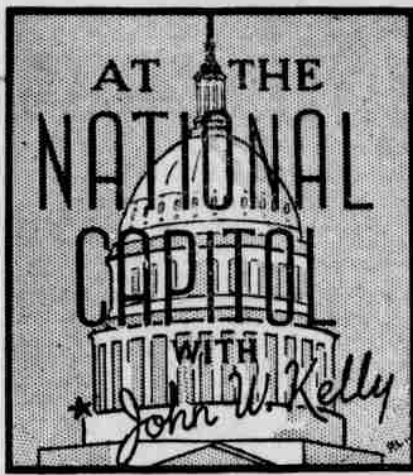
State Treasurer Walter E. Pearson has figured it out that the taxpayers of this state have contributed a total of \$46,667,821.57 to coupon clippers who invested their savings in Oregon bonds since this state first entered upon its big spending orgy back in 1917.

USDA Reports Wool Carryover Fourth Less

(Special to the Gazette Times)

Washington, D. C., May 15—Favorable outlook for disposal of the new wool crop is announced by the department of agriculture. The department bases its judgment on the relatively small domestic carry-over in the current season and the fairly high level of domestic mill consumption in 1939.

Stocks of apparel wool held in the United States on ranches, by dealers and manufacturers on April 1 was reported one-fourth smaller than April 1 last year. According to the bureau, the wide spread between domestic and foreign prices during recent months has attracted a large volume of imports, the largest importation in these months in any of the five years 1931 to 1935.



Washington, D. C., May 18—In the large, rambling department of agriculture building—it covers many acres, houses thousands—a small, select board is studying the map to ascertain how much land Uncle Sam has acquired and taken from the tax rolls of counties. Decision of these officials may bring substantial dollars into county treasuries and afford an unexpected source of revenue. There are a couple of bills in congress which provide the federal government shall pay something in lieu of taxes for "conservation lands." The board is researching to learn the number of acres and what the cost to the government. Pending this report, the house committee on agriculture is marking time, will do nothing at the request of Henry A. Wallace, secretary.

Under this legislation, Harney county might receive something for the land acquired by the government and used for a wildlife refuge at Malheur lake. In purchasing this land the government caused a tax loss to that county. Deschutes would have some compensation for the timber recently purchased and added to the Ochoco forest and the prospective acquisition of land in vicinity of Sister. Lake county could expect a little for private land that went into the antelope reserve in the Hart Mountain district. These are instances of possible benefits under the contemplated legislation.

While application would be principally in the 11 western states, many other states have lost property off the taxroll when the government stepped in to carry out some conservation program. School districts have suffered from this loss of taxable property; some districts have folded up.

One proposal is a straight 10 cents an acre a year to be paid to counties where the land is located. Another is a complicated method of compensation which few members of congress who have read the bill understand. The board designated by Secretary Wallace is seeking to work out a plan and if the amount is not too large, nor payments do not constitute a precedent, they may make a favorable report—and again they may not. Anyway, there is a gambling chance for the taxpayers.

President Roosevelt will step on foreign soil next month when he dines with King George VI in the British embassy. The ground of the embassy is as much British as any part of the empire, just as the Soviet embassy is part of Russia and the French embassy part of France. President Hoover dined with the king of Siam when the latter was a Washington visitor, but the Siamese rented a private home.

Only 800 residents of Washington will be invited to meet the King and Queen at the embassy at a garden party. Gentlemen have been warned NOT to offer to shake the King's hand and to bow twice when approaching him, and to make their exit walking backward. Ladies can courtsey, if they desire, but if they do they must kneel with the left foot backward. The press will not be admitted.

One of the aspirants for a presidential nomination next year had a speech prepared denouncing the size of the agricultural bill. He was about to take the floor when he mentioned it to a colleague. The colleague, an astute chap, reminded the candidate that he comes from a farm state in the midwest and such an attack would cost him the farm vote. Without comment the aspirant returned the typewritten manuscript to his desk and locked it there. He

was that close to blowing up his own boom.

Farm bloc members are asking an embarrassing question. They want to know why the administration insists that a processing tax should be levied to meet parity payments yet there was no mention of special taxes to meet the billion dollar national defense bill. As a matter of fact, White House advisors have talked of a special levy to meet some of the cost of the national defense program.

A motorist was arrested in the national capital because the police found him using an American flag as a seat cover. He was charged with desecrating the flag. There is a movement a-foot to confine the use of Old Glory to naval vessels and prohibit its use by merchant craft. Every cabinet member has his own special flag which is displayed with the stars and stripes. The design is also painted upon the door of their official automobile.

Fossil Skull Reveals Sea Turtles Were Huge

Oregon State College—Huge sea turtles that weighed from 1500 to 2000 pounds once frequented the Oregon shore, probable around 20 million years ago when three-toed horses roamed central Oregon and lava flows from immense volcanoes were destroying ancient forests in the Columbia river basin.

The existence of the gigantic turtles has been brought to light by the finding some weeks ago of a large fossilized skull in the mouth of Spencer creek north of Newport, which has been identified by Dr. E. L. Packard, paleontologist at Oregon State college.

Dr. Packard, after searching scientific literature and even examining related specimens in California museums, has determined that the Oregon fossil is from a turtle somewhat closely related to the leather-back sea turtles which now live in tropical seas. He believes that the Oregon form represents a hitherto undescribed genus as well as being a larger turtle than has previously been reported.

This Oregon turtle greatly exceeded in size the gigantic galapagos tortoises and was fully a third larger than the leather back captured off the California coast more than 30 years ago.

The skull has been loaned by its finder, Henry Kuhl, to the college for further study and scientific description.

Weed Control Program Pushed

Redmond—A definitely planned program of control of noxious weeds, with emphasis on clean cultivation as the cheapest method, is being conducted in Deschutes county under the direction of County Agent Gus Hagglund. Where chemicals are needed some county aid is provided individual farmers.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Otis Allstott, born at Heppner hospital last week, has been named Ronald Keith.

NOTICE OF SALE OF COUNTY PROPERTY

By virtue of an order of the County Court, dated May 4, 1939, I am authorized and directed to advertise and sell at public auction, at not less than the minimum price herein set forth after each parcel or tract:

SE 1/4 NW 1/4, NE 1/4 SW 1/4, Section 32, Township 4 South, Range 24 East of Willamette Meridian. Minimum price, \$80.00—cash.

Therefore, I will, on the 27th day of May, 1939, at the hour of 2:00 p. m., at the front door of the Court House in Heppner, Oregon, sell said property to the highest bidder.

C. J. D. BAUMAN, Sheriff, Morrow County, Oregon.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned was duly appointed by the County Court of the State of Oregon for Morrow County, executor of the Last Will and Testament of J. H. Parker, deceased, and all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased are hereby required to present the same with proper vouchers duly verified, to said executor at his office in Heppner, Ore-

gon, within 6 months from the date of first publication of this notice.

Dated and first published this 11th day of May, A. D. 1939.

W. VAWTER PARKER, Executor of the of the Last Will and Testament of J. H. Parker, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Matter of the Estate of Ernest E. Clark, Deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That the undersigned has been duly appointed administratrix of the Estate of Ernest E. Clark, deceased, by the County Court of the State of Oregon for Morrow County, and that she has duly qualified as such administratrix.

NOW, THEREFORE, all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified and required to present the same, together with the proper vouchers therefor, to the undersigned at the law offices of G. Russell Morgan in the Court House at Hillsboro, Oregon, or at the residence of Edw. D. Clark, approximately one mile north of Heppner, Morrow County, Oregon, within six months from the date hereof.

Dated at Heppner, Oregon, this 10th day of May, 1939.

LAURA B. MORGAN, Administratrix of the Estate of Ernest E. Clark, Deceased. G. RUSSELL MORGAN, Hillsboro, Oregon. Attorney for Administratrix.

Want Ads

We do all kinds of body and fender work as well as frame straightening. Rosewall-Gentry Motor Company. Bring Your Ford Home for Service. Phone 1092, Heppner, Ore.

5.50 x 20 and 5.25 x 17 used tires for sale cheap. Rosewall-Gentry Motor Company, Ford dealers, Phone 1092, Heppner, Ore.

Special for 10 Days—Car washed and vacuum cleaned inside for \$1.50. Rosewall-Gentry Motor Company, Ford Dealers, Phone 1092, Heppner.

RELIABLE MAN WANTED to call on farmers in Morrow County. No experience or capital required. Steady work. Make up to \$12 a day. FURST & THOMAS, 426 3rd St., Oakland, Calif.

15 head 2-yr.-old purebred white face Hereford heifers for sale; some with calves, others to calve soon. L. Redding, Eight Mile. 10-12p

Sheep pasturage for eastern shipments in transit. 10,000 acres mountain range, well watered. Four miles from Great Northern railroad station and stock yards at Wolf Creek, Montana. ROCK CREEK RANCH COMPANY, P. O. Box 216, Helena, Montana.

FOR SALE — 2 1/2-TON GMC TRUCK 162-IN. WHEEL BASE WITH 22-FT. SEMI-TRAILER WITH STOCK RACK AND SHELVES FOR DOUBLE DECKING. A-1 RUBBER EXCELLENT MECHANICAL CONDITION. THE TRUCK OR TRAILER AVAILABLE SEPARATELY. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING PRICE CALL OR WRITE FERGUSON MOTOR CO., 324 E. COURT ST., PENDLETON, ORE. PHONE 337. 9-10

Best pigs on earth: a few purebred Jersey Duroc small feeders left. Hurry, going fast. Kinard McDaniel, Rhea creek, 4 miles below Rugg's. 8 tf

12-room, well furnished house and two apartments for sale, \$2500. J. O. Turner, city. 7tf

For sale—Old saddle horse, perfectly gentle. Monte Bundy, city

For Sale—Drag saw in good condition. See Salter at Ione. 6tf

For sale or trade, DeLuxe Wind-charger, 10-ft. tower. Inquire this office. 4tf

New Hampshire Red day-old chicks ready for delivery March 26. Also started White Leghorn cockerels. Suddarth Hatchery, Irrigon, Ore.

Don't throw away anything that can be welded until I see it. W. F. "Bill" Harlow, Heppner Blacksmith and Machinery Shop. 40tf