

BOOTH PREDICTS FORTY MILLIONS FOR HIGHWAYS

Lights Go Out When Representatives Gore and Sheldon Orate at Banquet of Three Cities but It Didn't Faze Them—Commissioner Booth Speaks of Highway Plans and Progress.

The brilliant get-together banquet of the Medford, Grants Pass and Ashland commercial clubs which was so enthusiastic and successful and augurs much towards the development of the Rogue River valley and southern Oregon, contrary to the usual custom of such affairs did not close in a blaze of glory last night, but terminated in inky blackness, due to the electric lights of the city suddenly going out about a half hour before the end of the long speaking program and remaining out. Not a lamp or candle could be found in the hotel.

But the spirits of the enthused banqueters were not lessened, and after singing America in darkness so dense that the singers almost had to feel their voices the 300 people grouped out of the banquet hall as best they could with the help of a few lighted matches, to begin a search for their hats, overcoats and wraps—yes there were a number of women present, especially with the Grants Pass delegation. A few minutes later the lights came on for a few minutes.

The striking feature of the speech making program was the seriously made prediction in the address of R. A. Booth of Eugene, state highway commissioner and chief guest of honor at the banquet, that in the next five years more than \$40,000,000 will be spent in Oregon for good roads and highways. The gathering was distinctively a good roads boosting gathering.

Endorse Booth
Some time after his speech the banquet assemblage, by a unanimous rising vote, adopted a resolution that the Medford, Ashland and Grants Pass commercial clubs, having absolute confidence in southern Oregon's representative on the state highway commission, his entire capability, general ability, fairness and incorruptibility, requested that he give up his announced intention of resigning and remain on the state highway commission for the public good of all Oregon.

The program of snappy and eloquent speeches was delightfully interspersed with songs and other entertainment features. Grants Pass furnishing a large portion. Good-fellowship, harmony, a plea for all southern Oregon to pull together and do away with any sectional or local jealousy in order to bring about the development of this great inland empire by establishing good roads and highways, was the keynote of almost every local, Grants Pass and Ashland speaker. "What would benefit one community would benefit all."

Clark Opens Banquet
The banquet opened by Mr. Clark, president of the Ashland commercial club, presiding. There was prayer by Rev. L. M. Boozer. Mayor Gates in a very brief address welcomed the visitors from the neighboring cities. Responses were made by Walter C. Newcombe on behalf of the Ashland commercial club, and by Frank C. Bramwell on behalf of the Grants Pass commercial club.

The toastmaster of the evening, Franklin S. Bramwell, president of the Grants Pass commercial club and vice president of the state chamber of commerce, was then introduced. In his eloquent plea for the cities and towns to all boost and pull together for the progress and development of the valley he declared that we had no place for the knocker, and that the only place for the knocker was shoveling coal.

Mr. Bramwell took occasion to deny the truth of the often made assertion that Portland wants to hog it all, and declared that he knew from personal experience as a vice president of the state chamber that there was never a more unselfish body of men who had the good and development of the state in view at all times than the officers and leading members of the state chamber. "The state chamber," he said in closing, "pledges the development of southern Oregon to equal that of any other section of the state."

Ovation Given Booth
Mr. Booth when introduced was greeted with prolonged applause, amounting to an ovation.
He told of the wonderful good roads meeting he attended this week at Klamath Falls to discuss highway improvements and said that he was authorized by the people of Klamath county to bring us the message that they would join with Jackson county in making the Green Springs mountain highway; and they authorized him to bring to Josephine county people the message that they would join them at Waldo.

Mr. Booth then dilated on the wonderful progress everywhere in the state of the good roads movement, and referred to Jackson county as the pioneer of this movement in Oregon. Referring to the kindness with which he had been treated on this visit to the valley and the general pleas made to him to remain on the commission he humorously im-

plored all his friends of this section to carefully watch to see that he did not make the mistake, in his generous good feeling toward the section, of trying to send all the state highway money to southern Oregon.

Spend 40 Millions
Then he made his prediction of Oregon going to spend over 40 millions of dollars within the next five years on good roads. Later on he declared that he often feared that after this 40 millions will have been spent, then we would travel thru the air.

He then explained why southern Oregon had fared generously on the present good roads program, as no other section had, because of its rough mountain roads, and the need of improving them, while other sections had better roads. Mr. Booth praised his colleagues on the state highway commission.

Referring to the need of developing the southern Oregon empire he said that he wished in all fairness to call attention to the fact that Oregon had other enterprises which also needed development. Of those two great scenic attractions he said that Crater Lake did not belong all alone to Jackson county, and the Marble Caves alone to Josephine county, but these wonders belong to the whole world.

Uniting the Cities
With eloquent pathos he spoke of his close ties to the valley, of how he and his wife of fifty years were reared in Grants Pass, and of how they both hoped to settle down and pass their declining years in the scenes of their youth. He drew a charming picture of the valley as he had viewed it this week, and said that from his high view point its cities and towns almost seemed to be one, so close were they together, and that when the continuous highway between Ashland and Grants Pass was built they would be still closer together in every way.

Tremendous applause greeted Mr. Booth at the conclusion of his address.
The only other set good roads speech of the night was by Fred D. Wagner of Ashland, whose subject was "The Green Springs Road."

Buy Oregon Goods
Mrs. Ben C. Ely of Portland, who is representing the Oregon Industries association, made a brief address in which she pleaded with the people of the valley to purchase made in the state and home products. She declared that economically for the good of the whole state "We can't build up one part of Oregon without building up all of the state," and that the Portland chamber of commerce was pledged to this course of building up Oregon first.

Solon Williams of Yreka, who was Siskiyou county's representative at the banquet, made a brief address outlining California's highway and roads plans, during which he stated that the California legislature was about to appropriate \$40,000,000 for good roads, and that in three years time it would be possible to drive clear thru the state on one highway to Mexico and drive back on the return trip by the California coast high way. When Mr. Williams was introduced he was greeted with liberal applause by the banqueters, illustrating his acquaintance and popularity throughout the Rogue River valley.

Claude C. Cate, county agricultural agent, in accordance with the lateness of the hour, made one of the most pat and brief addresses ever heard in Medford in responding to the subject, "Agricultural Conditions and Prospects." He only said:
"Regarding the agricultural and horticultural conditions outlook I will state that they are on a par with the spirit shown at this gathering." Then he drank a glass of water to relieve his parched throat and sat down, having made a great hit.

Legislators Close
And now came the closing part of the meeting, speeches by the Jackson county members of the legislature with W. H. Gore first called on, but Providence interfered and much cur-

CARTOONIST HERE ON WORLD TOUR TO STUDY LABOR

"It's great to be a hobo." So said Jack Retlaw, the noted cartoonist, writer, globe trotter and war correspondent, who is spending a few days in Medford on his way south to San Francisco, together with his wife, Mrs. Billie Retlaw, the well known song composer.

They are on a trip around the world, and expect to sail for Honolulu and the Orient when they arrive in the Bay City. Mr. Retlaw is the founder of the famous string of hobo hotels well known over the country, and popularly called the "Hotel de Gink."

He is writing a series of reconstructions and unemployment articles on the various sections of the country and the foreign nations he will visit.
"Conditions are rapidly improving over the country," declared Mr. Retlaw today when discussing the after war problems, and unemployment. "The nation is far more prosperous and there is more money than in 1914-15 when it was necessary to maintain the Hotels de Gink in various sections of the United States."

"At that time there was about 350,000 men out of work on the Pacific coast alone, but now there is probably less than 100,000. I look for a shortage of labor within the coming six or eight months."
"I am writing a series of articles on after war conditions in various countries, and expect to visit the Orient first."

Mr. Retlaw is also the creator of the "Your Uncle Dudley" cartoons in motion pictures and newspapers. He is making personal appearances in many theaters on his way south, and will be at the Liberty theater Sunday in a cartoon and song skit with Mrs. Retlaw.

MELBOURNE, March 22.—The commonwealth government is offering a prize of \$50,000 for the first successful flight from Great Britain to Australia that is undertaken by Australians.

He tallied these speeches by putting the lights out.
Mr. Gore was in the midst of an eloquent peroration when there was a flicker or two, and then total blackness. Without batting an eye, as far as could be seen in the dark, he continued gamely until his remarks were finished.

Then Ben Sheldon came to the bat and for five minutes or more illuminated the dark atmosphere with his eloquence, followed by J. A. Westlund who uttered most of the remarks he had planned to make before the power company quit business. Senator C. M. Thomas and Senator D. C. Smith of Grants Pass, were not present.

The singing of America ended the long program and the banqueters groped their way out to the lobby.
Features of Program
Much appreciated features of the program were a dialect recitation by Rev. C. R. Drake of Grants Pass, entitled "The Corpse of Me Cousin," and an original effort in verse recited by Dick Posey of Ashland.

The duet renditions sung by the Grants Pass singers, Miss Patillo and Mr. Linn, accompanied by Miss Quintin, also of that city, were beautifully rendered, and called forth repeated encores, as did the songs of the male quartet of Medford.

The music program was in charge of Rev. D. E. Millard who in addition to singing a popular navy song led the assemblage in singing "Keep the Home Fires Burning" and "There is a Long, Long Trail."

Personal

William Marten, well known contractor and mining man, and family of Seattle have moved to Medford and are making their home for the present at 613 Catherine street. Mr. Marten has spent more than a year looking over southern Oregon and California mines, making his headquarters at Rogue River.

Your rugs or carpets cleaned and returned the same day. Madison's, phone 474.
Mr. and Mrs. Trigot of Indianapolis, Ind., tourists enroute home from California, are guests at the Hotel Holland.

You can always find something for a quick lunch at DeVoe's.
C. E. Bernard of Boston and J. T. Bradley of Omaha, are two commercial travelers at the Hotel Medford who are making this city on their semi-annual swing about the Pacific coast.

Best line used cars, Geo. L. Trolcher Motor Co.
There was a light public market today as most of the farmers who have products to sell were too busy this fine weather to come to the city.

A two-lb. box of Vogan's chocolates for \$1.35 at DeVoe's.
Among Hotel Holland guests of today is Vesta M. Ager of Ager, Cal. Daily's Taxi, Dodge cars, Phone 15.
Dr. Helne, Garnett-Corey Bldg., San Francisco sojourners in Medford today included B. F. Alken, W. Menke, C. R. Decker and Henry L. Cope.

Windshield glasses for all cars. C. E. Gates Auto Co.
Alco Taxi, Phone 95.
Sergeant and Mrs. Henry Marsh arrived home from Ellington Field, the aviation camp near Houston, Texas, where he had been in the aviation service for a year past, driving a government truck. Mrs. Marsh joined him at the camp about six months ago.

Lithia water at DeVoe's.
Nash Hotel, Special rates, week or month. Steam heat. 317
Jerry Lewis is registered at the Hotel Holland from Eagle Point.
Guaranteed piston rings for all cars. C. E. Gates Auto Co.

Portland visitors registered at the hotels Saturday included W. A. Hadden, D. C. Heany, W. S. McNamara, T. A. Trewen, R. L. Phillips, S. C. Brackett, W. M. McConnell and Mrs. C. L. Taylor.
Guaranteed brake lining for all cars. C. E. Gates Auto Co.

Among hotel guests of today were W. T. Anderson of New York, A. S. Bohl of San Diego, George S. Barton of Grants Pass and W. T. Wetherell of Glendale.
Alco Taxi, Phone 95.
Malted milk 50c lb. DeVoe's.

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TODAY'S CASUALTIES

Killed in action: Pvt. Addison M. W. Ball, Portland, Ore.
Died of disease: Capt. John E. Kuydandal, Eugene, Ore.; Pvt. William R. Flint, Portland; Lieut. Irving L. Ragatelo, Roseburg, Ore.; Pvt. Richard M. Kennedy, Portland.
Killed in action previously reported missing in action: Ernest W. Peras, Portland, Ore.

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Constipation permits stagnation and absorption of these poisons into the blood, with injury to the whole body.

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