

ADVANCE WORK ON DALLES-CAL. ROAD, GRADE CONTRACTS

PORTLAND, Ore., July 30.—(A. P.)—Work on The Dalles-California highway (Fremont trail) was advanced a year by state and federal road departments today.

This highway will next month have had all the grading contracts let save a four mile section at the new Crooked river bridge. The government today agreed to at once advance for bids on the ten mile section of the road south of Crescent thru the national forest.

The grading of this and an overhead railroad crossing will cost \$60,000. When this was put in the record, the state highway commission at once notified Secretary Roy Klein to advertise next month for bids for grading the ten mile Bend-Lava Butte section of the same road.

Next year surfacing contracts on both will be let.

It was also agreed today between the highway commission and the Benton county court that work on the Newport-Corvallis road and the Alsea highway in Benton county will be hurried ahead. The Benton tax payers yesterday voted \$200,000 road bonds, and this sum will be spent on the two state highways. The state will co-operate 50-50 on the Newport road and will provide 66 2-3 per cent on the Alsea highway.

It was also announced by the commission that work on completing the 22-mile gap between Mitchell and Dayville will be completed as soon as possible but it cannot be done this year.

Important contracts were awarded today by the commission, four total, for \$941,002 on the Roosevelt highway in Curry county.

The contracts awarded follow:

Unit 1—Hill-Chester river section of Roosevelt highway in Curry county, 32.3 miles of grading and surfacing; unit one, \$289,211; unit four, \$302,168, to Bauers and Bauers, Dayton, Wash.; unit two, \$105,913, Englehart Paving and Construction company, Eureka, Cal.; unit three, J. W. Sweeney, Portland, \$244,310.

Slitz Day-Rocky creek section of Roosevelt highway in Lincoln county, 8.8 miles of grading, James Crick, Pendleton, \$143,835.

Culvertson Sherman highway in Sherman county, William Endicott, \$1,922,500.

RICH PLANTER'S WIFE IS SLAIN

BERNE, Switzerland, July 30.—The woman who was found dead with a wound through her heart in a suburb of Basle yesterday has been identified as Mary Leavitt Bowen of Berkeley, Cal. She arrived in Basle only two days previously.

The wound on the body was made either by a revolver or knife, and the authorities hold the belief that she was murdered.

Although the police have made every effort to solve the mystery, even sending bloodhounds in search of possible assailants they have been unsuccessful.

BERKELEY, Cal., July 30.—Howard Bowen, retired Hawaiian sugar planter, was notified at his home here last night that his wife, Mrs. Mary Bowen, was shot accidentally or by robbers while walking alone in the woods near Basle, Switzerland.

This information was contained in a cablegram from Dr. Wegmann Arlheim, who also said that police were investigating the mysterious case and that the consul had been informed.

ENTENTE CORDIALE HAS SAD ENDING

EUGENE, Ore., July 30.—A drink of moonshine liquor, proffered by newly made "friends" resulted in the loss to R. E. Balfour of Cottage Grove, of his money, watch, pocket knife and hat here last night. About \$19 in change and a gold watch were the heaviest losses, he said.

The victim came here Tuesday and stayed at a rooming house where he met the "friends." Yesterday they went out to look at some property they said was for sale, and they produced the bottle of moonshine. It was stronger than Balfour thought, he told the police, and while he was under its influence, he was robbed.

One of the robbers was an Italian, one a Canadian and the third a Scandinavian, he said.

LITTLE HOPE THAT STRIKE OF BRITISH MINERS AVERTED

LONDON, July 30.—(A. P.)—The chances for averting the threatened British coal strike seems decreased today. Negotiations between coal mine owners and workers, meeting separately with Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin, were resumed this morning in a gloomy atmosphere. Leaders of both sides, after meeting the premier, spoke pessimistically of the prospect.

"The hope for a settlement is farther off than it has ever been before," A. J. Cook, secretary of the miners' federation, said.

W. A. Lee, secretary of the Mining Association of Great Britain, representing the owners, said there was "not a ghost of a chance" that the owners would withdraw their demands for two weeks to permit a continuation of negotiations with the workers for that period.

(The demands refer to the owners in insistence upon a new working agreement calling for longer hours and lower wages to supplant the present agreement which expires tomorrow. The miners have refused to accept and have ordered a strike effective at the expiration of the present agreement.)



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BRITISH TO BUILD MORE CRUISERS

LONDON, July 30.—(A. P.)—After much mention in debate of the United States and Japan the home advocates a cruiser building plan involving an expenditure of 58,000,000 pounds. The former labor premier, Ramsay MacDonald made strenuous efforts to secure passage last night of an amendment condemning the program but the government's stand was approved when his proposal was rejected by a vote of 276 to 140. He made the plea that it was unnecessary to inflict an annual expenditure of 58,000,000 pounds on an already over-burdened country adding to this the argument that there was absolutely nothing to indicate a war for many years.

He deprecated any suggestion that the United States and Japan were possible enemies. Several other speakers also referred to this phase of the naval problem.

LAW RAISING FEES DIVORCE ATTACKED

PORTLAND, Ore., July 30.—A mandamus action attacking the constitutionality of the new law that adds \$5 to the old \$12 filing fee in divorce cases was filed in circuit court today.

The law was passed to provide for appearance of district attorneys in divorce actions and to finance increases in pay to district attorneys and deputies.

The suit fits at the law as class and special legislation.

The complaint was prepared by Attorney Oliver M. Hickey in the name of Mrs. Margaret B. Wright, whose divorce complaint was attached to it. He asks that County Clerk Beveridge be required to file the complaint for \$12—the old fee.

BUSTED UP SEANCE AND HIS GUITAR

GREENFIELD, Mass., July 30.—(A. P.)—Chief Rheaumont, Indian spiritualistic medium, arrested several weeks ago on a warrant charging assault on a fellow medium in the midst of a seance, was freed today in district court where the complainant, Converse Nickerson, failed to appear.

The warrant sworn out four years ago, charged that Rheaumont struck Nickerson on the head with a guitar when the latter entered a room in which the Indian medium was conducting a seance at the Lone Pleasant spiritualistic colony near here. It was said that Nickerson had thrown a flashlight on Rheaumont, spilling the seance. Nickerson is at present on the Pacific coast.

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