

History of Naming Highway Group in 1922 Revealed

(This is another in a series of "Glimpses at Highway History" by Ralph Watson, highway department writer.—Editor's note.)

Oregon elected a new governor in November, 1922: Walter M. Pierce, democrat, of Union county. "According to custom," the three members of the highway commission resigned and during March, and in May three new commissioners took over the pilotage of the highway program. They were Judge William Doby, Baker, chairman; Judge Wade H. Malone, Corvallis, and Henry B. Van Duzer, Portland.

The story behind this change is that Ward Irvine, then Governor Pierce's secretary, was sent down to Portland to see former Governor Oswald West, also a democrat, to ask what West knew about the character and qualifications of "Judge Doby." West thought that "Judge Doby" was a "total flabbergasted." West confides, "But it was all right anyway, Judge Doby was a good man even though at the time I did not know him at all."

West also reminisces that at about the same time it came to him via the grapevine route from Salem that the governor was hesitating between the appointment of his oldtime buddy and democratic colleague in the state senate, Milton A. Miller, then resident in Portland and who wanted the job, and H. B. Van Duzer, Portland lumberman and prominent citizen who did not seem at all anxious to be bothered with it.

Story Gets Around
Somehow—West is somewhat naive about this phase of the story—this circumstance got circulated around over Portland in the newspaper shops and among civic leaders, resulting in an immediate and converging barrage upon the governor's office urging Van Duzer's appointment on the one hand and upon Van Duzer to accept it, if offered, on the other. It came, Van Duzer accepted, and served through the Pierce administration as commissioner, and as chairman through the four years of Governor I. L. Patterson's administration and on into the Meier tenure, when he resigned.

Commissioner Doby had served as county judge of Baker, Commissioner Malone as county judge of Benton county. State Highway Engineer Herbert Nunn also joined his three commissioners in resigning to accept a position as city manager in the City of Santa Barbara, Cal., and Roy A. Klein, who had been assistant state highway engineer and secretary to the commission, succeeded him.

Hearings Slated on Honey Containers
Salem, Ore., Apr. 27—(U.P.)—Hearings will be held at Medford, Portland and La Grande next month to determine whether or not Oregon's standard containers for extracted honey should be revised. First of the hearings will be held in Medford May 4, at the shipping point inspection office, 619 Grape street. Northwestern Oregon beekeepers, honey bottlers and others interested may appear at the Portland hearing May 9, at the state department of agriculture branch office in the Terminal Sales building.

Eyes Said Damaged In Making Picture

Louisville, Ky., Apr. 27—(U.P.)—Edward Wiseman, former employee at the Kentucky hotel, filed suit today for \$50,250 against RKO-Pathé, Inc., New York, claiming his eyes were damaged permanently by lights used in making a movie short Derby week last year.

In the suit, Wiseman said he posed willingly for the picture, "The Kentucky Derby Story," while an employee at the Kentucky hotel. He charged that he has been under the care of an eye doctor since that time and has been unable to cure the alleged injury.

WORM MAN TURNS
Anniston, Ala.—(U.P.)—William Stacks claimed the city damaged his worm ranch and filed a \$470 damage suit. He said city workers dumped dirt on his place of business. Stacks contended that the dirt interrupted the natural drainage of the site, damaged the worm beds and killed his worms, which he was breeding for sale to fishermen.

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