

STATE CAPITOL NEWS

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Boundary lines do not follow the vagaries of a river, Attorney General Van Winkle has ruled. The opinion was given in connection with a dispute as to which school district could rightfully claim a certain farm in Linn county. As originally defined the river was one of the boundaries of the district. Since that time, however, the river has changed its course so that now it is on the opposite side of the farm in question. The attorney general holds that the old river bed still constitutes the boundary line between the two districts.

Prospects for the collection of between \$300,000 and \$400,000 in income taxes from contractors who have been employed on federal projects in this state were considerably brightened this week when the United States supreme court, in a case on appeal from West Virginia, held the contractors to be subject to the state tax. Facts in two Oregon cases, one now pending before the United States court, are said by Earl Fisher, member of the tax commission, to be similar if not identical to the facts in the West Virginia case. A number of high salaried employees of contractors on federal projects who have taken refuge behind their supposedly federal status are also expected to come forward with substantial tax payments on the strength of the court's ruling.

Drivers of state-owned automobiles will be protected against damages of liability insurance up to \$40,000 the board of control decided this week. Heretofore the state has carried a maximum of \$20,000 in liability insurance on its passenger cars. While the state can not be sued for damages in case of accident, the state employee who is operating the car at the time of the accident may be held for damages. The state now spends more than \$20,000 a year for

liability insurance. The old Elks temple in Portland has been eliminated as a possible state office building according to State Treasurer Holman. A committee of three prominent architects and builders named by the board of control to investigate the several buildings being offered to the state has reported adversely on the Elks property, Holman said. Ironically enough it was the agents for this building who sponsored the bill in the last legislative session authorizing the state to acquire an office building in Portland.

A meeting of the state land board to consider the blocking of eastern region school lands originally scheduled for last Saturday was postponed until January 8. At that time F. R. Carpenter, federal grazing director will attend to explain the government's attitude toward the program in connection with administration of the Taylor Grazing act. A large number of educators and school officials as well as many eastern Oregon stockmen are expected to attend the meeting.

Approximately 12,000 persons are enrolled in the WPA adult education and recreation program in Oregon according to Rex Putnam, state superintendent of public instruction. Of this number 1100 are enrolled in Americanization classes, in preparation for the citizenship test.

A saving of at least \$200 a month in telephone costs will be effected through the installation of a central switchboard Budget Director Wallace Wharton reported to the Board of Control this week. Under present arrangements each state department is served by separate trunk lines, many of the larger departments maintaining their own switchboards.

The Mountain States Power company has received authority from Utilities Commissioner N. G. Wallace to issue and sell \$8,000,000 of first mortgage bonds and \$700,000 of serial notes in order to redeem an old bond issue maturing January 1. The company operates in the Willamette Valley and the coast section of Oregon.

Oregon beer parlors hereafter must measure up to rigid sanitary requirements if they expect a renewal of their licenses, the state liquor commission has decreed.

Unexpended balances in the hands of the State Board of Higher Education may not be utilized in setting up a retirement fund for faculty members, Attorney General Van Winkle ruled this week. Neither may the board increase salaries of faculty members on condition that the increase be returned to the retirement fund, the attorney general held.

OREGON MAY SAVE ROAD ALLOCATION

State Auto President Issues Statement.

Oregon's highway construction program may continue next year, unimpaired by a presidential proposal to slash federal road allotments, according to Dr. E. B. McDaniel, president of the Oregon State Motor association and vice-chairman of the American Automobile Association national roads and highways committee.

Oppose Road Fund Cut Assurance that congress would take no action on road legislation this session was received, he said, in a special wire received from A.A.A. headquarters in Washington.

Curtailment of highway funds was vigorously opposed by the national motoring body, despite its policy favoring President Roosevelt's budget-balancing plans, McDaniel stated. Road funds should bear a reduction along with all other federal allocations, but "not bear the brunt of the economy program."

Representative Cartwright, chairman of the house roads committee, has served notice that his committee will oppose any curtailment of 1939 road appropriations, he said he informed. "Cartwright insists that

1940 and 1941 appropriations be equal to current funds. It is indicated that the senate will take no action on roads at this time, thereby assuring funds for another year."

Action Must Come Before Jan. 1
Oregon's last allocation was in the neighborhood of \$4,500,000, it was pointed out. The state program can "in all probability" continue under the federal fund-matching set-up, inasmuch as congressional cancellation must come before January 1, and possibility of action is virtually out of the question.

PLANNING OREGON'S PROGRESS

Editor's Note: This is the fourth of a series of articles on conservation of Oregon's recreational resources. They have been prepared by staff members of the State Planning Board under the direction of V. B. Stanbery, executive secretary and consultant. The next articles will follow in an early issue.

OREGON'S WILD LIFE RESOURCES

The idea that wild life resources would ever be seriously curtailed, much less that some of the most numerous species, animals and fowl, could be near extinction, never seemed to enter the minds of our forefathers. That game and fur bearing animals could or should be protected by law providing for closed season or limit of take never occurred to them. When game became scarce in one district they moved content without the pleasure or profit of hunting, trapping or fishing which they once enjoyed. So state by state has seen its wild life disappear, and only a few of them awake in time to take steps by which they might hope to restore and preserve these valuable resources.

The tendency of wild life, if left to its natural environment, is to increase in numbers, but the increase in population, which limits range, destroys cover and pollutes the water, is a handicap wild life cannot overcome except by the help of man. In addition more and more licenses are being issued; more deadly guns are being employed and many game and fur bearing animals are being rapidly depleted. It is time to call a halt and for all people interested in the conservation of wild life to unite in a program for the preservation of these valuable resources.

Doubtless there are some citizens who do not hunt or fish themselves and who do not see why the state should take so much interest in the preservation of wild life. It may be true that many neither hunt nor fish, but nevertheless, the material benefits from these recreational resources are distributed all over the state in the way of increased business from more than 100,000 people who purchase licenses and from

money spent by citizens and tourists who go about the state seeking recreation. Practically all this money stays in Oregon. It increases business, decreases unemployment, helps pay taxes, and thus its benefits reach even to the aged, infirm, and blind and the indigent.

The State Planning Board's report on wild life states that "the economic importance of wild life has never been accurately determined. A very rough estimate by a commercial agency indicated that the income from residents, tourists, and others attracted to Oregon by the abundance of our wild life, forests, lakes, fields and streams, constituted the fourth largest industry in the state."

However great the economic value of our wild life may be, the social value is much greater. The recreational, educational and esthetic importance of wild life is more difficult to measure than the economic value, but nevertheless, it is a value.

Scenes from nature are often so deeply engraved upon the memory that they are many times recalled with deep pleasure through all the years that follow. Taking a snapshot or a movie of animals and birds as they are found in their native habitat, affords pleasure to the taker that can be often reproduced for the pleasure of many others.

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Your Home CONSTRUCTION-EQUIPMENT REMODELING

Armor Plated Outbuildings
A steel roof, painted to harmonize with its environment, makes an attractive roof for a residence. On the home grounds sheet steel also has a valuable use as siding for barns, sheds, garages and other outbuildings. Such structures, sheathed with steel, especially if the V-crimped type is used, and painted properly, look well. Too, steel siding offers practical advantages of much importance.

Steel is, of course, fire proof and vermin proof. Copper bearing sheet steel, further protected with a rugged coating of zinc, is remarkably resistant to rust. If kept painted it should last indefinitely. Furthermore, sheet steel, especially the corrugated type, has great rigidity. Corrugated sheets of heavy gauge, used as siding and securely nailed, add greatly to the capacity of a building to resist wind. In many localities this type of construction is considered adequate protection against cyclones.



When you buy sheet steel, get the right weight for your purpose. Near the seacoast where the air is salty, or in the smoke laden atmosphere of industrial regions, a heavier gauge should be used than in places where the air is dry and clear. Then get copper-bearing steel, heavily zinc, and nail it on with galvanized nails with self-capping heads. If you paint it at once, first wash it with vinegar or a solution of copper acetate to take the shininess off and enable the paint to stick. Then you will have either a roof, or siding, that will last and strengthen your buildings.

Guide To A Good Garage
Maybe, instead of building a house, you are going to build a garage. No home is complete without one nowadays. There are a few fundamentals to bear in mind with respect to garages, other than their proper location for easy driving in and out. One is to make the garage conform in style to the house. Next, build solidly, so that the garage does not, after a few years, look as if it were tumbling down.

Concrete is the only material to consider for the floor and it should be thick and strong and sloped for drainage, preferably to a center drain. Heat should be furnished with a small radiator from the house heating system if that is

possible. If not, a portable oil, gas or electric heater will do. The garage should be well lighted, so that not only the doorway is brightly illuminated but also the interior. There should be a socket available for a light on an extension cord. This is handy for examining the engine, the interior or the underside of the car. There should be at least one good sized window.



Doors are a garage problem. Generally speaking, the flexible type that either pushes up or rolls to each side is more satisfactory than the solid doors on hinges. These last have a tendency to sag and get in the way and, of course, they make trouble when there is snow. Finally, the garage should be large enough to allow room for shelves, storage boxes and possibly a work bench as well as the car or cars.

These are the essentials of the good garage. Of course a servicing pit and hydrant can be installed if you wish to make full provision for repairing and washing the car in the garage.

The Sink That Saves Labor
If you are building and are going in for a completely modern kitchen, with all equipment designed to form an efficient unit, you run little risk of not getting an entirely satisfactory workshop. But if you cannot do that and must buy equipment in separate pieces, perhaps combining some new equipment with old which you already possess, give careful thought to the sink, for the right kind of sink can be the greatest labor saver in the kitchen.



The efficient sink should be in one piece with an enamel surface. Preferably it should have a drain board on each side. If possible, it should hang from brackets so that the space below it can be utilized. The standard working height is 36 inches; don't let the plumbers put it too low. It should, if possible, be placed under a window. It should have a high, swinging spout in which hot and cold water can be mixed. It should have a drainer

equipped with a cup which can be removed for cleaning and can, at will, become a stopper to close the drain so that the basin can be filled with water and used for dish-washing.

These are the essentials of the efficient sink. Of course, a sink with two basins is desirable, since dishes can be washed in one and immediately transferred for rinsing to the other. And there are sinks combined with mechanical dishwashers and other gadgets. But in the home built and maintained on a moderate income, a sink that has the advantages outlined above will save about as much labor as can be saved without mechanical aid.

New Dresses For Old Houses

How often do you hear one woman say of another: "She'd be nice looking if she only knew how to dress," or "if she didn't use such wretched makeup." So it often is with old houses. Many an old house set down as plain or ugly is only so by reason of the gingerbread it wears, or the shape, size and position of windows, doors, porches and eels. The body of the house may have good lines that need only proper treatment to bring them out.

Do not, then, jump to the conclusion that your own old house, if it is not now attractive, cannot be made so, or that some old house that you might wish to buy if it could be remodeled into a thing of beauty is beyond that hope. First, get the opinion of a competent architect. His trained eye can not only look beneath the faulty superficialities of the house to its essential structure, but can also picture the effect of changes as your eye cannot.



Marvellous things are done to old houses by adding an ell here to balance one there; by rebuilding an ugly porch or taking it off and putting one somewhere else; by changing windows in style and position; by substituting new chimneys for old; by putting on a new dress of clapboards or shingles; even by a little judicious use of paint and landscaping. The fact is that a great many old houses had originally the simple lines of sound native architecture but suffered badly from later false ideas of decoration or amateur enlargement.

So don't give up an old house until you've had the advice of a skillful house doctor.

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Answers to questions concerning articles in this department, or about any housing problem, may be obtained by writing to Stedman Brown, "Your Home" Features, 220 East 42nd Street, New York City. Please enclose 3c stamp for reply.

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