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"Harmony in
Diversity"

PORTLAND CITY CLUB BULLETIN

"Active
Citizenship"

VOLUME VI

PORTLAND, OREGON, DECEMBER 25, 1925

NUMBER 13

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

WORK OF PAST YEAR IS REVIEWED

City Club sections and committees have been active throughout the year of 1925 and have presented to the public a series of reports on problems of community interest that are vital to the future welfare of Portland. Following is a brief review of the reports published and presented to the Club membership during the year now closing:

The report of the Port Development and Public Utility section on the railway systems of Oregon and southeastern Washington was published and adopted by the Club on January 2nd. After a very thorough study the committee presented a list of conclusions concerning

LECTURE SERIES START IN JANUARY

The City Club Section on Education is working out plans for the proposed series of public addresses on the Portland Public schools. A meeting of the special committee on arrangements was held on Saturday. The men who have been invited to give the addresses met with the committee.

Topics and speakers for eight lectures were decided on at the meeting of the committee and the place and dates for giving them were fixed. Lincoln High School auditorium was selected as the most suitable place for presenting the lectures. The series will start Tuesday evening, January 19th, and the lectures will be given

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Questionnaires concerning the different types of devices to be used in the synchronized traffic control system of Portland were inclosed in the *Bulletin* of the City Club last week. Up to the present time only a small number of these questionnaires have been returned. The Club committee which is making a study of the synchronized systems now being tried out in the city will greatly appreciate the immediate return of these questionnaires to the City Club office, 607 Oregon Building. The committee is endeavoring to find out which device now in use is best liked by the public generally. Four general types of devices are listed in the questionnaire: suspended type in center of intersection; American Bobby type; corner semaphore type, and corner light type. Other questions asked in the questionnaire are: Do you drive an automobile? Do you favor synchronized traffic control? Are you speaking as an autoist or a pedestrian? A large majority of the questionnaires returned at the present time favor the center suspension type in the middle of the intersection.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM ENJOYED BY MEMBERS

Christmas carols and a Christmas address gave to the luncheon meeting of the City Club last Friday the spirit of the Christmas season, filling the atmosphere with the spirit of good will. A Christmas program on the Friday immediately preceding Christmas day has become an annual event in City Club activity. Clement G. Clarke, pastor of the First Congregational church, delivered the address on the subject, "The Christmas Answer to the Riddle of the Sphinx." The quartet of the First Congregational church sang a number of Christmas anthems and carols.

"Nature speaks to man in loving kindness and if he is right in his attitude toward the world he will find that the world is friendly and on his side," declared Reverend Clarke.

"The greatest question ever asked is whether or not the world is friendly to human life and human aspirations, or is it inconsequential in its movements? Is there anything outside of our own souls that suggests decency and righteousness and judgement? There are plenty of men who do not escape the enthrallment of pessimism yet the world is not against us. There are many upward courses open to us if we but choose to take them.

"The spirit of peace, brotherhood and good will toward man will come. The Christmas spirit can and will be brought to pass even though the way be long and hard. If God speaks through man, then all the social visions and hopes of man belong to him by right and can be achieved by him.

"Jesus Christ is the answer to the riddle of the sphinx. The spirit of the Divine is shown in the life of man and in the soul of Christ. I choose to judge this world by its fruits and we are under obligation to take the best fruits to judge it by. From these I judge that we are workers with the power of the world for the things that Christmas stands for."

The regular luncheon meetings of the Board of Governors for Monday, December 28th, has been cancelled, because of the holiday season. The next meeting will be held Monday noon, January 4th, in the Grill of the Benson Hotel

The regular meeting of the Public Affairs committee will be held at Thursday noon, December 24th in the Grill of the Benson Hotel.

LECTURES TO START

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every Tuesday evening at eight o'clock until the course is completed.

The purpose of the series of lectures is to bring to the notice and attention of Portland people important facts concerning both the elementary and high schools of the city. It is expected that each speaker will present facts frankly whether favorable or unfavorable. Some of the lectures will be illustrated by slides and charts. All the lectures of the series will be open to the public without charge for admission.

Immediate interest in the series will be aroused and the value of the series will be taken for granted in the announcement that the introductory address will be given by Dr. Edward O. Sisson, professor of philosophy and education at Reed College and chairman of the City Club section on education. The opening lecture will deal very directly with the principles of the American public school system, its advantages and its faults.

The second lecture will be given by Frank L. Schull, chairman of the Portland School Board. He will discuss and explain the work of the school board in directing the affairs of the schools, its duties and responsibilities and the relations of the school board to the schools and to the public.

The third lecture will present the Portland school system as a whole, what it is and how it works. This lecture will be given by Charles A. Rice, superintendent of the Portland Public schools.

Norman C. Thorne, principal of Lincoln High school will follow with a lecture on the High schools, what they teach and where they lead to. Miss Julia Spooner, president of the Grade Teachers' Association, will give a lecture on the Elementary schools. The Research department, what it discovers and its value in the school system will be the subject of an address by Dr. B. W. DeBusk.

C. C. Chapman, editor of the *Oregon Voter*, will give an address on the Dollars for Education, from whom are they taken, from whom can we take more and how can we take them. The final lecture will be given by Richard W. Montague and will deal with the relation of the community to the public school system and what each may expect from the other.

It will be seen from this list of topics and speakers that the City Club has the co-operation of school officials and teachers as well as business

and professional men of the city in this undertaking of informing and interesting all the people of the community in a subject so vital to every one as the public schools. A request is being made also to civic organizations, parent-teacher associations and daddies clubs to cooperate in making this series of lectures a popular success and of permanent benefit to the community and to the schools.

Christmas anthems and carols sung by the quartet of the First Congregational church provided a program of Christmas music for City Club members at the luncheon meeting last Friday that will long be remembered as one of the most enjoyable of City Club luncheons. Members of the quartet were: Mrs. Charles C. Welker, soprano and director; Miss Leona Mourton, contralto; Mr. Granville Morgan, tenor; Mr. J. Scott Milne, bass; and Mrs. E. F. Pierce, accompanist.

YEAR'S WORK REVIEWED

(Continued from Page 1)

future extensions and developments in Oregon and the territory adjacent thereto. The report calls attention to the lack of transportation facilities in central and southeastern Oregon and the willingness of the railroads to extend.

The arbitration bill which was passed by the last state legislature was carefully analyzed and strongly favored in a report made by a committee of the Government Organization and Public Finance section on February 2nd. The report explained the need for such legislation and the procedure to be observed by arbitrators.

Excess Condemnation was the title of a report published by the City Planning section on February 6th. This report endorsed the legislative bill relating to excess condemnation by cities as approved by the City Planning commission of Portland and recommended that the same be submitted to the people for vote at the following general or special election. The report points out that excess condemnation laws have been found essential for the widening of existing streets in congested districts and that Portland must have such legal machinery available if some of our larger and more expensive projects are to be put over and the cost therefor equitably assessed and distributed.

Goitre Prevention and Treatment is the title of one of the very important public health questions upon which the Public Health section

reported on February 12th. The prevalence of goitre in Portland, means of prevention and approved methods of treatment are outlined in the report. The results of a survey of school children of Portland are included in this report which results are a fairly accurate index to the presence of goitre among the children of the city. The report takes up the several different types of goitre, the periods in life at which they are most likely to appear and their causes. The use of iodine containing salt and sodium iodide treatment of the water supply is considered fully in the report. The report was approved by the State Board of Health and the committee making the report was commended for the excellence of its work. More than 5000 extra copies were distributed through the public schools and other agencies, being placed in the homes where goiter was known to exist.

Arterial highways to relieve traffic congestion is the subject of a report made by a committee of the City Planning section on March 20th. The report suggests a plan for the relief of traffic congestion on Portland trans-Willamette bridges by constructing new arterial highway entrances to the city from the southwest and a new by-pass entrance from the northwest. The report points out that there is need for the stabilization of our present business district as the geographic center of our population. The lack of legal machinery to connect up the state highway system with the streets of Portland by roads whose grade and alignment conform to state standards and the division of jurisdiction are declared to be detrimental to the future development of the city. The report further suggests that Sullivan's Gulch be used for the construction of a through artery for fast moving vehicles giving ready access to the eastern part of the city and to the Columbia River Highway.

One of the outstanding reports of the year is that on the Upper Columbia River as a Waterway which was published by the Port Development and Public Utility section on May 1st. The report summarizes the conditions which are considered in solving the problem, gives conclusions as to the principles which should govern development and improvement of the river system, recommends that the City Club take action along certain lines and presents the detailed information on which the conclusions and recommendations are based. The report shows that complete canalization of the Columbia river to Priest Rapids and partial canalization of the Snake river to Lewiston

must be accomplished before these rivers can become factors in the transportation system of the Columbia River Basin; that power development on these rivers will aid materially in promoting the growth of the contiguous territory, thereby increasing the production of and demand for commodities which may be transported to these rivers; that improvement of the river and development of power can be accomplished most economically when built concurrently; and that, therefore, plans for one improvement should take into consideration and make provision for the other. The report further states that federal, state or municipal ownership and operation of power plants at the various dams is most undesirable and that these developments should be carried out by private capital under licenses from the Federal Power Commission, the Federal government paying the cost of those structures useful as aids to navigation. The waters of these rivers can be used for three purposes—navigation, power development and irrigation—and the allocations for each should be so coordinated that no one will suffer by reason of the water being diverted for the others.

A report of the Education and Recreation section concerning the \$900,000 and the \$345,000 special tax levies which were submitted to the voters at the school election on June 20th, was presented in the *Bulletin* on June 19th and was adopted by the Club on the same day. The report summarizes the need for the special levies and concludes by recommending that members of the City Club give their approval to the proposed levies and assist in bringing out as large a vote as possible.

A plan for a series of public lectures on the Portland public schools is the subject of a report made by the Education and Recreation section on December 11th. The plan looks to a series of lectures to be given by men who, from the nature of their work, are fitted to discuss the problems which are of peculiar interest to the citizens of Portland.

A report by the Government Organization and Public Finance section presented to the Club on December 11th recommends that the City Club by an appropriate resolution, urge the Foreign Relations committee of the United States Senate to report favorably, Senate resolution five without amendment which provides for adherence to the World Court, in order that it may receive prompt and unimpeded consideration by the Senate.
