

OREGON COMMISSION PRODS MR. BURLESON

Telephone Inquiry Message Has "Kick" in It.

CLEAR STATEMENT DESIRED

Oregon Body Would Like to Know Whether Postmaster-General Authorized Rate Increase.

SALEM, Or., Nov. 18.—(Special).—With the declaration that it is inconceivable that the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company should be afforded an advantage by reason of its financial superiority to competitors that up to this time have been required to pursue through the usual channels their applications for increases in rate schedules, the Public Service Commission today followed its recent message by another telegram to Postmaster-General Burleson. Today's message has a "kick" in it.

Declaring that the "people of Oregon are incensed at this injustice," the Commission asks the Postmaster-General to make us a definite statement as to whether the rates have been initiated by your authority, that we may determine our future action.

Commission Wants Facts.

In its latest demand upon the Postmaster-General the Commission says: "We are unofficially advised that you have authorized the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company to put into effect in Oregon a schedule of increased rates, upon your initiative. In view of your order, No. 1531, of date August 28, 1918, from which we quote: 'In all cases where rate adjustments are pending or immediately necessary they should be taken up by the company involved through the usual channels and action obtained whenever possible. In cases however, where rates are changed, such should be submitted to me for approval before being placed in effect,' we assume that you have acted under a misapprehension of the facts.

"If you are informed that the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company has attempted to file its increased rates in the usual manner and through the usual channel, which in this state is the Public Service Commission, that you have been misinformed. On the contrary, the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company has resorted to the subterfuge of attempting to file its rates without formal and public hearing in plain disregard of the established precedents of this commission and in violation of its statutes.

Oregon People Incensed. "If this is your information then you have full knowledge of the facts. If you are predicating your action upon any information other than as above outlined you are acting upon a supposed state of facts which does not exist. The Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company has denied none of its rights and has made no legal application to this commission for any increase.

"It seems inconceivable that this company should be afforded an advantage by reason of its financial superiority to competitors that up to this time have been required to pursue through the usual channels their applications for increases in rate schedules. The people of Oregon are incensed at this injustice, and we ask you to make us a definite statement as to whether rates have been initiated by your authority, that we may determine our future action.

"This commission feels that if any increased rates have been initiated in Oregon by other authority than its own, common courtesy demands that it should have direct knowledge of the facts."

Governor Ready to Assist.

At a conference between Governor Withycombe and the Public Service Commission today to consider further action relative to the attempt of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company to boost its rates, it developed that tomorrow a further conference will be held between the commission members, Attorney-General Brown and Assistant Attorney-General Bailey. At that time a definite decision probably will be made as to what course to pursue.

PHONE RATES HELD HIGH

Yakima Users Declare New Schedule Unreasonable.

YAKIMA, Wash., Nov. 18.—(Special).—The new telephone rate schedule received by the local office of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company from San Francisco headquarters telephone users generally declare to be unreasonably high, even under the existing range of war wages and prices. Whether any formal protest will be made is uncertain, since the lines are under government control and the increase has the sanction of Postmaster-General Burleson and the State Public Service Commission, according to reports here.

BANKERS HOLD ELECTION

TWO DIRECTORS OF FEDERAL RESERVE TO BE CHOSEN.

Three Oregon Men Nominated; Polls Open November 15 for Fifteen Days.

The terms of two directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of the Twelfth District expire December 31. The members of the bank in groups 2 and 4 have been notified of the vacancies and of the nominees for the places. Each member bank in each group has one vote, and all have been notified that the polls would be open after November 15, and the time for casting the ballots is 15 days from the receipt of notice. Group 2 comprises 434 banks having capital and surplus less than \$125,000 and vacancies in its class. A director. In this group there are 15 candidates, three of whom are from Oregon, one from Utah and the remainder from California. The banks nominate their own candidates. The Oregon nominees are E. C. Baird, of the First National Bank of Newberg; E. V. Carter, First National Bank, Astoria; and T. J. Mahoney, Livestock State Bank, North Portland. Alden Anderson, present director representing this group, is not a candidate for re-election.

ARMISTICE TERMS IGNORED

Extortion by Germans Since November 12 Charged.

BRUSSELS, Nov. 18.—(Havas).—M. Lemonnier, the acting burgomaster of Brussels, has written the delegates of the German government, giving details of the extortion which German soldiers extorted sums of money from inhabitants of Brussels, November 12 and 13. The armistice signed November 11 expressly prohibited such action. The sums taken varied from 500 francs to 110,000 marks, which were taken from a bank.

FLU IS STILL ON WANE

CITY HEALTH OFFICER WARNS PUBLIC TO BE CAREFUL.

Teachers Are Cautioned to Exercise All Care to Prevent Attendance of Afflicted.

At the conference today the Governor offered to assist in the fight in any way possible. "What use will be made of this offer will probably develop after the conference tomorrow. The Governor informed the commission that he was fully satisfied that the commission had taken every step in its power to bring about the desired remedy.

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The advance hits suburban service most severely. Rural store telephone cost \$2.50 a month, instead of \$1.50, and rural residences are charged \$3 instead of \$1.20.

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No reply was received from Representative Signott, who had also been asked to intervene, owing to his absence from Washington. The banker telegraphed that he had taken this question up with Senator McNary, who informed him that action already had been taken.

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PHONE CONTROVERSY CONTINUES UNABATED

Senator McNary Unable to Get Satisfaction.

INCREASE IS ESSENTIAL

Acting Postmaster-General Says More Money Needed to Employ Operators.

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emergency hospital are much improved, declares Dr. Parrish in predicting much lower numbers of cases and deaths for the rest of the week.

"There will be practically no cases after this week," he says, "if the people will isolate all suspects, stay at home when suffering from bad colds, smother their sneezes and take good care of themselves generally. Removal of the ban has not lessened the individual responsibility—it has increased it two-fold."

Schools opened yesterday, completing the readjustment of conditions upset by the closing orders of the past few weeks. About a fifth of the children reappeared. Teachers and other school officials have been cautioned to take every care to prevent the attendance of any of those afflicted.

Deaths reported yesterday: Arthur Edmunds, 33, shipworker, 67 North Twentieth; Mrs. V. Nakimura, 37, 400 Broadway street; Patrick Dwyer, 41, Foreman, 736 Irving street; Frank S. Burbanks, 38, teamster, Common; Miss LeRoy Chamberlain, 4, 6110 East Fifty-fourth avenue; Mrs. Margaret Daring, 33, 768 East Thirtieth street; Mal Kadolph, 18, Thirty-fifth and Powell Valley road; Henry B. Hallam, 36; Harry K. Hall, 34, shipworker; William Kowalsky, 22, 104 Stanton street; Glover, 23, student, Kenon Hotel; Roy E. Beery, 34, shipworker, Astoria; Robert W. Billman, 7, 115 1/2 Killingsworth avenue; Dorothy C. Garriott, 17, 834 Alhambra; Albert F. Krumpf, 31, Jeweler; Thomas O. Robinson, 2, 4423 East Fortieth avenue; Edna E. Cook, 603 East Askeny street; James A. Clement, 46, shipworker, 727 Tillamook street; Ruth L. Hunt, 26, Zimbra Apartments; Edward G. Bieker, 36, shipworker, Chesterberry Hotel; Victor K. Irwin, 34, auto mechanic, 625 East Twenty-first; George Coleman, 20, teamster; Mrs. Vera Boothby, 25, 385 Main street; Raymond May, 29, 412 Clinton street; Michael Showers, 20, shipworker; Joseph Stephenson, 36, waiter, 706 East Eighth street.

Flu Ban Off at Halsey. HALSEY, Or., Nov. 18.—(Special).—All regular church services were held in this town yesterday and school opened today. Dr. H. Garjnobst, city health officer, announces that the regulations regarding schools will be rigorously enforced. No children with possible symptoms of influenza will be allowed to remain in school and all people so affected will be required to stay away from church and public gatherings.

Linn County Lifts Epidemic Ban. LEBANON, Or., Nov. 18.—(Special).—The ban on all public meetings has been lifted in Linn County. The ban, which has been light, not more than half a dozen in this part of the county, and no new cases have developed in the last week.

Woodburn to Lift Ban Thursday. WOODBURN, Or., Nov. 18.—(Special).—To be perfectly safe from the ravages of the Spanish influenza, the Woodburn authorities refused to lift the ban until next Thursday morning, when schools will begin and public gatherings be allowed. The few cases left in town are of a mild form.

GUARD QUARREL QUIETS GOV. WITHYCOMBE APPOINTS ARBITRATION COMMITTEE. Expenditure of \$1000 Authorized to Fit Up Atkinson School as Company Headquarters.

Settlement of the controversy between the Multnomah Guard and the new Oregon National Guard, concerning the occupation of the Armory, will be attempted by a committee, named yesterday by Governor Withycombe, when members of both organizations appeared before him at Salem.

The committee named comprises Sheriff Hurlburt, chairman; Colonel Campbell and Lieutenant-Colonel Bowman of the Multnomah Guard; Adjutant-General Beebe, Colonel North and Major J. Francis Drake, of the Oregon National Guard.

At the conference Adjutant-General Beebe disclaimed all intention of inconveniencing the Multnomah Guard. It was suggested, and received with favor by both parties, that the Atkinson School, near the Armory, be secured as headquarters for the Multnomah Guard, while the Armory be shared for drill, with three nights a week allotted to each regiment.

Governor Withycombe said he would authorize the expenditure of \$1000 to equip quarters for the Multnomah Guard, subject to the approval of Major Drake.

It was definitely agreed that the Multnomah Guard Band is to retain its present location in the Armory, where the unit has spent \$650 to equip quarters.

Members of the Multnomah Guard who attended the conference were Sheriff Hurlburt, commander-in-chief; Colonel Campbell, Lieutenant-Colonel Bowman, and Captain Howell. State Senator-elect, they presented Governor Withycombe with petitions, liberally signed, praying for a reconsideration of the order to evacuate the Armory.

A Ter-Centenary Jubilee is being planned by Portland colored people in commemoration of the 300th anniversary of the landing of their race on the shores of America.

Rev. J. B. Janes, pastor of the Bethel A. M. E. Church, has been named chairman of the committee on arrangements. Efforts are being made to bring together fraternal, social, religious and patriotic organizations for the jubilee. A parade will be held with banners and floats depicting the first of the negro race brought to America and landed at Jamestown, Va.

NEGROES TO CELEBRATE Anniversary of Landing of Race in America is Occasion.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—Supplies of grain held in elevators, which will be available to meet the needs of this country, as well as to aid Europe, are far greater than they were a year ago. Director-General McAdoo today made public a report from the operating division of the Railroad Administration showing that on November 9 there was on hand in the primary elevators 114,041,000 bushels of grain.

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Submarine Sinking Seen. F. W. Kellogg, of San Francisco, Returns From Trip to Europe.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 18.—F. W. Kellogg, publisher of the San Francisco Call, returned today from a trip along the coast. Kellogg is a member of a party of 12 American editors, guests

of the British government. His experiences, he said, included a view of what he said he believed was the last sinking of a German submarine in a battle with the American destroyer Fox. The submarine attacked one of the vessels of the convoy in which the party was returning to the United States.

The party was received by King George and Queen Mary and Mr. Kellogg had a conversation with the Premier, Lloyd George, in the same room and seated at the same table at which sat King George III and Lord North when they decided upon the action which precipitated the American revolution.

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