THE ST. HELENS MIST

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HELENS PEOPLE AP RATE INCREASE

Business and Professional Men St. Helens Think as to the Telephone Rate Increase—Some Favor Recall, Others Rehearing.

order to ascertain the sentiment business and professional men the justice or injustice or ne- ty of the ruling of the Public ice Commission which allowed elephone company to raise their about 30 per cent. and in some ness about 75 per cent., The interviewed a number of persons presents their views briefly stat- The Warren farmers expressed views in no uncertain terms, ount of which is in this issue he Mist. Our own views are ex- ed editorially.

E. Ramsey:—Conditions did not ant any such increase. The ten- now is downward, not upward. es are falling. I am certainly op- d to the increase.

n Copeland of Copeland Auto I don't see how in —— the e company got by with it, don't put it down that way.

Beeler, manager Columbia Riv- Meat Co. It is clear out of rea- Wages have been cut and prices coming down. I have ordered residence phone taken out.

n A. Gray:—When wages and erial are coming down it seems ge to me that the telephone have to go up. The action of Public Service Commission was justifiable.

ke Large:—It is almost a crime.

S. Mason:—Under present con- ns, the increase was not justifi-

R. Rutherford:—I do not favor call of the Commission but I am vor of having a rehearing. The ease is entirely too much. The ple would not have kicked so h if there had been an increase ay 25c per phone, but 75c to $1 t of all reason.

W. Allen:—It is away out of portion and in my opinion entire- unnecessary. The phone compa- will not make anything by it for y phones will be taken out. It be the same story as the railroad increase.

R. Howe:—If the telephone pany will give some service, I ose we can stand the increase. when wages are being cut and es coming down, the fellow who ds a wage cut doesn't see why er things should be increased. It st such things as these that cause st and bolshevism.

Ed. Jones:—When things are go- down it doesn't seem to me that phone rates should go up. I do think the increase is justifiable. it was during war times, they ht have had some excuse.

Dr. Edwin Ross:—It looks like a e of getting all the traffic will nd. The phone company should e learned a lesson from the pres- railroad situation.

A. E. Sorum:—It is the rottenest l ever heard of. This is pretty in language but the only way I express it.

John Philip:—It is disgraceful. will have to pay for the plant and n pay interest on the plant.

W. B. Dillard:—I considder the ac- n of the commission as unpatriotic. hen every one is trying to get back normaley, the commission commits act which upsets matters.

J. H. Wellington:—It is a rotten al. At the present time, things ould go down instead of going up. ere are two phones in the sheriff's ice and I am going to dispense with e of them.

Councilman James McDonald — hat do I think of it? Well I have eady ordered my phone out. I am dy to circulate a petition for the al of the Public Service Commis- n.

Joe, Maxfield, representative of arles R. McCormick & Co.:—If the vance had been made a year ago en everything was up and on the crease, it would have been differ- t, but recently everything has tak- a tumble and there have been re- ctions in wages. I do not believe e Public Service Commission acted tely for do I think the telephone mpany will profit by the ruling.

Walter Blakesley:—It is an outage and I think the commission ould be recalled.

Dr. L. G. Ross:—Of course I have have a phone so will have to pay hatever is charged. It appears to e, however, that the phone compa- chose a very poor time to make ch an increase.

A. H. Tarbell, Master of Pomona range:—If the telephone company ould have made a small raise, we ould have stood for it, but when ey raise the farmer lines—what ey call suburban lines, from $1 to 2.50 we think an increase of 150% entirely too much and I doubt if e people will stand for it.

Judge Martin White:—I cannot see here they were justified in any ise. It looks to me like the compa- y caught the commission on the rest of high prices and asked for an ncrease before the public could ask or a reduction.

L. J. VanOrshoven:—Possibly the hone company was entitled to some ncrease but a raise of 35% to 40% eems out of reason.

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TEACHERS' INSTITUTE AT SCAPPOOSE

On Saturday last a Teachers' Institute was held at the Scappoose school and a number of teachers from the several schools in Columbia county attended. Superintendent W. C. Alderson of Multnomah county delivered a fine address to the teachers and W. L. Rutherford, principal of the St. Helens schools was one of the speakers. A musical program added to the entertainment and county superintendent J. B. Wilkerson was well pleased with the success of the meeting. The next institute will be held at Mist on Friday, April 1st and it is expected that the teachers of the Nehalem Valley will turn out in force. Superintendent Wilkerson is arranging an instructive and entertaining program.

STEAMER AMERICA ON NEW RUN

On Monday morning the steamer America began a new run, and for the first time in many years, the Willamette slough route has no steamer service. The Iralda had been withdrawn from the Rainier-St. Helens—Portland run because the business did not justify the operation of the boat, the motor trucks, as Lawrence Holman, manager of the company, stated, having made inroads on the business. The America now has a new schedule. The leaving time from St. Helens is 7:00 a. m. and the boat takes the Columbia river route, arriving in Portland at 2:30 p. m. and arrives in St. Helens at 5 p. m. On Sundays the boat leaves Portland at 11:30 a. m. arriving at St. Helens at 2:30. Mr Holman stated to The Mist that he wanted to keep the service going and the only way by which he could do it was to have the patronage of the public. The America and Iralda have been on their respective runs for many years and have given the best of service, but Mr. Holman does not think that he can continue to operate the boats at a loss. "It remains," he said, "with the shippers whether or no we can keep the boats on the run and as long as we can make expenses, we will do so, but we cannot afford to run at a loss month after month."

HIGH CLASS PLAYS BOOKED FOR LIBERTY

On Sunday and Monday, March 20th and 21st, the Liberty Theatre will present "The Sagebrushers" which is a photoplay of Emerson Hough's famous novel. Ray Hanaert plays the leading role, as he did in the U. P. Trail. Marguerite De La Motte is the "woman in the case" and she is seen at her best in this wonderful picture. Tuesday and Wednesday Hobart Bosworth will be seen in "Below the Surface." Wherever played, this screen production has met with a hearty reception. It is a wonderful picture and has a thrill every minute. It shows a steamer, wrecked and sinking, a submarine at the bottom of the sea and a diver working at the wreck. He meets with a mishap and is saved by the daring bravery of another diver. Harry Carey, another screen favorite, will be seen Saturday. The bill for the entire week is very good and doubtless will draw big houses.

GO BACK EAST TO MAKE PAVING BLOCK

With thousands of tons of the best rock suitable for making paving blocks and with hundreds of yards of streets in Oregon which should be paved with these Belgian blocks and with many expert blockmakers willing to work here, it seems strange that they have to go all the way across the country to secure a job block making, but it is true nevertheless, for Sunday morning Jack Lafferty, Olof Dahlgren and Arthur Adams leave for Philadelphia, Penn., to make blocks for street paving in the Quaker City. They have a job for several months and at top wages.

WEEKLY LUMBER REVIEW

New orders for the week ending March 12th, declined as compared with the previous week.

Production, at 3,761,765 feet, was 44 per cent. below normal.

New business, at 35,027,637 feet; and shipments, at 53,929,765 feet; both continued under normal.

The industry is hopeful, but not confident, that freight rate adjustments effective April 1st will inspire better conditions.

Failure of the railroads to lower rates sufficiently to restore competitive relationships accounts for the indicated lack of confidence as to the immediate future.

The unshipped balance of rail delivery business totaled 3,467 carloads; unshipped domestic cargoes, 64,853,499 feet; export, 14,384,604 feet.

STOCKHOLDERS TO MEET MARCH 26

A. H. Tarbell, president of the Warren Co-operative Warehouse Association states that the annual meeting of the stockholders will be held at the warehouse hall on Saturday, March 26th at 10:30 o'clock. Two directors are to be elected and any other business transacted which may legally come before the meeting. Another matter is the making of arrangements for a marketing committee.

HIGH SCHOOL WILL HOLD BIG CARNIVAL

actors and actresses are members of the grade and high school classes and the carnival will be held at the school house. It begins promptly at eight o'clock and there will be hundreds present to see the Wild Man of Borneo, the Japanese Tea Gardens, the chorus girls and the many other attractions. The main show will be held in the auditorium and after that you can wander from room to room. You may have your fortune told, fish in the big fish pond, patronize the lemonade booth or the candy booth, see the Egyptian booth, the Star Chasers and thousands of other stellar attractions. Never before has such a big show been staged at such a reasonable price for it will cost only 15c for admission, and every cent taken in will go towards paying for the new and handsome stage curtain which the students bought for the school auditorium.

It is a safe guess that the attendance at the school tonight will break all previous attendance records.

WARREN-ST. HELENS ROAD REPAIRED

Road Supervisor Uther Clark states to the Mist that the Warren St. Helens road is being repaired. The new scarifier, drawn by the tractor has scarified the road from St. Helens to Warren and has averaged about a mile a day, Mr. Clark said. The road is being smoothed up and in some places, crushed rock and screenings placed. In a few days we will have the rollers at work and thinks that the job will be completed within the coming week. For some months the road has been very rough and travel either by auto or team far from comfortable, and people who use the road will appreciate it being put in a passable condition.

INCOME TAX REPORTS FILED IN LAST RUSH

The St. Helens postoffice had a big outgoing mail on Tuesday the 15th. One of the reasons was that it was the last day that income tax reports could be filed and many waited for the last day. For days some of our worthy citizens has pondered over the complicated blank sent out by the government, and it was a sigh of relief (and we speak from experience) when the report was completed and mailed. It is estimated that several thousand dollars were contributed to Uncle Sam by residents of St. Helens.

FAIR DATES FIXED BY BOARD

The Columbia County Fair is to be held on Sept. 21, 22 and 23rd. This was decided at a recent meeting of the Fair Board. It was also decided to make this year's fair the biggest and best fair ever held in the county. In addition to the regular appropriation, the county court at the budget meeting was instructed to furnish an additional $1000 for fair purposes. This gives the board ample financial support and it is expected that they will use their best efforts to bring to the fair exhibits of merit.

OREGON'S DEAD IN WAR TOTALS 934

SALEM.—Oregon's recorded list of dead in world war service totals 944 men, Adjutant General George A. White announced today, following the completion of a state-wide survey and compilation.

COUNCIL PASSES ON SALARY ORDINANCES

the city treasurer ... per year was read for the third time and passed by unanimous vote, all members being present. Likewise the ordinance which gives the city library $750 per year in equal monthly installments, was put on its final reading and passed by a unanimous vote.

An ordinance which raises the salary of the city attorney to $40 per month was read first and second times, and will come up for final action at the next meeting.

Ex-Mayor Saxton addressed the council with a request that action be taken toward repairing the walk fronting on Wellington's water lot on the hill. If Wellington could not be persuaded to repair it, the ex-mayor suggested that a subscription be taken up and applied on repairs. The council promised to have the matter attended to from some source.

The matter of granting a franchise to the bus line running into St. Helens came up for some informal discussion. The question, however, was put in abeyance until next meeting, at which time the attorney representing the bus line will be present. The matter also of licensing local motor vehicles was discussed. Mayor Ballagh was of the opinion that some new ordinances should be drafted to cover this question, and he turned the matter over to the judiciary committee to report on at the next meeing.

Other matters of minor importance and the allowing of a few bills terminated the short session.

The St. Helens Co-operative Creamery Association held a special meeting Saturday for the purpose of electing a director. P. H. Lund was elected and the meeting voted to increase the capital stock of the concern to $5000. The present capital stock is $3000.

John L. Storla went to Deer Island Tuesday to attend a hearing of the Deer Island Co-operative Telephone Company before the Public Service Commission. The commission was represented by Chief Clerk W. P. Ellis and L. A. Harris. A number of the phone users were present and spoke in favor of the increase to $2 per month so that the line could be rebuilt and better service given.

Mr. and Mrs. Jared Wilson who live five miles west of Rainier, towards the Apiary section, returned to their home Saturday after spending several days in St. Helens. The Wilsons have lived on their farm for forty years, Mr. Wilson having taken up a part of it as a homestead. He is a G. A. R. veteran having served for four years in the 8th. Illinois cavalry. Later on the Mist will have a story from them relating to pioneer days in Columbia county.

Rev. A. R. Spearow, Mrs. Spearow and little daughter came down to St. Helens Thursday to spend a day with friends. Rev. Spearow who until a few months ago was pastor of the Congregational church here, now resides in Eugene and is connected with the University of Oregon in Y.M.C.A. work. He was in Portland on a mission connected with his work and said he couldn't resist the temptation to run down to St. Helens and see his friends and also the new church which was begun before he left the St. Helens pastorate.

The Milton Creek Logging Company have not resumed operations though it is expected they will soon start. Manager Briggs was in St. Helens this week and went out to the camp and it is supposed that he is arranging for an early resumption of logging work.

TAX COLLECTIONS COMING IN SLOW

People are not rushing in to pay their taxes. Perhaps it is because the taxes are so high that some can not pay and perhaps it is because that the taxpayer is waiting until the last day, which is April fifth, before surrendering his money. The sheriff's office reports that only $62,000 in taxes had been collected at the close of business on March 17th. As taxes are paid on or before the fifth proximately $650,000 is yet due. If taxes are paid on or before the fifth of April, one half of the tax due may be received by the tax collector. If such payment is not made, the whole amount is due and draws a very healthy interest rate. Sheriff Wellington expects that there will be a last day rush to pay tax money.

NEHALEM PIONEER FAVORS PITTSBURG ROAD

It was about forty years ago that F. J. Peterson landed in Clatskanie and went to Nehalem by a "trail through the mountains," and with the exception of a few years that he spent in Corvallis, he has lived in the Nehalem since that date mentioned. He has a fine 160 acre farm about midway between Mist and Pittsburg. He took it as a homestead and when he took it, there was little cleared land along the banks of the Nehalem river. The big trees were numerous and many of them had to be felled in order to make room for the humble shack which Peterson built. Most of the big trees are now gone and Peterson has one of the best farms in the Nehalem country. He was here Thursday to pay taxes and attend to other business and came via the way of Clatskanie. He said that if the St. Helens-Pittsburg road was completed, he could have made the round trip in one day, and incidentally he recalled the time of thirty years ago when he "used to walk over the St. Helens-Pittsburg road" and make the trip in one day.

FIELDHOUSE SELLS MANY FORD CARS

Although the Ford factory has not resumed operation, Manager Fieldhouse of the Fieldhouse Motor Company, in some manner not known to other Ford dealers, continues to get a shipment of cars now and then and has been able to fill the orders he has booked. Recently he delivered to Dewey Harrison of St. Helens a Ford chassis which is used as a delivery wagon. J. E. Geartman, T. B. Mills and T. S. Handley of St. Helens purchased touring cars and P. A. Dixon invested in a truck. L. Gabrielson of Warren bought a touring car and Wiggins & Company of Portland purchased a coupe. Captain Arnold who was here last year as superintendent of the Warren Construction Company came to St. Helens and went back home driving a brand new Ford touring. Mr. Fieldhouse says he expects to obtain at least 8 cars during the next thirty days and after that time he is not certain just how many he can get each month.

SLIGHT CHANGE IN TRAIN SCHEDULE

Effective Sunday March 20th, there is a change in the railroad schedule. Train 24, bound for Portland, will arrive at St. Helens at 7:12 p. m. instead of 9:17 p. m. as heretofore and arrive in Portland at 8:26 p. m. Train 29, bound for Astoria will leave St. Helens at 7:17 p. m., just one minute earlier than the present schedule. The Rainier local's schedule remains as at present and the company hopes that the patronage will be sufficient to keep the train on the run. It was thought that it would be the best policy to withdraw the train, but agent Gilby prevailed upon officials to keep it going for the time being and await developments.

PORTLAND COUNCIL ASKS FOR REHEARING

PORTLAND, March -1—The council by unanimous vote today adopted a resolution calling upon the state public service commission for a complete rehearing of the telephone rate case, under which the Pacific Telephone and Tel graph company was recently granted increased tolls in Oregon.

This matter wil be brought before the St. Helens council at their meeting Monday night and a resolution introduced asking the state public service to give a rehearing. It is expected that many citizens will be present to explain the matter to the council and ask for immediate action.

COUNTY GETS MORE TRUCKS FROM STATE

Recently Columbia county has obtained four trucks from the state highway department. They were the property of the government used during war times and then turned over to the highway department. One of the trucks was sent to the Scappoose district and one to Rainier. There are two here and are being repaired under the supervision of Road Supervisor Uther Clark. In all, the county has ten trucks, six of them having come from the state department.

The county court will meet in special session tomorrow morning for the purpose of opening bids for contract work on the Pettijohn road in the Nehalem and the Miller hill road near Deer Island.

PHONE USERS FAVOR RECALL

Meeting Held Tuesday Night and Attended by Seventy Phone Users. Resolution Passed Favoring Recall of Public Service Commission.

A meeting of the phone users in the Warren district was held at Warren Tuesday night and attended by seventy or more farmers and residents of that locality who are telephone subscribers. The following resolution was introduced and passed without a dissenting vote.

"Resolved, That we the telephone users and farmers of the Warren district, favor the recall of the Oregon Public Service Commission and will work for the success of the recall in so far as we are capable and able."

There was a discussion as to the advisability of buying the "farmer line" phone system and a committee was appointed to call on Manager Scott of the local office and ascertain the price of the Warren lines. If the price was reasonable, plans would be made to raise capital and buy the system and if the price was too high, it was suggested that the farmers build a line to the city limits of St. Helens and then connect with the main trunk line.

It is planned to have a central at Warren and switch the calls to the trunk line, and it was stated to the Mist that many of the Scappoose neighborhood subscribers would join the Warren people in the project. Another meeting will be held in the near future and after the report of the committee is received, a definite plan will be outlined.

A well informed resident of the Warren neighborhood stated that if a recall petition was circulated, it would be freely signed, and pointed out that the rate had been raised from $1 per month to $2.50 per month and on many lines there were from 8 to 14 phones. He thought that the raise was out of all proportion as compared to the raise in other places, which, in most instances, averaged about 25 per cent. while the farmer or suburban lines had to stand an increase of 150 per cent.

SHIPPING NOTES

The schooner Irene finished taking on her cargo of 900,000 feet of [illegible] and as soon as the clearance papers are made out will leave down river and put to sea for Hilo, H. T.

The steamer Daisy Mathews carrying 1,000,000 feet of lumber left out Wednesday night bound for San Pedro, California.

After taking on a partial cargo the steamer Celilo left out Tuesday night for Knappton, Washington, to complete the cargo before sailing for California.

One of the big steamers of the Admiral line is expected in St. Helens this week and will take on a consignment of lumber for delivery at a foreign port.

The steamer Wapama is expected to arrive in the river today and after discharging a general cargo at Portland will come to St. Helens to take on a lumber cargo for California.

The schooner Irene is expected to complete taking on her cargo of 900,000 feet of lumber tonight and will be ready tomorrow to leave down river and said for the Hawaiian Islands.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WILL GIVE DINNER

The St. Helens Chamber of Commerce will hold a banquet and get together session in the Oreadia hotel dining room Friday evening, March 25. Plates will be laid for 200 and those in charge of the affair are laying plans to make it one of the most successful dinner meetings the chamber members have participated in for many months.

In addition to local celebrities who will speak, J. W. Brewer of Portland has consented to make the chief address of the evening. He is a logical and convincing speaker and he will no doubt touch on topics of interest to St. Helens boosters.

Music will be a feature of the dinner and those in charge are also casting about for a singer to entertain the diners. Not the least to enter into the affair is the preparation of the dinner, which will be under the direct supervision of the Ladies Aid of the Congregational church, whose members will prepare the viands and be in charge of the dining room service.

INTERESTING SERVICES AT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Beginning Sunday night and continuing through the week, Archdeacon Chamber of the Episcopal Diocese, has been holding interesting services each night at Christ Episcopal church. Each night Rev. Chambers gave a short sermon and followed it with a heart to heart common sense talk. A song service has been one of the features of the nightly meetings. Archdeacon Chambers will conclude the services tonight and he has a very interesting subject. The public is cordially invited to attend this service and they may feel assured they will be amply repaid for the effort. Rev. Chambers is an entertaining speaker and his talks are instructive and worth going a long way to hear.