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### COMMISSION FIXES RATES

#### TELEPHONE CASES EXPLAINED IN DETAIL.

Order Fixes Minimum Charges to Subscribers Hereafter.

Further details pertaining to the decision of the railroad commission of Oregon announced in the Observer yesterday, are contained in a lengthy article from Salem. The article says of the rates that must be charged by the Co-operative company hereafter:

This is the first case of the kind that ever came before the railroad commission and the commissioners' order indicates the broad powers conferred upon the commission by the public utilities act. In this case the Home Independent Telephone company complain-

ed that the Eastern Oregon Co-operative Telephone company was ruining its business by its low competitive rates, that it was sapping the cream of the service in Union county, and that it was operating its lines, which served Elgin, Summerville, Cove and Union at a loss to itself, that its wires and equipment were not of as good material as those of the plaintiff company. The defendant company replied that it was entirely satisfied with the returns it was receiving, that the telephone system was a mutual and co-operative concern and was intended to give its patrons a cheap service.

But the railroad commission finds this service is being given too cheaply. It finds that a company cannot voluntarily operate at a loss to itself and ruin to its competitor. The principle here laid down is considered of far reaching importance.

The company was furnishing telephones to its own members, who paid a membership fee of \$35, for 50 cents a month, and to non-members for \$1 a month, and all patrons were entitled to 10 free long distance calls a month over any of the company's lines. After the suit was begun the company made its charges to members and non-members equal. There was no difference in the rental of business and residence telephones or in private or party lines.

The commission orders the company to charge as a minimum the following:

For business telephones, individual service, \$2.50 per month; party lines \$2 per month; for residence telephones individual service, \$1.75 per month; party lines, \$1.25 per month; such rental to include the privilege of free use of the association's lines in Union county for conversations limited to four minutes to all subscribers of defendant, if it so elects. The company is given 30 days in which to put these rates into effect.

These charges are to be made to all persons, whether members of the association or not.

In its order the commission says:

"The commission finds that the rates and charges made and imposed by the defendant, as the same existed at the time of the hearing, were and are insufficient to provide sufficient funds to operate and maintain the plant of the defendant, and will not provide any depreciation or replacement fund or reserve, or to pay any part of the fixed charges on the outstanding indebtedness of the said association representing its investment in the telephone plant serving its patrons. That the charges fixed by said tariff, O. R. C. No. 1, viz., \$1 per month, with free switching stations on defendant's lines, are insufficient to yield sufficient income to provide for the proper maintenance and operation of said plant, and will yield nothing toward the creation of a depreciation fund, or the meeting of its fixed charge obligations. That without sufficient revenue the service of defendant cannot be maintained at an adequate or reasonable standard."

#### Millionaire Up For White Slavery.

Los Angeles, July 24.—George H. Bixby, multi-millionaire, owner of the famous Hotel Virginia at Long Beach, heavy stockholder in half a dozen banks and trust companies, trustee of a prominent college and member of exclusive society, circles was due for trial today on the charge of contributing to the delinquency of Irene Marie Brown-Levy, 18, and Cleo Heien Barker, 19, who are minors under the California juvenile law until they are 21 years of age.

Because he suffered an operation of the nose recently Bixby did not go to trial today. The trial is now scheduled for September 11.

The case against Bixby grew out of the white slave investigations, started some months ago by the Los Angeles county grand jury when Kitty Phillips, a moving picture actress, was accused of blackmailing a man whose name was withheld by the authorities. She charges that this mysterious character, who went under the name of "Black Pearl" was Bixby.

The blackmail charges were never pressed. Instead, Kitty Phillips was charged with vagrancy before Police Judge Rose, now mayor of Los Angeles, and "run out of town" on suspended sentence of six months. She took with her to San Francisco, Marie Forrester, another young girl. Subsequent charges by Miss Phillips started the grand jury probe, and the two girls were brought back to Los Angeles by detectives. Both testified before the grand jury, and the incident of Bix-

by, Mrs. Josie Rosenberg and Mrs. Elizabeth Espey followed.

The millionaire claims that the charges against him are the result of his refusal to pay blackmail. He has employed Oscar Lawler, noted as special prosecutor in the McNamara dynamite investigation, to defend him.

Mrs. Rosenberg and Elizabeth Espey, rooming house keepers, are charged with having enticed young girls into dives and there engineered meetings between them and rich men for profit. Irene Brown-Levy told the grand jury that she was given \$800 by one man in one of Mrs. Rosenberg's resorts. The money she says was divided into three portions, one to herself, one to Mrs. Rosenberg and one to Mrs. Espey.

If a conviction is secured against Bixby, the grand jury will renew its inquiry into white slavery conditions here. Bixby's defense is expected to be that the girls involved are all members of a gigantic blackmailing ring who have successfully imposed on the public. Bixby has been at liberty on \$10,000 bail.

#### See America First.

Portland, Ore., July 24.—To keep at home at least a portion of the half million dollars which, according to government statistics, is being spent annually by Americans seeking health and pleasure in foreign countries, congress and President Wilson will, in the near future, be requested formally to create a national tourist and travel commission as a permanent federal board, the purpose of which will be the advancement of the "See America First" movement.

Plans with this idea in view are being prepared today by George L. Hutchin, president of the festivals association of the Pacific coast, an organization made up of the executive officers of the festivals and carnivals held annually by various municipalities of the Pacific coast. When the plans are perfected they will be put in the form of a memorial to congress and the president pointing out the advantages of such a commission and urging its immediate creation. After the memorial has been presented several congressmen from Pacific coast states will collaborate on a bill which will be introduced in congress.

The idea of the National Tourist and Travel commission had its inception at the annual convention of the Festival association held recently in Tacoma Wash. An executive committee has been appointed by President Hutchin to interest the congressional delegates of various states in the movement so that when the memorial and bill are brought before the national executive board for action it will receive due consideration.

The proposed commission would be empowered to make a thorough investigation of the natural scenic beauties and climatic conditions of every portion of the country, investigate and classify the various winter and summer resorts of the United States and gather all possible data to be placed at the disposal of the traveling public especially that portion which is accustomed to make annual pilgrimages abroad.

#### A Penny a Lunch.

St. Louis, Mo., July 24.—It has been just one month today since the anti-free lunch law went into effect here and every one is agreed that there might as well not be any such law. Practically every saloon in the city sells a pretty fair lunch for one cent. Others have placed slot machines near the eats with placards calling attention to the law and asking beer buyers to drop pennies in the slot if they get away with any of the food. In one downtown saloon, one of the biggest in town, an inquisitive patron counted four cents in one of the pay as you eat money boxes just after few hundred hungry and thirsty base ball fans, returning from a ball game, had eaten everything on the lunch counter. During the time the crowd was in the saloon, the attendant behind the lunch counter was busy elsewhere. In some of the saloons the proprietors insist on the payment of the penny but the customer gets a ticket which he doesn't have to turn in at the lunch counter and which can be carried about and used as a sort of "rain check" ticket. Nobody has been arrested yet for swiping a few hot dogs and cheese.

Phonograph Correspondence. Paris, July 24.—Correspondence by phonograph today is the very latest innovation in business circles here. The

## Classified Directory

### FRATERNAL ORDERS.

A. F. & A. M.—La Grande Lodge No. 41, A. F. & A. M. holds regular meetings first and third Saturdays at 8:30 p. m. Cordial welcome to all Masons.  
GEO. E. COCHRAN, W. M.  
A. C. WILLIAMS, Sec.

B. P. O. E.—La Grande Lodge No. 433 meets each Thursday evening at 8 o'clock in Elk's club, corner of Depot street and Washington avenue. Visiting brothers cordially invited to attend.  
L. F. DUNN, E. R.  
H. E. COOLIDGE, Rec. Sec.

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD—La Grande Lodge No. 169 W. O. W. meets every first and third Fridays at I. O. O. F. hall. All visiting members welcome.  
W. W. BERRY, C. C.  
J. H. KEENEY, Clerk

MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA—La Grande Camp No. 7703 meets on the first and third Thursday evenings of each month in the K. of P. hall. Visiting neighbors welcome.  
A. W. NELSON, V. C.  
W. F. LANDRUM, Clerk.

ROYAL NEIGHBORS—Meets every second and fourth Fridays every month. All visiting members cordially invited.  
CORA FITZGERALD, Oracle.  
LILLY C. KIMMIE, Recorder.

REBEKAHS—Crystal Lodge No. 50 meets every Tuesday evening in the I. O. O. F. hall. All visiting members are invited to attend.  
ZELLA ROBERTSON, N. G.,  
EVA MONROE, Sec.

L. O. O. M.—La Grande Lodge No. 850, Loyal Order of Moose holds regular meetings first and third Monday nights, at I. O. O. F. hall. Visitors always welcome.  
P. A. FOLEY, D.  
C. H. SCRANTON, Sec.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS—Red Cross Lodge No. 27 meets every Monday night in Castle hall, (Old Elks' hall) A Pythian, welcome to all visiting Knights.  
H. P. OLIVER, C. C.  
R. L. LINCOLN, K. of R. & S.

O. E. S.—Hope Chapter No. 13, O. E. S. holds stated communications the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. Visiting members cordially invited.  
MISS CYNTHIA STEIN, W. M.  
MARY A. WARNICK, Sec.

F. O. E.—La Grande Aerie No. 259 meets every Friday evening at 8 o'clock, at the K. of P. hall. Visiting members cordially welcomed.  
HARRY W. SWART, W. P.  
L. F. BELLINGER, Sec.

WOMEN OF WOODCRAFT CIRCLE NO. 47—Meet second and fourth Tuesday nights of each month at K. of P. hall. All visiting neighbors welcome.  
LENA HEAD, G. N.  
LILLIE ALLSTOTT, Clerk.

### OSTEOPATHS.

GEO. W. ZIMMERMAN—Osteopath physician. Over Lilly's hardware store. Phone Main 63. Successor to Dr. F. E. Moore.

### PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

A. L. RICHARDSON, M. D.  
J. W. LOUGHLIN, M. D.  
Drs. Richardson & Loughlin—Physicians and surgeons. Phone—Office, Black 1362. Dr. Richardson's res.—Main 55. Dr. Loughlin's res.—Main 767.

DR. R. E. L. HOLT—Physician and surgeon; successor to Dr. N. McIntor; corner Adams avenue and Depot St. Phones—Office Main 68. Residence, Main 730.

DR. M. K. HALL—Physician and surgeon. New Foley building, third floor. Phone Main 58.

C. H. UPTON, Ph. G. M. D.—Physician and surgeon. Special attention to eye, ear, nose and throat. Office in La Grande National Bank Building. Phones: Office Main 68. residence, Main 32.

DR. H. L. UNDERWOOD—Physician and surgeon. Diseases of the eye a specialty.

DR. DORA J. UNDERWOOD—Diseases of women and children. Offices—Adams avenue, over the Cross Drug Store.

### VETERINARY.

DR. P. A. CHARLTON—Veterinary surgeon. County stock inspector. Office at Hill's drug store, La Grande. Residence phone, Red 700. office phone, Black 1361.

### CHIROPRACTORS.

G. T. DARLAND CHIROPRACTIC PARLORS—No. 4, Depot St., adjoining Oregon hotel. Phone Red 1751.

### DENTISTS.

MODERN PAINLESS DENTISTS—Dr. D. J. Gilliland, Operator; Dr. Thos. C. Ohmart, Mgr. Depot and Adams Ave., La Grande, Ore.

### ATTORNEYS AT LAW.

H. E. DIXON, LAWYER—All State and Federal Courts. Collections. Rooms 4 and 5, La Grande National Bank Building.

COCHRAN & EBERHARD—Geo. T. Cochran and Colon R. Eberhard Attorneys. La Grande National Bank Bldg., La Grande, Oregon.

T. H. CRAWFORD; ROBT. S. EAKIN; CRAWFORD & EAKIN—Attorneys at law. Practice in all the courts of the state and United States. Office in La Grande National Bank Building, La Grande, Oregon.

R. J. GREEN—Attorney-at-Law. Rooms 9-10, Sommer Bldg., La Grande, Ore. Practices in all state and federal courts.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

CHAUNCEY E. BUNTING—Architect. General building work. Estimates cheerfully furnished. Room 9, Loftus Bldg.

Isn't it odd how everything seems to kinda run down when mother takes her vacation?

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No. 1.—50 acres of good farm land, all in cultivation, well fenced, all in oats and barley. About five miles north of La Grande. Three roomed house. Good barn. Price \$4000.00. For sale or trade.

No. 2.—Hotel. With twenty-seven rooms, twenty-three bedrooms. All well furnished, new dishes, new range, good piano. Ice house, two lots. Doing a good business. For sale on easy terms. Price \$4000.00 Will trade for farm.

No. 3.—120 acres in one and one-half miles of La Grande. 77 acres bottom land, 43 side hill pasture all fenced, and the bottom land has a good crop of hay, will average about two tons to the acre. This place must be sold and is a snap at \$6000.00

No. 4.—20 acres three miles from La Grande under fence, all in good cultivation. Price \$2000.00. Adjoining land, same quality, held at \$250 per acre.

No. 5.—112 1-2 acres. 18 acres in good bearing fruit orchard. 65 acres in grain. Balance in pasture and timber, in Mt. Glen district. Improvements fair. Price \$5000.00 on easy terms.

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