STOCKGROWERS HAVE PROBLEMS

Meeting Being Held Today Attended by Representatives of Industry From all Sections.

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., Jan. 12.—Never before have the stockgrowers of the country been confronted with as many or as serious problems as those being faced today, Senator John B. Kendrick, of Wyoming told the American Live Stock association in convention here today.

"The solution of our task," said Senator Kendrick, "lies along the line of patient and courageous cooperation on the part of all. Let it not be said that the laborers are few or lacking in diligence."

Senator Kendrick voiced his approval of what is known as the agricultural bloc in the senate when he said:

"The prospect of obtaining modifications in the tariff bill, favorable to the wool growers and live stock producers, is increased by the fact that nearly every member of the so-called agricultural bloc is in favor of such changes. And I may say here that the membership of this bloc is composed almost exclusively of senators from the west and south, and includes something like an even number of members of both political parties.

"The actions of this group of men are not based upon an attitude either in opposition to or in favor of any political party, neither are they antagonistic to anything that speaks for the welfare of any other industry or any section of the nation. They are less concerned as to party politics and more concerned about the welfare of the people for whom they assume to speak, and they have been particularly concerned in securing at least limited recognition for agricultural and livestock interests."

Senator Kendrick praised President Harding's efforts to secure some measure of relief for the live stock raisers and also paid a high tribute to Secretary of Agriculture Henry C. Wallace.

"It is doubtful," he said, "if in all the land a man could be found more worthy and well qualified or one in whom there is reposed more universal respect and confidence than our present Secretary of Agriculture, Henry C. Wallace.

"An important part of our legislative program is the enactment of a law that will prove a more permanent system of credits for producers of live stock than are now available. We have at this time one of the most effective systems of commercial credits enjoyed by any of the great nations. The Farm Loan Act has provided a fairly satisfactory method of making loans based upon landed securities, but no system of credits has yet been provided that will afford to stockmen reasonable access to loanable funds at low rates of interest and covering the necessary period of time required in the production of live stock."

In talking of the railroad situation as it concerns livestock raisers, Senator Kendrick said: "One of the many causes that have contributed so largely to the distress and discouragement of livestock producers has been the unjust, and as we fully believe, the unnecessary increase in freight rates."

In discussing market receipts, Senator Kendrick said:

"One of the most serious questions demanding attention at our hands is that of congested receipts in our markets. It is reasonable to believe that established receipts would go far toward stabilizing prices. It is becoming more apparent that there is an urgent need for some form of concerted action by which receipts in our markets may be more evenly distributed. A conservative estimate would probably show that the heaviest losses sustained by stockmen are occasioned through our present indiscreet system of marketing.

"Summarizing the problems which are to be solved, we must first contend for and secure an adjustment of railroad rates that will be based upon equity and fairness.

"It would seem imperative that that we promptly take such steps as seem advisable toward bringing such influences to bear as will tend to regulate the volume in our markets."

"Through cooperation with allied branches of our industry we must exercise such legitimate influence as we have toward increasing the consumption and thus the demand for our products."

MORE PROHIBITION

(By Associated Press)

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa, Jan. 12.—Prohibition is to be continued in all south Pacific islands under the New Zealand government.

In the Cook islands an anti-profiteering bill has been put into effect.

DEEP SNOW IN PARK

VISALIA, Calif., Jan. 12.—Snow is four feet deep on the level in the Sequoia National park and the giant forest, near here, and the number of winter tourists this year has doubled in number. During the Christmas holidays a program of winter sports was carried. This is the first winter that hotels in the park have been open.

The new Oregon auto law, passed by the session of the legislature last winter, will be tested in the courts, in an endeavor to have it declared unconstitutional, by Attorney Lindas of Medford.

LEGAL NOTICE.

P. S. C. Or. Order No. 788.

Before the Public Service Commission of Oregon.

In the Matter of the application of the Home Independent Telephone Company of La Grande, Oregon, for permission to increase certain telephone rates at La Grande and Island City, Oregon.

Order.

This matter is before the Commission on the application of the Home Independent Telephone Company, of La Grande, Oregon, for permission to increase the schedule of certain telephone rates at La Grande and Island City, Oregon, now on file with this Commission, as designated in P. S. C. Or. 38, on the ground that said company is installing a more efficient and higher class of service.

After due and legal notice to all interested parties, the above entitled matter came on regularly for public hearing before the Commission at the City Hall, La Grande, Oregon, on the 18th day of November, 1921, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock A. M., at which time and place witnesses were called, sworn, testified and their testimony taken by reporter for the Commission.

PRESENT:

Fred A. Williams, Chairman.
H .H. Corey, Commissioner.

APPEARANCES:

Home Independent Telephone Company of La Grande:
By Cochran & Eberhard and Ed Wright, attorneys.

City of La Grande:
By J. D. Slater, attorney.

STATEMENT.

This matter is before the Commission for authority to increase the telephone rates in the City of La Grande and Island City, Oregon, on the grounds that the applicant herein, at a large expense, has installed a more modern and improved telephone system in said cities, and that it is necessary to receive this increase in order to carry the large investment incident to such improvement.

Jurisdiction:

The Home Independent Telephone Company of La Grande is a corporation duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Oregon, to conduct and operate a telephone business in Union and Wallowa counties, Oregon. Its principal office and place of business is La Grande, Union County, Oregon. Said applicant furnishes telephone service generally to the residents and inhabitants of said territory and in such capacity is a public utility and subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission and the provisions of Chapter 279 of the General Laws of Oregon for 1911 and all acts amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto.

Location:

The present telephone system operated by this company consists of seven central office exchanges located in Union and Wallowa Counties, Oregon one of which is located at La Grande Oregon, serving the cities of Island City and La Grande, the rates in said cities being at issue in this matter.

Service:

At the present time the Exchange at La Grande is equipped with a switchboard of obsolete type, filled to a point of saturation, and additions to the board are impracticable owing to its age and deteriorated condition. The record also shows that this switchboard has been the source of many complaints and much dissatisfaction among the patrons of said company in La Grande as to the quality of service rendered.

New Installations:

The applicant has acquired a modern fire proof building centrally located, which is now being remodelled and is installing therein one of the late types of common battery equipment and apparatus, and is also rebuilding pole lines and installing needed cable facilities throughout the City of La Grande. Upon completion of the rearrangements La Grande will be well equipped with one of the very latest types of equipment in one of the most modern exchange buildings in the State of Oregon. The cost of said improvements will amount to more than eighty thousand dollars ($80,000.00).

Franchise Tax:

The record indicates that under the franchise issued the Home Independent Telephone Company, the City of La Grande requires, under a graduated scale, the company to pay a stipulated percentage of its gross earnings to the City Treasurer. While this practice was more or less general some years ago, it does not meet with the approval of this Commission. The telephone system of La Grande is performing an important and necessary public service, yet under the present plan of providing the cost thereof, only the telephone user contributes; and not only does the telephone user provide the entire cost of maintaining the telephone system for the city, but in addition, he pays for a portion of the cost of the city government through the medium of franchise taxes. In effect, it is double taxation on telephone users.

Salaries of Officers:

The testimony of witness Crowe for the Company shows that it is the practice of the Home Independent Telephone Company to charge the salaries of its financial agent and directors to operating expense accounts. This practice would be in accordance with prescribed accounting principles providing these men were actually devoting their efforts and attention in an operating department; but, when it is admitted that these salaries are paid in lieu of discount or commissions on financial transactions, to which these officers might be justly entitled, this Commission, in view of its Accounting Classification, must insist that this utility shall not, in the future debit operating expense accounts with other than expenses actually incurred by operation of the Property.

In General:

From an examination of the entire record herein, it appears that the applicant, The Home Independent Telephone Company, through a large addition of capital, has increased the efficiency and capacity of its plant located in the City of La Grande in such a manner as to render better service generally to its patrons; that it has asked for an increase in rates in said city by reason of such increased investment and bettered service and that the said rates are not unreasonable nor in excess of the rates collected for a like service by other utilities in similar sized cities.

Therefore, based on the above statement of facts, the Commission makes its findings as follows:

FINDINGS.

1. That the subject matter and the parties to said above entitled matter are subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission of Oregon and the provisions of Chapter 279 of the General Laws of the State of Oregon for 1911, and all acts amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto.

2. That by reason of this installation of a modern telephone plant in lieu of the present existing plant and increased investment and the better service rendered thereby, the rates in P. S. C. Or. No. 38 for the Cities of Island City and La Grande on which the present revenues of this utility in Island City and La Grande, Oregon, are based, are inadequate and are found to be insufficient, unreasonable and unjustly discriminatory and not such as to furnish a basis upon which to predicate efficient service.

3. That the fair, reasonable and not unjustly discriminatory rates, rules and regulations to be applied by the Home Independent Telephone Company for efficient service in lieu of those now in force and effect in Island City and La Grande, are as follows:

Rates:

ISLAND CITY.

Business—Unlimited Service—	Wall Set per month
Individual Line	$6.00
Two-Party Line	$5.00
Extension—with bell	$ .90
Extension—without bell	$ .75
Residence—Unlimited Service—	
Two-Party line	$3.00
Four-Party Line	$2.50
Extension—without bell	$ .50
Extension—with bell	$ .65
(For desk instrument, add 25c.)	

LA GRANDE.

Business—Unlimited Service—	
Individual line	$5.00
Two-Party line	$4.00
Ten-Party Suburban Line (central selective signal.)	$3.25
Suburban Party line	$2.50
Farmer line—Switching Service	$1.00
Extension—without bell	$ .75
Extension—with bell	$ .90
Residence—Unlimited Service—	
Individual line	$3.00
Two-Party line	$2.50
Four-Party line	$2.25
Ten-Party Suburban line (central selective signal).	$2.25
Hotel Private Branch Exchange, Flat Rate Service.	
Switchboard:	
Non-Multiple, with battery power, ringing circuit and switchboard telephone, for each position, per position equipped with not to exceed fifteen (15) drops	$2.00
Each additional group of five (5) drops or fraction thereof	$ .20
Trunks:	
First Bothway trunk, Individual Business line rate,	
Each additional bothway trunk individual business line rate less	$ .50
Stations—	
Each station not in guest room (subject to mileage if not in building with exchange)	$1.00
Each station in guest room	$ .50
(An additional charge of 25c per month will be made for desk type instrument.)	
Suburban Party line	$2.00
Farmer Line—Switching service	$ .50
Extension—without bell	$ .50
Extension—with bell	$ .65
(For desk type instrument add 25c.)	

ORDER.

Based upon the foregoing findings statement and the entire record herein; IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Home Independent Telephone company be and the same hereby is authorized to discontinue its present rates, rules and regulations pertaining to service in Island City and La Grande, Oregon, as specified in the P. S. C. Or. 38 found to be inadequate and non-compensatory for the service now rendered, and to substitute in lieu thereof the schedule hereinabove in the findings set forth to be just, reasonable and not unjustly discriminatory.

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the rates so authorized shall be considered as maximum rates for the service specified and nothing herein shall be construed as preventing the utility from filing additional rates, rules and regulations as occasion may require for service not so specified and not in conflict with the intent of this or other orders, rules or regulations prescribed by this Commission and further provided that they do not introduce unjust discriminations between individual subscribers or classes of subscribers.

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that immediately upon the establishment of the rates herein authorized the applicant shall file according to law and the rules of the Commission, a tariff containing the rates so established, together with all other rates, rules and regulations applicable to the service, and shall cause a copy of that tariff to be posted in a conspicuous place in its main offices and each other office affected by this order, and easily accessible for public reference.

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the above mentioned rates shall apply only of the Cities of Island City and La Grande, County of Union, and that all other rates, rules and regulations, except as herein set out shall be and remain as heretofore, and the effective date hereof is January 1st 1922, AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated at Salem, Oregon, this 28th day of December, 1921.

Public Service Commission of Oregon
By Fred A. Williams,
H .H. Corey,
Fred G. Buchtel,
Commissioners.

Attest:
Wm. P. Ellis, secretary.

Office of the
Public Service Commission of Oregon
State of Oregon,)
) ss.
County of Marion,)

I, W .P. Ellis, Secretary of the Public Service Commission of Oregon, and custodian of the seal thereof, do hereby certify that I have carefully compared the annexed copy of ORDER with the original thereof, filed in the office of the said Commission, and that it is a full, true and correct transcript therefrom and of the whole thereof.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Commission, at its office in the Capitol, at Salem, Oregon, this 28th day of December, 1921.

W. P. ELLIS,
Secretary.
Public Service Commission of Oregon.
Legal Adv. Jan 5-12-19-26

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A STORY OF TRAGEDIES AND SADNESS—OF JOYS AND GLADNESS—OF A GREAT WRONG RIGHTED, AND A ROMANCE AS WISTFUL AS THE YEARNINGS OF YOUR OWN YOUTH.

ONE OF THE REALLY WORTH WHILE PICTURES OF THE SEASON.

COMING SATURDAY—FRANK MAYO IN "GO STRAIGHT"

BIG REDUCTION

Dodge Brothers will announce on February first 1922 a substantial reduction in the price of their cars effective from January first 1922.

L. C. Smith