

UNITED PRESS DISPATCHES

By far the largest and best news report of any paper in southern Oregon.

Medford Daily Tribune

The Weather: The weather man says: Indications promise fair weather for tonight and tomorrow, with northerly winds. Warmer.

THIRD YEAR.

MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1909.

No. 309.

WHAT THE NEW COMPANY WILL DO FOR CITY

Have Franchise in Grants Pass--History of New Company Is Outlined With the Plans

The Citizens' Telephone company has the franchise in Grants Pass. If our friends will get out tomorrow and vote to give the franchise in Medford you will see some big things doing in the telephone line in the Rogue River valley.

Some weeks ago the Citizens' Telephone company, a corporation organized under the laws of the state of Oregon, and composed of citizens of the Rogue River valley, asked the council of Medford for a franchise to build, equip and operate a telephone system in Medford.

This franchise was presented to the council in regular session passed to its first reading and referred to the proper committee on streets and alleys. This committee, composed of three members, had this franchise under consideration and investigation for about two weeks. They inquired into the personnel of the company, its intentions, its responsibility and its plans for financing its operations, and with the assistance and co-operation of the mayor and city attorney drew amendments to this franchise providing the city in every conceivable way. Then this committee made a unanimous report recommending the granting of this franchise by the city council, and all signed the report. Naturally, when this was done, the Citizens' Telephone company felt that the fight was over and its franchise would be granted.

Some days later the council met. Less than five minutes before the mayor called the meeting to order, the Citizens' Telephone company learned that one of the members of the committee that had signed the report recommending the granting of the franchise was going to vote with three other members of the council against its passage, and to prevent the ignominious and treacherous defeat of the franchise Judge Crowell, a member of the Citizens' Telephone company, withdrew the franchise from consideration by the council and asked that a resolution be passed referring it to the people, which was done, and the election called for the 19th of March.

NOW A WORD ABOUT THE PACIFIC TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

The Citizens' Telephone company was organized primarily as a protest against the poor service, the exactions and the general all-around cussedness of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company. It would take more time and space than we have to spare to give in detail the history of this company since it came into this valley some 12 years ago.

We wish that every voter in Medford could have heard the indictment of this company and its methods made before the council by Judge Crowell and Mr. Vayter on the night of February 16. It was a story of piracy and lawlessness, of indescribable service and broken promises.

Twelve years ago, when the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company came into this country, there was a small home company conducting a telephone business here. They at least respected other people's rights and were law-abiding, but this subsidiary company of a foreign corporation without asking permission or acquiring any right or title, came in and took possession of the streets, alleys and highways of this town and county. They proposed to extend their service to the courthouse at Jacksonville.

LUMBERMEN FIGHT PAYNE TO BITTER END

Say Reduction Will Injure the Forest Conservation Movement--Will Drive Smaller Mills Out

PORTLAND, Ore., March 18.—That the proposed reduction of the duty on lumber will have a disastrous effect upon the lumber industry in Oregon and Washington is the contention of the leading manufacturers here. They say that to let Canadian lumber into the United States on the payment of only \$1 per thousand feet duty will drive a large number of the smaller mills out of the business. It is argued that the measure will react seriously upon conservation projects, as there will be no market for the lower grades of lumber if the Canadian mills be permitted to enter in competition, as they will undersell the American mills at every turn because of cheaper stumpage, labor and transportation.

Will Fight to Last Ditch. BELLINGHAM, Wash., March 18.—Lumber manufacturers in this city believe that the fight for a reduction of the duty on lumber will ultimately be won, despite the ways and means committee recommendation of a reduction of 50 per cent. J. H. Bloef, a prominent lumberman, says that the lumbermen will fight to the last ditch.

The lumbermen are especially encouraged with the change in attitude of Gifford Pinchot, who admitted that the removal of the tariff would neither give cheaper lumber to the general consumer nor conserve the forests.

Pleases Canadian Lumbermen. VANCOUVER, B. C., March 18.—British Columbia lumber manufacturers on the coast look with favor on the reduction of half duty on finished lumber or the possible dropping of the tariff altogether in the case of rough products.

The general opinion here is that Canada will benefit greatly by the change in the lumber tariff. Mills are already working full time preparing for the rush.

Some three years later the mayor and council of Medford, after repeatedly warning this company to desist from erecting poles at street intersections, in the gutters and on the line of sidewalk surveys, ordered the street commissioner to chop such poles down and, what do you think happened? This sweet-scented outfit rushed to Portland and obtained an injunction from the federal court to prevent the city from interfering with its high-headed operations.

They went, mind you, to a distance, and a court where it would cost the city the largest expenditure possible in time and money to defend and protect its rights. This outfit has not only been arrogant, racey, lawless and unreliable, but it is a cheap skate as well. To illustrate: The Commercial club asked them to put a free telephone in the club rooms, after powerworking around and taking it up with the Portland office, they made a proposition to only charge half price, which was thankfully accepted and their old out-of-date, germ-infested coffee grinder is now hanging on the walls of the club room as a constant reminder to the members of the public-spiritedness and generosity of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company.

PHONE FIGHT IS TO END ON TOMORROW

Polls Will Open at 9 a. m. and Close at 5 p. m.--Fight Has Been a Quiet One

Tomorrow the telephone fight will end in the city of Medford. For tomorrow is the day of the special election called by the council on the matter.

During the past few weeks the telephone war has been carried on quietly. The old company started to improve their service and the new company perfected organization and laid their plans. The campaign has been clean cut from start to finish.

The Citizens' Telephone company ask the city of Medford to grant to them the right to construct, erect, maintain and operate in the city of Medford and in the streets, alleys, avenues and thoroughfares thereof, wires, conductors and other appliances for the transmission of electricity for telephones, telegraph and messenger service, for the purpose of carrying on a telephone, telegraph and messenger business.

The polls will open at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning and close at 5 o'clock. The following are the polling places and the judges and clerks of the election:

- First ward--Polling place, room 3, Commercial club; judge, W. H. French; judges and clerks, Chas. W. Davis, A. C. Hubbard. Second ward--Polling place, Hotel Nash sample room; judge, John S. Orth; judges and clerks, Wm. Ulrich and H. H. Harvey. Third ward--Polling place, city hall; judge, G. L. Schermerhorn; judges and clerks, Scott V. Davis, H. A. Thieroff.

REMEMBER.

Mr. Business Man and Telephone User that unless you wish to pay for TWO telephones, you must vote NO on Friday, March 19.

Medford, payable monthly in advance, and not putting any of it back in betterments or improvements. But since the Citizens' Telephone company applied for a franchise, their special agents and big trouble men have hurried in from Portland. They have appeared before the council, the committee on streets and alleys, and are frantically making all sorts of promises for the future; in fact, as going through all the convulsions and contortions of a death bed repentance.

They have slipped in a bunch of poles, a few miles of wire and a few red cross arms, but if the people defeat this franchise tomorrow these special agents of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company will collect their soiled linen, stuff it in their traveling bags, and they will be gone, like birds of passage, and Medford will know them no more until someone else comes in and threatens their supremacy.

A FINAL WORD TO THE VOTERS OF MEDFORD.

The people of Medford are free spenders. They deserve the very best of everything, and if tomorrow you grant the Citizens' Telephone company a franchise they will undertake to give you the very latest and best in telephone invention and equipment. They will undertake to give you, not an old, patched-up system, but a new system, built from the ground up.

Another thing. Let an one be fooled with this cack and chatter about a dual system. Get it out of your minds. The Citizens' Telephone company will give you the opportunity of having one good system and telling the poor service to get out. We ask you, as friends and fellow citizens of Medford, and as neighbors, to spare ten minutes of your time Friday, the 19th, to go to your polling place and cast a vote for this franchise, and also to register a rebuke to the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company, who for so many years have given you nothing for your money but poor service and broken promises. Thinking out many friends in Medford for their loyal support and encouragement in this righteous fight, we remain, Yours as ever, THE CITIZENS' TELEPHONE CO.

SCHWAB SAYS TARIFF BILL IS TOO SWEEPING

Says That Cutting of Iron Protective Schedules Will Give United States Pauper Labor

DETROIT, Mich., March 18.—The tariff bill is entirely too drastic according to Charles Schwab, formerly president of the United States Steel corporation.

He intimates that the cutting of the non-protective schedules will result in the steel men cutting wages and says: "The removal of the tariff will give us pauper labor, so that we can compete with the European mills, where women wheel coke."

Recommend Bill's Passage.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Chairman Payne of the ways and means committee of the house today reported the tariff bill back to the house with the recommendation that it be passed as introduced.

The house ways and means committee before reporting the bill adopted it and recommended its passage. The vote was 15 to 6, and was strictly on party lines. The democrats have until Tuesday to frame a minority report.

The general debate on the bill will start Monday. The final vote will probably be taken in the first week of April.

NEW YORK, March 18.—President Taft arrived in New York this afternoon and will proceed to New Haven to attend the annual meeting of the Yale corporation tomorrow. In regard to the tariff bill he said:

"I have had no chance to read or study the bill. Payne consulted me before it was introduced, giving me a knowledge of its general provisions." The president declined to say whether he would sign the bill if passed by congress.

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HOTEL ARRIVALS.

The Nash--C. M. Pory, San Francisco; E. F. Willis, Medford; R. L. Woodhouse, Berkeley; J. W. Whitney, Portland; J. Meyers, Portland; Daniel Sully, W. D. Reed, Mary Crago, Gertrude Earle, R. A. Stewart, Jos. Lasher, New York; Ralph Brown, W. Wolfheim, C. S. Parley, San Francisco; C. C. Shaw, Portland; O. W. Batts, Omaha; F. R. Edwards, A. B. Slater, Burton; V. Worthington, Spokane; A. G. Tholin, Boston; L. E. Gibson, Portland; F. L. Blake, New York; J. L. Dumas and wife, Dayton; P. Vestrand, Portland; W. A. Rummel, Portland; A. C. McCord, Portland; C. W. McKee, Portland.

The Moore--P. E. A. Smith, Portland; Eugene Wydroff, Milwaukee; George Breckling, San Francisco; E. A. Mung, Cook, M. Morrison, Portland; O. Nagai, Grand Forks; P. S. Mitchell, San Francisco; L. E. Wabouma and wife, St. Cloud; W. A. Mandell, St. Louis; E. T. Larsen, Chicago; W. E. Lawrence, Denver; Joseph R. Leech, New Castle; C. F. Ray, Portland; A. E. Jeff, Eugene; W. S. Rich, Boston; Anna Ross, New York; Minnie Larned, New York; Harry Besham and wife, New York; Helen Berkley, New York; Thomas Irvine, Portland; W. W. Allingham, Portland; John Florence, Medford; C. M. Hooper, Portland; Arthur Hendershot, Eugene; Grover B. Neil, S. S. Mitchell, Ashland; Arthur Conklin, Grants Pass.

CITIZENS' COMPANY ASK SIMPLY FOR CHANCE

Don't worry about the two phone proposition. The Citizens' Telephone company will put the very latest in telephones in your home or place of business and give you at least one month's service free. Then you can give the poorer service to get out. Yours for good service, THE CITIZENS' TELEPHONE COMPANY.

MERRILL GIVES FACTS IN CLEAR PLAIN MANNER

Answers Leaflet Scattered--Has No Paid Up Capital--Has No Franchise Elsewhere--Old Company Can Give Good Service

In a last effort to stave off the inevitable defeat that stares them in the face, and in an effort to save the money that has been expended in promoting the so-called Citizens' Telephone company, its backers today are spreading broadcast through the city a leaflet which follows their usual tactics of misrepresentation.

It starts out with some ancient history, most of which is not true and none of which is pertinent. The only question before the people in the election tomorrow is whether or not they can better their telephone service by granting the new company a charter. Whether or not the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company has or has not done certain things in the past that do not please Judge Crowell and Mr. Anderson is of no consequence.

Neither does it matter whether or not the promoters of the new company are boosters and public-spirited. One would think from reading this leaflet that they were a philanthropic society. Not so, gentle reader. They are promoting this new company because they believe they can make some money out of the venture.

It is a business venture for them and it is a simple business proposition for the business men and telephone users of Medford. This city wants a modern, up-to-date telephone system and the Bell company is engaged in doing that very thing today, and has had a large force of men at work putting in poles, wiring and making other improvements to that end. The switchboard, the latest and most modern of its kind, which has seats for six operators, is now on the way and will be installed in a few days.

When these improvements are made Medford will have a good and complete system in any city on the coast. The new company cannot improve on it if they would. Then why get another company in with the necessity of paying two telephone rentals where one will render all the service that two or any other number can render?

Besides, there is a lot of trouble and worry caused by having two systems, aside of the expense. Everybody can be afforded to have the two phones, and the result will be dropping in to use your phone, or you will be asked to go out and call your neighbor in because they have the other phone.

Another thing, the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company can give you connections with more than 400,000 telephone subscribers living in all parts of the coast. What can the Citizens' company do in this respect? Absolutely nothing. You will be shut off from all the world, isolated, set apart by yourself.

The new company will not be able to give you connection with your neighbors, either of Grants Pass or Medford, having refused to give that company a franchise. Can Medford afford to be shut away from the rest of the world? Then all the money spent in advertising the city, with such splendid results, had better have been saved.

Where does the Home company usually get the money to finance its system? The variable system has been to sell stock and in almost every place where the so-called independents have operated you can judge how such promotion stock at big discounts from par.

Another scheme that is usually followed is to have a "construction company" do the work of installing the system. Of course everybody understands this game. The "construction company" is a little coterie of those on the inside, and they get the contract from themselves as the telephone company to put in the plant at nice fat figures. That is a part of the promotion game, and that may explain why so many people are so anxious to organize telephone companies. Do not let the specious plans of the frantic promoters of the new company about their scheme to do a philanthropic deed for the people of Medford, deceive you. It is simply a matter of business with them, as it is with the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company, and with every other business firm in operation. And remember that if you want

WHY CITIZENS SHOULD NOT BE SUCCESSFUL

Has No Paid Up Capital--Has No Franchise Elsewhere--Old Company Can Give Good Service

Some reasons why the Citizens' Telephone company should be refused a franchise:

The Citizens' Telephone company has no paid up capital, and no financial responsibility outside of the few shares of stock subscribed by promoters who hope to reap a fortune by forcing Medford people to subscribe for two telephones.

The Citizens' Telephone company has no franchise in any city in Oregon. If the people of Medford vote a franchise its subscribers will be limited to those in Medford, and they will be barred from all long-distance and outside connection.

No better telephone service could be given by the new company than will be given by the old. There is no guarantee of any service at all by the new concern, which must first be financed. The Pacific Telephone company is actually installing a new system in Medford. Men are busy stringing wires, re-wiring houses and planting poles for the new system. The same is being done in Grants Pass and other valley towns, and when completed, service will be given equal to any in the United States.

A new telephone company is usually a gamble on the part of promoters, who, investing a few dollars for promotion expenses, hope to float bonds upon the franchisees asked by them from the people, and thus secure the needed funds to start and conduct a rival system.

There is no guarantee of the financial responsibility of the Citizens' Telephone company. It made no guarantee. A few men of good repute and high standing are listed among the promoters, but there is nothing to show that these men will risk much of their fortunes in the new venture. The people of Medford will probably be asked to purchase the stock and bonds and supply the funds needed to build the proposed system, and then be forced also to pay running expenses through taking additional phones. The promoters will make their profit on stock acquired for little or nothing in promotion.

Medford's city council failed to give the Citizens' Telephone company a franchise, after an investigation of several weeks, and an inquiry into the personnel of the company, its intentions, its responsibility and its plan for financing and operation. The fact that no franchise was given the company shows what a majority of the council thought of the financial standing of the Citizens' Telephone company.

The Citizens' Telephone company was granted a franchise by the city council of Grants Pass. No effort has been made to obtain a franchise in Ashland on account of the admitted lawlessness of the council, so if the people of Medford vote a franchise, they will secure an isolated service.

Remember that a dual system of telephones means a double tax upon the people, and a double inconvenience without an improved service, and it means also that the people themselves, besides paying the double taxation, will eventually pay for the double construction. Far better one system, capably managed with satisfactory service for all.

Remember this and vote against the proposed franchise.

W. K. MERRILL.

ERNEST ELLIOTT FINED 20 BUCKS FOR FIGHTING

Ernest Elliott is fined \$20 as the result of his fight with Bert Johnson on Front street Wednesday morning. At his trial Thursday morning Recorder Collins attached the above fine, which was paid by the defendant.

Talk with Dr. Page should you desire needed tracts or business property.

Do have a modern and up-to-date phone service with unlimited long-distance connections, without the additional expense of having another phone and the trouble and annoyance incident to a dual telephone system, vote NO tomorrow on the telephone question. W. K. MERRILL.