

STATE MAY PUT IN ELECTRIC PLANT

Contract for Lighting Institutions at Salem Expires Soon.

DOUBT AS TO RENEWAL

Present Legislature Must Make Provision for Matter—Installation of Dynamos at Penitentiary Is Likely to Result.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 31.—(Special.)—Blazing all night long, the electric lights of the capitol suggest an extravagance that not one taxpayer in 10,000 in Oregon can afford for himself. But as good fortune has it, the lights are not on meter and the taxpayers pay the same money whether they burn or not. The contract for the electricity will expire March 3, 1908, however, and it is up to this Legislature to provide a new source of light, either by building a lighting plant for the state, or by entering into a new contract with the electric company of this city.

The matter was brought before the two Houses by Governor Chamberlain in a special message, urging the necessity of taking some action toward supplying the 60 light globes in the capitol, beginning one year from next March. The question was referred to a special committee consisting of Jewell, Driscoll, Settlemier, Washburne and Knowles.

All night long the lights of the capitol dazzle the black night outside with the glare emitted from the windows, and the only place illuminated by the rays, while the lawmakers and the Governor are in dreamland, are those followed by the bats and beetles and the janitor, who keeps an eagle eye on the people's cash box in the State Treasurer's office.

Present Contract Satisfactory.

State officials are entirely satisfied with the rates charged under the existing contract, and, perhaps, would not object to a slight advance, but they do not want the state to be placed at the mercy of the electric company, and have asked that provision be made for the state to make its own light. Without such provision, the state would be compelled to pay the price the electric light company might name.

The present contract requires the state to pay a flat rate of 30 cents per light per month for each 16-candle-power light burned in the capitol, the asylum, the penitentiary, the Reform School, Mute School, Blind School and asylum farm. The total expense is something like \$10,000 a year, exclusive of the additional service during the Legislature, which brings the total up to about \$11,000 a year.

This expense the Board of Capitol Building Commissioners has not considered excessive. It is said that the state could not operate a plant of its own for less money. But the electric company has been unwilling to renew the contract or to make a new one on a flat-rate basis. The company has put nearly all its business at Salem upon the meter basis, and wants the state to accept a meter basis contract when the existing contract expires.

Plant at Prison Planned.

This subject will probably be taken up by the state officers and the agents of the company soon, and, if satisfactory terms cannot be agreed upon, preparations will be commenced immediately for the installation of a state electric light plant at the penitentiary. The new plant could be installed before the contract terminates, so that the state would be fully protected from inconvenience.

The penitentiary is centrally located, and would be the most convenient place for the location of a lighting plant. It has transportation facilities in the form of a spur from the Southern Pacific, so that fuel oil could be delivered at minimum cost. The state also owns some water power at the prison, but probably not enough to operate a lighting plant, though it is possible that the state could develop on its property enough power for this purpose. However, the local electric company generates much of its electricity with power secured from the use of fuel oil, and the state could afford to do the same.

No amount of appropriation that would be necessary for the installation of a lighting plant has been determined, and, if asked for, the appropriation would not be in such form as to require the establishment of a plant. What the State Board desires is the authority that makes the necessary expenditures in case satisfactory terms cannot be reached with the electric company.

That a flat-rate contract encourages waste is very apparent to one who has been around the capitol during the legislative assembly. As the cost to the state is the same whether the lights are burned or not, the lights are left turned on in many places where they would be turned off if the state were paying upon a meter basis. The same is probably true at the several institutions.

Lights Left to Burn.

While there is an understanding that lights shall be turned off when not needed, and there is an intention to carry out the understanding, there is not the saving of electricity that there would be if the expense varied according to the amount consumed.

The state will require more lights in the future than it has used in the past, and may also use electricity for the operation of the elevator in the capitol, thus increasing the expense considerably. The creation of new offices, the enlargement of present state institutions, and the establishment of new institutions will increase the demand for light and power. This will make the ownership of a plant by the state all the more desirable. The elevator in the capitol is now operated by water power, and the conveyance runs so slowly that members of the Legislature, state officers and visitors walk up the stairs to save time.

It has long been desired that an electric elevator be installed, and this may be done during the present year. This improvement is all the more needed since the crowded condition of the capitol makes it necessary to move a number of the offices to the third floor.

REVISES THE LAND LAWS

State Agent West Suggests Bill Fath-ered by Bingham.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 31.—(Special.)—For the purpose of revising the state land laws and clearing away doubts caused by obscure wording, Senator Bingham today in-

roduced a bill prepared by State Land Agent West. The bill proposes far-reaching changes in the present laws. It eliminates from applications for purchase of state lands the declaration that the applicant desires the land for his own benefit and has not made any agreement, express or implied, for the sale of the same, is retained. The declaration regarding speculation is eliminated because nearly every one who buys lands hopes to profit by the increase in value, and some men who want to buy do not like this phase of the declaration. On the face of it the proposed law would open the way for speculation.

The bill also withdraws all title lands from sale for a period of ten years, as recommended by the Governor in his message. The bill prohibits the cutting of timber on state lands under penalty, and authorizes the State Land Board to lease lands containing minerals. By clearly providing for cancellation of certificates of sale when the payments are one year delinquent, the bill removes some doubt that has existed as to the power and duties of the board upon that subject.

Both houses have passed House bill 24, by Vawter, Kuhl and Perkins, to create the office of Deputy Recorder in Jackson County.

FACILITATES COUNTY DIVISION

Knowles Introduces Attorney-General's Enabling Act in House.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 31.—(Special.)—Representative Knowles yesterday introduced the county enabling act prepared by Attorney-General Crawford, by which the question of county divisions is proposed to be left to the people of the sections of the state interested, thus taking out of the hands of the Legislature this class of legislation.

The bill provides that any portion of

FLOODS FOLLOW WASH OUT CHINOOKS

Melting Snows Force Eastern Washington Streams From Their Banks.

WASH OUT RAILWAY TRACKS

Trains in All Directions Are Delayed.

If Rains Follow, the Worst Deluge in Many Years, It Is Feared, Will Be Realized.

SPOKANE, Wash., Jan. 31.—(Special.)—From every region in the inland Empire come reports of a Chinook wind that is melting the deep snow too rapidly for streams to carry off the water. If the thaw is not checked, floods that will equal anything Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho have experienced for years are feared.

Prosser reports a flood in that part of Central Washington. Water in the bus-

iness banks and the damage reported is from water coming down canyons where the snow has been very deep. Rain is predicted by the local weather bureau officials, and as there is an unusual amount of snow in the mountains and hills with the melting of the snow in the valley, which fell to the depth of nine inches the force of this week, considerable apprehension is felt by citizens in the city and throughout the country.

The electric light and power plant is still unharmed, but a heavy flood would put it out of business for a time.

Willamette Rising Rapidly.

OREGON CITY, Or., Jan. 31.—(Special.)—The chinooks and the rains of this week are raising the Willamette river in the mountains and all the tributary streams are full. This morning the gauge showed a depth of 27.5 feet, having raised 2 1/2 feet during the night. Tonight the gauge stands at 27.5 feet. The danger line is placed at about 30 feet, and unless the rains cease oldtimers' prophecy trouble.

Three Washouts on O. R. & N.

WESTON, Or., Jan. 31.—(Special.)—Three washouts are reported on the O. R. & N. one at Adams, another at Blue Mountain, and a third at Weston. The latter point 100 feet of track was washed away. No trains passed Weston today. A freight train is blocked at Blue Mountain, the north-bound passenger at Adams and a special at Adams. It is expected that the track will be cleared by Friday night.

Albany Has No Fear of Flood.

ALBANY, Or., Jan. 31.—(Special.)—The Willamette River rose more than a foot at this city last night, and is yet rising. Smaller streams in this part of the state are coming up even more rapidly. From present indications there is small danger of a flood, however.

Snowing at Hoquiam.

HOQUIAM, Wash., Jan. 31.—(Special.)—Snow is falling at Hoquiam tonight with a light wind blowing from the east. The weather is warm and the flakes melt as fast as they strike the ground.

Heavy Rains at Salem.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 31.—(Special.)—The Willamette valley is witnessing one of the heaviest rain and wind storms of the year. The Willamette River is rapidly rising and much damage to property is expected.

Thaws Dynamite With Fatal Result.

PRIMEVILLE, Or., Jan. 31.—(Special.)—H. C. Baumann died yesterday evening at his home near Madras from injuries received the day before by the explosion of a stick of dynamite he was thawing over a cookstove. His wife was also fearfully injured, but may recover.

YAQUI'S RECENT RAID.

Interesting Account of Massacre by Indians Near Sonora.

Thinking that a description of the recent Indian massacre at Lencho, Sonora, Mexico, would be of interest to Oregonian readers, I wish to say that I was an eye-witness of the massacre. I was but a few miles away. My brother-in-law, R. N. Baker, was there. That is, he saw the fire that consumed the store in which we had a cache of goods stored. He also heard the shots fired.

Lencho is a small station on the Rio Yaqui & Pacific Railroad, which skirts the coast along the mountains. The home of the Yaqui Indians. This station is the landing point for all the Yaqui traffic. Near this good-sized fort is maintained, which is a town of about 3000 to 5000 souls. It is only fair to state the General was away from Lencho during the raid. If he had been at home I feel that the results of the raid would have been different, and that the position of the Indians would have been killed or captured.

The raid was a wholesale one, expected by the military and the diabolical work of the Indians was done in short order.

The station consists of one store, kept by a Mexican and his family. There is one tent at the station, and a family of one man, who is a Yaqui, and one of the men in the employ of the railroad company. The station is a small one, and the Yaqui raid was a wholesale one, expected by the military and the diabolical work of the Indians was done in short order.

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PENDLETON SHUT OFF AGAIN

Streets and Fields Are Under Water.

Sudden Change in Weather.

PENDLETON, Or., Jan. 31.—(Special.)—Several inches of snow, a bright sun and a chinook wind have combined to place Umatilla county once more in the grasp of the floods. Fields are submerged, streets are flooded, bridges washed away and railroad traffic is more completely tied up than at any former time this winter. It is absolutely impossible to leave the city by train in any direction.

The lack of any water in the mountains has saved Pendleton from a record-breaking flood. Westbound train No. 1, upon which Mrs. Ballington Booth, has been held here since 3 o'clock the afternoon, but will probably be able to start for Portland some time during the night. The weather suddenly became colder about midnight and a heavy snow is now falling.

NO TRAINS AT WALLA WALLA

Washouts on the O. R. & N. Delay All Passenger Traffic.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Jan. 31.—(Special.)—With rain, water, weather and a chinook wind, the snow in the mountains and valley has been melting rapidly during the last 18 hours, and it is expected that the streams will overflow their banks and cause considerable damage, but thus far the water has created no havoc in the immediate vicinity of Walla Walla.

No trains reached this city from Spokane or Pendleton today on account of washouts along the lines of the O. R. & N. The Pendleton, Walla Walla train is hung up near Athena with the track washed away ahead and in the rear, and it will probably be some time before repairs can be made.

Although the Chinook has melted a vast quantity of snow in the mountains, the snow is still lying deep in the foothills, where the water is caught and held before it reaches the creek beds.

Should rain set in there is promise of one of the greatest floods ever witnessed in this valley.

The streams have not risen over

Cure you a lard eater?

Half the time when a person feels blue and out of sorts you may take it for granted that he is a victim of the "lard habit." Lard cooked food and good stomachs are never friends for long. Lard food is not healthful food and no ordinary stomach can thoroughly digest it.

Cottolene is the perfect shortening and frying medium. It is pure and healthful. It contains not an ounce of hog-fat. Lard comes from the pig-sty; Cottolene from the cotton fields of the Sunny South.

Lard is hog-fat; the basis of Cottolene is pure cotton seed oil. Lard is greasy, indi-

gestible, and sometimes absolutely harmful; Cottolene makes food digestible, nutritious, delicious and healthful.

Cottolene is today in use by thousands of housewives who would no more think of going back to lard than they would of reverting to tallow dips for lighting their homes.

Cottolene is endorsed by the most prominent cooks and household economists of the country, as well as by the medical profession. It is one of the products which pure food advocates always endorse.



COTTOLENE was granted a GRAND PRIZE (highest possible award) over all other cooking fats at the recent Louisiana Purchase Exposition, and food cooked with COTTOLENE another GRAND PRIZE.

"Home Helps" a book of 300 choice recipes, edited by Mrs. Rorer, is yours for a 2 cent stamp, if you address The N. K. Fairbank Company, Chicago.

A NEW FEATURE—The patent air-tight top on this pail is for the purpose of keeping COTTOLENE clean, fresh and wholesome; it also prevents it from absorbing all disagreeable odors of the grocery, such as fish, oil, etc.

Nature's Gift from the Sunny South

GETS ANOTHER RAP

Perkins Water Code Bill Opposed in Southern Oregon.

CITIZENS FILE PETITION

Residents of Jackson County Assail Board of Trade Measure—Order Delegation to Fight It—Small Irrigators Threatened.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 31.—(Special.)—That the enactment of the Perkins bill, providing a new water code, would cost the people of Oregon from \$150,000 to \$200,000 a year, and would open the way for many grafts, is declared in a protest filed in the Senate today and signed by County Judge Dunn, H. Hanna, Gus Newberry, S. C. Minnick, W. R. Coleman, J. C. Pendleton and others. The protest is addressed to the Jackson County delegation, and asks them to vote against the bill. The petition says among other things:

If this measure should pass every owner of a water right in the state would be made a party defendant, who must defend his right to the use of the water which he has employed in watering his stock and irrigating his premises, even though he may have used the right for a period of 40 years, and would be required to pay the expenses of the litigation necessary under this measure. It seems to us that the measure is calculated to open the way for some corporation to acquire the rights of the small water user in the state by freezing him out of the use of the water which he has employed for a period of 40 years, and would be required to pay the expenses of the litigation necessary under this measure.

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on assessment and taxation in this state. The committee is still considering this report, which is being explained by Secretary Atchison, of the commission, but no action has been taken by the committee on the adoption or rejection of any of the sections of the report.

Among the bills reported unfavorably in the House by this committee today were bills by Simmons, Jackson, Rothchild and Raskieff, for the reason, the committee explained, that the authors treated in them are included in the report of the Tax Commission, now being considered by the committee.

This committee today reported a substitute bill for Settlemier's measure (H. B. 93), taxing land grants not heretofore taxed. The committee found that the main provisions of Settlemier's bill were covered in the Tax Commission report. The substitute bill consists of an amendment to the recommendation of the Tax Commission as to the length of elapsed time for which an effort shall be made to assess these lands and levy taxes on them.

The commission recommended that these taxes be collected for the last two years, but the substitute bill provides that they shall be collected for the five years preceding the present year, or virtually for six years, all the time allowed under the statute of limitations.

The substitute bill also authorizes County courts of the different counties in which the lands to be taxed are located to contract with any competent persons to undertake and make the collection of these taxes on a commission basis.

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To all such men the specialists of this Institute are able, willing and ready to extend that skillful, scientific assistance that has saved thousands of men who were at one time sufferers that you are now, who had become discouraged and despondent after having failed to secure the relief and cure they needed, who did at last what they should have done at first—consulted the honorable and skillful specialists of the St. Louis Dispensary, where they were examined and their true condition disclosed, proper treatment applied, with improvement at once and a cure in a remarkably short time.

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