CITY NEWS IN BRIEF


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## A Public Question

There has been submitted by the Portland Railway, Light \& ty Council of Portland a franchise ord nance which, if passed, will grant to the Company a number of dditional rights in the way of extensions, double-tracking, forming a loop on Stark Street, crossing the Broadway Bridge and the right to use the approaches to the new Steel bridge
It also includes the surrender of the franehises held on parts of ertain streets, amounting to 347 blocks in length, on which the Company has now the right to construct its tracks and where duplication of service is involved.
Believing that the people should know the exact nature of every franchise granted by their representatives, the Company has decided to enter into an explanation of this ordinance.
This will be done in a series of "Franchise Talks" in the advertising columns of the local daily newspapers.

These talks will treat fully and frankly of the situation. There nothing to conceal and no ulterior purpose to serve.
It is an honest franchise and will be secured, if at all, in an onest manner.
That is one reason for these talks-they afford an opportunity, to present the facts to the people of Portland and are an open acknowledgment of the relationship that should exist between public utility companies and the communities they serve.
It is therefore urged that the public and the press consider the questions involved with open minds and treat the franchise propsition as dispassionately as if it affected only their personal in

It is a business proposition, pure and simple, and should not e made a political one
It is just as well that that fact be established at the outset, for is not impossible that sooner or later some one will seek to drag the question-into politics

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