

OLD PHONE RATES ORDERED RESTORED

Portland, Milwaukie and Oak Grove Five-Cent Charge in Force Again.

OTHER CHANGES EXPECTED

Action Taken by Public Service Commission Means Material Saving for Patrons of Line-Over Charges to Be Refunded.

Immediate restoration of the old 5-cent flat rate for telephone service between Portland and Milwaukie and Oak Grove, and for no extra charge for service from these two suburbs to Portland, was demanded of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company in a verbal order issued yesterday by the Oregon Public Service Commission.

The commission likewise announced that the old rates in effect prior to January 1 between Portland and Oregon City and Salem are to be restored shortly. This, it was announced, will effect a saving of approximately \$12,000 annually to the patrons of long-distance telephone service between these cities.

These orders of the commission followed the public hearing held yesterday at the Courthouse with reference to the effect of the proposed rate changes by the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company, January 1, and which was ordered discontinued by the Public Service Commission. Complaints from other telephone states will be heard at future hearings.

Gossip Charge Raised. While restoring to the people of Salem, Oregon City, Milwaukie and Oak Grove the former rates, which, it is said, are from 50 to 200 per cent less than the rates adopted the first of the year, the commission at the same time put a stiff premium on telephone gossip as practiced over the telephone lines at Milwaukie and Oak Grove.

The rate as ordered by the commission is one cent for two-minute service between Portland and Milwaukie and Oak Grove places an additional 5-cent charge for each additional five minutes of service between Milwaukie and Oak Grove to Portland there will be no charge for the first five minutes of service, but a charge of 5 cents for each additional three minutes. The new rate, adopted January 1 by the company, was 25 cents for three-minute service.

The commission further ordered the telephone company to reimburse the telephone patrons of these two towns for all overcharges originating from the new rates since the first of the year.

A number of women from both Milwaukie and Oak Grove were in attendance at the hearing and presented the commission that telephone gossip would be taboo in the future. They agreed to be moderate in their demands against the telephone company in view of the relief granted by the commission.

System Aim of Company. It was brought out by officials of the telephone company that the new rates, which were put into effect the first of the year, were not put into effect as a means of producing additional revenue, but was started only to systematize the long-distance telephone service.

It was asserted by officials of the company that the increased revenues from the new rates did not equal the wage increases granted by the company since the first of the year. They declared that the airline rate system is in effect in many of the Eastern states and in both California and Washington.

Whether or not the 15-day notice for payment of telephone bills, as printed on all monthly statements, constitutes a written notice to subscribers that a bill must be paid or service discontinued, is to receive full investigation by the commission. Chairman Miller asserted that it had come to his notice that many complaints have been made that the company has temporarily discontinued service of patrons without giving the 15-day notice as ordered by the commission.

Officials Make Statements. Fred Spert, Portland manager of the telephone company, declared that the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company has not discontinued service of subscribers without giving the full 15-day notice that a bill must be paid after a certain date.

J. J. Shaw, San Francisco, counsel for the telephone company, gave a complete resume of the effect and purpose of the new rates. W. J. Phillips, district commercial superintendent, gave testimony concerning the new tolls, while E. T. Busselle, a consulting engineer, representing the commission, told of his investigations and findings with reference to the new rates sought to be established by the airline system. It was Mr. Shaw who disclaimed that the new rates were meant to increase revenue.

Statistics gathered by Consulting Engineer Busselle showed that the new system affected different parts of the state differently. For instance, a 5-cent reduction was made between Portland and Astoria; a 10-cent reduction between Portland and Grants Pass; a 5-cent increase between Portland and Albany; a 5-cent increase between Portland and Forest Grove; a 15-cent increase between Portland and Grants Pass; and no change between Portland and Dallas.

Milwaukie Man Protests. J. D. Stevens, of Milwaukie, was present to voice his protest of what he termed the "petty larceny" tactics of the telephone company. He declared that he had been overcharged 15 cents, and the commission ordered the company to reimburse him. Ed Oida asserted he had been overcharged 5 cents on the war tax, and the commission likewise ordered the company to return to him, after company officials had investigated his complaint and found that he had been overcharged.

Deputy City Attorney Tomlinson was present at the hearing as a representative of the city of Portland. His statement that he had come to the hearing with but 15 minutes' preparation brought a protest from Attorney Shaw, of the telephone company, who declared it was an insult to the Commission for an attorney to present himself there with but 15 minutes' preparation. Numerous letters from throughout the state, some protesting against and others commending, the new airline rates were read during the hearing and incorporated into the records of the Commission.

TWO-BIT CLUB ORGANIZED

Corvallis Business Men Adopt Plan to Buy Thrift Stamps.

CORVALLIS, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—At the Commercial Club rooms last

night a "two-bit" club was organized to promote the sale of thrift stamps, each member agreeing to buy a stamp a day for the year 1918, and to secure 10 additional members. Following are the charter members: W. R. Kyle, E. B. Lemmon, H. E. Walker, S. K. Hartwood, Samuel M. Dolan, E. M. Duffy, A. J. Moore, Dr. R. L. Howarth, C. E. Ingalls, A. R. Woodcock, J. R. Cooney, A. C. Canbury, Robert J. Hunter, C. V. Buzak, A. A. Hull, F. J. Hooks and Dr. W. T. Johnson.

The club's constitution and by-laws follow: I hereby agree to buy a thrift stamp a day during the remainder of the year 1918. Said purchases to be made at such times and in such amounts as are most convenient to me. Any stamps purchased in 1918, prior to this date, may be used to apply on the fulfillment of this agreement.

E. M. Duffy was elected president of the club, and A. C. Vannoy secretary. A movement is now on foot to organize a woman's "two-bit" club, no woman being eligible whose husband belongs to the men's club. Benton County's sale of thrift stamps is now past the \$11,000 mark.

GRANGES ASK PROTECTION

Donna and Creswell Farmers Want U. S. to Fix Commodity Prices.

EUGENE, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Granges at Donna and Creswell, Lane County, have adopted resolutions urging the Government to fix prices upon commodities that the farmers must buy. The resolution adopted by both organizations follows: Whereas, The United States Government has seen fit to set a fixed price on commodities raised by the farmer, we deem it nothing more than justice that he be protected from a maximum source in all the necessities he must purchase, so be it.

"Resolved, That the United States Government be petitioned to place a maximum selling price on all hardware, leather goods, fertilizers, feed and seeds, sacks and binding twine."

SCHOOL HAS NEW LANTERN

Lectures in O. A. C. Dairy Department to Be Illustrated.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, Feb. 20.—(Special.)—A lantern for illustrating lectures and recitations in the dairy department has just been installed. The lantern has a 100-watt lamp, and slides and clear prints of photographs and cuts may be used. Typewritten or printed pages also may be projected. The lantern will save much time in transcribing statistics and describing illustrations.

Several new machines have recently been purchased by the department, including the most modern types of hand cream, cream separators and pasteurizers. All these machines are used by the students in their class work.

OREGON TO GET OIL ENOUGH

Canneries and All Essential Industries Will Be Taken Care Of.

Oregon is assured sufficient fuel oil for canneries and other essential industries in a letter received yesterday by Fred J. Holmes, Federal Fuel Administrator for Oregon, from D. M. Polson, Federal Petroleum Administrator for the Pacific coast, with headquarters in San Francisco. "The Pacific Coast Petroleum War Service," says Mr. Polson, "has under consideration a list of deliveries to be served with fuel oil by tank steamers. On this list Hawaii and Oregon are placed at the top, and I feel, however, that your state can be assured of a supply of oil for canneries and essential industries."

LARGEST SHIPMENT MADE

Lane County Red Cross Chapter Sends Record Output to Seattle.

EUGENE, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—The largest shipment ever made from the Lane County Red Cross chapter was shipped from the Eugene headquarters to Seattle Wednesday. There were 47 packing cases, containing 61,399 articles. This is the output for one working month from January 20 to February 20. The shipment included 55,655 surgical dressings, 2249 hospital garments and 1455 articles classified as hospital supplies. Knitted goods in the shipment were as follows: Sweaters, 1646; pairs socks, 636; helmets, 215; wristlets, 75; mufflers, 47.

KLAMATH BOYS IN FRANCE

Letter Tells of Safe Arrival of 23 Soldiers "Over There."

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—News of the safe arrival in France of 23 Klamath boys who crossed on the same boat has just been received from ex-City Councilman Oscar D. Matthews, who is now with the 26th Engineers, lumbermen's battalion. Matthews writes that the men had a pleasant and uneventful voyage over on one of the finest equipped boats in the transport world. The number aboard had been given, but had been crossed out by the censor. He said that the boys are now all anxious to get settled and to work and will also appreciate news from home frequently.

Goshen Unfuris Service Flag.

EUGENE, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—The town of Goshen, at a meeting of the Red Cross auxiliary of that place, Saturday night, unfurled a service flag with 10 stars. Rev. A. M. Spangler, of Eugene, delivered an address. The Goshen boys in the service are as follows: Frederick C. Dillard, Carl Gilbert, Herman Delp, Henry Weyant, Lester Nesbitt, Alfred L. Matlock, Carl Kroeger, Orville Dean, Howard Merriam and George S. Fiddler.

MILLMEN ORGANIZE UNION

North Bend Body Is Loyal, but Insists on Eight-Hour Day.

NORTH BEND, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—The first union of millworkers on the Pacific Coast was formed here

BUCKHECHT ARMY SHOE

Made on the famous Munson last—specified by U. S. Army. A practical, everyday shoe for men in all walks of life. Business men, farmers, sportsmen, outdoor workers—have seen to the Foot trouble are no longer known to them. Into the Buckhecht Army Shoe are put the finest materials and workmanship possible. It's a shoe you can depend on for ease and comfort and service.

Indian Tan, Calf, Goat Metal. \$6.50 to \$7.50. BUCKINGHAM & HECHT, San Francisco.

SUGAR BOWL MAY GO

Eating-House Owners Have Not Fully Decided.

CATERERS PLEDGE SAVING

All Members of Local Association Hereafter Will Display Cards Indicating That Hoover's Orders Will Be Enforced.

O. A. C. IS SHORT OF COAL

College Heating Plant for Two Days Is Without Fuel.

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SOLDIERS GOING TO MILLS

Hundred Vancouver Barracks Men Assigned to North Bend.

NORTH BEND, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—One hundred soldiers are scheduled to arrive in North Bend today, and will be at once allotted to the Bunker Lumber Company and the North Bend Lumber Company mills to work in the yards and other sections of the mills which they are to occupy. The troops are coming from Vancouver Barracks and are the first to be employed in North Bend mills.

Marshfield Debaters Win.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—The Marshfield High School debating team, speaking on the affirmative for open shop, defeated the North Bend High School duo, receiving all the votes. Albert Powers and Miss Thelma Lyons were the winners. The debate drew the largest crowd ever attending a similar affair at the Marshfield High School auditorium.

CERTIFICATE IS REVOKED

Sherman County Teacher Found Guilty of Breach of Contract.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Superintendent Churchill today revoked the certificate of Miss Lillian M. Schassen, forbidding her to teach in the state for the rest of the school year. The revocation was on the ground that she was guilty of breach of her contract to teach at a school near Kent, in Sherman County, for an eight-month term. She started teaching September 10, last year, and resigned November 6. In her defense she contended that she could find no suitable place to board and consequently left the district.

PHONE MAN IN DILEMMA

Canyonville Company's Subscribers Would Start New Exchange.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—H. Hopkins, manager of the Canyonville Telephone Company, has appealed to the Public Service Commission, saying that in enforcing a recent order of the commission increasing phone rates for his company he is at a loss to lose a large share of his business. He says a secret meeting of subscribers followed the promulgation of the order and that they have threatened to cut out of his company's telephone lines and start an exchange of their own. The move may result in the extinction of the public utility, and the necessity act, which prohibits any utility from competing with another without first securing a certificate from the Commission.

APRIL 1 WARNING GIVEN

Don't Wait to Buy Seeds, Says Mr. Hoover; Buy Them Now.

The standing jokes of the country are not to be forgotten in war time, as is shown by a bulletin sent out by the United States Food Administration in Washington, addressed to back-yard gardeners. A copy of the bulletin arrived in the office of the Forest Service in this city yesterday. "Are you waiting till April 1?" it says, "to buy seeds, garden tools and fertilizers? If so, consider what sometimes happens on that day."

MILLMEN ORGANIZE UNION

North Bend Body Is Loyal, but Insists on Eight-Hour Day.

NORTH BEND, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—The first union of millworkers on the Pacific Coast was formed here

last night as the outcome of a big mass meeting held here last Sunday. The new union, which has already enrolled over 500 millworkers, is to be known as the Modern Woodworkers of America, and while it is pledged to assist the Government in the output of airplane stock and ship timbers, the foremost plank in its platform is the immediate realization of an eight-hour day for all men employed in the mills. The officers of this union, which, owing to its strength, will probably be the parent organization of a number of auxiliaries on the Coast, are as follows: President, John Reardon; vice-president, J. Reeves; secretary, J. Monroe; treasurer, L. D. Payne. At a meeting of members of the Local Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen last night, it was decided to forward petitions to the Secretary of Labor, urging the enforcement of an eight-hour day for all workers employed in the mills or woods. Tonight the secretary of various branches met and drew up the petitions, which are to be forwarded to Washington tomorrow.

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EXHIBIT IS SUCCESS

Social Turn Verein Raises \$700 for Red Cross.

2200 ARE IN ATTENDANCE

Six Hundred Children and Adults in Society's Tenth Annual Exhibition Present Artistic and Striking Features.

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AMUSEMENTS. POPULAR SHOW. POPULAR PRICE.

HEILIG Broadway at Taylor. Main 1 and A 1122. 3 Bargain Mats 3 Nights. TODAY, 2:15.

MUSICAL CARTOON COMEDY.

Katzenjammer Kids. FUN MUSIC. PRETTY GIRLS. AT 5:00, 7:00—Nights 8:15, 7:50, 5:00, 2:30. GREAT For Children From 2 to 90 Years of Age. TICKETS NOW SELLING.

BAKER ALCAZAR PLAYERS

Special Matinee Friday. All Week—Mats. Friday, Saturday. Superb revival of America's oldest and best play.

THE OLD HOMESTEAD

A positive delight for young and old. Evenings, 7:30, 5:00, 2:30. Next Week: "Cheating Cheaters."

OPHEUM

GERTRUDE HOFFMANN. Gertrude Hoffmann's Revue. Mr. Leo Heers, J. C. Nugent, Kelly & Galvin, Ker & Weston, Alfred Latell, Orpheum Travel Weekly, Concert Orchestra.

EXTRA SHOW WEDNESDAY NIGHT

PANTAGES. MAT. DAILY 2:30. "THE BACHELOR DINNER." With Jack Henry and Rose Gardner. Six Other Big Acts. Three Performances Daily. Night Curtain at 7 and 9.

LYRIC MUSICAL STOCK

Mat. Daily at 2:30. Nights Start at 7:30. All this week, the sensational musical comedy "THE JOLLY WIDOW." With the clever comedians and Rosebud Chas. Tonight: Ladies' Souvenir Spoons Free. Friday: Chorus Girls' Contest.

VANCOUVER'S LAST APPEARANCE THIS SEASON

HOCKEY Vancouver vs. Portland. Friday, Feb. 22, 8:30 P. M. Sharp. ICE PALACE, TWENTY-FIRST and MARSHALL. Admission \$1.00, 75c, 50c.

Make Your Reservations at Spalding's, Corner Broadway and Alder. Phone Marshall 215.

ICE SKATING—Washington's Birthday, 2:30-5 P. M. Special Music.

ALBANY BOY DIES IN EAST.

ALBANY, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Word was received in Albany today telling of the sudden death of Harold Watrous in Wall, S. D. He was the 15-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Watrous, of this city, and left Albany in January for a visit with relatives in the East. He was in good health at that time.

STAYTON POSTOFFICE TO BE MOVED.

STAYTON, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Postmaster E. D. Alexander has received permission from Washington for the removal of the postoffice from its present location to Farmers' and Merchants' Bank building. The office is at present located in an old frame building with frame buildings on each side. The new location will be in a concrete building well lighted and modern. J. W. Mayo, cashier of the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank and Postmaster Alex-

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