

CITY ADVISED TO
RESIST RATE RISE

Reduction in Local Telephone Rates Should Be Sought, Says E. M. Cousin.

COMPANY IS PROSPEROUS

Expert Employed by City Council Declares Reports Filed by Corporation Show Vast Difference. Watered Stock Uncovered.

The city should resist the advance in long-distance telephone rates and should seek a reduction in local rates to a reasonable and non-discriminatory basis," says Edward M. Cousin, public service corporation expert employed by the City Council, in a preliminary report filed yesterday.

Mr. Cousin says he has uncovered \$17,000,000 in watered stock in the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company's capitalization. Also he says the local exchange rates in Portland are considerably higher for unlimited business service than any other city in the United States and average higher for residence and two-party wire service than prevail in 30 representative cities.

"In order to support such a proceeding, it will be necessary for the city to establish that the rates are unreasonable, unjust and discriminatory and detrimental to the public interest. This I have no doubt we shall be able to do, but the company will resist any reduction and rely upon the findings of value returned by the Public Service Commission."

Quarterly Reports Required. "Inasmuch as the quarterly reports, which the telephone company is required to file and does file with the City Auditor, embrace substantially all the elements involved in a rate proceeding, I suggest that we take the report for the quarter ending December 31, 1917, as a basis and proceed under the city charter to examine and verify the figures therein reported."

"The advance sought by the telephone company in the long-distance rates from Portland to points in Oregon will result in an additional tax upon Portland telephone users of over \$2000 a month."

Reports Show Differences. Mr. Cousin says that under date of October 13, 1914, the reports as filed with the city, the Public Service Commission and the State Tax Commission show a vast difference.

"The Public Service Commission," he says, "found the value of the property for rate-making purposes December 31, 1914, was \$12,425,597 for the entire state and \$7,398,510 for Portland."

"On that date the company reported to the city a total value of \$5,562,951, a discrepancy of \$1,832,546. The company's report to the city shows its capital stock is \$50,000,000, \$15,000,000 common and \$35,000,000 preferred and bonds amounting to \$42,000,000. In 1917 the company disbursed in dividends 5 per cent on the bonds, 6 per cent on the preferred stock and 4 per cent of its gross receipts to the parent company, the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, besides carrying a large amount to corporate surplus. The company is prosperous and has made large increases in earnings the last few years. The record shows that \$17,000,000 additional preferred stock upon which the company last year paid 6 per cent dividend is what is commonly termed 'watered'."

PERSONAL MENTION.

E. C. Simmons, of Eugene, is at the Seward.
H. E. Tucker, of Tillamook, is at the Perkins.
R. R. Farriah, of Seattle, Wash., is at the Seward.
George C. Baer, of Pendleton, is at the Seward.
D. M. Bardon, of San Francisco, is at the Benson.
R. Findlay, of Seattle, Wash., is at the Benson.
J. G. Hoke, a banker of Yale, is at the Imperial.
T. Johnson, of Spokane, Wash., is at the Carlton.
Earl E. Fisher, of Springfield, is at the Cornelia.
James A. Stewart, of New York, is at the Cornelia.
George C. Kincaid, of Astoria, is at the Cornelia.
W. M. Holten, of Spokane, Wash., is at the Cornelia.
E. C. Tubbs, of Seattle, Wash., is at the Multnomah.
E. J. Merrill, of Bend, is registered at the Benson.
H. T. Eaton, of San Francisco, is at the Multnomah.
A. W. Rietman, of Seattle, Wash., is at the Nortonia.
W. P. Johnson, of San Francisco, is at the Portland.
G. V. Mereraty, of Oregon City, is at the Washington.
C. E. Wheeler, of Cedar Rapids, Ia., is at the Benson.
B. F. Demelson, of Seattle, Wash., is at the Multnomah.
Mrs. S. D. Boone, of Halley, Idaho, is at the Portland.
Joseph N. Scott and family, of Athens, are at the Imperial.
H. J. Graham, of Prescott, is registered at the Seward.
W. J. Colebrook, of Astoria, is registered at the Oregon.
R. Kitten and Mrs. Kitten, of Springfield, are at the Eaton.
Theodore F. Weisenberg, of Billings, Mont., is at the Eaton.
A. P. Wilson, of Kildora, Ia., is registered at the Portland.
H. G. Heinemann, of Pendleton, is registered at the Perkins.
William Mitchell, of Waukena, is registered at the Multnomah.
J. B. Sparker, of Heppner, is registered at the Washington.
E. R. Hermann, an attorney of Roseburg, is at the Imperial.
A. L. Morris and Mrs. Morris, of Spokane, are at the Perkins.
A. F. Holt and Mrs. Holt, of Seattle, Wash., are at the Perkins.
L. W. Robbins and Mrs. Robbins, of Molalla, are at the Perkins.
Captain C. G. Jones, of Seattle, Wash., is registered at the Carlton.
H. L. Lyon and Mrs. Lyon, of La Grande, are at the Portland.
Walter E. Hall, of San Francisco, is registered at the Cornelia.
Herbert Lewis Richards, of Dama-

cus, Or., is in Portland for a few days at the Imperial Hotel.
Mr. and Mrs. Broderick, of Bridal Veil, are at the Washington.
N. E. Buckle and Mrs. Buckle, of South Dakota, are at the Carlton.
J. H. Hodson and Mrs. Hodson, of Dallas, are registered at the Eaton.
L. M. Edwards and Mrs. Edwards, of New Haven, Conn., are at the Cornelia.
E. W. Allen and Mrs. Allen, of Los Angeles, are registered at the Nortonia.
Mrs. R. H. Sweet and Mrs. Fred R. Niles, of Marshfield, are at the Carlton.
Ben Brown, of Brown & Son, general merchandiser, Burns, is registered at the Imperial.
Anna M. Turley, of the Oregon Agricultural College faculty, is at the Seward.
W. J. Machette, who was at one time chief of the Portland police, now a farmer-artist near Kelso, Wash., is at the Eaton.

EXTRA SHOW TONIGHT

NELLIE NICHOLS AND SARAH PADDEN TOP ORPHEUM BILL.

Current Programme Declared to be One of the Really Big Drawing Cards in Portland This Season.

An extra performance of Orpheum vaudeville will be presented at the Heilig Theater tonight, this concession having been granted by the Heilig Theater Company on account of the



Sarah Padden, in "The Clod," at the Orpheum This Week.

renown of the two headliners and the performance will not deviate a second from one of the big drawing cards of the season.

The joint headliners are Nellie V. Nichols, who makes a puzzle of her nationality in song and story, and Sarah Padden, who is scoring triumph in a return engagement in "The Clod," the greatest dramatic success of the Washington Square Players. Miss Padden is appearing in vaudeville, under the direct presentation of Martin Beck, managing director of the Orpheum circuit.

Although the Orpheum's final show tonight is an extra performance, the entire bill will be presented and the performance will not deviate a second from the usual time taken for the staging of the seven acts.

This show, it is reported, is the third best drawing card this season. Gertrude Hoffmann coming first with her revue, then Sophie Tucker, who had the advantage of headlining a bill on which the German war pictures were a feature. Nellie Nichols has been a great Orpheum favorite for years and Sarah Padden, the other headliner, holds the record for drawing patrons to the theater twice and even three times to see her in the same act.

By actual count here this week more than 150 persons have visited the Orpheum twice and the indorsement they mentioned first was "Sarah Padden, in 'The Clod.'"

MOTHER ATTEMPTS SUICIDE

Long Illness and Care of Four Children May Be Cause.

Mrs. Bessie Tomkins, 1664 Forty-sixth street Southeast, made a fourth attempt to commit suicide yesterday morning, according to a report titled with Captain of Police Moore yesterday by Police Constable Fredrick who was dispatched to the scene to investigate when neighbors notified the police.

The case is peculiarly pitiful, according to the police, who sent her to the County Court for an investigation as to her mental condition. Four children are being cared for by relatives. The mother has been ill for a long time.

SHIPBUILDERS—SEE OUR BIG DOUBLE CORNER WINDOW DISPLAY, FIFTH AND ALDER
Send Us Your Name Today for FREE Illustrated Spring Catalog

Thrifty Stamps
and War Savings Stamps on sale at our Accommodation Bureau, Basement. A filled Thrift Card of sixteen 25c Stamps, with 14c added, is immediately exchangeable for a War Savings Stamp worth \$5 January 1, 1923.

Smileage Books
Smileage coupons are theater passes for soldiers' use at entertainment performances. In books of 10 coupons, \$1; books of 100 coupons, \$5. Sold in our Army and Navy Shop, Main Floor and Book Shop, Fifth Floor.

Meier & Frank Co.
Established 1857
THE QUALITY STORE OF PORTLAND
7th, 8th, Morrison, Alder Sts.

Army and Navy Shop
Main Floor, Central. Devoted exclusively to soldiers' and sailors' articles—insignia, requisites and comforts of best quality in great variety. Purchases made at this counter will be wrapped free for mailing.

St. Patrick's Day Favors
Party and table decorations of all kinds. Lunch sets, napkins, table covers, place and escort cards, cut-outs and seals, Irish flags, etc. Main Floor. Bonbons, novelties of all kinds, Fifth Floor.

More New Arrivals! More Good Savings Today!

Today and Tomorrow—While Quantities Remain—Great Sale
Women's HIGH Shoes

Divided Into Three Groups at
\$4.85-\$6.35-\$7.85

One Style at Each Price Illustrated

In many instances the reductions in this great 2 days' sale of women's high shoes are as much as HALF—in every instance a most substantial saving is offered on finest quality shoes. Do not be satisfied with one pair—thrifty women will supply their needs for a long time ahead.

Shoes for almost every occasion. A big assortment of styles. Included are: White kid, black kid with colored kid or cloth tops, patent with black kid or cloth tops, tan with colored kid or cloth tops, patent and black with white kid or colored suede tops, gray and white kid with file tops to match—many other short lines.

Not every size in each style, but all sizes in the lot. Lace and button styles. Wonderful values at \$4.85, \$6.35 and \$7.85.

—Shoe Shop, Third Floor.

Lovely Are the New
Silk Dresses for Spring

NOW ON DISPLAY AT
MEIER & FRANK'S

The vogue for silk dresses is steadily on the increase—and it has already reached astonishing proportions. Apart from the desirability of silk as a dress fabric, its beauty, its adaptability, its service, women favor silk more and more because its use aids in the conservation of wool. We anticipated the demand and are ready with great new stocks of finest quality silk dresses in the latest and most approved styles. Prices, as women have learned to expect of Meier & Frank, are the lowest possible.

New Taffeta Silks

In plain and fancy shades, new plaid silk ginghams and other handsome silks have been wrought into charming dresses. Beaded and silk embroidery trimmed dresses. Tunic effect and straight line models, new surplice bodice and tailored dresses for street wear. A wonderful variety of materials, designs, styles and colors in silk dresses. Moderately priced \$17.50 to \$65.

—Apparel Shop, Fourth Floor.



Today's Notion Specials

Charter Oak Thread, hand and machine, 6-cord, black and white, all sizes, six 200-yd. spools 25c for
Boned Girdle, Three Oaks, curved and straight, black and white, two to three and one-half inches, yard 15c
Scalloped Edge Braids and Stick-erie Edgings, complete new assortment, in white and colored, 4-yard piece 25c
Button Thread, extra strong, black, white and the wanted 5c
Khaki shade, 50-yard spool 5c
Children's Columbia Hosiery and Waist Supporters, white only, in sizes 2 to 10 years, special 21c

Today—A Demonstration and Sale of
Voltite Electro Plating Powder

Voltite plating powder deposits a plating upon any clean metal surface—knives, silverware, brassware, bathroom fixtures, in fact almost any metallic household fixture may be renewed with Voltite. Voltite does not merely polish, it actually renews the surface. See our demonstration today.

Silver Voltite, can \$1. Nickel, brass, tin and copper Voltite, can 50c.

—Notion Shop, Main Floor.

On Our Center Aisle
Bargain Square—Sale3000 Yards of
Wash Goods

In Lengths of 2 1/2 to 6 Yards, Yd.

12 1/2c
15c-20c Values

An extra special one-day sale of approximately 3000 yards of fine quality cotton goods.

Included are voiles, lawns, batistes. In plain white and desirable colorings and patterns—pretty Dresden effects, stripes and checks. In converters lengths, 2 1/2 to 6 yards. Regular 15c to 20c values—SOLD BY THE PIECE ONLY at, yard 12 1/2c.

—Center Aisle, Main Floor.

Hear Mrs. Craig Talk About
"Nemo" Corsets

Today and every day this week Mrs. A. L. Craig, authorized instructor of the Nemo Hygienic-Fashion Institute of New York, will give FREE a series of talks on Nemo corsets. Some of the points covered by Mrs. Craig:

WHAT IS NEMO HYGIENIC STYLE SERVICE? It is the term used to designate the scientific manner in which Nemo corsets work to improve both health and style.

HOW DO NEMO CORSETS CORRECT FIGURE FAULTS? By giving support where needed, freedom where health demands it, and by controlling flesh without undue pressure.

WHY IS NEMO STYLE BEST? Because healthful beauty is the Nemo ideal, and the Nemo way is to conform the lines of fashion with the laws of health.

WHY ARE NEMO CORSETS SO COMFORTABLE? Because they have special supporting features, and every Nemo corset gives complete freedom over the diaphragm, for deep breathing and good circulation.

WHY ARE NEMO CORSETS FAMOUS FOR DURABILITY? Because only the finest material is used in their manufacture, and every single piece is scientifically tested for strength and durability.

Come in and consult with Mrs. Craig today. We have fine stocks of Nemo corsets from \$3.50 upward.

—Corset Shop, Third Floor.

NEW!
A Fine Lot of
Laces

10c

New imitation Cluny laces in white and ecru. 1 to 2 1/2 inches wide.
Platt Val. laces and insertions in white only. 2 1/2 to 4 inches wide.
Shadow laces in white and cream. 9 inches wide.
All are moderately priced at, yard 10c.

Embroidery 49c

Many different patterns in new corset cover embroidery on cambric and nainsook.

—Main Floor, Fifth Street.

Universal Porcelain Enamel Ranges

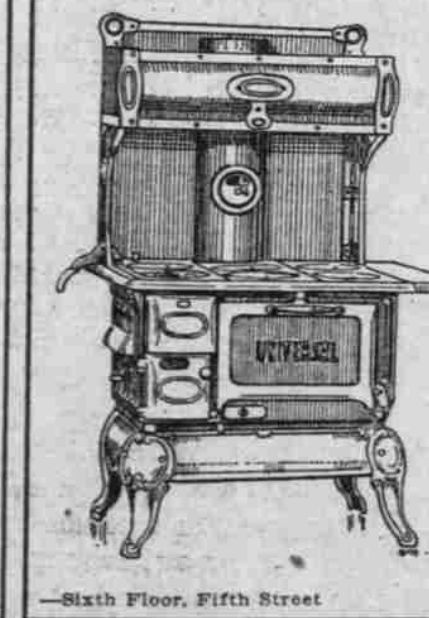
Porcelain enamel castiron ranges—finished in a rich pretty shade of blue or bright glossy shade of black. One illustrated.

Think what this means. No more stove blacking, bruised knuckles and soiled hands. No trouble to keep spotlessly clean—a damp cloth or sponge and a moment's rubbing keeps your range looking like new.

Universal Porcelain Enamel Ranges are made of castiron and therefore will outlast any steel range and give better service. The porcelain enamel is absolutely guaranteed not to chip or discolor from heat. These splendid ranges are shown in several styles—wood and coal ranges and combination wood, coal and gas ranges.

In addition to their beauty and durability these ranges possess many exclusive features of construction that make for convenience and economy of operation and excellent cooking and baking results.

Make Your Own Terms in Reason



—Sixth Floor, Fifth Street

It's None Too Early to
Send Us Your
FursFurs
For Storage

Several people have been asking when we would accept furs for storage during the Summer months. We are now receiving furs for storage in our perfectly refrigerated safety vaults. Phone and our auto will call. Furs received, Fourth Floor.

Curtains

\$1.95

Excellent white net curtains with dainty hems and edges. Splendid values at this low price—pr. \$1.95.

—Curtain Shop, Seventh Floor.

RAILROAD MEN NEEDED

RECRUITING FOR THE 31ST ENGINEERS NOW IN PROGRESS.

Portland's Minimum Quota Is Fixed at 100, Which Number It Is Expected Will Be Greatly Exceeded Here.

Recruiting for the 31st Engineers, a regiment to be composed of railroad men and those of affiliated crafts, is proceeding in Portland under direction of Colonel Frederick Mears and Captain C. G. Jones. The recruiting office was opened Monday in room 102 of the Custom House, upon the arrival of the two officers from Seattle. Numerous applications were received yesterday. The minimum goal set for Portland by the officers is 100 men, and they hope to exceed that considerably. They enrolled nearly 200 men in Seattle. Just at present they are not making a whirlwind campaign to attract railroad and traffic men, since Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo is reluctant to have these men withdraw from the industry. Men who have had experience in the operation of trains, those who have worked in round-houses and those

SHIPWORKER IS ARRESTED

A. J. Downey Charged With Larceny of \$50 From Aged Couple.

A. J. Downey, a worker in the shipyards, was arrested yesterday by Constable Mark Petersen on a warrant charging him with the larceny of \$50 from Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Stocker, an aged couple who live in Brentwood. The Stockers allege that they paid Downey \$50 as rental for a farm at Eaverton for one year, but that a neighbor, asserting that he represented

WANTED

EXPERT COATMAKERS
AND FIRST-CLASS FINISHERS

HIGHEST WAGES PAID; STEADY WORK
Apply to My Workrooms
504 ROYAL BLDG.

HENRY W. JACOBSON

WALDPORT TO VOTE ON WATER BONDS.

TOLEDO, Or., March 12.—(Special.)—Waldport soon will vote to bond the town to obtain money to bring a supply of fine mountain water from Eikman Creek. The water will be taken from the vicinity of the Eikman Creek falls about two miles from town.

UNION DENTISTS

Painless operations on the teeth, as perhaps you will know from your own experience, depend largely on the man who uses the instrument. If he is careless, irritable or unsympathetic, he will inflict pain. You Will Not Get Hurt If You Find This Number.

The Union Painless Dentists are incorporated under the laws of Oregon; and the company is responsible for the guarantee that goes with all the work that leaves their office.

UNION
PLATES \$7.50
Porcelain Crowns.....\$5
Porcelain Fillings.....\$1
22-K Gold Crowns.....\$5
22-K Gold Bridges.....\$3.50 to \$5
Extracting.....50c
231 1/2 Morrison, Cor. Second
Entire Corner.
Look for the Union Sign.