

STATE PHONE RATE INQUIRY IS ORDERED

Restoration of Tariff in Effect Prior to July 29 Purpose.

HEARING TO BE AUGUST 27

Public Service Commission Expects to Meet Representatives From All Oregon Towns.

SALEM, Or., Aug. 6.—(Special).—Investigation of the telephone rates now in effect in Oregon, with a view of rescinding the so-called Burleson schedule and restoring the tariff effective prior to midnight July 29, has been ordered by the Oregon public service commission, to be held in the courtroom at Portland on Wednesday, August 27, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The order of the commission calling a public hearing follows: "Whereas, at 12 o'clock midnight on July 29, possession of the facilities and property of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company was assumed by the United States government pursuant to a joint resolution of congress of the 65th congress, and by proclamation dated July 22, 1918, the president of the United States directed that the supervision, possession, control and operation of the properties should be exercised by and through the postmaster-general, Albert S. Burleson, and

Jurisdiction is Changed. "Whereas, by act of congress signed by the president on July 11, 1919, the possession, control and supervision of the facilities and property of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company were released from federal control, and thereupon became subject to the jurisdiction of this commission under the public utility act and after midnight of July 31, 1919, which said act further provides that existing toll and exchange telephone rates fixed by the postmaster-general on or prior to June 6, 1919, should continue in force for a period not to exceed four months from and after July 30, 1919, unless sooner modified or changed by the proper state regulatory bodies; and

Investigation is Ordered. "Whereas, this commission believes that sufficient grounds exist to warrant hearing being held as to the equity and reasonableness of the rates contained in said schedule O. S. C. No. 2;

Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered that an investigation be and hereby is instituted on the commission's own motion into the legality and reasonableness of all rates and charges, rules and regulations of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company for exchange telephone service rendered entirely within the state of Oregon, and that a hearing in this matter be had before the public service commission of Oregon at its offices at 252 Courthouse, Portland, on Wednesday, August 27, 1919, at 10 o'clock A. M., at which time and place all interested parties may appear and be heard.

Order Subject to Change. The commission made it plain that the formal order was subject to change without notice, although the conference probably will be held as scheduled. Members of the commission yesterday held a conference with attaches of the attorney-general's office, and it is believed here that they have received sufficient assurance of jurisdiction in regulating telephone rates as to warrant a thorough investigation of the issue. Because the increased rates affect practically every town and city in the state, it is the opinion of the commission that many sections of Oregon will be represented.

Should the commission find itself bothered with questions to which the so-called Burleson schedule of rates, the tariff in effect prior to July 29 probably will be restored. This schedule was granted by the commission last May, and authorizes an increase not to exceed 25 per cent of that granted by the postmaster-general.

PHONE SCHEDULES RECEIVED

Burleson Order for Rate Increase, However, Not Included.

Schedules of the increased rates affected by the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company in the city of Portland on July 29 were received late yesterday by Mayor Baker, from Senator Chamberlain and McNary. Copies of the orders issued by the postmaster-general, if any were issued, were included and it is probable that another message will be sent today requesting that copies of orders or authorization of the schedule be sent to the city officials.

The copy of schedule rates received yesterday bears no indication of the time when it was authorized by the postmaster-general, other than the following notation at the top of the schedule sheet, "This schedule is effective June 30, 1918." The schedule also refers to the rates as "proposed rates applicable to all exchanges listed hereunder."

The rate quoted for one-party, wall business telephones is \$8.50 per month; one-party desk business, \$5.75; two-party wall business, \$7.00 per month; two-party desk business, \$7.25 per month. The schedule also cites \$7.75 for one-party wall residence telephones; \$8 per month for one-party desk residence telephones; \$3 for two-party residence wall telephones; \$3.25 for two-party desk residence telephones; \$2.50 for four-party wall residence telephones, and \$2.75 for four-party desk telephones. Measured service for one-party business telephones is quoted at a rate of \$6.50 for 130 calls per month and 4 cents for each additional call. The rate for coin boxes is 5 cents for 10 calls, with a guarantee of three calls per day.

The schedule also cites the rates which were in effect prior to May, 1918, when the public service commission increased rates following a hearing.

The information which was received yesterday did not satisfy City Attorney LaRocha or Assistant City Attorney Tomlinson, who are handling the telephone situation for the city. Both officials said that in their opinion the schedule submitted by the postmaster-general's office had no meaning and would not in any way be construed as a copy of an order or authorization by the postmaster-general.

Unless officials of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company produce authority for the recent advance in telephone rates within the state of Oregon, telephone users are justified in refusing to pay the additional charges, according to Attorney Tomlinson in an interview yesterday. "The telephone company," said Mr.

Tomlinson, "should either produce the postmaster general's order authorizing increases or should frankly admit there is no such order. There is but one source from which the company could have obtained lawful authority for advancing rates and that is from the postmaster general's order of June 6, 1919. It would be a very simple matter to produce the order if there is any such order in existence.

It cannot be questioned that the people have a right to know the utility upon which this utility attempts to make the increase and in view of the persistent disinclination on the part of the company to be frank and fair with the public, it would seem that the telephone users are amply justified in refusing to pay the proposed new rates until their lawfulness has been established.

Following announcement of the increase in telephone rates in Oregon, effective July 29, the city council requested local officials of the company to furnish a copy of the order from the postmaster general authorizing the increase. W. J. Phillips, division chief of the company, refused to comply with this request by saying that the local officials did not have copies of the order and that the company had been forwarded to the telephone administration through regular channels.

SHOE PROFITEERING FOUND

HIGH PRICES ARE ANALYZED BY TRADE COMMISSION.

Excess Margins Held Collected by All Parties—Laws to Protect Consumer Urged.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—The high of shoes was declared to be due to excessive profits taken by every factor in shoe production in a report by the federal trade commission to congress and made public today. The packers were charged with having begun the pyramiding of shoe prices by an unwarranted increase in the price of hides, the supply of which they were said to control. On top of this the tanners have taken "exceptional profits," while the shoe manufacturers have demanded an "unusual margin," and the retailers have charged prices that are "not justifiable."

The commission's report covers the four-year period from 1914 to 1918. To show that the packers have made unwarranted increases in the price of "backer" hides, the report pointed out that the price differential between their hides and "country" hides—hides of a lower grade—has increased "far beyond the usual proportion."

"Some relief from the intolerable prices paid by consumers for shoes may be had," the commission said, "by a rigid enforcement of the laws against monopolistic control of commodities."

Legislation forbidding producers of hides from engaging in the tanning business and

The adoption of a device in the distribution of shoes that will acquaint the consumer with the selling prices of the manufacturer.

While noting that because of increases in the cost of materials during the war period, "prices were bound to advance considerably even though no large profits were obtained, the commission said that shoe manufacturers and retail shoe merchants all made "unprecedented profits."

MILWAUKIE BOY DROWNS

Roy Appleby, Coxswain in Navy, Knocked Overboard.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Aug. 6.—Roy Appleby of Milwaukie, coxswain of the United States navy, attached to the Minnesota, drowned July 29, when he was struck by a coal bucket and knocked overboard, according to an announcement of the navy department today. His mother is Ella Appleby of Milwaukie.

Captain Albert E. Wood, engineer, was today ordered relieved from duty at Camp Lewis, Wash., and ordered to proceed to this city at once to become assistant to the chief of the construction division of the army. Colonel Clarence E. Dentler was today detailed to duty as inspector in charge of the national guard of Oregon with station at Portland. He is ordered to report to the governor of Oregon immediately on his arrival at Portland.

Oregon and Washington troops have sailed from overseas recently as follows: The 16th central Postal Directory, 51 men, sailing on the Imperator from Brest for New York last Sunday; 4th corps military police, 23 men, on the same ship. All of these men will go to Camp Lewis for demobilization.

Representative Hawley's bill to relieve mining claimants of this year's assessment work was favorably reported today by the senate committee on mines and mining.

MILK CONDENSERY GROWS

Scio Concern to Enlarge Plant to Care for Increased Trade.

ALBANY, Or., Aug. 6.—(Special).—Another story and an addition will be built on the Scio milk condensery building this fall to enable the company to handle its growing trade. Eight trucks are delivering 24,000 pounds of milk each day to the condensery. Expensive testing equipment has been added to the plant and a new office built. The company is furnishing a big consignment to the government for army camps in the west, and will be ready to ship within a few days. The milk trucks are covering the country within a radius of 38 miles of Scio. They cover a territory as far as Sweet Home and rivalry for the milk of Linn county between the Scio condensery and the Jordan cheese factory is keen.

Cook to Fly in Eugene. SALEM, Or., Aug. 6.—(Special).—Lieutenant Cook, in charge of a local airplane operating on a commercial basis, left in his craft early today for Eugene, where he will remain until late in the week. On his last visit to the Lane county city Lieutenant Cook was kept busy all day and evening taking people of that vicinity on tours of the clouds.

Heirs Combine to Pay Debt. SALEM, Or., Aug. 6.—(Special).—The heirs of William A. Reynolds, who died recently, have pooled their interests and agreed to pay off all the indebtedness of the estate rather than sell his holdings in the Silverton Lumber company's forest land. Mr. Reynolds' share in the lumber concern is said to aggregate about \$48,000.

Judge Marsters at Salem. SALEM, Or., Aug. 6.—(Special).—R. W. Marsters, retiring county judge of Douglas county, passed a part of today in Salem conferring with Governor Olcott and other state officials.

ITALIAN HATRED FOR AMERICA OBSERVED

U. S. Attitude Toward Fiume Disappoints, Says Officer.

BIG TRADE FUTURE SEEN

Lieutenant Robertson, Assistant to Attache in Rome, Thinks America Slow in Sending Supplies Abroad.

"Italy needs food; Italy needs clothing, but she is getting little response for these commodities," said Lieutenant Charles A. Robertson, who has returned from Rome where he has been stationed for more than a year as assistant to the military attache of the American embassy. "President Wilson's attitude is having the effect of aligning Italy again with Germany after her association with that country had been severed. His stand on the Fiume question, especially, has displeased the Italians who feel deeply the injustice of the peace conference decision in this respect."

Mr. Robertson, formerly an attorney of Portland, is visiting with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Robertson, 1329 Sandy boulevard, prior to going to New York to locate. He recently made a report to the army intelligence bureau in Washington, based upon conditions as he observed them.

Balkan Mandatory Held Need. The establishment of a mandatory for the Balkan states, Mr. Robertson believes, will be necessary ultimately, as already the various states are fighting among themselves, and do not seem to be able to maintain peaceful relations. While not presuming to solve the vexing question that has given nations of the world much concern, Mr. Robertson yesterday expressed the belief that a mandatory offers the most satisfactory solution.

That the strength of the American army in Italy when the armistice was signed was a disappointing surprise to Italians generally, Mr. Robertson said, is proved by a perusal of Italian papers of that date. One long regiment constituted the American strength in Italy, and on this regiment was placed the great Italian morale which enabled her valiant army to put to rout her enemies.

Army Disappoints Italians. This American regiment, he said, never was engaged in battle and suffered one casualty—due to the accidental discharge of a rifle. The Italian people had been led to believe that a great American force was in their midst and the announcement of the real strength upon signing of the armistice was a keen disappointment.

Possibilities of trade between America and Italy are stupendous, said Mr. Robertson, who saw the need of that country for raw materials and who learned Italy's desire to trade with this country direct, rather than through England and France. Oregon products, such as grain, lumber, wool, flour and canned goods, may find their way direct onto Italian markets, provided judgment is exercised in handling diplomatic issues. At present there is a strong feeling in Italy against what is termed a one-man diplomacy, and people there express confidence that the American rank and file will not stand behind a president for any length of time in support of his Italian attitude, he said.

MARKET CLEANUP URGED

Screening of Fruit and Vegetables Is Suggested by Inspector.

Unsanitary conditions in the public market and in private markets in the downtown section are charged in a letter to Mayor Baker from E. W. Van Hovenberg, a sanitary inspector. The letter was referred immediately to City Commissioner Bigelow, who called Mr. Van Hovenberg in his office for a conference.

Mr. Van Hovenberg advocated that all fruit and edibles on display outside of markets should be screened and protected from contamination and disease. To determine if such a plan would be feasible, Mr. Bigelow appointed a committee composed of E. L. Malloy of the state dairy and food inspector's office; Gordon Lang, chief sanitary inspector of the bureau of health; and Eastman, marketmaster of the public market, and Mr. Van Hovenberg.

In addition Mr. Bigelow issued an order to Marketmaster Eastman to suspend any market user who fails to keep rubbish in cans or boxes. Many of the stall users, it is charged, allow rubbish to be cast about the street and sidewalks, making an unsanitary and filthy condition.

LEGION FIGHTS SLACKERS

Clatsop Camp Asks Deportation of Disloyal Foreign Residents.

ASTORIA, Aug. 6.—(Special).—At the meeting of Clatsop camp, American Legion, a movement was started to bring about the deportation of every foreigner who proved disloyal to America during the war. A list of the men from this county who had canceled their first citizenship papers in order to avoid the service in the army or navy was ordered sent to every business house and manufacturing plant with the request that none of these men be given employment. The general authorities will be asked to deport these slackers. A communication was ordered sent to the co-operative packing company, requesting that the services of Emma Fritolf Huttala be dispensed with immediately. Huttala is the man who was denied citizenship by the local circuit court about two years ago because he said he would not take up arms in support of the government.

FIRE FIGHT COSTS \$10,000

Two Campers Are Fined for Leaving Glowing Embers.

YAKIMA, Wash., Aug. 6.—(Special).—Government expenditure in fighting the forest fire which raged last week in the vicinity of Justice C. R. King amounted to \$10,000, according to E. J. Fenby of Tacoma, forest supervisor. Mr. Fenby was here yesterday for hearings before Justice C. R. King of two men charged with leaving unextinguished camp fires in that region. The glowing embers of the camp fires were found by a forest patrol. As the men said that they thought the fires had died out they were assessed the minimum fine of \$10 each.

Ex-Service Flyers Buy Planes. BOISE, Idaho, Aug. 6.—(Special).—The first airplane service to be established in Boise will be inaugurated the latter part of the week by two Boise men—Grover C. Tyler and Walter W. Lindsey. Warren Bruce, also of Boise, has been engaged as pilot. Lindsey

STARTS TODAY THREE DAYS



The Price of Innocence

"MODEL GIRLS" A Prizma in Natural Color Showing the Live Ones and the Wax Ones. THE DICTIONARY SAYS: "VIRTUE" Strength, Valor, Chastity, Anything good and honorable. "SINNER" One Who Sins, An Offender, A Degenerate. Can a Man or Woman Answer to Both Definitions at the Same Time? THE ANSWER IS GIVEN IN THIS POWERFUL DRAMA OF SEARED SOULS.

Coming Sunday—CHAS. RAY in "Hayfoot-Strawfoot"

was for 11 months in the air service and Bruce was in the service 23 months. He did a great deal of flying in France and England.

Centralia Red Cross Worker Home. CENTRALIA, Wash., Aug. 6.—(Special).—After 10 months' service in France with the Red Cross, Miss Esther Fariou returned to her home in Centralia Monday. The young woman, a graduate of the Centralia high school, was teaching in Bremerton when she decided to cast her lot with the Red Cross. She served successfully as stenographer, canteen and research worker.

Hay to Be High at Yakima. YAKIMA, Wash., Aug. 6.—(Special).—O. S. Gossard of Toppenish, secretary of the Yakima Haygrowers' Association, said here yesterday that though the valley would put out an enormous crop of hay, the prospects were that a new record would be established for price.

Hay is being sold in considerable quantities for \$25 a ton and upward, it is claimed. L. W. W. Gane; Harvest Help Steady. WALLA WALLA, Wash., Aug. 6.—(Special).—Most of the men sent to the harvest fields have stayed through the season, according to Pitt White of the federal employment bureau. The unusual condition is attributed to the absence of L. W. W. agitators.

The Dalles to Have Legion. THE DALLES, Or., Aug. 6.—(Special).—Captain E. J. Elvers, state chairman of the American Legion, will be here tomorrow to organize a local chapter of the American Legion.

Pasco Army Nurse Released. PASCO, Wash., Aug. 6.—Miss Lulu Hughes arrived in the city last night from Whipple barracks, Arizona, where she was released from active duty as an army nurse, and she is now visiting at the home of her sister, Mrs. S. M. Henderson. Miss Hughes, who formerly resided in Pasco, entered the service at Portland and was sent to Camp Lewis, where she spent some months. Later she was transferred to Whipple barracks.

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The world's standard remedy for kidney, liver, bladder and uric acid troubles, the essence of life and locks. In use since 1895. All druggists, three sizes. Look for the name Gold Medal on every box and accept no imitation

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In the Indian Tribe one finds the "Medicine Man"—one versed in the healing art of roots, herbs, leaves and barks. In these he discovers emollients, astringents, laxatives and tonics, of which are prepared and offered to sufferers among the tribe. To such good, old-fashioned roots and herbs Lydy E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, the most efficient remedy in the world for female ills, owes its success. For forty years, Mr. Pinkham has been restoring the women of America to health, until it is now recognized as the standard remedy.—Adv.

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