

TELEPHONE SERVICE IN HOTELS REDUCED

Rate Rise 85 to 200 Per Cent, Proprietors Testify.

SALEM HEARING ENDED

Discount Granted by Company Held Inadequate to Cover Losses in Collections.

SALEM, Or., July 29.—(Special.)—Telephone service in Portland hotels has been curtailed materially because of the increased rates, which according to testimony given to the public service commission today, ranges between 85 and 200 per cent over rates in effect prior to March 1, 1921.

Six Portland hotel proprietors testified at the hotel rehearing and three more hotelmen will take the stand next week, Lawrence A. McNary, attorney for the hotelmen's association, announced. The hearing was short, concluding shortly after 3 o'clock. It will be resumed in the courthouse in Portland Monday at 2 P. M.

Telephone rates charged to the Oregon hotel have increased from \$17.43 a month to \$24.25, according to A. L. Meyers, manager of the hotel. This hotel has 125 room telephones, 10 trunk lines and a number of telephone stations distributed throughout the various department headquarters.

Hotel collects \$220. As a demonstration of service given the telephone company, Mr. Meyers testified that in 1920 long distance calls amounting to \$220 were placed and collected for in the hotel. Of this amount the company paid the hotel 35 per cent, but no profits resulted by such payment, Mr. Meyers contended, because of the fact that this sum was necessary to cover the losses sustained by the hotel in guaranteeing payment to the company for long distance.

Service had not changed since the new rates became effective, according to the witness, and on this point all of the witnesses today told the commission that telephone service since March 1 was not better or worse than it was prior to that time.

Former Low Rate Asserted. In cross-examining all witnesses Attorney Shaw said the hotels had escaped any increases in rates on a former order of the commission, but on the other order the commission ordered an increase of 50 cents for one trunk line and 35 cents for each additional trunk line.

Attorney Shaw contended that the hotels had been enjoying service at an abnormal low rate in former years and that the increase now complained of was in reality only distributing the proper burden on this class of subscribers.

In answer to a question put by Attorney Shaw, Mr. Meyers testified that he felt hotels should make 6 per cent on invested capital. He declined to state what his hotel had made during the last three years, but said that during the war period the rates for rooms had been raised once, the lift amounting to about 25 per cent.

Hotel Man Questioned. "How about prices in your dining room?" asked Attorney Shaw. "Been fluctuating about some during the war period, haven't they?" "Yes," answered the witness, "but—" "Up or down?" queried Shaw. "Up," replied the witness. "But on this point I would like to make it clear that the prices in the dining room depend upon the market price of food, and furthermore the dining room in our hotel has not made a nickel since January 1, 1916."

"But the remainder of your hotel has not been operated at a loss?" suggested Attorney Shaw. "No, it has not," Mr. Meyers affirmed.

"Did any great cloud settle down on the hotel business in 1918 and 1919?" asked Shaw, as a smile crept over his face. "Oh, that cloud hit us long before that," the witness replied. "It was December 31, 1915."

Dry Law Hits Profits. "Did this cloud, known as prohibition, sort of revolutionize the hotel business?" sought Attorney Shaw. "Did it cut off some profits?" "Indeed it did," the witness said. "We lost considerable profit."

"How did you make up these profits?" queried Shaw. "The best way we could."

"Did you increase the price of your rooms?" "No," answered Mr. Meyers. "Did you increase rates in the dining room?" "No."

Attorney Shaw did not follow this line any further, but switched to the question of depreciation upon learning that the witness believed that 10 per cent should be set aside yearly to cover depreciation in a hotel. Mr. Meyers said the depreciation fund in a hotel must be larger because of the constant breakage of furniture and other items used.

Increase Is \$2.46 Per Cent. Answering a question put by Commissioner Bucher, Mr. Meyers testified that the telephone service in his hotel did not pay for itself. He testified that while the hotels had increased the price of telephone calls placed from rooms in the hotel from 5 cents to 10 cents, the amount of money gained by this charge was so small as to be almost negligible.

Telephone rates in the Alexandra Court hotel have increased 32.46 per cent as the result of the new rates, according to Edward C. Cornell, manager. The new rates, he testified, brought about an increase of 32.71 per cent in trunk line service, 108 per cent increase in the switchboard charge, 114.82 per cent in room telephone charges and 50 per cent increase for one office telephone.

City's Charter Is Used. When Attorney Shaw cross-examined this witness he utilized an exhibit entered on the former day by the city in which a deficit of \$28,484 was shown on the company's books for the first two months of the present year, just prior to the time that the new rates were made effective.

"Do you not think that these figures prepared by the expert accountant of the city, which appears as a hostile petitioner in this case, are indicative of the necessity for increased rates?" Shaw asked.

"Either that or the necessity for the company to cut its expenses," answered the witness.

When the hotel men protested against the discrimination which they

said had been shown in the rate order against them, Shaw called attention to the fact that it was the city of Portland's contention that should increased rates be required the burden should fall on the large users.

Attorney McNary of the hotel men's association asked what was meant by large users.

Amendment Is Discussed. "Well the large users were not classified very clearly in this case, thus far, Mr. McNary," answered Shaw. "But newspapers were first named but withdrawn, and then hotels were classified."

"But there wasn't any modification in this," said Attorney McNary. "If the newspaper accounts were correct, Major Babcock amended his statement to include only patrons of hotels."

McNary was just coming to that, Mr. McNary," said Shaw. "Such an amendment was made. But lawyers were included, if you remember."

Telephone rates required by the Campbell hotel has increased by the new rates from \$73.85 to \$142.65, or 80.3 per cent, and the telephone rate for the Campbell Hill hotel has increased from \$56.70 a month to \$103, or 81.5 per cent, according to the testimony of Mrs. E. J. Campbell, the manager of the two hotels.

When Mrs. Campbell expressed surprise that the telephone company's representatives were soliciting business in 1916, when they said that the company has been endeavoring to obtain advanced rates in Oregon since 1914.

Big Increases Reported. When telephone rates in the Washington hotel increased from \$85.19 to \$164.85 a month, Glenn D. Hite, manager, ordered a portion of the equipment removed, he testified. He maintained that the commission paid to the hotel by the company on long-distance calls did not offset the losses entailed in handling the business.

The telephone rates under the March order increased in the Hotel Carlton from \$87.20 to \$137.50, according to C. U. Van Duren, and the rates in the Hotel Hoyt increased from \$80.25 to \$172.25, the commission was told by Elmer S. Robe.

The hearing today was devoid of any sensational features. Attorney Shaw of the company returned to his smiles, which he discarded when he was cross-examined by the principal witnesses for the city of Portland, and did his utmost to convince the hotel proprietors that the increase in telephone rates was justified and the proportion allocated to the hotels was fair.

SPOUSE WAS KILLED, MRS. STONE THINKS

Educator Believed to Have Fallen 4000 Feet.

ACCIDENT IS DESCRIBED

Woman Tells of Climb Down Side of Mountain in Hopes of Rescuing Husband.

VANCOUVER, B. C., July 29.—(Special.)—Mrs. W. E. Stone, wife of Dr. Winthrop E. Stone of Purdue university, Ill., who was lost while trying to ascend Mount Eon in the Canadian Rockies near Banff, said today she believed the doctor is dead and that he fell more than 4000 feet into a deep chimney at the foot of Mount Eon.

Mrs. Stone was rescued from a perilous chimney edge herself after standing there from July 16 to July 24 without food. According to Mrs. Stone, she and her husband had reached a height of 8000 feet on the side of Mount Eon. Dr. Stone had gone ahead slightly to attach a rope on a particularly dangerous crag. His foothold gave away and he pitched past her into the depths below. The horror of the situation overcame Mrs. Stone for a minute, and she almost fell after him into the chasm. On gaining control of herself Mrs. Stone began to descend in hope her husband was alive and that she might rescue him.

Descent Is Attempted. Hand over hand, slipping from one jagged point to another, and sometimes rolling over and over only to catch herself on the very edge of some cliff, Mrs. Stone finally reached a ledge from which there was no escape, but which was about 3000 feet closer to the body of her husband than the point from which she started. She worked to get back up the hill and cross over, but it was im-

possible, as their ropes had gone down with the doctor. She tried to get down but it was a sheer fall. As she sat on the ledge with night approaching the plucky rescuer realized that her husband was beyond her reach in this world and that she could only wait for help.

The story of the rescue of Mrs. Stone was told as follows: When Dr. and Mrs. Stone left Walking Four camp at Mount Assiniboine, Matterhorn of the Canadian Rockies Saturday July 15, they left word that if they did not return the next Monday night a search party was to be sent out.

Apparently Dr. Stone had some premonition of an accident. Last year an unsuccessful attempt was made by the Wakefield party to scale Mount Eon. This party reached an altitude of 9763 feet, when they came to a stone wall which it was impossible to scale. They had not time to make another attempt, but suggested that ascent could possibly be made from the southeast end of Mount Glory. With the theory that Dr. Stone and his wife might make this attempt, a party from Mount Assiniboine camp set out to the site of Dr. Stone's food cache, which had been discovered Sunday by Frank Gombert and Jack Batterside, government trail employees.

It was night when they reached this spot on Mount Glory and camp was made Sunday morning, July 24, the searchers set out to scour mountain, going by way of the southeast ridge. The guide scouted the mountain with field glasses, but could discern nothing.

A woman's cry for help was then heard, and with the aid of the glasses, the figure of a woman was seen.

Woman Is Rescued. A roundabout route to Mrs. Stone was then discovered and she was reached in about an hour's time. She was at the bottom of a chimney, about 25 feet of rope was tied to a stone and Peyto, Pouden and Ammer climbed down. The rope was tied securely to Mrs. Stone and the men went up, with the exception of Ammer, who stayed to steady the rope.

She said that she and Dr. Stone had practically reached the top of Mount Eon. Dr. Stone was climbing above her and they were not roped together. They had expected to be back to their food cache Saturday night.

Mrs. Stone was in splendid condition, considering the fact that she had been without food for eight days and had only a little water which oozed out of a rock crevice when the ice melted.

Sunday afternoon Mrs. Stone was carried to Searcher's camp, Monday

and Tuesday the party searched for the body of Dr. Stone. Wednesday the party moved Mrs. Stone on an improvised stretcher to the camp by the cache. Thursday morning she was moved by stretcher to Marvel lake, where she was transported on a raft to Trail Center camp, a distance of some four miles. Mrs. Stone is now resting under care of Dr. Bell of Winnipeg at Trail Center camp. The weather has been very bad and consequently the work of caring for Mrs. Stone has been difficult.

CITY TO BE BEAUTIFIED

Pendleton Planning Commission Created to Promote Welfare.

PENDLETON, Or., July 29.—(Special.)—To make recommendations to the Pendleton city council for the development and beautification of the city with respect to its public and private buildings and works, parks, grounds and vacant lots, a Pendleton city planning commission was created by the city council meeting Wednesday night. The commission, which will be composed of seven members, will study and propose such measures as may be advisable for the promotion of the public interest, health, morals, safety, comfort, convenience and welfare of the city.

Members of the commission appointed by Mayor George Hartman are: Judge G. W. Phelps, Dr. W. D. McNary, H. J. Mann, Mrs. James Johns Sr., H. E. Inlow, superintendent of city schools; W. B. Humphrey and Fred Bennion, county agricultural agent. The mayor, city attorney and city surveyor will be ex-officio members of the body.

The commission will elect officers at its first meeting. Members will serve from one to four years, drawing lots to determine their terms. They will receive no compensation but will have power to employ help and counsel out of funds authorized by the council.

PIONEERS HOLD REUNION

Wheeler and Gilliam County Members Meet 12 Miles From Fossil.

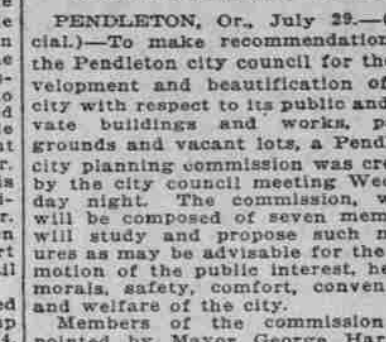
FOSSIL, Or., July 29.—(Special.)—The annual reunion of Wheeler and Gilliam county pioneers opened yesterday at the Julia Henderson pioneer grounds, 12 miles southeast of Fossil. Elaborate preparations were made for the gathering. Camps were established and a building put up by donated labor. Camp outfits of the

pioneers are to be left in this structure from year to year.

A religious service will be held at 11 o'clock Sunday morning, with a picnic lunch at noon. At 3 o'clock a patriotic service, consisting of a lit-

PAIR FOR WEEK DAYS

PAIR FOR SUNDAY



Boys' New Fall Suits

TWO PAIRS OF "KNICKERS" WITH EVERY SUIT

\$9.85

The manufacturer who made these good suits intended that they should be sold at \$12.50. I bought them at a concession which enables me to offer them right now at a saving! Think of it!—new fall suits right from the maker, at only \$9.85! On sale today. The father or mother who is careful with the dollars will want to choose from these!

Child's K. & E. Wash Togs In sizes 2 1/2 to 7 years \$1.48

Child's Wash Suits In many styles \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50 \$4.00, \$4.50, \$5.00

BEN SELLING

Leading Clothier

Morrison Street at Fourth

NOTE: This greatest of all Mary Pickford productions was recently shown as part of vaudeville programme in a local theater. It was advertised very little and shown at higher than popular prices. Thousands of our patrons did not see it and many have requested us to show it. The Peoples has always been the home of Mary Pickford in Portland, and we have finally succeeded in producing this picture to show you at popular prices—25 and 35c.

Britz and the Peoples Orchestra

MARY PICKFORD

in the greatest picture she ever made

"Through the Back Door"

PEOPLES

West Park near Washington - Direction Jensen & Von Herberg

New York Says:— "The picture is a prize one and utterly delightful."—Daily News. "Simply storms one's affections through every entrance."—The Sun. "At her best— as if she had been touched with a fairy wand of personal glamour."—Evening Journal. "Her popularity greater than ever."—Evening Telegram. "Has never done better work than she displayed in 'Through the Back Door.'"—Evening Mail. "The type of picture Miss Pickford has been so greatly loved for."—New York American. "She is an altogether delightful and persuasive as ever."—New York Times. "Another of her delightful and wholly irresistible impersonations... she has never looked so pretty."—New York Herald.

Los Angeles Says:— "There will never be another Mary Pickford. She outshined the famous Charlie in one of the cleverest stunts ever screened. Never has the public seen a more appealing than in this play. She is absolutely alone on her merits. Personally, I think 'Through the Back Door' is Mary's best picture by far in ages."—Los Angeles Record. "Mary Pickford has never been seen in a more appealing role. She hits the high note of comedy in one of the funniest films."—Los Angeles Examiner. "Never has Mary revealed more exquisite and compelling power of successfully pacing our smiles and our tears. After all there is only one Mary Pickford."—Los Angeles Times.

NEW LOCATION
Kirk's Military Shop
61 Sixth St., Corner Pine

NEW SHOW TODAY

James Oliver Curwood
presents **The "Golden Snare"**

Successor to "Back to God's Country" and "Nomads of the North"

HE WENT on a man-hunt from which he might never return. At the end of the trail he found his man—and found him guarding a golden-haired girl whose curls made the golden snare.

**NEW CURWOOD POWER!
NEW CURWOOD ROMANCE!**

Lewis Stone, Ruth Renick, Wallace Beery
head big cast.

A First National Attraction

Second Week SONORA GRAND OPERA STARS

Southwestern Washington Pioneer association will be held August 17 at Rochester, according to an announcement of the secretary, Governor Hart and other prominent citizens will be invited.

Pioneers Plan Meeting. ABERDEEN, Wash., July 29.—(Special.)—The tenth annual picnic of the

Boys' New Fall Suits

TWO PAIRS OF "KNICKERS" WITH EVERY SUIT

\$9.85

The manufacturer who made these good suits intended that they should be sold at \$12.50. I bought them at a concession which enables me to offer them right now at a saving! Think of it!—new fall suits right from the maker, at only \$9.85! On sale today. The father or mother who is careful with the dollars will want to choose from these!

Child's K. & E. Wash Togs In sizes 2 1/2 to 7 years \$1.48

Child's Wash Suits In many styles \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50 \$4.00, \$4.50, \$5.00

BEN SELLING

Leading Clothier

Morrison Street at Fourth

LIBERTY

Also Two Reels of Comedy

NEW SHOW TODAY

James Oliver Curwood
presents **The "Golden Snare"**

Successor to "Back to God's Country" and "Nomads of the North"

HE WENT on a man-hunt from which he might never return. At the end of the trail he found his man—and found him guarding a golden-haired girl whose curls made the golden snare.

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