

NOVEL FEATURES WILL BE OFFERED AT THE 1912 ROSE SHOW

Five Hundred Gardens to Be Represented in Great Centerpiece at Armory—Exhibition Open Three Days—Japanese Holders Introduced for First Time.



ROSEARIANS from all parts of the United States will attend the annual show by the Portland Rose Society, which will open in the Armory, at Eleventh and Couch streets, on Wednesday of the Rose Festival and will continue for three days.

"We expect our show this year to rank second only to the great annual international exhibition of the Rose Society in London," says J. A. Curry, president of the Portland organization. "It is doubtful if a show has ever been held under more favorable conditions than those which promise to prevail this year. It is true that some of the rose bushes were forced by the hot spell two weeks ago and some have passed the height of their blooming period, but there are tens of thousands of bushes which today require only the warm sun of two or three days to bring them to perfection before the opening of the Rose Show. We expect to have at the Armory this year several hundred thousand blooms that will challenge the admiration of every visitor to our display."

Working in co-operation with the

office of the Rose Festival Association, the Portland Rose Society has brought its preparations for this year into admirable perfection, and in every detail the display of blooms will be strikingly novel and beautiful.

The old conventional way of arranging the display tables at the Armory in long straight lines has been abandoned and Mr. Curry and the executive committee will introduce this year a new arrangement of the tables and booths.

The Armory has been laid out as a formal English garden, the tables being especially constructed to represent curved beds of plants, or circles, while the booths holding the displays of the various districts have been so constructed that only the brilliant blooms and the soft green decorations will be seen. None of the glass holders, which in past years marred the display of the various districts will be seen, for all the glass work will be skillfully hidden by especially constructed shelves.

Surprises Are Promised.

While the Rose Society has disclosed the general arrangement of the Armory it is keeping for a surprise a

number of novel features. The world has been scoured to get new and appropriate ideas for effectively displaying the roses.

Several weeks ago President Curry received from Japan samples of odd rose holders and for a week or more a force of Japanese has been busy in one factory in Portland making these holders and when they are filled with choice blooms are expected to attract much attention and admiration.

President Curry has several pictures of these new holders filled with roses. The arrangement is such that as many as 50 roses can be placed in one holder and the roses are so held in position that the individual beauty of each bloom is brought out. There will be a large number of these new holders, capable of holding from ten to 50 or 60 individual roses, as distributed throughout the hall.

Novel Exhibit Planned.

The "One Rose Exhibit" is an entirely new idea introduced in the show this year. It never has been attempted at any other show in this country or abroad. It is an original idea of President Curry. It was designed primarily as an exhibit to show the wide extent to which rose culture is followed in Portland.

It has been appropriately named "The One Rose Exhibit." The object is to show 500 roses from as many different gardens of Portland. An especially constructed table, arranged with glass holders, buried in moss, will be erected in the center of the Armory. There will be five tiers of roses, each rose entered in the section being assigned to its individual place, and each rose will be especially staged under the direction of Mrs. Alfred Tucker, who is an expert in the harmonious blending of colors.

The object of this one display is to get from as many gardens as possible the prettiest rose in that garden on the day of the show, irrespective of its type or color. In this way the Rose Society hopes to get the choice single rose of 500 or more gardens. Every person who is a member of the Rose Society will be permitted to show roses in this section as well as in all other

sections. Sterling silver vases have been offered for first and second prize in this one rose exhibit.

A vase for the best hybrid perpetual rose has been offered by Mr. Curry, whose taste runs to that type of rose on account of their hardness and beauty. Certain varieties of that class reach perfection in the climate of Portland. A trophy for the best hybrid tea has been offered by Alfred Tucker, secretary of the society. With a garden of only 154 roses Mr. Tucker has more than 75 different varieties, a majority of which are hybrid teas. The trophy for the best tea rose in this exhibit has been offered by Mrs. E. B. Lamson, a member of the executive committee of the Rose Society, whose garden of Mammoth Cochet roses, one of the most extensive tea rose gardens in Portland, has attracted much attention.

Decorations of the hall will be on an

entirely different plane than in the past. Nothing will be permitted in the show but roses. No other blooming plant will be displayed.

Commercial features of the show have been eliminated. No distribution of advertising literature will be permitted. The society itself will issue a handsome souvenir programme containing no advertising.

The programme is just off the press. The outside cover is in a stippled effect, with the front page illuminated with a handsome Caroline Testout rose, the official rose of Portland. The programme is so arranged and spaces left so that each visitor to the show can write the name of the winning rose and by whom it was shown.

The show will be open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. It will open promptly at 2 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon.

Officers of the society have obtained

the services of nine judges, instead of three as in past years. These judges will be divided into groups of three and each group will be assigned to judging certain types of roses and in this way it is expected that the judging will be completed in an hour. On Wednesday the regular admission of 25 cents will be charged. The admission for the second day will be 10 cents, and no charge will be made Friday. The display on Friday will be as fresh and inviting as on the first day.

Secretary Tucker will be at the Armory on Tuesday, the day before the opening of the show, to receive applications for entries and at other times can be communicated with at 337 Sherlock building. No entries will be received in the show after 10:30 on Wednesday morning.

Judges will be, for the most part, selected from outside the city, and some of them have officiated at the great international shows in London.

STATE REGULATION OF WATER POWER DEVELOPMENT URGED AT CONGRESS

Federal Government Not Believed to Have the Organization Necessary to Handle Problem With Such Satisfaction to Public as Private Capital—More Important: Bureaus Claim too Great Share of Attention.

E. G. HOPSON.
Read at Commonwealth Congress, May 25.

THE following paper on the "Regulation of Water Power Development" was read by E. G. Hopson at the commonwealth conference of the University of Oregon, May 25:

In countries like Australia practically all public service is under public control, and communities desiring state or municipal improvements apply to the Government both for design, construction and operation of works. In some European countries similar conditions obtain, and government control has thus become thoroughly incorporated into the social structure. In this country privately owned and controlled public service corporations perform most of these functions, particularly in connection with light and power. These concerns have developed great systems of works and occupy practically the entire field. The water powers remaining under state and Federal control are mostly undeveloped and, to a very large extent, are located in the more remote localities, so that they are not immediately available for use in the logical order of commercial development.

It may be possible to devise a scheme for developing these water powers by the direct action of the Government or state, or both, but it should not be overlooked that this will not mean complete Government ownership of light and power, but only a share of the field, the private concerns being already well entrenched in the most strategic points. What would be the outcome if the Government proceeded to develop the new powers in competition with the privately owned power

plants already built is another matter.

First of all, the Government would be competing with its own citizens in commercial work, which is an undesirable situation. Such competition, however, could only end in one way, as the resources of the Government are so much greater than those of the greatest private interests. If the Government seriously undertook rate cutting regarding economic considerations, the private concerns would be forced out of business or would be absorbed by the Government itself. In all probability no actual competition will result, as interests, realizing the situation, would surrender at the outset. What, however, would be the object of such competition? Would the purpose be to drive out private ownership of merely to control it? The latter having generally the best strategic positions today, could, if their resources were equal to those of the Government, win out in any rate-cutting competition. The entrance of the Government into the field with the avowed policy of rate cutting would, however, necessarily be the end of all private enterprise.

Is this the result we are after? It seems to me the point to be attained is not the elimination of private enterprise, but the securing of reasonable rates to the consumer. We are not yet ripe for the wide adoption of Government ownership of this utility, i. e., to the extent of ousting those already engaged in the work. We do, however, desire to prevent unjust and unreasonable rates. Monopoly cannot be avoided, nor does it appear worth while to make any attempt so to do. Production of power is cheaper and more reliable by large plants than small ones, and monopoly there must be either under public or private control. I believe the public will be sufficiently served by rate regulation of all light and power corporation coupled with governmental examination and supervision

of the business methods and accounting of the operating concerns.

Reasonable Profit Permitted.

The public will be satisfied if these corporations obtain a reasonable profit, because, after all, that is what everybody is looking for, provided their methods are reasonably well conducted and efficient. It does not desire to control or operate these plants, as that would involve a governmental machinery far too complicated and cumbersome and might entail evils greater than such excessive rates as may obtain in some cases.

It therefore seems to me that the state and Federal Government should not embark on a policy of wholesale construction and development of the new water powers with a view to using such action as a club over the private interests already operating, but should proceed, first, to perfect machinery to supervise and regulate these latter in the interests of the general public, with due regard to the legitimate rights of the investor in such concerns, and, secondly, methods should be devised for the development of the new powers to keep pace with the growing needs of the community.

Whether the development of the new water powers can best be handled by public or private means is a matter for consideration. In some cases private capital can probably be used to the best advantage, subject, of course, to regulation and control. In other cases, where large comprehensive schemes are involved, the work can be best handled by Federal or state authority. It seems to me, however, that no arbitrary rule can be made covering all cases, and it appears particularly inadvisable in our present incomplete knowledge of the technical features of any proportion to dogmatize as to its merits or demerits.

Conservation Is Favored.

The point on which we will probably all agree is that some expert body

should carefully consider and weigh these matters and try to devise a plan for recommendation to the state government, possibly to Congress. My present idea is that the state should in any event appoint a public-service commission empowered thoroughly to scrutinize the business of all light and power corporations operating in the state, and should legislate to compel all such corporations to make regular reports to the commission and to submit its accounts to the inspection of the Commission, as may be required, and to fix no rates for sale of power save with the approval of the commission. This seems to be the first and most necessary step. It will establish the principle already partly established in other states, that these concerns are not of a purely private character; that the public is looking for, and has provided, a share of their business, in a share of control of the business and reasonable rates. This principle once established may be capable of wide extension as recognition of the rights of the public becomes enlarged.

In addition to the control of existing power companies by a public service commission, we are faced with the necessity of providing for the development of the new powers, this development being now practically held in abeyance through a deadlock between state and Federal action. The state claims to own and control all waters of the state and has provided legislation and machinery for the purpose. In the majority of cases of the large undeveloped powers in this and other Western states the sites are still in public ownership, and these lands being withdrawn from entry in furtherance of the policy of conservation and development being therefore impracticable.

Present Condition Anomalous.

The present condition is anomalous and should be terminated. I know of many worthy plans for development that would have been started to the great public advantage but for this deadlock. As matters now stand there is no legal provision for regulating the entry of these lands. The present withdrawal must, therefore, continue until Congress takes action of some kind. What this action will be is entirely in the air. One school advocates the most radical system of Government ownership, while others would be willing to restore these lands to entry with little, if any restriction. It may, however, be taken for granted that

these power sites will never be opened to unrestricted entry as in the past. Some control and regulation will be established, and this is where the state can greatly aid Congress by its advice and co-operation.

Under the new state water code a system of fees has been established on all water power development, the amount being proportioned to the power developed, and unquestionably this system is far in advance of what existed before. It does not quite appeal to me as being the kind of control best suited to the public interest. Whatever the amount of the fees may be, they are merely a tax on the consuming public, it being evident that the power companies will ultimately shift the burden to the consumer. The entire principle of establishing fees is wrong unless we regard the question as a revenue-producing one and select power development for taxation simply on this basis. As now applied, it is similar in effect to that of an internal tax on coal paid by the mine operators for each ton produced at the mines, in which case there would be little doubt that the public would bear the burden and not the mine operator. It seems to me we do not need taxation or fees, but rate regulation or public ownership and operation. In all probability both the latter will be beneficial under the diverse conditions that obtain in different localities.

Rate Regulation Forward Step.

Rate regulation is unquestionably a long step toward public ownership, and it takes no vivid imagination to picture the growth of one into the other as time goes on. It seems, however, to go a long way in meeting the desire of a large portion of the public for some kind of positive control by the public of public utilities. It provides at the same time a reasonable outlet for the energy and activity of private enterprise and an opportunity for the utilization of great masses of private capital available for profitable development. Properly devised regulation of rates means stable investments at reasonable profits because the prohibition of excessive profits through the action of a public service commission should entail a corresponding duty on the part of the public to insure reasonable returns on the invested capital and full public support in emergencies. From an investment standpoint regulated corporations should enjoy a stability and assurance that will eventually be

found more attractive than the speculative features incident to those operating without regulation.

Actual public ownership and operation is not, in my opinion, a thing to be entered into too lightly. The machinery of the state and Federal Government is not suited for such burdens, nor is the public educated politically to a grant that will afford reasonable assurance of sustained efficiency in the operation of great public works entering intimately into the daily economics of the people. Almost the only Government branch constructing and operating works that I know to be reasonably effective and economical is the Reclamation Service, and I have a full appreciation of the difficulties we live under in that organization in keeping our record even passably good. There is an irresponsibility and indifference to current events in the great public departments that is most discouraging, and I believe the relatively effective condition of the Reclamation Service is principally due to its newness and its relative unimportance among the other Government bureaus.

If the activities of the Government were spread over a wider area it would be with greatly increasing difficulty that a respectable average of efficiency could be maintained, unless the public itself became more alive to the vital interests at stake and enforced departmental reorganization.

Private Enterprise Favored.

If therefore advocate the utilization to the fullest extent of private enterprise in the development of the water resources of this and other Western states, always providing the private interest be subordinated to the public welfare, which should be always the first consideration. I believe by this means greater activity, energy and economy can be brought to bear than if we exclude private capital from the field. There always will be, however, projects so vast in extent and involving so many diverse interests that private capital cannot handle them satisfactorily. These should constitute the field for governmental or state activity.

Some of these larger projects may involve the irrigation of arid lands, the storage of water for irrigation and power and be well within the scope of the Reclamation Service. In such cases some form of co-operation between the Federal and state authorities may be possible. Other projects may be primarily for the development of power with irrigation as a mere in-

cident thereto. In such cases co-operation may be desirable but can probably only be made feasible by new Congressional legislation. Other projects involving power development for interstate utilization may also be subject to such co-operation if legislation be passed. Projects involving power development constructed and utilized strictly within the state limits do not seem to be a matter for Federal activity unless the principle be recognized that the ownership of the site by the United States establishes sufficient interest by the United States to warrant the expenditure of Federal funds. It is evident, however, that the principle of co-operation between the state and Federal authorities is by no means a simple matter except in cases where the irrigation of arid lands under the Reclamation Act is the principal motive. Legislation by Congress will probably be necessary to meet all other cases, but the problem is by no means insoluble, and the interests of the state are sufficiently involved to warrant the appointment of a commission of experts by the state government to consider the matter from all legal and practical standpoints and recommend definite lines of action.

In order to enable private enterprise to develop the water power where the sites have been withdrawn by the Interior Department, Congress must pass legislation, and here again the voice of the state should be unmistakable. This is mainly a matter for expert advice as to the best means to secure full public control of the essentials and yet render development a reasonably attractive field for private enterprise.

There is no doubt in my mind that this problem can be solved if handled by experts and kept out of politics. It appears to me that any plan recommended to Congress should include in any event that the power sites now withdrawn be granted to the state for entry and utilization, subject to public welfare rules, probably limiting the tenure, providing for approved methods of construction, utilization, operation and rate regulation. Prior to the opening of any of these sites there would seem to be necessity for action by a joint commission of Federal and state officials in a complete examination of each locality affected, and decision as to policies to be adopted in such matters as the continued reservation by the Government of such sites as may be needed by the Government or state.