

PETITION FILED TO READJUST CARFARE

If Portland Employees Are to
Get More Pay, Company
Wants More Revenue.

BOTH DEEMED NECESSARY

President Griffith Advises Public
Service Commission That Com-
pany Needs 6 Per Cent Re-
turn to Raise Salaries.

SALEM, Or., Sept. 1.—(Special).—Franklin T. Griffith, president of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company, today filed with the Public Service Commission the petition of that company to readjust its street railway fares to give the company a minimum of 6 per cent upon the value of the street railway property, after deducting all reasonable operating expenses, including taxes, public charges and depreciation and including also such additional compensation to its trainmen and shop employees as may be determined by the Commission.

The petition sets forth that the Commission fixed the value of the property for rate-making purposes in its order of April 30, 1917, at \$18,333,371.55; that the appreciation annuity necessary to be provided for the portion of the property devoted to public service was \$714,066, of which amount \$260,050 was required properly and efficiently to maintain the street railways. Notwithstanding the fact that the value of \$18,333,371.55 was several millions less than the value of the street railway property as appraised by the company, the petition states, "your petitioner is, for the purpose of this application, asserting only the right to consideration of the said value as found and determined by the Commission."

A Per Cent Return Wanted.

The petition sets out that the minimum rate of return to which the petitioner considers itself entitled upon the value of the properties in question is 6 per cent per annum, or \$1,094,002. For a 12 months' period ending June 30, 1917, the gross revenues of the petitioner from the operation of its street railroad properties were \$2,781,955, the petitioner states.

The petition then sets out the following figures, showing the various items of cost and the net income: Operating expenses for 12 months ending June 30, 1917, \$1,650,481; taxes and franchise fees paid during same period, \$295,422; payment for bridge tolls, \$66,627; depreciation for 12 months, \$360,050.

The net income for the 12 months in question is placed in the petition at \$605,274, "which sum," the petition recites, "was \$588,728 less than a minimum return of 6 per cent upon the value of the street railway property as determined by said Commission."

The petition estimates the cost of operating the street railway for the 12 months ending June 30, 1918, as follows: Operating expenses, \$2,113,567; taxes and franchise fees, \$295,422; bridge tolls, \$114,200; depreciation, \$360,050; aggregating a total of \$2,883,240.

At the same time the petition estimates that, based upon present traffic and the present indications of increasing volume of street railway transportation, that such transportation will be 15 per cent greater than during the 12 months ending June 30, 1917.

1918 Revenues Estimated.
At the present basis of fare the petition estimates the gross operating revenues of the railway will be \$3,206,932 for the year ending June 30, 1918, with a net operating income of \$412,793, or \$681,209 less than a minimum return upon the value as determined by the commission.

The petition then recites that the employees have worked for more than 20 years on the basis of a 10-hour day for trainmen and the greater portion of other employees, but a petition now has been filed with the company to establish a basic eight-hour day, which, if granted, would cause an increase of \$600,000 annually in the operating expenses of the railway property.

"If the said request," continues the petition, "of the said employees of your petitioner should be granted and even though the traffic upon said street railways should increase 15 per centum as aforesaid, the result to your petitioner would be that the net operating earnings of the said street railway property of your petitioner would be more than \$1,000,000 less than a minimum return of 6 per cent upon said value of said street railway property so determined by said Commission."

More Pay for Men Needed.

It further is pointed out in the petition that the cost of living of all men and women employed by the company exclusively in the operation and maintenance of the line is materially higher than in the year 1913, and prior thereto, and that your petitioner believes and therefore alleges that its said employees are entitled to and should receive a higher rate of compensation than is now or heretofore has been paid them and a higher rate of compensation than it is possible for your petitioner to pay them within the present limits of its revenues from street railway operation.

The proportion of bonded or funded debt of the company chargeable to street railways is placed at \$12,822,503, and in addition there is funded against the railway's unpaid assessments for street improvements in the city of Portland a bonded debt aggregating \$609,752, bearing interest at the rate of 6 per cent, the annual interest charge now equaling \$48,986.

The present net operating income is said by the petition to be less than the annual fixed charges and it is declared if the petition of the employees is granted and the petition to the Commission is denied "the said street railways will fail not only to earn sufficient to pay the said fixed annual charges, but will fail to earn operating expenses and depreciation."

Accompanying the petition was a letter from President Griffith, in which he says that the city of Portland has been asked to waive the customary statutory notice of 10 days, which, with the time given to reply, would extend the time to 20 days, making it likely that nearly a month would elapse before a hearing could be held. In event the city waives the notice it is planned to hold the hearing next Thursday in Portland.

EXAMINATION DATES FIXED

Several Civil Service Positions Are
Listed.

The United States Civil Service Commission announces open competitive examinations, as follows:

Inspectors of ordinance equipment, grades one and two, for men only, for duty in the office of the Chief of Ordnance, Washington, D. C., or in the Ordnance Department

at Large, at entrance salaries ranging from \$1500 to \$2400 a year.
Inspector of cloth, for men only, in the Ordnance Department at Large of the War Department, at \$2500 and \$3000 a year.
Land Classifier, for men only, in the geological survey, at entrance salaries ranging from \$1800 to \$2400 a year with expenses when on field duty.
Trained nurse, for women only, in the Indian service. The entrance salary for this position is \$720 a year and laundry of uniform.

Until further notice, and on account of the urgent needs of the service, applications for the above positions will be received at any time.

September 11.—Designing engineer, armor plant and steel mill; designing engineer, heavy steel mill construction; designing and constructing engineer, open-hearth furnace plant; hydraulic and auxiliary engineer, for men only, in the Bureau of Yards and Docks of the Navy Department, Washington, D. C., at \$10 to \$16 per diem.

September 18.—Senior expert electrical and mechanical aid, for men only, in the Bureau

RIDGEFIELD LAD OBSERVES FOURTH BIRTHDAY.



—Pope Photo.

William Homer Hall.

RIDGEFIELD, Wash., Sept. 1.—(Special).—William Homer Hall, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Hall, of this place, celebrated his fourth birthday Tuesday, August 24, by giving a picnic party to a number of his little friends and their mothers in the City Park. Those participating in the afternoon's pleasure were: Evelyn Seamon, Ethel Neill, Genevieve White, Maurice Wood, Gordon Keith, Gordon Brice, Bruce Little, Franklin White, Dick Layne, Donald Layne, Emma McConnell, Zura Malkson, Mrs. James E. Keith, Mrs. Calvin Wood, Mrs. Homer S. McConnell, Mrs. C. A. Silver and daughters, Donna and Thelma, of Portland, Mrs. E. B. Hall and the young host.

of Steam Engineering, Navy Department, Washington, D. C., at \$12 per diem.

September 18.—Investigator in accounting and office management, for men only, in the Bureau of Efficiency, Washington, D. C., at \$2000 to \$3000 a year.

September 19.—Field assistant in forest pathology, for men only, in the Bureau of Plant Industry, Department of Agriculture, for duty in the field at a salary ranging from \$1200 to \$1620 a year.

September 19.—Dynamo tender, for men only, in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington, D. C., at \$3.68 per diem.

September 19.—Assistant in marketing livestock and meats, grade one and two, for men only, in the Bureau of Markets, Department of Agriculture, with headquarters in Washington, D. C., at salaries ranging from \$1200 to \$2400 a year.

October 3.—Copyist draftsman, for both men and women, at the Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, R. I., at \$22 a month and at any Navy-Yard or other naval establishment at entrance salaries ranging from \$2 to \$3.44 per diem.

October 3.—Clerk qualified as typewriter operator, for men only, in the Bureau of Pensions, Washington, D. C., at \$1200 a year.

Further information and application forms may be obtained from M. K. Wigton, local secretary, Board of United States Civil Service Examiners, Postoffice building, Portland, Or.

STATE MAY GET TAX

QUESTION AS TO HENRY MILLER
ESTATE INVESTIGATED.

If Assessment Can Be Collected, Total
of \$100,000 May Enrich Treas-
ury of Oregon.

SALEM, Or., Sept. 1.—(Special).—Arrival of Assistant Attorney-General Benjamin, of California, here has shown that the question of whether or not the state of Oregon is entitled to inheritance tax from the estate of Henry Miller, of Miller & Lux, is being investigated. Mr. Benjamin is here obtaining data relative to the fight which is being made in California to resist the imposition of inheritance taxes on the great estate of Henry Miller.

A similar question is being looked into here as far as Oregon is concerned, in connection with the investigation into the Pacific Livestock Company case.

Henry Miller died in California last year. The Miller & Lux Company has been appraised around \$40,000,000 in value. The company had 120,000 shares of capital stock, of which Henry Miller owned all but 125 shares, which were owned by his daughter, Mrs. J. Leroy Nichol, and her husband.

The Miller & Lux Company was the sole owner of all of the shares of the Pacific Livestock Company operating in Oregon, which has an estimated valuation of between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000.

So far no active steps have been taken by this state to collect any inheritance tax on the Pacific Livestock Company's holdings, as they were held by the Miller & Lux Company and Henry Miller died out of the state. But it seems possible that Oregon is entitled to some inheritance tax from this company, and, if it is, the tax might equal \$100,000 or more.

Two Get Decrees.

OREGON CITY, Or., Sept. 1.—(Special).—Divorces were granted here today to Belle Wallace from John Wallace and to Mrs. E. M. Sanders from M. G. Sanders. Judgment was awarded the Peters Hardware Company from Adolph Koellmeier for \$181.37, for which the sale of the west half of the northwest quarter, section 8, township 3, south of range 1 east, was authorized.

Phone your want ads to The Oregonian. Main 7070, A. 6095.

MANY FRESHMENDUE

Dean Straub Predicts Large
First-Year Class at Eugene.

FORECASTER TRIES AGAIN

Man Who Picks Attendance at State
Institution in Early Estimates
Says 300 to 500 Students Will
Enter Freshman Class.

EUGENE, Or., Sept. 1.—(Special).—The freshman class in attendance at the University of Oregon when school opens October 1 will number between 300 and 500 students, according to a statement made by John Straub, dean of men, who has just returned from a visit to many cities of the state, where he has been doing missionary work in the interest of the university, and who will leave Monday morning with a similar object in view for a trip through Eastern Oregon.

Dean Straub has been forecasting the attendance at the university for many years and boasts that he has never missed on his estimates. Last year he predicted a total of more than 1000 students on the campus. The enrollment was 1050.

"We will have a larger freshman class than last year," Dean Straub said today. "The freshmen will more than make up for the loss of upper classmen who have gone into the Army."

Mr. Straub said the investigation discloses that nearly every important town in the state will send from 12 to 15 students and some of them many more.

FAIR TO FEATURE WAR

PROMINENT SPEAKERS WILL TALK
AT SALEM ON ISSUES.

Speakers Are Engaged by Food Admin-
istrator; Food Conservation Also
to Be Demonstrated.

SALEM, Or., Sept. 1.—(Special).—Leading Oregon men and women will talk to the citizens of Oregon on war issues and war problems at the State Fair on request of the food administrator of the Government.

Secretary Lea received advices from W. B. Ayer, food administrator for the state, that he has named Stephen S. Lowell, Pendleton, and Justice Wallace McCamant, Dan J. Malarkey, Mrs. George McMath and Mrs. Millie R. Trumbull, of Portland, as speakers. It is planned to have one speaker a day and the sixth will be selected.

He also received advices from Mr. Ayer that the Agricultural College and the Government will furnish lecturers and demonstrators on food problems who will appear daily at the fair.

From the arrangements that are now being made the question of war issues and food issues as they have to do with war problems will be one of the big features at the State Fair.

KANSAS TEACHER CHOSEN

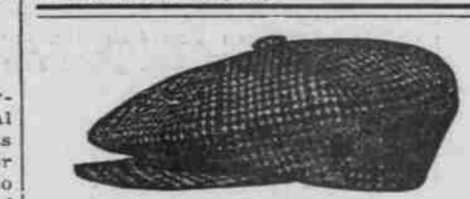
W. H. Grayum Elected Principal of
Centralia High School.

CENTRALIA, Wash., Sept. 1.—(Special).—W. H. Grayum, last year principal of the high school at Nachesa, Kansas, Wednesday was elected principal of the Centralia high school to succeed C. W. White, who recently resigned to enter the officers' training camp. Professor Grayum is a graduate of the Kansas State Normal, and comes highly recommended.

Miss Madge Finley, a graduate of the University of Washington, was elected to teach mathematics in the high school and Miss Gertrude Barnard, a graduate of Whitman College, to teach history and civics. E. S. Smith, a local attorney, was elected substitute instructor in physics and athletic coach.

Opinion of Commission Sought.

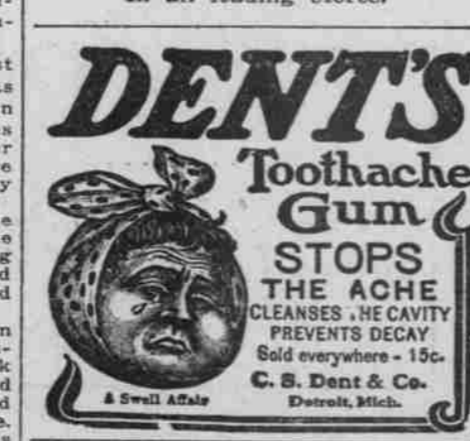
SALEM, Or., Sept. 1.—(Special).—J. B. Middleton, manager of the Home Telephone Company, of Portland, has asked the Public Service Commission if, under the arrangement whereby a commission of three months' free service is given for a new subscriber, the wife of the subscriber may receive the commission. The commission has not yet answered the inquiry.



"JACO"

Manufactured by
Jacobs Hat & Cap Works,
Portland, Or.

Ask for the Jacob Brand
In all leading stores.



CATARRH

is now easily overcome by using an antiseptic oil spray which absorbs and dislodges the hard weblike mucous membrane of throat and nose. Quick relief is always obtained by using the McKenzie Catarrh Spray. The price complete with special atomizer is only \$2.00. We pay the postage on this and all other drug orders.

Laue-Davis Drug Co.
Truss Experts
PORTLAND, OREGON

Starts Today Only 4 Days At the Liberty



GEORGE M. COHAN IN SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE

In almost any other theater on earth, the Yankee Doodle Boy in this wonderfully entertaining mystic comedy would be attraction enough, but the magnificent Liberty gives you, for good measure, the funniest two-act comedy of the year—it's a huge joy programme—guaranteed to chase gloom—it happens.

Fashion Show

—Special Fashion Show Matinee Tomorrow, Labor Day, at 3:30—
Also at 7:30 and 9 P. M.—Gowns Courtesy Eastern Outfitting Co.

ALSO— Fatty Arbuckle

frolics and romps through a half hour of care-chasing antics in the excruciatingly funny comedy

"His Wedding Night"

He gets a bride—but it "mighty nigh" wrecks him—you'll see



Folk tells us: "The Liberty is the finest photoplay theater in the West!" Have you visited our reception-room, on the mezzanine?

Daily from 11 A. M. to
bedtime—
15c; Kiddies a nickel