ELECTRIC POWER CONVENTION HERE

Representatives of Big Companies of Pacific Northwest Exchange Views.

Representatives of all the larger electric power and traction companies of the Pacific northwest are in convention today at the Commercial club. Three business sessions are to be held during the time the delegates are here, the convention adjourning tomorrow evening.

Tomorrow afternoon the delegates will be the guests of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company in a tour of the city in observation cars. Fully 150 of them listened to the addresses of welcome of President C. W. Hodson of the Portland Commercial club shortly after the session was opened this morning. Papers on electrical problems met by the power companies were read.

"Uniform Accounting" and a "Uniform Method of Computing Rates and the Possibility of Uniform Rates for Small Companies" were the subjects taken up this morning, three men speaking on each question. These, with Mr. Hodson's address, filled up most of the morning session. On the first topic: Frank Dabney of the Seattle Electric company, C. N. Huggins of Portland and E. G. Robinson of the Jim Creek Water, Light & Power company, were the speakers, while the second was discussed by M. C. Osborn of the Washington Water Power company, Morton Ramsdell of the Seattle-Tacoma Power company and F. S. Jacobson of the Tumwater Light & Power company.

This afternoon's program follows:

"Taxation." Paper by H. L. Bleecker of Seattle, James B. Howe of Seattle, A. C. Woodcock of Northwest Gas & Electric company, and A. Welch of Portland.

"Taxation of Public Service Corporations," J. M. Easterday of Tacoma.

"Publicity" papers by W. J. Grambs of Seattle, H. L. Bleecker of Seattle, John D. Cary of Grays Harbor and Carlos Cox of the Skagit Improvement company.

Tomorrow morning's session will convene at 10 oclock and adjourn at 2. At 2 o'clock the delegates will meet at First and Washington streets to start on the tour of the city, and at 6:30 tomorrow evening will close the session with a banquet at the Commercial club.

TRAIN ROBBERY

(Continued From Page One.)

ticles of cheap jewelry, fountain pens, and Christmas presents for Portland people.

That the train robbers were ignorant of the general character of the express carried on No. 1 is shown by the fact that they ordered O. H. Huff, the express messenger, to open the "through safe." The through safe usually has a large sum of money in it, ranging anywhere from $25,000 to over $100,000. No. 1 carries only a small safe, and last night Huff had between $2000 and $4000 in it. His quick wit saved this to the company, for taking the money out of the safe he secreted it behind a pile of baggage and the only cash secured was $3.30, taken from Huff's own pockets. Huff's courage in saving the express company's money has been reported to headquarters and will doubtless result in a handsome Christmas present.

Resistance Useless.

Any resistance he might have made to the robbers would have been useless. Besides the nitroglycerin they used in blowing open the car door three good-sized bottles filled with nitroglycerin were left in the express car and were found when the train pulled into Portland last night. They were locked up in the express company's vault at the union depot last night and at the instance of General Agent Beckwith were sent to police headquarters. When Chief Gritzmacher was told what the bottles contained he declined positively and emphatically to either touch them or have them left in police headquarters. So the messenger carried them to the office of Sheriff Stevens, where they are being kept.

The "soup" as it is technically known among yeggmen, will be poured into the river today or tomorrow. The bottles will be saved as possible evidence.

The robbery occurred shortly before 9 o'clock last night, eight miles east of Portland, between the stations of Graham and Clarnie. Graham is the first station beyond East Portland and is near Montavilla. Clarnie is three and a half miles further east. The lights of Portland are in plain sight from either station.

Is Through Train.

The Portland special is the through train from Chicago and carries most of the first class travel over the Harriman lines from the east into Portland. It is a 10 or 12 car train, most of the equipment being Pullmans. The last stop made before reaching Portland is Hood River. No. 1 left Hood River at 6:18 o'clock, after dark. Two tramps were riding on the little platform in the forward end of the express car and were spoken to by three other men who tried to climb on the "blind" as the train was pulling out of the Hood River station.

The newcomers were told there was no room on the blind and so they climbed on top and rode there until Clarnie had been passed. About one mile west of Clarnie they climbed down over the front end of the express car and the tender of the locomotive and sticking revolvers in the faces of Engineer George E. Donlon and Fireman Mark H. Bon, ordered them to stop the train. Donlon put on the air and when the train stopped two of the men ordered Bon to come back with them and uncouple the mail and express cars from the rest of the train. Bon was slow about it and one of the men "broke" the connections himself. As the connections were broken Bon started to run. He was fired at several times by the robbers but was not hit, and managed to get around to the observation car at the rear of the train and notify the conductor and the passengers.

Notifies Police.

Conductor Dunn went to a neighboring farmhouse and telephoned the police, while Brakeman G. L. Richards secured another telephone and called up the railroad operators. In the meanwhile the two robbers, who had left the locomotive cab, returned and ordered the engineer to run down the track a mile. While they were running towards Portland, Huff, the express messenger, took out the valuable money packages from his safe in the second car and replaced them with other packages of small value. When the robbers blew open the car doors it was these packages they secured.

When they had finished with Huff they made the engineer uncouple the locomotive from the express cars and carry them down the track as far as Montavilla, where they jumped off and disappeared. No attempt was made to molest any of the passengers.

Officers Sent to Scene.

As soon as the police were notified of the robbery they sent out all the available men in a special to the scene of the affair and also attempted to cover the entire east side thoroughly, paying particular attention to the streetcars on the Rose City and Montavilla lines. Sheriff Stevens in the meanwhile sent out deputies in automobiles and covered the slough, Sandy, Base Line and Section Line roads to a point 12 miles out of the city. The police in an automobile covered the Powell Valley road, but no sign of the robbers could be found.

Express Messenger O. H. Huff, whose presence of mind prevented loss of large sum.

EXPRESS MESSENGER HUFF TELLS HOW HE SAVED MONEY

"I knew it was a holdup," said Messenger O. H. Huff, "as soon as I heard the shots and was aware that the cars were being uncoupled. My first thought was to save the money and valuable packages that were in the safe. I opened the car door and looked out, but one of the robbers took a shot at me, and I hastily closed the door again. I opened the safe, grabbed the packages of money and valuables and hid them under a pile of trunks. Then, as I knew the robbers would expect to find something in the safe, I took some packages that were of comparatively little value and put them in the safe in place of the money packages.

"I heard two explosions and the door of the rear car was blown open. Then the robbers sprang into the car I was in, shouting that they would kill me if I made any resistance. They had their guns in their hands, and I knew that it would be useless for me to try to fight them off, so I did not attempt to resist, especially as they threw the flash from an electric pocket light in my eyes and blinded me so that I could not see for the moment.

"As soon as they got into the car, they ordered me to open the safe, and seeing the uselessness of refusing, I did as they told me. They were evidently prepared to blow open the safe, if I did not open it, as they had two bottles of nitroglycerin with them. They left these in the car and I brought them on to Portland with me.

"The men took all the packages there were in the safe, but I don't think they got much, as I had hidden all the most valuable packages. Before they left they robbed me of all the money I had on me, only $3.30. This was all the cash they got for their work.

"I am sure one of the men was a Swede, though he had his face blackened. He appeared to be nervous and kept threatening me. Another looked like an American. He was tall and wore a mask. I don't know what the third man looked like.

"I am glad anyway that I succeeded in saving the money that was in the safe. I don't know how much there was of it, but I think there was between $2000 and $4000."

FULTON IS OUT

(Continued from Page One.)

does not bind a legislator to vote against his political convictions, the senator contends.

Takes Liberal View.

However, he concludes his letter with the statement that perhaps the Statement No. 1 members of the legislature have given the mater consideration, and have arrived at their own interpretation of the law.

In this way does the senator practically announce that not only is he no longer to be considered a candidate for reelection, but that he is ready to quit the game. His letter is practically a surrender to the popular sentiment of the people of Oregon, who have refused to be led away from the principle of direct election of United States senators.

It looks to those who have kept tab on the Oregon political situation as if the senator had lost heart at last and was throwing up his hands through sheer hopelessness. He misread the popular mind in his efforts for reelection from the first to the present time. He, advised by his friends of the old regime, decided that the people were not in favor of the plan adopted by themselves for the direct election of senators, and he became a candidate in opposition to that theory. He met defeat and then decided on revenge.

Game Not Profitable.

He went to Washington to secure aid from Roosevelt, Taft and Hitchcock, and failed in his mission completely and dismally, and at the last, discouraged, has concluded that the game is not worth the candle. Therefore he has decided to quit and let the future take care of itself. He has no real desire to be senator, he says.

This changed attitude of the senator rings the curtain down on any live opposition to the election of Governor Chamberlain by the legislature, is the belief of every one who has heard of the change. Without a leader, opposed by the most prominent and highly respected men of the state and menaced by the desertion of those to whom they looked for support in the organization of the legislature, the cause seems utterly hopeless.

The Fulton opposition to the will of the people has in reality and in truth "blown up." Nothing but the fragments remain and they are dismembered.

Tomorrow and Monday last days for discount on east side gas bills. Don't overlook gas appliance sale.

MAIL CONTINUES TO ACCUMULATE

Many Letters and Packages Come for Von Neida, Alleged Swindler.

A great pile of packages and letters has accumulated in the postoffice during the last few days. The pile has been increasing to such an extent that persons have noticed it and many of them imagined that it consisted of Christmas presents that the postoffice employes were unable to handle owing to the holiday rush. But they are wrong.

Although the Christmas rush at the postoffice is on in full force, the pile of mail matter in question has nothing to do with the holiday business. These letters and packages are all addressed to C. K. Von Neida, alias the Pacific Apron company, against whom a fraud order was issued by the department some time ago.

Von Neida is the North Dakota man arrested by the federal authorities on a charge of using the mails to defraud, his scheme, the inspectors say, being to victimize poor old women who were desirous of making a little pin money at home. Von Neida is out on $500 bail put up by his brother-in-law, Fred C. Cook, a Portland building material dealer.

These letters have been pouring into the Portland office at the rate of from 200 to 300 a day for weeks. Von Neida advertised extensively in the newspapers of the east, south, middle west and over all the country in fact. The mail being held by the department is from everywhere, most of the letters containing money. Eventually, when Von Neida's case is disposed of by the authorities, the money orders sent by the women will be returned to them by the postoffice officials. Von Neida says he came to Portland for his health. The inspectors say he came here to put into effect one of the boldest swindling get-rich-quick schemes ever unearthed in the northwest.

His case will be presented to the next federal grand jury, which meets some time after the first of the new year.

SUICIDE THEORY IN CHAPMAN CASE

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Eureka, Cal., Dec. 18.—Oscar Chapman, a storekeeper of Klamath, who was found dead in his store, is believed by the authorities to have committed suicide. Their investigations tend to show the first theory is erroneous, that Chapman was shot by the same unknown person who killed Bert Porter and Joseph Vierra during the last month. It is known that Chapman had domestic troubles and that his wife had started a suit for a divorce.

WOULD-BE SUICIDE WELL KNOWN FARMER

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Eugene, Or., Dec. 18.—The man who was found dangling at the end of a rope tied to a bridge stringer near Junction City Wednesday and when cut down ran away, proved to be Henry Loretz, a farmer residing near there. Loretz is subject to attacks of mental aberration and it was during one of these attacks that he attempted suicide. He is confined to his home from the effects of the strangling. It is probable that had he been discovered only a minute later he would have been dead.

LOOKING FOR NEGRO WITH HATPIN MARKS

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 18.—Detectives are seeking a negro bearing wounds made by a hatpin in the hands of Miss Mae Leffler, who was beaten and robbed by a colored footpad last night. Miss Leffler was accosted by the negro while she was on her way to the county hospital to visit her brother, who is seriously ill there. Realizing her danger the girl drew a hatpin and succeeded in wounding her assailant several times before she was rendered unconscious by a blow from his fist.

The negro secured $8 in cash. He also wrenched a ring from the girl's finger, but this was found in the street near the scene of the assault.

BANNON & CO.

THE EAST SIDE PEOPLE'S STORE—388-390 EAST MORRISON ST., NEAR GRAND AVE.

HOLIDAY NOVELTIES, TOYS, DOLLS, GAMES, APRONS, FANCY CHINA, SLIPPERS, HANDKERCHIEFS, UMBRELLAS, FURS, FANCY SUSPENDERS

All at Reduced Prices Tomorrow

But five more shopping days before Christmas. Every dollar's worth of holiday merchandise must be disposed of in that time. Thousands of gift articles marked at Goodbye prices.

A HOLIDAY SALE OF

Gift Articles at Tremendous Savings

ALL DAY TOMORROW

CHRISTMAS TREE CANDLES

10,000 BOXES, ALL COLORS

5c BOX

Two, three and four dozen in a box, fancy twisted. Buy them at HALF PRICE.

Fancy Suspenders

Entire stock of high-grade fancy silk web Suspenders; 75c and 85c values, packed in individual boxes—TOMORROW ONLY

50c

Fur Trimmed Slippers

200 pairs of the "Dolge" felt Romeos for women, large fur trimmings, buckle on vamp, all colors; $1.50 quality

98c

Handkerchiefs

Pure linen, plain hemstitched or initials, for ladies or gentlemen; best 19c qualities, at, each,

10c

Fur Collarettes

AT HALF PRICE

Black sable and brown Coney Neck Furs, long and short sizes, satin lined, identical with the $5 and $6 kind sold at higher priced stores—TOMORROW

$2.98

Knit Shawls

10 dozen cream white all-wool knit Shawls, large sizes, good weights and pretty knit designs; the 85c and $1 qualities

50c

Tea Aprons

30 dozen white lawn Chafing Dish or Tea Aprons, the handsomest line in town; entire line of 75c and 85c qualities at, each,

50c

TOYS, DOLLS AND GAMES ALL REDUCED

$1 Magic Lanterns — **50c**

$1 Automatic Automobiles — **50c**

DOLLS' DISHES, 50c Doll Dishes, **25c**

SAIL BOATS, 50c Sail Boats **25c**

Saturday Is Hosiery Day

At **Lennon's**

FOR GLOVES AND UMBRELLAS

The Great Glove, Umbrella and Hosiery House of the West

Four Suitable Xmas Gifts:

Bring your list

Women's pure silk hose, spliced soles, heels and toes, garter tops, in black, suede, pink, sky, navy, white and red.

$1.75

REGULAR $3.00 VALUES.

Women's pure silk hose in white, gray and tan, large hand embroidered conventional designs.

$2.19

REGULAR $4.50 VALUES.

Women's pure silk black hose, beautiful hand embroidered patterns. In neat Xmas boxes.

$2.45

REGULAR $5.00 VALUES.

Women's pure silk hose, some have lisle soles, others all silk, in a large variety of colors, including pink, sky, navy, gray, tan, champagne, copen, lavender, green, white and black.

98c

REGULAR $1.75 VALUES.

Lennon's

FOR GLOVES AND UMBRELLAS

LENNON'S GLOVE ORDERS for men, women and children honored with the best gloves in the world, can be filled in Lennon's chain of stores—Portland, Seattle and San Francisco.

309 Morrison St., bet. 5th and 6th, Opp. P. O.

Genuine Japanese Silk

Fine Embroidered **HANDKERCHIEFS, CUSHION COVERS, SHAWLS** and Other Fine Goods. **A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE** given with each sale amounting to $3.00.

S. BAN & CO.

34 NORTH THIRD STREET, COR. COUCH

Finest Japanese Store in the City of Portland.

A LITTLE DOWN — $1.00 A WEEK

NEW YORK CREDIT OUTFITTING CO

ALL

165½-67 FIRST ST. — JUST SOUTH OF MORRISON

Splendid Line of Holiday Gifts

TO SELECT FROM

GET BUSY—THE TIME IS SHORT

Don't wait until the last day to do your Christmas shopping, when all stores will be jammed, clerks tired and weary and they cannot give the proper attention to each customer.

THIS STORE is stocked with an endless assortment of Holiday Goods which are useful and appropriate. Our prices are low and lower than in most of the stores.

FOR LADIES		FOR MEN	
Furs	Belts	Swell Neckwear	Gold and Filled Watches
Feather Boas	Fancy Combs	Fancy Suspenders	Gold and Filled Chains
Fancy Silk Underskirts	Bracelets	Gloves	Lockets
Fancy Messaline Waists	Handkerchiefs	Dress Shirts	Fancy Socks
Silk Umbrellas	Fancy Sweaters	Fancy Vests	Fancy Sweaters
Robes	Gloves	Silk Umbrellas	Mufflers

CREDIT TO YOUR CONVENIENCE

In making your Christmas purchases you are privileged to pay in weekly or monthly payments.

SPECIALS—ONE-THIRD TO ONE-HALF OFF

On Ladies' Suits, Coats and Millinery—Take advantage of this sale.

THE J. K. GILL CO.
Portland's Ideal Gift Store

THE J. K. GILL CO.
Corner Third and Alder Streets

Books Make the Most Acceptable Xmas Gifts

THERE is a Book for you to give to any relative or friend that will convey exactly YOUR message of love, affection, good-will or friendship—of whatever nature. There is nothing that is so much appreciated as a Book—nothing that gives as great and as lasting a pleasure.

Our prices are considerably below those you are usually asked. Here are just a few suggestions in FANCY GIFT BOOKS selected at random from our big stock:

FLOWERS AND GARDENS OF JAPAN $6.00
By Du Cane. Illustrated.

SUN AND SHADOW IN SPAIN $3.00
By Maud Howe. Beautifully illustrated.

THE RHINE $3.50
By H. J. Mackinder. Splendidly illustrated in color.

UNTRODDEN ENGLISH WAYS $3.00
By Henry C. Shilley. A splendid Gift Book. Illustrated.

ITALY, THE MAGIC LAND $2.50
By Lillian Whiting. Handsomely bound and illustrated.

BACHELOR BELLES $3.00
Beautifully illustrated by Harrison Fisher.