

CORPORATIONS TO FIGHT NEW RULE; THERE'S A REASON

Study of New Commission Shows That it at Last Will Give Real Control Over the Franchises.

By Marshall N. Dana. According to report, the corporations will fight the commission plan charter.

What can the corporations, especially the public service corporations, object to in the commission plan charter?

Have they found anything therein which they consider hostile to public interest and, hence, wish to defeat?

The commission plan charter provides a general tightening of public control over public utility corporations.

Under the commission plan charter the people may take over and operate not only any public utility, but any plant or enterprise.

May Prevent Monopoly. For instance, if a milk, wood or coal trust should arise, the city under section 77 of the proposed charter, could break the monopoly by taking over the property and operating it.

Neither will it be necessary, under commission plan government, for the city to issue bonds which are a general liability against the city to get money to purchase a public utility.

The commission may issue public utility certificates—section 80—for the construction or acquisition by purchase, condemnation or otherwise of any public utility to be operated within the city.

There are provisions for new and more rigid investigation of public utilities and inspection of work done for the city of a quality not obtainable under a plan where officials give but partial or unreciprocated service.

There are broader common user provisions, better defined statements of what a franchise is to contain, but there is one short section that has perhaps the greatest significance of all to corporations asking franchise privileges of the city.

From time to time the people have desired that there be competition in street railway transportation, lighting and other public service. From time to time so-called competitive franchises have been granted.

From time to time the people have seen these so-called competitive franchise privileges absorbed by the established interest and competition killed. Of late it has become a city prohibition against its sale, or the sale of the corporation's physical properties without consent by ordinance of the council.

Does some one see now why some corporations will desire perhaps to fight the commission plan charter?

SHE'S NOT PLAYING POLITICS



Mrs. Minnie E. Nelson, Mayor Rushlight's secretary.

"I came up here to work, not to play politics," said Mrs. Minnie E. Nelson yesterday, when interviewed for the first time by half a dozen reporters who called at Mayor Rushlight's office to see what the mayor's new private secretary was like.

The remark was elicited when the newspaper men laughingly told the new aide that she had assumed a city post in the open season for politicians and that she would have her work cut out for her to provide jobs for the grand old army of job hunters.

Unlike some of the members of her sex who have made themselves conspicuous of late by making war on public officials who smoke, Mrs. Nelson says she does not object to the fumes of a good cigar—with the accent on the good. She immediately declared war, however, on a reporter who has hitherto made a practice of placing his feet on the desk of the mayor's secretary.

Mrs. Nelson says she believes there are other ways of convincing the public that this is an administration of the people.

The new secretary smilingly answered all inquiries put to her, but warned the scribes not to ask her age.

sex who have made themselves conspicuous of late by making war on public officials who smoke, Mrs. Nelson says she does not object to the fumes of a good cigar—with the accent on the good. She immediately declared war, however, on a reporter who has hitherto made a practice of placing his feet on the desk of the mayor's secretary.

Mrs. Nelson says she believes there are other ways of convincing the public that this is an administration of the people.

The new secretary smilingly answered all inquiries put to her, but warned the scribes not to ask her age.

Mrs. Nelson says she believes there are other ways of convincing the public that this is an administration of the people.

The new secretary smilingly answered all inquiries put to her, but warned the scribes not to ask her age.

JUST 10 DAYS OF GOOD WEATHERS NEEDED ON BRIDGE

Sunshine Is Awaited to Lay Wood Block Paving on East Approach and Then Big Bascule Will Open.

Ten rousing, bang-up days of sunshine, and the new Broadway bridge, its 7900 tons of structural steel in place on the last beam and bolt, the two 2800 ton leaves of the big bascule draw all ready and working like a kid's new top, and only the paving of a couple of spans yet to finish, will open to the clamoring young east side another traffic way across the river.

It might be done with a week's sunshine. But 10 days is the outside estimate. From now on it is up to the weather. How soon the bridge is opened, for wood block paving cannot be laid when there is rain in the air, or when the temperature is otherwise than warm and balmy.

In the first place, the water gets under the blocks and makes them swell. And for reason number two, the hot pitch poured around them will not stick when the weather is cold enough to make you wear an overcoat.

Laying the pavement on the two east side spans, and on the block of the west side approach between Larrabee and Crosby streets is practically the only work yet to be done preliminary to the opening of the big structure. The west side approach is paved and ready. So are the west side spans and both draw leaves.

Ten Men to Finish. "We could open it today if the paving was done at the east end," said H. E. Trout, engineer in charge of the Pennsylvania Steel company, which built the bridge. "I think the paving could all be finished in a week of good weather, but in any event, it would be read in 10 days."

"We have finished the bridge, so far as construction work is concerned. From 200 men, we have reduced the force to about 10 men, and all they are doing is to clean up and put a finishing touch here and there. The paving is done by sub-contract."

The materials for paving the rest of the bridge are all on hand, so there will be no delay when warm weather and sunshine start.

Ralph Modjeski, of Chicago, the consulting engineer, who designed the bridge, and who is supervising its construction for the city, is in Portland today to make a final inspection. H. M. Harpe, representing Mr. Modjeski, has been here since work began.

Long Time Before Cars Run. Though the car tracks are laid across the bridge, and the Portland Railway, Light & Power company has a force of men at work in lower Seventh street tearing up the pavement preparatory to laying rails, it is likely to be between five and six months, according to Vice President F. I. Fuller, before street cars can be routed across the structure.

This delay is caused by the requirement that a third rail be laid outside the narrow gauge track of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company.

"It is not the actual laying of the third rail that will take so much time," said Mr. Fuller, "but the fact that crossovers and curves that we had ordered from the east, and which are now ready for delivery, cannot be used as they were made for narrow gauge track only. This requires the ordering of an entirely new set of them. Even after the order is placed, it takes weeks to turn out the work."

Much Work to Be Done. "Otherwise we could have the double track built and in operation to Jefferson street in about three to four months. There is a great amount of work to be done if it must be remodeled, not only much more pavement to be torn up; trenches dug and track laid, but there are cross-overs and curves to be put in at Morrison, Washington, Burnside and Gilman streets, and cross-overs at Stark and Flangers. Then on the east side, there are curves and cross-overs to put in at Larrabee, Williams avenue and Union avenue, and 10 blocks of new track to lay in Broadway."

General Manager F. W. Hill is working out the re-routing of cars over the Broadway and Railroad bridges. It has not been definitely decided which lines shall be sent across the Broadway bridge, and it may be left to vote of the people living on each line.

Broadway street, between Union avenue and Larrabee, is macadamized and in fair condition for the opening of the bridge except in the block between Vancouver avenue and Wheeler street. This is where the fill was put in. A leisurely start has been made toward macadamizing it, but that is all. The bridge will probably be ready first.

Direct Election of Senator Assured. (United Press Local Wire.) Hartford, Conn., April 5.—Direct election of United States senators was assured today when the Connecticut state legislature, the thirty-sixth state to fall in line, ratified the amendment to the federal constitution to that effect. It was necessary for three-fourths of the states to ratify the amendment before congress could put its provisions into effect.

IMPERIAL ENJOINS BROADWAY TRACKS

Hotel Contends That Heavy Standard Gauge Cars Will Shake the Building.

Following the filing of an injunction suit against the Portland Railway, Light & Power company by the Imperial Hotel company yesterday, Circuit Judge Davis issued an order yesterday restraining the railway company from laying third rails on Broadway from the new bridge to Jefferson street. The order will be in effect only until Saturday, when the matter will be argued before Judge Davis.

The hotel people contend that the railway company received a franchise to lay only two regular narrow gauge lines of tracks and that the laying of the third rail for broad gauge cars on each line is being done without authority. They claim that the heavy cars which will be used on these broad gauge tracks will shake the hotel at the corner of Broadway and Stark streets, causing the mortar to break loose from the bricks, the plaster to fall from the walls and ceiling and the plumbing to leak, necessitating costly repairs which the company will have to stand.

It is also contended that the noise which will result from the crossing of the United railways' tracks which run on Stark street will drive patrons from the hotel and make necessary the reduction of rates and cause great loss of business. The present peace and quiet of the corner they hold to be a valuable asset of the hotel.

Still another contention is that the broad gauge tracks will make the street much more congested and will make ingress and egress to the hotel difficult with the omnibuses. The rails in question are declared to be a nuisance.

Already the company has begun laying the third rails at the north end of Broadway from the bridge. These rails are supposed to be for the operation of cars by a company which is represented by George F. Heuser. Heuser made first application to the city for the franchise on Broadway, and is supposed to be representing some corporation. The Portland Railway, Light & Power company made application and also property owners on the street. The railway company was successful, but when threatened with the referendum it agreed to place the third rails for Heuser.

ARMY AVIATOR KILLED BY HYDRO-AEROPLANE

(United Press Local Wire.) San Diego, Cal., April 5.—Lieutenant Rex Chandler, United States aviation corps, was killed in a hydro-aeroplane accident here today. The machine was being driven by Lieutenant Lewis Eberston, who was taken to a hospital, not seriously injured, it is thought.

It is said that Chandler was drowned. Lieutenant Chandler came here from New Orleans. His home was in Indiana. Brereton, although half unconscious from the shock, and with one wrist sprained, clung to the wreckage until the arrival of the Point Loma ferry, when he was rescued.

The machine was sailing like a bird over Beacon No. 3, about a half mile from the quarantine station, when a gust of wind seemed to send one wing up and the other directly down. Dr. McKay of the quarantine station, and Dr. James Jackson of San Diego, who was watching the air craft, say that Brereton, who was driving, tried to right the machine, but failed. It dropped like a stone into the water.

LEVEE BREAKS, LOWERS MISSISSIPPI 6 INCHES

(United Press Local Wire.) Memphis, Tenn., April 5.—Forsing a gap 400 feet wide and inundating millions of acres, the St. Francis levee, 23 miles south of here, broke at 1 o'clock this morning. The river fell six inches here today, indicating that a tremendous volume of water is pouring through the gap. The inhabitants of the inundated district were warned and fled in time to prevent fatalities. The gap is growing continually wider.

ATTORNEYS WHO EMPLOY "RUNNERS" GET A JOLT

Attorneys who persist in employing "runners" in the county jail to work up business for them are due for a severe jolt, according to Deputy Sheriff Grafton, jailer at the county bastille, who found that a number of cards of attorneys had been passed out among the prisoners.

Some of these cards carried the name of Albert Streiff and, according to Grafton, Streiff had given them to one of his clients who had been sent up from the municipal court and had this man

SEE THAT CURVE Largest Practice in the West

The Thompson method of building up the largest retail optical business in the West is an open book.

Dependable Eye Wear—intelligent service—satisfaction—three of the many reasons for our success.

We give you highly satisfactory Eyeglass service because we understand your needs and cater to them.

We guarantee satisfaction because we know that every pair of Glasses we furnish are accurately ground to fit your especial needs.

Whether your glasses cost \$2, \$3 or \$5, they are guaranteed to give complete satisfaction.

THOMPSON Optical Institute Second Floor Corbett Bldg. Fifth and Morrison

ELKS' LADIES CLUB AIDS FLOOD VICTIMS

Among the contributions received by the Chamber of Commerce during the last 24 hours for the relief of Ohio and Indiana flood sufferers is \$50 contributed by the Elks Ladies "500" club. The citizens of St. Helena also sent in a donation of \$48.10. In all \$128.60 has been added to the chamber's subscription list since yesterday afternoon making a grand total of \$14,477.18 received since the call for aid was issued. Of this sum, \$977.18 remains in the hands of the local committee, \$13,500 having been wired east.

Something over \$200 will be added to the fund probably this afternoon when the proceeds of the benefit performance at the Heilig theatre, given by Mesdames Donna Malott and von Brown will be turned over to the chamber's fund.

Tonight the Rotary club anticipates a large attendance at the People's theater where the organization will give its "Night Out." All the proceeds above expenses will be forwarded to the Rotary club of Dayton, Ohio, to assist in relief measures. In addition to a film exhibition several acts will be staged, and a general good time is anticipated. The general public is invited to attend.

Advices have been received by Secretary Giltner of the Chamber of Commerce to the effect that three carloads of supplies, including clothing and potatoes, have been forwarded to the stricken districts.

The First German Evangelical church, Tenth and Clay streets, raised \$92.50 for the flood sufferers through subscriptions given by its members. The money has been forwarded to Reverend George Johnson of Cleveland, Ohio, who is acting as treasurer.

SUGGESTS CHANGE IN THE BUILDING CODE

In order to put a stop to the practice of granting special building permits it has been suggested by Councilman Ralph C. Clyde that the proposed new building code be submitted to the people in the form of a charter amendment. The committee that is revising the code recently received a letter from the councilman urging that such action be taken. However, the committee, after discussing the matter, decided that the work of revision can not be completed until after the June election. Whether Clyde's suggestion will be carried out will be a question that will be determined later.

RUSHLIGHT SIGNS DANCE HALL MEASURE

Mrs. L. G. Baldwin, head of the department of public safety for women, came out of the office of Mayor Rushlight today wearing a happy smile. The cause of the smile was explained when Mrs. Baldwin announced that she had just been informed that the mayor had signed the dance hall ordinance passed by the city council week before last.

"While the ordinance did not pass in the exact form in which I originally recommended it," said Mrs. Baldwin, "the measure is nevertheless a good one and is bound to work a great change for the better in moral conditions of the city."

CITY TAKES FIRST STEP TO BUY ROSS ISLAND

Following out the wishes of the sanitary commission, City Attorney Grant today filed a resolution authorizing his department to commence condemnation proceedings for the purchase of Ross Island. The resolution will go before the city council tomorrow.

Although the city has no money with which to buy the island and cannot, therefore, make a bona fide legal offer for it as a preliminary to the condemnation suit, the owner, John Kiernan, has agreed to waive this technicality in order that a basis for the submission of a proposed bond issue to the people may be obtained.

AMBITION

From the Kansas City Journal. "Why don't you make Johnny wash his hands once in a while?" they are asking finger prints at his school," answered the boy, "and you know how the child loves to excel."

Strong --- Manly --- in appearance are the characteristics of our twenty-five dollar men's suits. They lead in integrity of fashion and fit. Others at fifteen to forty dollars.

Only 128 Boys can get the benefit of this special purchase (just in by express) of a small lot of boys' suits. They are superior in appearance and wearing quality and an extra pair of pants is included. Worth more, but priced special \$5.

Of course, ball, bat, catcher's glove or mitt FREE with these suits, as well as regular purchases. S. & H. STAMPS GIVEN UPON REQUEST.

Lion Clothing Co. SUCCESSOR TO A. B. STEINBACH & CO. Morrison at Fourth Street Third Just Off Morrison

STRENGTH AND EFFICIENCY With ever-increasing strength and efficiency this company has grown with the growth of Portland. Founded 23 years ago, it has been an important factor in the commercial life of the city ever since.

SECURITY SAVINGS AND TRUST COMPANY Fifth and Morrison Streets Capital and Surplus - \$1,400,000

Closing-Out Sale in full blast at The National We are in receipt of orders which make it imperative that we dispose of every garment in our superb stock immediately. Those who have patronized us know what phenomenal values we show at these sales; those who have not will be astonished at the remarkable showing of new Spring Suits and Cloaks at unbelievable reductions. They are being sold as follows: \$40 Suits and C loaks at \$22.45 \$30 Suits and Cloaks at \$18.45 \$25 Suits and Cloaks at \$14.45 \$15 Suits and Cloaks for \$8.45

Royal Baking Powder ABSOLUTELY PURE The only Baking Powder made from Royal Grape Cream of Tartar Makes delicious home-baked foods of maximum quality at minimum cost. Makes home baking pleasant and profitable