

"IT'S ALL HERE
and
IT'S ALL TRUE"



Oregon Journal



THE WEATHER
Partly cloudy to-
night and Tues-
day; northwest-
erly winds. Hum-
idity, 59.

VOL. XVI. NO. 7.

PORTLAND, OREGON, MONDAY EVENING, MAY 21, 1917.—FOURTEEN PAGES.

PRICE TWO CENTS.
ON TRAINS AND NEWS
STANDS FIVE CENTS

P. R., L. & P. IS GIVEN ORDERS TO CUT RATES

Public Service Commission Takes Stand That Com- pany Must Meet Competi- tive Prices.

LIGHT, POWER SERVICE ARE BOTH AFFECTED

Minimum Rate for Resi- dences Remains at \$1; Rebate Will Stand.

Salem, Or., May 21.—The Public Service commission today ordered a reduction in the light and power rates of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company.

On the company's present volume of business the reductions will amount to approximately \$60,000 to \$65,000 a year, according to the estimates of Chairman Frank J. Miller of the commission, and if the Northwestern Electric company meets the new rates another \$10,000 to \$12,000 will be cut from the consumers' light and power bills.

The commission has given 20 days in which to put the new rates in effect. This reduction of rates was ordered by the Public Service commission in face of figures showing that the Portland Railway, Light & Power company in the last four and a half years has not received a fair return on its investment. Keen competition is the cause of the rapid falling off in the company's revenues, and the commission decided that in order to in- crease revenues to meet competition in rates. Hence the order for a reduction.

On the total valuation of the utility property owned by the company, which the commission found to be \$46,862,971, the company in the last 4 1/2 years received an average annual return for all utility operations of 5.27 per cent. Out of this percentage, dividends, if any, and interest on bonded indebtedness must be paid.

The average annual return for the 1 1/2 years ending December 31, 1916, was 4.15 per cent.

"This return is below that generally secured and received by investors in the Pacific northwest for the operation of public utility properties," says the commission's order.

There is an illustration showing how the rate based on an average of 600-watt connected load, will affect residential lighting:

Kilowatt hours.	Old rate.	New rate.
12	1.00	1.00
15	1.25	1.25
18	1.50	1.50
21	1.75	1.75
24	2.00	1.90
27	2.25	2.10
30	2.50	2.30
33	2.75	2.50
36	3.00	2.70
39	3.25	2.90
42	3.50	3.10
45	3.75	3.30
48	4.00	3.50
51	4.25	3.70
54	4.50	3.90
57	4.75	4.10
60	5.00	4.30

The minimum under both the old and new schedule is \$1 a month for residences.

Following is the commission's order relating to residential lighting:

Primary rate—First 13 kilowatt hours or less, 7 cents per kilowatt; excess over 13 kilowatt hours, 6 cents per kilowatt.

Secondary rate—First 50 kilowatt hours 3 cents per kilowatt; excess over 50 kilowatt hours 2 cents per kilowatt. Discount of 5 per cent will be given for payment within 10 days from the date of the bill.

Minimum bill for lighting service \$1 per month.

Minimum bill for lighting service, in combination with heating, cooking, and small domestic power loads having a possible connected capacity in excess of 2 kilowatts, \$2 per month.

Lighting equipment in excess of one kilowatt per square foot of floor area in any room will not be considered in determining the size of the installation.

No heating, cooking or power appliances will be considered in the determination of installation in the lighting rate.

Commercial Power Rates.

Rate for commercial power are fixed as follows:

First 73 hours' use per month of the consumers' demand will be at the primary rate.

All consumption in excess of that at the primary rate will be at the secondary rate.

(Continued on Page Two, Column Four.)

Mrs. Mooney's Trial On in San Francisco

San Francisco, May 21.—(U. P.)—The trial of Mrs. Rena Mooney on charge of murder in connection with the preparedness parade dynamiting began in the superior court today.

Judge Emmett Seawell of Santa Rosa presided in place of Superior Judge Dunne, who recently announced that he would not try any of the bomb plot cases.

The prosecution announced that F. C. Oxman, Oregon cattleman, who was held to answer in the superior court to charge of attacking in the "Frame" testimony against Thomas J. Mooney, would testify.

American on Casualty List.
Ottawa, Ont., May 21.—(U. P.)—Americans in the latest British casualty list, as announced here, include:—
Died—E. B. Emirie, Denver, Colo.
Wounded—J. E. Ramberg, Port Angeles, Wash.; G. R. G. Husband, Seattle, Wash.

Fisheries Compact Favorably Reported

Washington, May 21.—(WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE JOURNAL.)—The Chamberlain bill to ratify the Oregon-Washington fisheries compact was favorably reported by the senate judiciary committee today.

Senator Chamberlain, however, will not urge it at present, in the absence of Senator Lane, although Lane some time ago stated that if no referendum were filed on the new legislation this year he would not further oppose ratification.

Federal Control of Coal Business Urged

Washington, May 21.—(U. P.)—Declaring that mine operators are charging exorbitant prices for coal, the federal trade commission today urged congress to establish control by governmental agencies which may fix prices.

Box of Dynamite Found at Linnton

A box containing 20 to 25 sticks of dynamite and a box of caps was found on the side of a hill behind the government moorings at Linnton today, by Officer E. B. Anderson of Linnton.

Anderson took the explosives to the Portland police headquarters where Lieutenant Jenkins ordered that they be sunk in the river.

No clue could be ascertained as to the identity of the person who placed the explosives.

Famine Threatens China.

Peking, May 21.—(I. N. S.)—The food scarcity in China has become so bad that actual famine is threatened in some districts.

Chinese Cabinet Members Resign

Peking, May 21.—(I. N. S.)—All the members of the Chinese cabinet except the premier, Tian Chi Jul, resigned today after the cabinet had refused the post of minister of war.

There have been dimensions in the government for some time, owing to the war situation.

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