

OVERHEAD EXPENSE OF PHONE COMPANY HIGH, SAY EXPERTS

Inflated Wages and Huge Repair Charge Pointed Out at Hearing Before Service Commission.

SERVICE IS ALSO SCORED

Lack of Attention to Complaints by Employes Is Brought Out in Hearing; Discourtesy Charged.

Experts of the public service commission, who for four months have been investigating every phase of the operation of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company in Oregon, were placed before the commission this morning. They testified that service rendered was inefficient and pointed out incorrect estimates of operating expenses.

Expenses Are Considered

Operating expenses in the future were dependent mainly on the increase in wages to be expected during the coming year, said Mr. Newell. He went into this matter just as thoroughly as he did in his other accounts, taking as his example the comparison of wage increase between 1917 and 1918.

Service Is Scored

The next topic taken up by the commission engineers was revenue. His report showed that the proposed increase would amount to about 40 per cent on two-party unlimited service and 20 per cent in apartment house rates, with smaller increase in business, measured rate and other service.

Mr. Newell commented on the fact the employees seemed to have plenty of time to converse among themselves. He also stated that a well dressed person who came to the counter was usually attended to immediately, while working people were sometimes forced to wait the pleasure of the assistants.

Mr. Newell then made the assertion that a dissatisfied public was always more expensive and believed that even this one feature was the cause of a considerable loss to the company.

Discrepancies Pointed Out

Mr. Rasch said that he had studied every detail of the operating department of the company and pointed out cases of inflated wages. He submitted scales of operating expenses of the company during the years of 1917 and 1918 and pointed out discrepancies existing between his accounts and those submitted by the company.

"Best Health In Years" From Internal Baths

Miss Frances Herrod, care of Pinkett-Jarrell Grocery Co., Little Rock, Ark., writes: "I am very glad to tell you that I am more than pleased with the results obtained from the use of the J. B. L. Cascaide."

Woodard, Clarke & Co.'s drug store in Portland, Or., have filled an enormous demand for "J. B. L. Cascaide" in the past few years, and will show and explain it to you on request.

Children Must Attend School Parents Are Haled Into Court

While the blue skies and sunshine are luring school children to thoughts of vacation, the forces of civic welfare are combining to sweep away all chances of freedom from study.

Mrs. Trumbull also arrested Casper Heim for allowing his son, who is 14 years old and in the fifth grade, to work. The boy has been working at the shipyard at Vancouver and because his employer is in another state nothing can be done to him.

MRS. CATHERINE REED, RESIDENT OF PORTLAND SINCE 1872, IS DEAD

Born in Ireland in 1839 and Came to Oregon as Child; Funeral Services Saturday.

Mrs. Catherine Reed died at her home, 559 Grand avenue north, Thursday. She was born in Carrick-on-Suir, Ireland, June 24, 1839, and came to Oregon with her parents when a child.

Funeral services will be held from St. Andrews church, Ninth and Alberta streets, Saturday at 9 a. m., and final services will be private at Mount Calvary cemetery. R. T. Byrnes, 901 Williams avenue, has charge of arrangements.

Earl Peter Rifer

The funeral services of Earl Peter Rifer were held from the F. S. Dunning chapel Wednesday afternoon, March 19, and final services were in Rose City cemetery. He died March 17 at the Good Samaritan hospital from an attack of diabetes and was in his thirteenth year.

William P. Schauble

The funeral of William P. Schauble, a well known farmer of Clackamas county, will be held at Oswego Saturday at 3 p. m.

findings on the 4 1/2 per cent charge. This amount is the payment that the Pacific company makes annually to the American Telephone & Telegraph company for services rendered in making repairs on their equipment.

Special Sale Boys' Two-Knicker Suits

IN ORDER to close out all remaining heavy-weight boys' suits I shall offer tomorrow, as long as any remain.

Boys' Regular \$20 \$15.85 Two-Knicker Suits

Boys' Regular \$18 \$13.85 Two-Knicker Suits

All are good durable suits that will give the utmost in service. Newest belted models, smartly tailored.

Positive Saving of Over \$4 on Each Suit

Boys' Shop, Second Floor

Den Selling LEADING CLOTHIER Morrison Street at Fourth

COMMISSIONER BARBUR STARTS A FINISH FIGHT ON PORTLAND 'TRUSTS'

Coincidence in Bids for Sand and Gravel Stirs City Official to Action.

Prosecution of business combines within the city declared to be operating as trusts is promised by the city. An investigation is now under way to establish proof of such operation, and if a case is found, the city will take legal steps to punish infraction of the law, according to Commissioner Barbur, who requested the investigation.

Bids for sand and gravel recently received by the city are the basis for the probe. Bids proffered by three companies were identical, and all were rejected. They were exorbitant, Commissioner Barbur claims.

CHAPLAIN REPORTS ON FUND

Major Gilbert Writes Letter From France to Mayor Baker.

The disposition made of a \$1000 fund sent Chaplain Gilbert, formerly of the Third Oregon, by Mayor Baker and associates for use of Oregon boys in France, was detailed in a letter from the chaplain to the mayor and received Thursday.

TO INVESTIGATE UNFORTUNATES

Committee Will Attempt Solution of Problem in Portland.

A committee to delve into the disposition to be made of unfortunates who endeavor to eke out a living on Portland streets, was appointed Thursday by Commissioner Perkins and will meet at the council chamber today to discuss the question.

RELATIVES OF NURSE DISSATISFIED WITH INQUIRY INTO DEATH

Miss Reid's Relations May Appeal to War Department to Secure Action in Matter.

San Francisco, March 21.—(U. P.)—Alleging local army officials are far from diligent in their efforts to locate the persons responsible for the death of Inez Reid, army nurse, relatives of the dead woman today are considering an appeal to the war department for an investigation.

They state that in the two weeks since the identity of the body found in a canyon near San Mateo was established, the army investigators detailed on the case have apparently accomplished nothing.

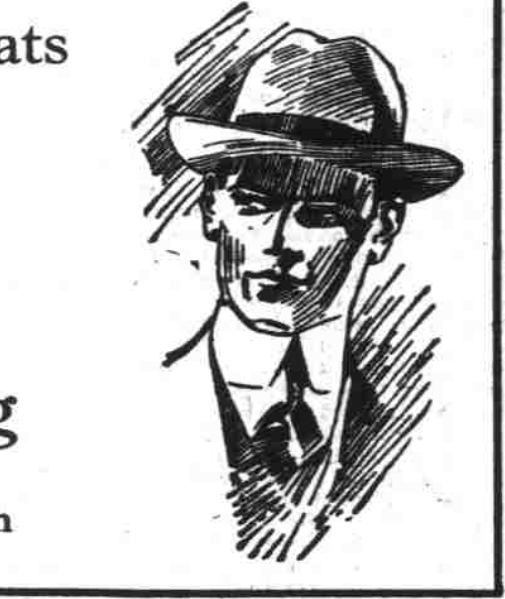
For several days police have been awaiting announcement from the Presidio of the arrival of the dead girl's effects from Fort Riley, Kan., where she was stationed.

Film to Be Used In New Loan Drive

Los Angeles, March 21.—(U. P.)—"Knocking Knockers" is the title of the official government propaganda film for the Victory loan drive.

- Men's Spring Hats Trimble... \$4 Dunlap... \$4 Stetson... \$8 to \$8 Schoble... \$8 Borsalino... \$8 Men's Caps—\$2.50

Ben Selling Leading Hatter Morrison at Fourth



representatives of the Y. M. C. A. and the federal employment bureau.

To Expedite Return of Troops

To expedite the return of the 14th field artillery, composed largely of Oregon boys, Senator Chamberlain has gone to the war department, and will also take the matter up with Chief of Staff March on his return to Washington.

Band to Be Reorganized

The Portland Fire Department band is in the course of reorganization and will be heard in the city during the coming summer. The organization disbanded during the war because of the enlistment of a majority of the musicians, who have now returned to the department. The band will consist of about 30 pieces.

Miss Goodin Appointed Matron

Miss Lena Goodin has been appointed matron of the Cedars, the city detention hospital for women, by Commissioner Mann. Miss Goodin was formerly chief nurse for the city.

Autos Collide on Boulevard; Woman Slightly Injured

Mrs. Ed Blyue of Hillsdale was slightly cut on her head and face this morning when an automobile, driven by Mrs. R. Hoffman, also of Hillsdale, and in which she was riding, was struck by an automobile driven by Cecil Earsart.

The accident occurred on Terwilliger boulevard. The automobile driven by Earsart struck Mrs. Hoffman's machine from the rear and swerving from the road rolled down a 20-foot embankment. Neither Earsart nor Everett Robinson, owner of the car, was injured.

POLICE ARE HUNTING THREE UNKNOWN MEN IN OAKLAND BOMBING

Postal and Police Inspectors Start Out for Unannounced Destination This Morning.

Oakland, Cal., March 21.—(L. N. S.)—Out of a maze of clues in the bomb outrage in which Mrs. George Greenwood met death at her home in the fashionable Lake Merritt district, one is outstanding today, and the energy of the police and inspectors has been directed to running down three men who were seen near the home immediately following the explosion.

What is considered an important bit of information was received by the police this morning from identification expert Frank De Pue of San Francisco, who said that there is an excellent "print" of the finger of the author of one of the numerous "blackhand" letters among the effects of the late Theodore Kytko, handwriting expert. The local police immediately communicated with Mrs. Kytko to obtain the "print."

Immediately following this announcement, Postal Inspector McHenry and the Oakland police force sped away in an automobile for an unannounced destination in following out a hot tip.

Five Are Fined on Gambling Charges

Five men found guilty of gambling by jury trial Thursday afternoon in the municipal court were fined \$50 each this morning. They are Frank Williams, C. Speeder, Mike Kro, Sidney Mienry and Charles Miller. The proprietor of the club, John Grant, was

found not guilty on a charge of allowing gamblers in his place of business. Thirty-seven other men in the room at the time of the raid were found not guilty on a charge of visiting a gambling game.



The Spring Rains Bring Grippe

This sort of weather brings colds and grippe. If it's just a common cold people say, "there's no danger in that!" But many a fatal sickness begins with a cold—with vitality weakened—the system is ready for the influenza germs.

If the cold starts with a cough, and it persists then some local treatment for this condition should be taken. A well known alternative extract which has been on the market for a great many years, and which has been highly recommended by thousands of users, is Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. This tonic compound is composed of an extract of roots and herbs without alcohol, and has a soothing effect upon the mucous membrane, allays the irritation and at the same time works in the proper and reasonable way, at the seat of the trouble—the stagnated or poisoned blood.

Simon's THE STORE OF BARGAINS. Telephone Us Your Orders—Our Private Exchange, Main 1786, Connects With All Departments of the Store. Great Crockery Special! Saturday Only. Hardware Section Specials. Men's Dress Shirts Only \$1.15. Men's Derby Hats \$4 Values \$2.29. Men's Soft Hats Choice \$1.49. Men's Overalls and Jumpers Your Choice at \$1.79. Women's and Misses' Coats. 4 SPECIALS—4 GOOD SHOES FOR LESS. Government Inspected Meats. Ham 28c lb. Bacon 32c lb. COFFEE! COFFEE! M. J. Brandenstein, Edwards'—highest grade bulk coffees—28c lb.