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BLINDERS.

We can see no whif ahead; Next breath, haply, we'll drop dead; Cataclysmic change may come in less time than tap of drum; Forces abler far than we; Compass us invisibly; What of that? Our duty's plain; Forward! through the mist and rain. Forward! through the snow and sleet— Though abysses wait our feet. If we saw the Danger here, There the Sorrow there the Fear. Would we dare to still proceed? If the Future we could read, Who would face Tomorrow's threat? We can't throw off Blinders 'yet. Let's be thankful that we wear them. Let's not seek to slit or tear them; What they hide is for Tomorrow. Strength is sent with every sorrow. —By Florens olson in The Nautelus.

"FREE" LIGHTS TOO COSTLY.

Through the columns of its servile sheet an announcement is made by the Pacific Power & Light company that henceforth the strings of lights on Main and Court street will not be used unless the company be paid for the service.

That is good news. Pendleton wants nothing "free of cost" from the electric company. Anyone who gets something free usually pays for it and often pays dearly. A gift from a public service corporation is but an indirect bribe and the company always figures on getting it back. It is like water used to prime a pump. It is the first to come back to the pumper and is not lost.

Local people want no "free candy" from the Pacific Power & Light company. What they want is good service at just rates. If the company will but see that the street lights for which the city pays out its money are kept burning every night we can well do without free electricity for the streamer lights.

If the free streamer lights, turned on semi-occasionally, have been used to pacify local people and to keep them silent about poor service and about excessive rates then we have paid dearly indeed for those streamers. Take them away. We cannot afford such luxury.

Furthermore, if there is to be ornamental illumination on Main and Court streets it cannot be had by the use of streamers. Many people condemn the streamers as worse than nothing and say they make the town look like a five cent carnival.

Cluster lights are far better for purposes of ornamental illumination. Let the Pacific Power & Light company and the telephone company take their unsightly poles off Main and Court streets so that the cluster lights may have a show. The effect of the cluster lights is spoiled now and will be spoiled as long as the poles remain. But with the poles and wires out of the way the cluster light poles could then be installed at regular intervals along the streets and the business section made a place of light and beauty.

What other favors are to be withdrawn by the electric company? Let us hear about them. This is the proper time. While the wheels are grinding let us work out the grist.

NOT AN EASY TASK.

For fear that conflicting initiative measures dealing with the subject of good roads may be presented to the people and so cause confusion many good roads advocates have asked Governor West to name a general state wide committee to draft a good roads bill and the governor has done so.

On the committee as announced are the grange good roads commit-

teemen, representatives of the Portland good roads association and one man from each county of the state. Leon Cohen is the committeeman from Umatilla county.

Just how the state committee plan will work will remain to be seen of course. But the plan looks good, especially in view of the personnel of the committee selected by the governor. There are some very capable and broad minded men on that committee. It is a committee that will not likely draft a bill that will favor any particular class of people or any particular section of the state to the injury of other sections.

By the very nature of things a state good roads bill must be fairly equitable in its terms. Otherwise it will not be adopted. However, it is futile to hope for a measure that will pass muster as an absolutely equitable bill and which will have the support of everybody in all parts of the state.

As the East Oregonian has remarked before the Indians are the only people who ever did have an entirely equitable road policy. In their savage days each Indian made a trail or his own wherever he wanted to go. It was an equitable plan but needless to say it is not practicable nowadays.

The task before the state committee to draft a measure that will be satisfactorily equitable to pass muster and at the same time will be a measure that will get action. The trouble with much legislation in the past is that the laws have been passive in nature and have accomplished little if anything. Oregon now needs a good roads law that will bring on good roads—not a mile or two of roads here and there, but a good roads system throughout the state.

The work of the state wide committee will be awaited with interest.

AS TO REBATES, ETC.

The Pacific Power & Light company has always rebated the municipal light bill when arc lights were out and it has always given the city greater service than the bills demanded," says the paper that licks the toes of the electric company and of certain other corporations.

Fine, if only true. But it is strange indeed that rebates do not appear upon the books of the city. The records show that during the past seven months the city of Pendleton has handed \$204 ever 30 days to the electric company for street lighting and there is no record of any rebating. Yet arc lights have been out many times during the past seven months. Scarcely a night goes by without some of the arcs being out of commission. Following the anglers' banquet Monday night a north side resident could scarcely find his way along Jackson street because every light on that street was off. And there was no liquor served at the anglers' banquet either.

Why is it if rebates are granted those rebates do not lessen the city's monthly bills? Why is it that councilmen who have pretty good memories cannot recall the time when any such rebates were granted?

As to the reasonableness of the charges for street lighting this paper will pass no opinion at this time. That is a subject that is being investigated by the Commercial club and the investigation will be fair and impartial.

It may be mentioned however that \$200 per month means \$2,800 per year for street lighting and when to this sum is added a similar amount the Pacific Power & Light company gets for pumping city water it may be seen that the company draws down about \$7000 per annum from the city government alone. In other words the city pays for electricity each year a sum that means five per cent interest on an investment of \$140,000—a sum that would go far towards establishing a municipal electric plant should the city care to go into the business itself.

It is complimentary to the Round-up that Messrs. Jackson and Corbett are going to bring a special party to

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the big show. From the preparations being made for the Round-up it is safe to predict the Portlanders will not be disappointed if they come.

The Portland council is now going to force the oil company to establish its tanks outside the city limits. That is a move that should have been taken before Fire Chief Campbell was killed.

March and June seem to have shifted places on the calendar this year.

JUNE 29 IN HISTORY.

- 1519—Charles V. declared Emperor by the electoral votes. 1678—Granadians introduced into England. 1794—Moreau entered Bruges, Briguadardolope. 1804—The Hague sent a deputation to congratulate Napoleon on his accession to the throne of France. 1810—British ships Amphios, Cerberus and Active burned twenty-six ships in the harbor of Grao, Spain, and brought off twenty-six with their cargo. 1843—Croton aqueduct bridge, over the Harlem river, New York, one of the largest (then in America) completed. 1850—Part of the Table Rock at Niagara Falls gave away. 1862—Seven days' battles; Sumner seriously checks Longstreet's army at Savage's station. 1864—Secretary Chase of the treasury resigned because congress refused to accept his plan for raising war revenues. 1876—Mr. Tilden nominated president of the United States by the democratic national convention at St. Louis. 1892—Fall of price of silver through the Indian currency act, silver mining and works suspended in Colorado and other places. 1910—The Interstate Commerce

Commission ordered the reduction by many railroads of freight rates.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY SKETCH United States Senator William Edgar Borah of Idaho, is forty-six today, having been born June 29, 1865, in Wayne county, Ill. The common schools of that same county furnished him his education and after he finished there, he went to the Southern Illinois academy, Enfield, Ill., and to the Kansas State University, Lawrence. Mr. Borah was admitted to practice law in 1890 at Lyons, Kans. He worked hard and has made a brilliant record for himself. Up until Mr. Borah's election to the senate in 1907, he had devoted his time exclusively to the practice of law.

Mr. Borah is one of the most prominent men in the upper house of congress today. He has been prominently identified with the discussion over the direct election of United States senators, and has been the recipient of some very severe criticism for the stand he has taken on the question. Then he has had a great deal to say about the Canadian pact and the revision of the tariff. He is a progressive, but his arguments are always weighted with the soundest reason and founded upon the most stubborn facts.

During the past two weeks a great deal has been heard of the plan of the republicans to put Mr. Borah on the national ticket next year, giving him the place now occupied by Vice President Sherman. Republicans do not attempt to conceal the fact that they no longer regard Mr. Sherman as an avilable man for the republican national ticket, especially in a year when Mr. Taft will find it perhaps, a difficult matter to pull himself through. Mr. Borah is personally popular throughout the west and in some parts of the northwest and it is stated that he will make a far more desirable vice presidential candidate than would Vice President Sherman.

Mr. Borah's term of service expires in March, 1913, and if he is not placed on the second position on the national ticket next year, he will run for re-election.

Grande Ronde Apple Orchards on the INSTALLMENT plan. Talk with the Pendleton people who have visited these tracts. HILL & HIBBERD, OWNERS At the office of MARK MOORHOUSE CO.

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