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JOHN VAUGHAN, FIRE CHIEF.



Pendleton Man Will Attend Firemen's Meeting at Vancouver.

towards eliminating the complaints that arose from the side street property owners. It is to be hoped so at least. It is too much to expect the side street people to pay 50 per cent of the cost of paving East Alta street. It is true though, as one councilman said last evening, that no plan for paving can be devised that will be absolutely equitable and satisfactory to everyone concerned. There will be objectionable features to any assessment plan that may be devised and the best that can be hoped for is that the council will do its best towards assessing the cost where it properly belongs.

Meanwhile the fact remains that it will be a splendid thing for Pendleton to have East Alta street paved.

DRIVING US TO IT.

If a municipal electric plant is provided for Pendleton the Pacific Power & Light company will have only itself to blame. By its attitude towards Pendleton the electric trust is making municipal electric plant advocates every day. The company has offered to provide cluster light poles free on Alder street in Walla Walla whereas in Pendleton the property owners must pay for such poles. The affair is explained by the electric company of course. Nevertheless the fact remains Alder street people get their poles free while Pendleton people pay. The "reduced" rates just granted Pendleton are also explained in a very elaborate way. Still the fact remains that business men, or at least many of them, now pay more for lights than ever before. What good are explanations if the bills are bigger. They are what count.

The electric company also takes a narrow and a selfish stand in reference to placing its wires underground. It objects to doing so even though their poles spoil the appearance of our business streets and though the wires are dangerous to people in times of fire.

All these things arouse feeling against the electric company and it is feeling that is very likely to result in the establishment of a municipal electric plant.

If the electric company does not wish to see a municipal electric plant installed it will be well for the company to show a greater consideration for the wishes and the interests of the people of Pendleton and do that without further haggling and delay.

ANNA LANGLEY.

The world in general will sympathize with Anna Langley and will say that the San Francisco court which released her upon \$100 bail knows something about justice. She shot and killed her husband because he was such a worthless brute he was unfit to live. He would not work and said his hands were not made for toil. His wife was forced to support the family by working as a stenographer. Despite this her spouse did not appreciate her and would get drunk and cast abuse upon her. He continued to do so until he had driven her frantic and in her desperation she shot him. It is not surprising she did and the only regret many will feel is that she did not shoot him with a cannon.

The Pacific Power & Light company collects \$50,000 annually from Pendleton. Most of that money goes away and never comes back. How much better it would be could local people have that money or a portion thereof applied in paying out on a municipal electric plant.

The bar association committee is going to make a report on the Bailey-Perry-Watts case. That is fine and the East Oregonian will enjoy publishing that report whatever it may be. The sunlight treatment should be helpful to the Umatilla county bar association.

Now the Canadian administration is having its troubles convincing the Canadian parliament that the reciprocity treaty should be ratified.

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A BUMPER SONG.

The prophets of the sowing— they growled along the line.
 They killed the crop, in spring-time, but the reaping's mighty fine.
 Fruit of sun-an' rain— A world of golden grain.
 An' the happy hills are singin' to the glad fields an' the plain.
 The ample barns are waitin' for the harvest's heavy store;
 Prosperity says "Plenty!" and "Pass yer plate for more!"
 Toil is never vain— Blessed with golden grain.
 An' the happy hills are singin' to the glad fields an' the plain.
 —Frank L. Stanton.

MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC PLANT.

The suggestion of John Vert that there be an investigation made of the feasibility of constructing a municipal electric plant in connection with a mountain water system is something worth while. It is of particular interest coming from a man of pronounced conservatism like Mr. Vert and at a time when the people of the city are at war with the private electric company now operating here. The idea of obtaining city water from the north fork of the Umatilla river is not new. There are many people and some of them on the city water commission who look on the north fork as their final goal. It seems to offer far and away the best source of supply for Pendleton. There is much water in the north fork. It is above Wenaha springs and beyond all possible contamination. The water is colder than the water in the south fork of the river. It would be a splendid thing for the city to obtain water from that source.

An engineer, in the employ of the water board, has already reported it would be feasible to construct an electric system in connection with a water system. Power could be generated at a station between this city and the mountains and the surplus water turned back into the river.

It only remains to be seen whether or not the people would make money and improve conditions by installing an electric plant. It is the belief of the East Oregonian that a municipal plant would pay for itself without difficulty and would give the people better service than they are now getting at lower rates. Furthermore a power plant would be an asset that would stand to increase in value greatly as the years go by. It would make Pendleton free from the clutches of the present electric combine or any subsequent trusts that may be formed.

Why not act on the suggestion just made? Pendleton people were never in a better mood than now for considering plans for a municipal electric plant.

EAST ALTA PAVING.

At the council meeting last evening another stride was taken towards the paving of Alta street from Main to the intersection with East Court. The remonstrance filed by residents of the East Alta street district was rejected and instructions given the city attorney to draft an ordinance calling for bids on the paving of the street in question.

This does not mean that the paving of East Alta street is yet assured. The council will have the right to reject any or all bids and if the paving companies are too high with their figures no doubt all will be rejected. They should be turned down if they are found excessive.

The council also has some work to do in the way of equalizing the assessment for the East Alta paving. Even though the district plan be adhered to it will still be possible, it seems, for the council to do much

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PUBLIC AID TO MINISTERS.

Justice Hughes Raises Question at Postal Inquiry.

New York—Whether the United States government should tax the general public for the support of superannuated ministers of the Methodist church was, in effect, the question raised by Justice Hughes of the supreme court of the United States, as head of the commission which heard reports of publishing houses protest against the proposed increase of postal rates.

E. R. Graham, who appeared for the Methodist book concern, argued that the proposed increase would necessitate the suspension of many church publications, the profits of which go to superannuated ministers and their widows and children.

"Well," suggested Chairman Hughes after some leading questions, "do you think that the superannuated ministers of the Methodist church should be supported by the United States?"

Mr. Graham, reflecting none of the humor of the justice, replied: "It would not be a bad idea to do so, it would help some."

TRIBESMEN TO MOURN CHIEF AT POTLATCH

Spokane, Wash.—Captain John McA. Webster, superintendent of the Colville Indian reservation, announced in Spokane that there will be a great potlatch at Daisy, Wash. the middle of August, when tribesmen will mourn the passing of Chief Barnaby, who for years was the representative of his people before the president of the United States at Washington, D. C. At the potlatch he crowning incidents of Chief Barnaby's life will be recited, after which his possessions will be distributed among his friends. Chief Barnaby was 75 years of age at the time of his death and is survived by a son of 16 years. His most notable speech was before President Roosevelt and Indian officials five years ago, to intercede for the payment of \$1,500,000 due on land

sales. He adopted the ways of the white man years ago, and the sermon at his bier was delivered by Father Caldwell, a traveling field missionary. The body rests in an elaborate casket in the Colville Indian burial ground.

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