

WEST URGES CONTROL PUBLIC UTILITIES

GOVERNOR APPROVES OF BILL BY MILARKEY

Following Merger of Power Companies Governor Points Out Necessity of Enacting Laws That Will Cut Hands of People.

Salem, Ore., March 30.—Declaring that the merger of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company and the Mount Hood Power company's interests has left the people with their hands tied, Governor West stated that there is but one thing left for the citizens to do and that is to exercise regulation over the public utilities of the state and he believes that the Malarkey public utilities bill is the solution of the question.

"I was not in the least surprised when I heard of the merger," stated Governor West upon his return from eastern Oregon.

"It was to be expected as there were no obstacles in the way of it and it was good business from the standpoint of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company.

"There is no use wasting our breath now in railing at the company.

We should rather congratulate it upon its luck in finding such 'easy pickings' out here in Oregon.

"The all-wise Creator planned for a model city when he molded the site of Portland and the surrounding country. Just think of its unusual natural advantages. On top of it all he placed near at hand, and where it could be harnessed at a minimum cost, an abundance of water power in order that the inhabitants of this beautiful and wonderful city might be supplied with an unlimited amount of cheap light, heat and power.

"How have we cared for this birthright? We didn't even succeed in trading it for a mess of pottage. We gave it away, but gave a bonus along with it, as was done when the locks were built at Oregon City.

"After we had seen the falls of the Willamette slip from our fingers one would have thought that we should have turned our attention to the Clackamas and Sandy rivers, but we did not. We simply turned over in bed and went to sleep. In the mean time the power trust has stepped in and taken it all.

Being absolutely up against it there is nothing left for us to do but to make the best of it and turn our thoughts to regulation.

People Can Demand Power Rates.

"The people are entitled to and can demand reasonable rates and adequate service and these no doubt can be secured through the Malarkey public utilities bill."

"I believe that it will develop that it is a good bill. If it proves to have weak points they can be strengthened from time to time as was done with the railroad commission bill."

Governor West declared that the city of Portland lost its golden opportunity in the past by not securing the waters for power purposes.

"Had laws been passed enabling Portland to file on the water, even if it did not feel at that time as though it could enter into the power and light business extensively, it would keep the water for future use," he stated, suggesting at the same time he believes the main solution of similar problems is in public ownership of this class of utilities.

STANFIELD MAY SHRINK A BIT

CITIZENS WOULD DRAW IN CITY'S CORPORATE LIMITS

Special Election May Be Held to Return Orchard Tracts in City to Rural District—Suffrage Move Started

(Special Correspondence.)

Stanfield, March 30.—Wednesday evening a meeting of Stanfield citizens was held for the purpose of discussing the question of reducing the size of the corporate limits, it being the opinion that a considerable acreage of orchard tracts now in the city limits should again be assigned to the rural district. A special election is being talked of in order that the matter may be determined by ballot.

Mrs. Sarah Barfield Erhott, organizer of the state central committee of the Oregon Equal Suffrage League was in Stanfield Wednesday afternoon and evening and gave two very interesting addresses on the subject of equal suffrage. The afternoon meeting was held at the home of Mrs. E. N. Wheeler and was attended by a number of women who are much interested in the subject. The evening address was delivered by Mrs. Erhott to a large number of men who had assembled at the old school house, the address being given at the close of a meeting held by the men. Mrs. Erhott made a very favorable impression on her hearers at both meetings and many "votes for women" will result.

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IT MAKES WEAK WOMEN STRONG, SICK WOMEN WELL.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets regulate and strengthen Stomach, Liver and Bowels.

The Ladies Aid society of Hope Presbyterian church was entertained Thursday afternoon in the home of Mrs. Chas. Hoggard. The society subscribed \$100 to the fund for building a new church, work on which will be commenced shortly. Delicious refreshments were served by the hostesses.

Attorney A. W. Gray has commenced the erection of a residence on his orchard tract east of town.

R. E. Oliver of Portland, was transacting business here Thursday.

Mrs. A. E. Hessler went to Portland Wednesday for a visit of a few days.

Contractor H. E. Allen returned from Portland Thursday where he spent several days on business.

Dr. G. E. Watts arrived from Portland Thursday afternoon and has been looking after his business interests here.

Dr. Turley of Hermiston was a business caller here Thursday morning.

Mayor James M. Kyle went to Pendleton Wednesday and other points in the eastern part of the county.

R. W. Fietner, circulation manager of the East Oregonian, was transacting business here Thursday.

J. T. Hinkle of Hermiston, candidate for representative, was a Stanfield visitor Thursday.

M. R. Ling was attending to business at Pendleton Thursday.

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Everything will be sold to the highest bidder, without reserve or limit. Take advantage of this golden opportunity to purchase high-grade goods at your own price. You are invited to call and look the goods over, make your selection and start them at your own valuation.

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