

EQUALIZATION WATER RATES EFFECTED AT SPECIAL MEET

Amendment Passed by the Council Assures Reduction in Sprinkling Rates

SURVEY IS COMPLETED

Considerable Dissatisfaction on Rates Found Among Business Houses

Equalization of water rates and consideration of complaints occupied the attention of city council members at a special session Monday evening.

Reduction of sprinkling rates is assured by the passage of an amendment to the recently effective ordinance. The amendment provides for a change from 10 cents to five cent per 100 square feet for the first 10,000 square feet. The acreage minimum was changed by amendment from one-half to one-quarter acre.

These changes were recommended by G. M. Frost, who for the last two weeks has been making a survey of the water rate situation. Council members were unanimous in the passage of the amendment.

Reporting to the council on the survey Mr. Frost said he had been checking residences and irrigation users for the last two weeks and in this group the water users seem to have expected a material raise in the rates and little dissatisfaction is found, householders agreeing the \$2 straight rate, with 5,000 feet of ground included seems to be fair.

Find Dissatisfaction

Dissatisfaction is found among business men where the increase seems to be excessive without reason, and in the rate on lawn and gardens he said, and in connection with the latter complaint recommended the reduction which was made.

Misunderstanding of various sections of the ordinance has caused some dissatisfaction, he said. In his two weeks' survey, Mr. Frost said he had found only three irrigation water users who have definitely decided to let their land go dry than pay the increased rate.

Council members agreed that installation of meters was the only certain method of equalizing rates. Cost and installation of meters for the approximately 1,200 water users in the city would be in the neighborhood of \$40,000, according to estimates by engineers, Councilman E. A. Wood said. Councilmen O. T. Bergner and J. E. Thornton said they believed this estimate was too high.

Report on Meter

Earl Hosler, superintendent of water, said that installation of meters could not be made before three or four months, and would be quite useless until the new water mains were all in place.

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FORTY KILLED BY MISSOURI TORNADO

Two Hundred Fifty Injured When Wind Sweeps Through Town

POPULAR BLUFF, Mo., May 10.—Fifty are known to be dead and more than 240 are injured from a tornado which swept this southern Missouri city wrecking the business section.

Hundreds were trapped by the falling debris when the wind struck late yesterday. Estimates of the damage vary from one million to five million dollars.

Freak Wind Kills

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 10.—At least 81 persons have been killed by freak winds which, accompanied by terrific rains, have ravaged parts of eight states in the great American tornado belt since Saturday night.

At least 550 have been injured and some estimate the figure to be 750.

Climaxing a week-end of death and destruction, a tornado Monday afternoon swept through Poplar Bluff, Mo., killing at least 25 persons, injuring 250 and causing great property damage, according to figures supplied to the United Press by State Senator Dwight Brown, publisher of the Poplar Bluff American.

Thirty-five persons were killed in Texas Monday morning by twisters which ripped practically every county in the northeast part of the state. Property damage in Texas will total more than one million dollars.

In Kansas, over the two-day period, 13 persons were killed. Until the twister, Poplar Bluff, Mo., counted 12 dead. One person was killed in Illinois.

NEW TYPE OF PLANE TO TAKE AIR SOON

Will Soon Perfect Ship Capable of Flying at Extreme Heights

SAN DIEGO, Cal., May 10.—(LP)—A new type of naval airplane capable of flying at extreme heights and which may be taken into the air soon in an effort to set a new American altitude record, was tested for the first time at the naval air station here today.

The new plane, equipped with a super-charger, which makes it possible to fly the craft at extreme altitudes, is known as a FJ-1 and is to be assigned to flight duty with the new naval enlisted men's squadron, commanded by Lieut. C. F. Chaplin. Fifteen of the planes are now at the naval air station.

During a recent test of the planes on the east coast, they were able to fly 32,000 feet high with the super-charger. It is possible, naval officers here say, that the planes can be made to fly much higher and it is the plan of the officers in command to test their altitude ability here as soon as oxygen tanks and other altitude equipment are obtained.

GOVERNMENT WINS IN SUIT FOR MILLIONS

Court Decides That Petroleum Company Shall Pay Accrued Interest

LOS ANGELES, May 10.—(LP)—The United States government won a moral victory in its suit to collect several million dollars interest which had accrued from the Elk Hills oil leases when Federal Judge Paul McCormick handed down his long-awaited decision.

The court decided that the Pan-American Petroleum and Transportation company should pay the accrued interest on mineral properties on naval reserve at the rate of seven per cent per annum up until March, 17, 1924. Total payment, it is probable, will not exceed \$1,500,000, although the amount has not yet been determined.

In its suit, the government sought to collect interest up until February 28, 1927, which would have aggregated more than \$2,000,000.

ASYLUM MIGHT CLAIM BLONDE CONVICTED OF KILLING MATE

Two Nervous Seizures That Resemble Epilepsy, Attack Mrs. Snyder

MAY ESCAPE CHAIR

Jury Verdict Demands the Life of Herself and Henry Judd Gray

LONG ISLAND CITY, May 10.—Mrs. Ruth Snyder, who has been convicted of first degree murder for which the sentence is death, has suffered two nervous seizures, which physicians said have a strong resemblance to epilepsy.

Both attacks have occurred since the jury brought in the verdict demanding the life of herself and Henry Judd Gray, for the murder of her husband, Albert Snyder. As the result, there is the new possibility of her being sent to an asylum rather than to the electric chair.

NEW YORK, May 10.—(LP)

—Mrs. Ruth Brown Snyder and her former lover, Henry Judd Gray, corset salesman, were convicted of first degree murder by a jury in Queens county court last night.

Justice Townsend Scudder will sentence them to death in the electric chair when they are called before him at 10 a. m. Only the appeal of their lawyers averted the court from passing sentence immediately.

Not even District Attorney Richard E. Newcomb, who characterized the killing of Albert Snyder, art editor of the magazine "Motor Boating," last March 20, as "the most coldblooded and premeditated murder in the history of Queens county" had looked for so speedy a judgment.

Actually the jury's deliberations had consumed little more than an hour.

Jury Retires

The jury retired at 5:18 p. m. At 6:32 p. m. the tap came on the door that meant a decision. One hour and 16 minutes had elapsed—less time than Justice Scudder had consumed in his charge.

The absence of William J. Millard, Gray's counsel, caused a delay.

At 6:55 p. m. the jurors, with strained faces and grim expressions, filed in and took the seats they had occupied for two weeks. A minute later Mrs. Snyder came in, followed by Gray. She sat down and buried her face in her hands.

Gray assumed his usual erect posture.

The room was stifling hot.

Justice Scudder entered in his flowing black robes, and the spectators arose silently without any warning cry from the balliffs. Justice Scudder, in his deep voice, gently cautioned all to be decorous.

The thin voice of the clerk of the court broke the silence: "Gentlemen of the jury, have you reached a verdict?"

William E. Young, youthful publicity man, and foreman, answered in a voice almost inaudible: "We, the jury, find the defendants, Ruth Snyder and Henry Judd Gray, guilty of murder in the first degree."

IS ON STAFF

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, Ore., May 10.

—Frances Pratt of Ashland, senior in commerce, was on the staff of the Co-od Barometer, a publication of the O. A. C. Daily Barometer in which all the work was done entirely by women. Once a year, usually during Mother's Week-End, the co-eds publish an entire issue of the Barometer, and a creditable showing was made this year by their 10-page paper.

ANOTHER COPCO EMPLOYEE WINS INSULL MEDAL AWARD

The California Oregon Power Company which operates throughout Southern Oregon and Northern California has again won national recognition through the award of the Insull Medal to another member of the Copco organization. This makes the third Insull Medal to be presented to Copco employees in recognition of their efforts in saving the lives of their fellow workers through resuscitation from electric shock. This honor is doubly appreciated when it is known that only four of these coveted medals have been awarded in the entire Northwest and three of these have gone to employees of the local company. The first of these awards was made to Howard Dynan of Medford on December 1, 1925; the second to Ted Montgomery of Klamath Falls on August 27, 1926, and the last one to Emmitt Knackstedt on May 3, 1927. The history of the accident which so nearly proved fatal is as follows:

On July 19, 1925, Emmitt Knackstedt, known to all of Siskiyou county as "Perky," was engaged with Barney Gray in making repairs to the Montague substation. They were replacing some disconnecting switches which had been destroyed a short time before by lightning. Gray was in the sub-station, putting a switch in place behind the switch board. Knackstedt was engaged at the moment outside the substation building. He heard the familiar flash of a short circuit and a glow from Gray. Rushing inside he found that the switch in Gray's hand had slipped into a line switch adjoining, and Gray was stretched on the floor unconscious and not breathing.

Hurriedly dragging Gray out onto the floor in front of the switchboard, Knackstedt applied the resuscitation methods in which all Copco men are trained. His man was to all appearances dead, but after ten minutes work, Knackstedt was rewarded by a return of life to his patient. After a few hours rest, Gray was back on the job, none the worse for his experience. Without the prompt ministrations of Knack-

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ART EXHIBIT WILL BE GIVEN AT NORMAL

Collection of Facsimile and Hand Colored Reproductions Shown

An exceptionally fine collection of facsimile and hand colored reproductions of the works of old and contemporary artists will be on exhibit at the Southern Oregon Normal school May 10-13 inclusive.

The facsimiles are made by a comparatively new process which reproduces the technique of the artist and the original coloring, which the hand colored ones do not do.

The pictures are representative of all types of paintings, marines, portraits, landscapes, figure portraits and still life. The money received from this exhibit will be used for pictures which are much needed for the walls of the Normal school.

The exhibit will be shown in room 21 today, tomorrow, Thursday and Friday. The hours are from 3 to 5 from 7 to 9 p. m. every day and the admission is fifteen cents.

Vale—Work to begin on Vale irrigation project.

VIGOROUS HUNT IS MADE FOR LONG OVERDUE OCEAN FLYERS

Only Thing Known About Missing Airmen is That Flight Was Failure

MEN MAY BE DEAD

Rescue Ship and Airplanes Are Sent Out to Search the Atlantic

NEW YORK, May 10.—Charles Nungesser and Francois Coll have fallen in an attempted Paris-New York non-stop flight, but whether they are alive or dead, afloat on the Atlantic shore somewhere in New Foundland or Nova Scotia or at the bottom of the sea, none could tell.

The glittering biplane White Bird must have run out of gasoline yesterday, if some other contingency hadn't forced her to alight long before. Plans went forward along the northern coast to send out rescue ships and airplanes to search the Atlantic.

Are Hours Overdue

NEW YORK, May 10.—The tragedy of failure, if not the ultimate tragedy of death, apparently has ended the gallant attempt of Captains Charles Nungesser and Francois Coll to fly from Paris to New York.

Hours overdue, the little White Bird biplane in which the airmen took off so jauntily from Le Bourget airdrome on the outskirts of the French capital, had not been heard from 49 1-2 hours after the start of the hazardous flight.

New York harbor, target for rumors of the approach of the "White Bird" from morning until night, waited in vain for authentic word from Nungesser and Coll.

Shortly before 7 p. m., when it was estimated that the French plane's supply of gasoline must have been exhausted, plans of welcome, changed to plans for search and rescue.

Airplanes which were to have flown to meet the "White Bird," and escort it in triumph to its goal, took the air in an organized search of the coast as far north as Rhode Island. Other planes rose from the Boston air-

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CHAPMAN DISCUSSES INCOME MEASURES

Foster Tells of Land Settlement Work in the Middle West

Income tax and other tax measures of Oregon were discussed by C. C. Chapman of Portland, editor of the Oregon Voter, at the noonday luncheon of the Chamber of Commerce held in the Lithia Springs hotel today. Chapman expressed himself as opposed to the provisions of the income tax law.

Arthur Foster, land settlement agent, connected with the local and state Chamber of Commerce, gave an interesting review of his work in middlewest states during the last six months. Oregon is looked on as a "home state," Mr. Foster said, and many families whom he had interviewed were planning to locate in Oregon. The local Chamber of Commerce is taking care of the home settlement in this vicinity.

Sixty members attended the meeting today. The report of the membership committee was received with enthusiasm. Governor and Mrs. I. L. Patterson will be guests of honor of the Chamber at their meeting next week. The meeting will be an evening affair.

WEATHER JINX STOPS CONTEMPLATED FLIGHT

Every Effort Will be Made to Start Transcontinental Trip Today

SAN DIEGO, Cal., May 10.—(LP)—Captain Charles Lindbergh, who has been pursued by a weather jinx during the past week, which prevented him from hopping off for St. Louis on his first lap of his flight to Paris, announced today that he would make every effort to get into the air tomorrow on his trans-continental journey.

In commenting on the trans-Atlantic flight, Captain Lindbergh said today that if the two French flyers had struck a sleet storm which are frequently over the North Atlantic at this time of year, it is hardly probable that they could have remained in the air for long. He declared that he had been forced down several times with mail planes when flying through sleet storms. Huge chunks of ice will pile up on the wings and struts and even the propeller, forcing the craft to the earth sometimes in a very few minutes, he said.

REVISÉ WATER RATES

The city council unanimously agreed to amend the water rates for acreage irrigation and for lawn or garden sprinkling under Sections 29 and 30 of the new water ordinance to read as follows: For each quarter acre or fraction thereof per season \$3.75. (Was formerly half acre minimum \$7.50.)

Lawn or garden irrigation. All extra area of either lawn or garden in excess of 5000 square feet up to the acreage minimum above to be charged at the rate of 5 cents per hundred square feet. (was formerly 10 cents per hundred square feet.)

These rates go in effect June 1. If any water user now cares to sign up for increase of irrigated area because of these more favorable rates please call up phone 362 city warehouse and ask that Water Superintendent Hosler send a man out to recheck the former area.

Regarding others of the new rates, particularly in the business district, it is admitted that some inequalities do exist, also admitted that the ordinance is not quite clear at all points, but the intention is to place all commercial and business water users as soon as possible on meters, that meters can function properly after Crewson Hill reservoir and new distribution system are in operation, one of the main purposes of this extensive new construction.

The water superintendent under this ordinance has full authority at his discretion to adjust any

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ILLNESS OF A JUROR CAUSES POSTPONEMENT MURDER CASE

S. W. Dunham is too ill to Appear in Court Today; Will Meet Wednesday

TAKEN TO HIS HOME

Attorneys Agree Better to Postpone Case Than to Select New Jury

JACKSONVILLE, May 10.—The Hugh D'Autremont murder trial is at a standstill due to the illness of S. W. Dunham, juror, who is too ill to appear again today. Court is to convene Wednesday for another report.

An examination disclosed that Dunham is suffering from infection of his gall bladder. Another examination will be made this evening to try and estimate how long before he will be able to resume his duty. Clearly, the state, defense and the court agreed that it was better to wait for Dunham's recovery than to select a new jury.

Taken Home

JACKSONVILLE, Ore., May 10.—(LP)—Indefinite postponement of the Hugh D'Autremont murder trial loomed late last night pending the recovery of S. W. Dunham, a juror, who was suddenly stricken ill during yesterday's session.

Dunham's condition became noticeable during the afternoon, when he had to be assisted into the courtroom by two balliffs. Upon learning of Dunham's illness, Judge C. M. Thomas ruled that the trial be postponed "until Mr. Dunham is able to resume his place in the jury box."

Removed to Home

Dunham was removed to his home in Medford to recuperate. The other eleven jurors will continue their semi-imprisonment under the guard of balliffs.

The state continued to call witnesses to the stand today in an effort to offset the damage caused Saturday when J. L. Maxwell suffered a slight "mental relapse" while being cross-examined by the prosecution.

Bonwell's failure to remember a pencilled notation nearly caused the state's case to collapse, and it was to this end that the state put W. D. Chandler and Maurice Cuturri, special agents for the Southern Pacific, on the stand during the afternoon.

Agents Testify

Both agents testified that they went to the Hauser Hardware store in Albany on Oct. 30, 1923, and in their presence, Bonwell, a clerk in the store, wrote his initials and the notation "10-30-23" on a certificate for an automatic pistol—the "murder gun" which the state alleges was used by Hugh and his two brothers, Ray and Roy, in the dynamiting of a Southern Pacific train and the murder of four trainmen in Southern Oregon more than three years ago.

This gun, the state will attempt to prove, was purchased by Roy D'Autremont, who signed for it under the name of "William Elliot."

The defense, on the other hand, has pointed out that if the notation "10-30-23" was the sale date of the gun, then it was sold after the dynamiting, which occurred on October 11, 1923.

DEATH RUMOR FALSE

The rumor that "Zeke" Gyger, who is employed by the Southern Pacific company, had been killed yesterday, proved to be false.

Mr. Gyger was in an automobile accident near Dunsmuir, Cal., and was unconscious for a short time, but according to reports received this morning he is getting along nicely.

SPEAKS TONIGHT

Mrs. Marion Lanes of the Portland Unity Center of Practical Christianity will speak at the Civic Club home tonight on "Individuality."

Yea Bo, It's A Hard Life

